

Senate Reference No. 26-5  
Returned to committee

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jeff Nowak, Presiding Officer  
FROM: Stephen Buttes, Chair  
Nominations and Elections Committee  
DATE: 05/11/2026  
SUBJ: Point of Order Contesting Announced Election Results

WHEREAS, the Nominations and Elections Committee received an email on May 8, 2026 (the day Senate election results were announced) questioning the announcement of Adolfo Coronado's election to the Faculty Affairs Committee; and,

WHEREAS, that inquiry was based on the fact that Adolfo's election would see him serving on four standing committees/subcommittees, which, as stated in the PFW Faculty Senate Bylaws (Section 4.1), is more than the limit of three standing committees/subcommittees permitted for Teaching Faculty; and,

WHEREAS, the inquiry the Nominations and Elections committee received is best classified as a "point of order" raised under *Robert's Rules of Order* section 46:48 "Contesting the Announced Result of an Election," and,

WHEREAS, the point of order raised complies with the following permitted conditions under which "an election may be contested . . . by raising a point of order:" "a) If an individual does not meet the qualifications for the post established in the bylaws, his or her election is tantamount to adoption of a main motion that conflicts with the bylaws" (*Robert's Rules of Order*, 46: and,

WHEREAS, *Robert's Rules of Order* (section 49:50) state that the PFW Senate Executive Committee and the PFW Nominations and Elections committee "may not entertain a point of order challenging, or direct a recount concerning, [an] announced election result" because the PFW Faculty Senate is "the ultimate judge of election disputes, [and] only [the PFW Faculty Senate] has the authority to resolve them;" and,

WHEREAS, the Nominations and Elections Committee considers the election of Adolfo Coronado to the Faculty Affairs committee a counting error on our part; and,

WHEREAS, Aileen Tierney should have been announced as the winner of the election;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate approve the election of Aileen Tierney to the PFW Senate Faculty Affairs Committee.

**In Favor**

Stephen Buttes  
Daryoush Tahmessebi

**Against**

**Abstain**

**Absent**