Submitted by Class Representative Isa Cardoso ’25

AMENDMENT TO COMMITTEE BY-LAWS ADDRESSING FUNCTIONALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF COMMITTEES OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL
Presented November 15, 2021

I submit this amendment in light of structural issues within the Assembly that have compromised the ability of committees to function effectively, as well as Constitutional provisions that have the potential to inhibit committee work. Proposed are solutions to issues the Assembly has faced, including a broad lack of communication, an overwhelming number of resignations, and an inability to establish the body as a force for positive student-led change. To address communication issues, I offer the implementation of obligatory updates from committees to the Central Council biweekly, and to the student body monthly. To address limited abilities of committees as a result of resignations, I offer the concretization of the hiatus process the Assembly has already undergone for multiple committees, as well as procedures to protect this process from its potential complications. Such procedures include the limitation of a hiatus’s length and the delegation of the duties of committees placed on hiatus. Constitutional concerns of an administration’s ability to dissolve committees without consent of the Council are addressed through the transferring of dissolution power to the Central Council as a whole. I feel that these changes are necessary to protect and legitimize our committees and uphold them as essential to the Assembly and its capabilities.

ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES  [ADDITIONS; NEW SECTIONS 5, 6, AND 7]

Section 5. Committees of the Central Council shall give updates of their work biweekly to the whole of the Central Council, the format of which is to be left to the committees.

A. Updates shall be made available to the student body on a monthly basis.

Section 6. The Central Council may place committees on a semester-long hiatus via majority vote of the Central Council at the request of the Committee Chair.

A. At the beginning of the semester following a hiatus, the Central Council shall revisit the matter and determine whether to extend the hiatus for a maximum of one more semester, reopen, or dissolve the committee.
a. Should there not be a two-thirds majority to dissolve the committee, the committee shall reopen.

B. The duties of a committee on hiatus shall be delegated to the other committees as necessary by the President or by majority vote.

Section 7. The Central Council’s committees may only be dissolved by a two-thirds vote of the Central Council.