

Question Time

Increasingly, it appears that the Executive Committee has taken upon itself the task of vetting questions submitted to Senate by Voting Faculty, deeming some to be worthy of consideration at Senate meetings, and suppressing others.

Can a representative of the Executive Committee please explain why it is that some questions submitted to the Executive Committee by Senate members never make it onto the Senate agenda? This vetting could be interpreted as an inappropriate interpretation of Senate Bylaw 5.2.1.2.2., which states that the Executive committee shall:

“ensure that these questions are routed to the appropriate university office, and shall place the text of each question on the agenda of the following meeting of the Senate or the next Faculty Assembly or Convocation, whichever is first.”

More specifically, my questions are:

- By what authority has the Executive Committee decided to take it upon itself to vet, and in some cases censor, questions by Voting Faculty?
- What guidelines are used to vet the questions? I am particularly concerned that in its overzealous attempt to “police” the tone and content of questions, the Executive Committee will end up censoring important discussions about the well-being of the university.

N. Virtue