

Proposed Changes to the LASA Constitution and Bylaws

The Executive Council of LASA, at its most recent meeting, approved the following proposed changes in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association to accomplish the following:

1. Allow student memberships a maximum of 7 years (instead of 5)
2. Add a permanent student seat to the Executive Council
3. Add ex officio members to represent the Latin American Research Commons (LARC) initiative
4. Add ex officio members to oversee the implementation of the LASA Strategic Plan

Objections can be directed to LASA Executive Director, LASA, 416 Bellefield Hall, 315 S. Bellefield Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213, or lasa@pitt.edu. The cutoff date for receipt of objections to the below proposed changes is July 21, 2017.

Constitution

Article III. Membership

No one may hold student membership for more than *seven* years.

Article V. Executive Council, Item 1a

The Executive Council shall consist of: *eleven* voting members (the Immediate Past President, President, Vice President, Treasurer, *a Graduate Student*, and six elected members), and the following ex officio members with voice but no vote: the LASA Executive Director, the Editor of the *Latin American Research Review*, the current Congress Program Chair(s), *the Editor(s) of the Latin American Research Commons (LARC)*, and *the Strategic Plan Oversight Committee*.

Article V. Executive Council, Item 1c

The terms of the Graduate Student shall be for two years. One shall be elected every two years by electronic ballot as prescribed in the Bylaws.

Article IX. Latin America Research Commons

LASA's online publication platform is the Latin America Research Commons (LARC). Editor(s) of LARC shall be appointed by the Ways and Means Committee and their appointments ratified by the Executive Council.

Article X. Strategic Plan Oversight Committee

The Strategic Plan Oversight Committee is appointed by the Ways and Means Committee. It consists of a maximum of three members who are involved in the development and implementation of the strategic plan and who serve for the duration of the current strategic plan (5 years).

Bylaws

Article I. Nominations, New Item 5

Candidates for the Graduate Student position shall be nominated according to the following procedures:

- a. The Nominations Committee shall nominate at least two candidates each election (to take place every two years);*
- b. The Executive Director shall enter on an official ballot the names of the two candidates proposed by the Nominations Committee and the names of all candidates proposed by write-in petition.*

Article II. Elections, Item 1

1. The Vice President and the members of the Executive Council shall be elected by electronic ballot sent once a year by the Executive Director (*and every two years for the Graduate Student position*) to all members in good standing.

Article VII. Dues

When the Council sets a special rate for student members, whose status is certified by their principal faculty advisers, such special rate shall be applicable to a member for a maximum of *seven* years. ■