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Election Committee Update

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ePIC Elections Committee - 2023

- Identify candidates and manage elections for collaboration leadership
 1. Spokesperson team
 2. Collaboration Council Chair/Vice-chair
 3. Executive Board members-at-large

- Identify candidates and manage elections of standing committees chair/vice-chairs
 1. Conference and Talks Committee
 2. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
 3. Membership Committee
 4. Publication Committee

ePIC Elections Committee – 2024+

Late 2023/early 2024: EC had discussion of EC procedures, 'lessons learned' from 2023, discussion of potential improvements for future elections

- Small (4-person) EC committee challenging, e.g. if there are timing conflicts or conflicts of interest
- Approach in the charter (committee appointed by CC Chair) doesn't ensure continuity
- Interest in maintaining broad representation/viewpoints on the committee
- Timing of elections: 2023 was prioritizing elections of full committees/chair lines, timing determined by need for the committees to be active. Want a clear plan/timeline as we move into standard operations (typically replacing only vice-chairs)
- Election procedures

EC put together a list of potential issues, set of ideas for updates/improvements, etc...

ePIC Elections Committee – 2024+

EC put together suggested set of 'standard procedures' for EC going forward, shared with CC chair line

CC chair-line put together detailed proposal, got additional input/clarification from EC

CC chair-line presented detailed proposal to committee chair lines last week, received feedback

- Outgoing CC chair (in consultation with vice-chair) will appoint new EC, aiming for broad representation of the collaboration (e.g. international, early-career, underrepresented groups...)
- EC will have 3-person chair line (additional continuity), with new vice-chair appointed each year
- CC chair will typically appoint one new at-large member (typically 2 of 5 new members each year)
- CC chair present new EC members at CC meeting for endorsement vote

* Note that this all is *guidance* for CC chairs; formal procedures follows the ePIC charter

ePIC Elections Committee – 2024+

CC chair-line also presented proposal for defined timing for elections

- CC Chair proposes new EC, holds endorsement vote (~end of calendar year)
- Election for incoming CC Vice Chair timed to coincide with the winter ePIC meeting
- Spokesperson/co-spokesperson elections timed to coincide with the winter ePIC meeting
- Standing committee vice-chair elections held to coincide with Summer ePIC meeting
 - This year, most committee chair-line members have not yet served one year
 - Maria Żurek will rotate off as chair of Conferences & Talks Committee this summer
 - Other chairs serve into 2025

Election procedure (under examination)

Ranked-choice voting by CC members

- Candidates listed in random order (same for chair and vice chair)
- Ballot requires that the voter modified the order

So far, election was fully blinded; committee had no access to information on how any group voted

- Could cause problems if an institution wants to change its vote, e.g. if there was any sort of confusion or miscommunication about the election (e.g. missing candidate statements, misspelled names in candidate bios,...). No way to 'correct' votes or to allow people to cancel their vote and vote again.
 - Two cases in 2023 where there was such a small issue – in both cases the error could not have had an error on the outcome.
- Alternative voting software might allow us to "reject" an institute's vote so they can revote (could potentially still 'work out' how that institute voted)
- Could allow the one EC member running the election to have access to institution information (not possible now)

Questions, comments?