



2023-2024 Session of the Senate

Senate Resolution No. 22

Introduction of College-Wide Voting in the NSR Selection Process

Introduced by

Zain Rahman, Brown New Student Representative,

Monday, MONTH DD, 2024

WHEREAS, The purpose of New Student Representatives (NSRs) is defined on the Student Association website as, “to represent their college at the university-wide level in the Senate and learn more about how the Student Association works so that they can continue to pursue work in the organization throughout their time at Rice.”

WHEREAS, According to the Student Association website, NSRs are tasked with “[serving] as a liaison between your college’s new students and the Student Association.”

WHEREAS, a major concern that led to the rejection of S.RES 06 was the notion that NSR’s were unelected, and therefore unrepresentative of the student body.

WHEREAS, to pave the way for future NSRs to gain voting rights by being legitimately elected members of the Student Senate.

WHEREAS, in Bylaws 1203, Section 4.2 specifically states “New Student Representatives shall be selected by the senator and president of their college in the first three weeks of the fall semester.”

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, the selection process for NSRs be amended in order to include an election open to all New Students including Freshman and Transfer students.

RESOLVED, the process of selecting NSR through an application process remains the same as it is currently. After the conclusion of the application and interview process, each college’s Senator and President will pick, at their discretion, a minimum of 3 candidates. These candidates will then enter into a run-off election, with the voters consisting of New Students, including Freshman and Transfer students. The two candidates with the highest amount of votes garnered will then become the two NSRs.

RESOLVED, In the case that less than 3 candidates apply, the candidates shall automatically be selected as the NSR’s.

RESOLVED, Bylaws 1203, Section 4.2, be amended from “New Student Representatives shall be selected by the senator and president of their college in the first three weeks of the fall semester” to “three or more New Student Representatives candidates shall be selected by the senator and president of their college to stand in a college-wide election comprised of new students, including freshman and transfer students. The winners of that election shall be the New Student Representatives of the college.”

Adopted by the Senate on Monday, February 26, 2024

Alison Qiu,
President of the Student Association &
Chair of the Senate

Sources:

<https://sa.rice.edu/nsr>

 S.RES 06 Voting Powers for Student Association New Student Representatives

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-LZ9_M66ArgPYIxSI3buQpuDRepJaSjmtcBoh7t-y9A/edit

[Day Month Year] INTRODUCED BY [Name]

[Day Month Year] READ TO [COMMITTEE NAME]

[Day Month Year] APPROVED BY [COMMITTEE NAME]

[Day Month Year] READ OUT TO SENATE

[Day Month Year] ADOPTED BY THE SENATE

STATUS: PASSED