

Referenda

1. A Referendum is a ballot in which all Student Members of the Guild are entitled to cast a vote in accordance with Article 17.

Calling a Referendum

2. A Referendum may be called in accordance with Article 17.1 by;
 - 2.1. A resolution of the Trustees;
 - 2.2. A secure petition signed by at least 5% full-time equivalent members of the student body.
 - 2.3. A resolution of Guild Council which has passed both stages starting in Democracy & Governance Council and concluding with the passage of the Resolution in Guild Council.
3. The Guild will provide guidance which must be followed to the full extent that is reasonable on how to conduct a Secure Petition for the purpose of calling a referendum. The Secure Petition must be presented to the Chair of the Board of Trustees.
 - 3.1. In the event of dispute as to what constitutes reasonable advice and what represents an unnecessary barrier to any referenda Trustee Board shall act as the arbiter.
4. A Referenda request may be put to the Board of Trustees where there is a need for a clear choice on a specific policy, mandate or position in the following ways:
 - 4.1. By a decision passed by Guild Council.
 - 4.2. By a written or online petition signed by at least 1% of the Full Members submitted to any Officer Trustee.
 - 4.3. A successful policy submitted through an All-Member Ideas platform.
5. Board of Trustees may reject a request for a referendum put by Point 4.
6. Any call for a Referendum must include the question to be put to the Members.
7. The Board of Trustees, or its nominee, may make alterations to a proposed referendum question for the purpose of making the question:
 - 7.1. Balanced and not tending towards one response; or
 - 7.2. Comply with the requirements of the Articles and Bylaws of the Guild.

Conduct of a Referendum

8. Ballots from at least 5% of the Full Members must be returned in a referendum to make its decision valid.
9. The question must offer clear choices for the outcome of the vote.
10. The Returning Officer is responsible for producing referenda regulations, which must be approved by Democracy & Governance Council prior to the commencement of the referenda process.

11. The regulations should create an environment of fairness to voters and between campaigns and encourage positive, creative campaigning.
12. The regulations should clearly state the ways in which campaigns can promote themselves, use any resources and appeal decisions.
13. At least seven days' notice must be given for the vote.
14. The outcome of a Referendum shall normally be released within one working day of the close of polling.

Voting

15. Voting must be by secret, secure ballot either through paper or electronic means.
16. Validation of the voter's Membership status is required in order to vote.