Proposal to Amend Sigma Bylaws

Proposal #	Title	Article	Section	Proposed by
21-07	**Officers**	**IV**	**1**	**Sigma Governance Committee**

Current Language:	***Proposed Changes:***	***If Adopted:***
The elected officers of the society shall be: the president, the president-elect, the vice president, the secretary, and the treasurer. Officers must be regular members of Sigma. A. President - The president shall be the presiding officer and shall administer all business as provided for by the bylaws. B. Vice President – The vice president shall perform the duties of the president in the president's absence. C. Secretary – The secretary shall serve as the corporate secretary and fulfill duties as authorized by the Sigma board of directors. D. Treasurer - The treasurer shall serve as the corporate treasurer and fulfill duties as authorized by the Sigma board of directors.	The elected officers of the society shall be: the president, the president-elect, ~~the vice president~~ ***(to be effective at the start of the 2023 term)***, the secretary, and the treasurer. Officers must be regular members of Sigma. A. President - The president shall be the presiding officer and shall administer all business ~~as provided for by the bylaws~~ **in accordance with the Sigma governing documents**. B. ~~Vice President~~ **President-elect**– The ~~vice president~~ **president-elect** shall perform the duties of the president in the president's absence. C. Secretary – The secretary shall serve as the corporate secretary and fulfill duties ~~as authorized by the Sigma board of directors~~ **in accordance with the Sigma governing documents**. D. Treasurer - The treasurer shall serve as the corporate treasurer and fulfill duties ~~as authorized by the Sigma board of directors.~~ **in accordance with the Sigma governing documents.**	The elected officers of the society shall be: the president, the president-elect, vice president ***(to be removed at the start of the 2023 term)***, the secretary, and the treasurer. Officers must be regular members of Sigma. A. President - The president shall be the presiding officer and shall administer all business of the society in accordance with the Sigma governing documents. B. President-elect – The president-elect shall perform the duties of the president in the president's absence. C. Secretary – The secretary shall serve as the corporate secretary for the society and fulfill duties in accordance with the Sigma governing documents. D. Treasurer - The treasurer shall serve as the corporate treasurer and fulfill duties in accordance with the Sigma governing documents.

Conforming amendments:
If the above amendment is adopted, the following amendments will be automatically adopted to conform to that decision.

Current Language:	***Proposed Changes:***	***If Adopted:***
Article IV, Section 2.B:. A member holding an elected position who has served more than half a term in that position is considered to have served a full term. Terms shall be as follows: • The president-elect shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office, after which shall succeed to a two-year term as president. • The vice president shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office. The vice president may serve a maximum of two consecutive two-year terms in that position, after which	*Article IV, Section 2.B:.* A member holding an elected position who has served more than half a term in that position is considered to have served a full term. Terms shall be as follows: • The president-elect shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office, after which shall succeed to a two-year term as president. • ~~The vice president shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office. The vice president may serve a maximum of two consecutive two-year terms in that position, after which~~	*Article IV, Section 2.B:.* A member holding an elected position who has served more than half a term in that position is considered to have served a full term. Terms shall be as follows: • The president-elect shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office, after which shall succeed to a two-year term as president. • The vice president shall be elected for a two-year term or until a successor is elected and assumes office. The vice president may serve a maximum of two consecutive two-year terms in that position, after which they may not be

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they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect. • The secretary and treasurer shall each be elected for a four-year term or until their successors are elected and assume office. Terms shall be staggered so that the secretary is elected in the same biennium as two non-officer directors and treasurer is elected in the same biennium as three non-officer directors. The secretary and treasurer may serve a maximum of one four-year term, after which they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect.	~~they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect.~~ ***Proviso: to take effect with the 2023 term.*** • The secretary and treasurer shall each be elected for a four-year term or until their successors are elected and assume office. Terms shall be staggered so that the secretary is elected in the same biennium as two non-officer directors and treasurer is elected in the same biennium as three non-officer directors. The secretary and treasurer may serve a maximum of one four-year term, after which they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect.	consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect ***(to be removed at the start of the 2023 term)***. • The secretary and treasurer shall each be elected for a four-year term or until their successors are elected and assume office. Terms shall be staggered so that the secretary is elected in the same biennium as two non-officer directors and treasurer is elected in the same biennium as three non-officer directors. The secretary and treasurer may serve a maximum of one four-year term, after which they may not be consecutively re-elected as an officer except as president-elect.
Current Language: *Article VI, Section 7:* A. In the event of a vacancy in the office of president, the vice president shall fill the vacancy until the president-elect succeeds to the office of president. B. A vacancy in any other board position shall be filled by the Sigma board of directors; such appointment shall terminate at the following meeting of the house of delegates.	***Proposed Changes:*** *Article VI, Section 7:* A. In the event of a vacancy in the office of president, the ~~vice president~~ **president-elect** shall fill the vacancy, **followed by a full term as president.** ~~until the president-elect succeeds to the office of president.~~ B. A vacancy in any other board position shall be filled by **appointment of** the **then-current** Sigma board of directors **until the next election.**~~; such appointment shall terminate at the following meeting of the house of delegates.~~	***If Adopted:*** *Article VI, Section 7:* A. In the event of a vacancy in the office of president, the president-elect shall fill the vacancy, followed by a full term as president. B. A vacancy in any other board position shall be filled by appointment of the then-current Sigma board of directors until the next election.

Rationale:

The original bylaws state it is the duty of the vice president to fill the vacancy of the president if they are unable to complete their term. Because of Sigma's long-standing and well-defined mentoring practice between president and president-elect, this proposal removes the office of vice president and designates the president-elect to fill a vacancy in presidency, followed by the full term that would otherwise have been served. This order of leadership succession provides a stronger continuity of leadership.

This proposal also clarifies that officers perform duties in accordance with all Sigma governing documents, such as policies and procedures, not just bylaws.

Best practice for boards does not specify either an odd or an even number of individuals on a board. Parliamentary procedure specifies that if a vote is split evenly, then the motion fails.

Impact on Chapters:

These proposed changes pertain only to the international board of directors.