



## Proposal for New Bylaws

### Proposals

to amend the UF Bylaws according to the attached proposal

to repeal the Board Expenditure Policy

### Motivation

This year, in accordance with the operational plan of 2020/21, the board of 2020/21 has made a comprehensive review of the internal decision processes, roles, responsibilities, and the regulatory documents. The bylaws was last substantially updated five years ago, why a standard revision was called for. The aim was to update the bylaws to the actual practice in the association, to make them a regulatory document which is at the same time relevant, helpful, and transparent for the members' control over the board.

The main updates are in the language. Most changes are not substantial, rather rephrasings of earlier bylaw provisions, or in some cases, policy provision. There are also a comprehensive amount of clarifications which aim to specify and stipulate the internal processes.

The main news is the following.

Firstly, there is hereby an establishment of a new order for filling vacant posts in the board. With the new role of acting ("tillförordnad") board member, the aim is to make it easy for the board to fill vacancies and to make acting board members ordinary board members at annual meetings. Thereby, hopefully the risk of losing board quora when vacancies appear will be eliminated, and there will be a larger incentive for applying for a vacant board post.

In this light, secondly, there is now no longer a formal difference between the Annual Meeting and the Election (Electoral) Meeting. The purpose of this has been presented before: to make it easier for members to engage in organizational issues in these meetings, to increase transparency, to make it possible to easier fill vacancies, and to make it easier to propose and discuss changes to bylaws and similar. In the same spirit, there is now a clarification which bylaws are supposed to be rigid, and those which will be easier to amend. In accordance with practice, the board elections are still first handedly situated at the spring meeting, and the questions on budget, fiscal responsibility, and budget, are handled at the autumn meeting.

Thirdly, there is a clarification on the grounds for member expulsion ("uteslutning") and board/trustee dismissal ("entledigande"). Hopefully these provisions will never have to be used, but the reason for making clarifications here is to make these procedures just and foreseeable, should they arrive. The grounds for expulsion from the association and for dismissing a board member is still supposed to be very exceptional, as can be read from the examples under 2.4. 2.4

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d is supposed to be a general clause, in accordance with the general principle of loyalty in associations. The threshold for dismissing a trustee is supposed to be lower, since these are appointed at the discretion of the board. However, the board will be held accountable for their appointments and dismissals. It is important that they take their responsibility to only resort to a vote on dismissal when there is no way the internal situation will be better if the board member or trustee stays on.

Fourthly, there is now a clarification of the individual role and responsibility for each board member. This comes in line with the Board Instruction, and the intent is *not* to invent a new association organ, or to break up the common responsibility of all board members as one organ. Rather, the aim is to clarify which decisions, and which expenditures, needs the board's approval, and what the board member can decide on themselves. In the same line, there is now a clarification on what constitutes a trustee, and hopefully this will un-blur the internal structure, and make it easier for the board both to appoint, and lead, more trustees rather than active members without clear responsibilities or privileges.

Fifthly, and lastly, there is a clarification on the responsibilities of the election committee, in accordance with UF practice. Alongside, there is also a new possibility for the board to co-opt one of its members to the committee. The purpose of this is *not*, and may not be used for, the board monitoring and directing the selections of the committee, but rather to institutionalize the collaboration between the committee and the board. Preferably, the board member appointed to the committee will only sit during the spring semester, and it will be an experienced member who can help the election committee with insights from the board, and with planning their deadlines for the spring. This board member should not themselves have the intent to be a candidate for the next board.

These new bylaws also make a board policy, now in force, irrelevant. Therefore it is also proposed that this policy is repealed by the annual meeting.

This amendment will not be in force until a second decision on the autumn meeting, in accordance with the present bylaws. There is also a goal in the operational plan for the next board to translate them to English, in accordance with the language policy of the association.

### **Signed**

The board of 2020/2021, through  
Isak Lefvert, President