

The Amendments Amendment

Proposer: Ansh Bhatnagar (FoNS PG Council Rep)

Seconders: Alex Auyang (Council Chair)

Union Notes:

1. The Standing Orders (SOs) do not specify a formal process for submitting written amendments for papers.
2. Written amendments submitted in advance of a meeting are a common practice across many legislatures and governing committees.
3. In the past, the Council Chair has required a seconder for an amendment before it proceeds to a vote. This is not a requirement specified by SO8.2.

Union Believes:

1. Having written amendments circulated ahead of time can make both the order of business and the meaning of votes easier to understand.
2. Therefore, there should be a clear, formal process in the SOs for written amendments
3. The precedent outlined in Notes 3 is sensible in the interests of time management and should be formalised.

Union Resolves:

1. To amend Standing Order 8 as specified:
 - a. Add SO8.3: "Written amendments to circulated papers may be proposed in advance of the meeting. They must have a named seconder and be submitted two working days before the meeting. Written amendments will then be circulated to all voting members one working day before the meeting, at the discretion of the Chair."
 - b. Replace SO8.2 with: "Amendments proposed during the meeting may be adopted either by the proposer of the paper accepting the suggestion or by simple majority vote of Council. For an amendment to progress to a Council vote, a seconder is required."