QCIT-ETC Nominations and Elections

QCIT-ETC has adopted the generic IEEE ComSoc rules for nominations and elections listed below.

7.0.1 TC– Nomination & Elections (generic)   **approved on 20YY/MM.**

Elected & Appointed Officers (Defined)

QCIT Chairs report via the Emerging Technical Committee Chairs to the VP-Technical Activities, in accordance with the ComSoc Bylaws.

If an officer position becomes vacant before normal conclusion of his/her term, the remaining term shall be filled by special election of the QCIT-ETC. If such a special election is not held before or during the next regularly scheduled meeting, the VP–TA, in consultation with the President, shall appoint someone to serve the remaining term.

Positions filled shall be for completion of the interrupted term.

Each QCIT-ETC shall have at least three elected officers: Chair, a Vice-chair, and Secretary, each of whom must be members of the IEEE Communications Society, an IEEE Communications Society Affiliate, or member of a Sister Society. Student Members are not permitted to serve as elected TC officers. At the discretion of the QCIT, there may be additional elected or appointed (non-officer) positions. In no case shall there be more than 8 elected officers; there may be as many appointed positions as is necessary for proper operation of the QCIT-ETC.

The nominal term for Chair, Vice-chair(s) and Secretary shall be two years. Any officer can be elected to the same position for one additional, contiguous term (i.e., continuously serve in any particular officer position for a maximum of four years). Officers can be elected to a different officer position, but in no case shall one person continuously serve as a QCIT officer within the QCIT for more than eight years.

Nomination & Election (N&E) Procedures

To facilitate the election of officers, The QCIT-ETC may have an ad hoc Nominations & Elections Committee, made up members of the QCIT. The N&E Committee shall come into existence at the QCIT-ETC meeting first preceding the actual election and shall be dissolved after the election and installation of officers.

The purpose of the N&E Committee is to offer candidate names for officer positions. It is desirable that the N&E Committee identifies at least two candidates for each officer position.

The N&E Committee shall announce its slate of candidates at least two weeks before an election is to be held. Such announcement shall be via email (preferred) or "snail-mail." At any point, members shall be able to submit nominations via email or other media by communicating to the current Chair, Vice-chair, Secretary, or directly to the N&E Committee. It is desirable that such "write-in" candidates receive a number of supporting "signatures."

During an election, actual nominations from the floor shall also be invited. All candidates, however they are identified, will have consented to being nominated and will have shown a willingness to serve, if elected. Again, it is desirable that extemporaneous, from-the-floor nominations, receive support from three or more members at the meeting.

The elections may be held electronically (e.g., email). Approval of this measure is by simple majority. It is necessary to register to vote and two-thirds of those registered must vote. An officer shall take responsibility for conducting the election and reporting election results to the QCIT membership, ETC Chair, VP–TA, Secretary of TAC, and ComSoc headquarters in New York City.

It is desirable that biographies and position statements of candidates be available to members. Candidates shall be permitted to "advertise" their candidacy on the QCIT email distribution list. All candidates shall be informed of election results and be permitted to appeal the outcome.

The elections shall be administered by the QCIT Chair, or in his/her absence, any other elected officer.

In the case of two candidates for a position, election is by simple majority. For the case of more than two candidates, selection proceeds through a series of elections: at each stage, the individual garnering the fewest votes is eliminated, until only two remain. In the event of a tie, votes shall again be cast until the tie is broken. If that is not possible, the responsible person running the election (any of the elected QCIT officers) shall cast a tie-breaking vote.

The elections will normally be open. However, upon the request of any member, the election shall proceed by secret ballot. Votes will be counted by at least one officer of the QCIT and any other member (officer or not). A record of votes cast must be retained for post-election audit purposes.

A voting member shall be any individual who has: 1) "attended" (physically present, by teleconference, or via electronic means for virtual TC meetings) QCIT meetings; or 2) contributed substantially to the QCIT's activities. The Secretary shall maintain an attendance list for each such meeting. That attendance list shall be part of the Meeting Minutes prepared and issued by the Secretary. In addition to the above, voting members must be an IEEE Communications Society Member, IEEE Communications Society Affiliate member, Sister Society member, or IEEE Communications Society Student Member.

QCIT members shall be permitted to vote electronically for a specific individual and position. (This has obvious limitations if live elections are held and the list of candidate's changes during the course of the meeting.)

Proxy voting shall be permitted. Each person asking another to vote on her/his behalf shall inform an officer of this arrangement prior to the election. An actual voter shall represent no more than three proxies.

Newly elected TC officers assume their positions at the conclusion of the meeting at which they are elected.

It is desirable that TC officers' terms run concurrently with that of the VP-TA. This may require transitional planning.