

From: **Christian Shelton** <cshelton@cs.ucr.edu>

Date: Tue, Oct 14, 2025 at 12:25 PM

Subject: R&J question about bylaw 55.C

To: <randolph.head@ucr.edu>

Cc: <moriah.joyner@ucr.edu>

Randolph,

I have two related questions about Bylaw 55.C that I'm hoping R&J can clarify. Specifically, I'm trying to interpret the phrase

"at least two-thirds majority vote by secret ballot of those
faculty entitled to vote on the cases in question"

I have my own opinions and interpretations, but it really matters what the official ruling on this is.

Question 1: How to interpret "those faculty entitled to vote on the cases in question." Is that

- A. Those faculty entitled explicitly by bylaw 55.B.x
- or
- B. Those faculty entitled by bylaw 55.B.x plus those entitled by
a previous (and still valid) vote according to bylaw 55.C?

Question 2: How to interpret "two-thirds majority." Is that

- A. 2/3rds of those eligible to vote must vote "yes"
- B. 2/3rds of those eligible to vote who did not vote "abstain" must vote "yes"
- C. 2/3rds of those who submitted votes must vote "yes"
- D. 2/3rds of those who submitted non-abstain votes must vote "yes"

Put differently, if the vote yields Y yes votes, N no votes, A abstain votes, and X faculty do not submit a vote, is the correct fraction to consider

- A. $Y/(Y+N+A+X)$
- B. $Y/(Y+N+X)$
- C. $Y/(Y+N+A)$
- D. $Y/(Y+N)$

Question 1 is not critical this year for my department. The answer to Question 2 will have an effect on the voting rights for my department this year.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Christian

Christian Shelton
Professor & Department Chair
Computer Science & Engineering
University of California, Riverside