

Bylaws Renewal Team Proposed Multi-Year Bylaw Rewrite Framework

January 2025



Developing WG's shared analysis

- What have been the most successful examples of past changes to the UUA Bylaws?
 - What helped build and sustain support?
 - What made the changes themselves effective or impactful?
- What are the key dynamics impacting delegate support for Bylaw changes?
- What are things to emphasize in the Bylaws rewrite process?
 What are pitfalls to avoid?



Proposed Wave Process to Rewrite Bylaws

Goals

- Process led/managed by the Bylaws team, supported at each stage by the Board of Trustees and General Assembly
- Develop a systematic, flexible, and robust approach to rewriting the UUA Bylaws over multiple years (not decades)
- Build in adequate capacity and time for each part; allow to slow down if needed
- Create a predictable and transparent approach that builds trust and meaningfully engages stakeholders
- Weave the process into communications, budget, and GA planning to leverage reach and resources



Multi-Year Bylaw Rewrite Framework

Go through each stage for each article or area of the bylaws; related articles can be grouped in waves/classes; waves/classes will overlap with one at each stage at the same time

Year 1 – Study

Year 2 - Develop

Year 3 - Decide: Vote & Implement

Year 4 – Second Vote (optional)



Year 1 - Study

- At GA, announce articles/areas for study (approved by Board), define guiding questions
- During the year, WG studies guiding questions, engages stakeholders, develops a framework
- Board approves framework for GA presentation

Year 2 - Develop

- At GA, present framework, receive feedback for studied articles
- During the year, WG revises framework (approved by Board), drafts Bylaw changes and G rules
- Board endorses Bylaw amendments and G rules for the GA agenda



Year 3 – Decide: Vote & Implement

- GA votes on new Bylaws and G rules
- If approved, Board and Administration implement new changes, develop/rewrite rules and policies as needed, appoint new members to boards/commissions

Year 4 – Second Vote (optional)

- If Bylaws amendments are to C
 Bylaws, a second year vote is required
- If necessary, G rules related to previous year's vote can also be addressed



Bylaws Working Group Role

- Group and sequence Articles for when they enter the multiyear model
- Present annually at General Assembly on the process
- Conduct stakeholder engagement
- Develop frameworks for new Articles/provisions (in conversation with UUA Board)
- Draft new Bylaw and rule language (subject to Board and GA approval)