

Common Motions at the SSU Academic Senate

The motions below are listed in order of precedence. Any motion can be introduced if it higher on the chart than the pending motion.

YOU WANT TO	YOU SAY	INTERRUPT?	2 ND ?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
§ 21 Close meeting	I move to adjourn	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
§ 19 Suggest for benefit of body or register complaint	Point (question) of privilege ¹	Yes	No	No	No	None, Chair rules
§ 17 Lay aside temporarily	I move to table ... ²	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
§ 16 Close debate	I call the question ³	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
§ 14 Postpone to a certain time	I move to postpone the motion to . . .	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§ 13 Refer to committee	I move to refer the motion to . . .	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§ 12 Modify wording of a motion	I move to amend the motion by . . .	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§ 11 Kill main motion	I move that the motion be postponed indefinitely	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
§ 10 Bring business before the body	I move that [or to] . . .	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

Common Motions at the SSU Academic Senate continued

Incidental Motions – no order of precedence. Arise incidentally and **decided immediately**

YOU WANT TO	YOU SAY	INTERRUPT?	2 ND ?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
§ 23 Enforce rules	Point of Order ⁴	Yes	No	No	No	None, Chair rules
§ 24 Appeal chair's ruling	I appeal from the decision of the chair	Yes	Yes	Varies	No	Majority
§ 25 Suspend rules	I move to suspend the rules which. . .	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
§ 26 Avoid main motion altogether	I object to consideration of the question	Yes	No	No	No	2/3
§ 27 Divide motion	I move to divide the question	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
§ 29 Demand hand count	I call for a division	Yes	No	No	No	None, Chair rules
§ 33 Parliamentary law question	Parliamentary inquiry ⁵	Yes	No	No	No	None
§ 33 Request for information	Point of information	Yes	No	No	No	None

¹ First Order of Privilege: suggestion for the benefit of the body would be – disorder in the meeting, tampering with papers, bad heating or ventilation, etc. Second order of privilege: A complaint involves personal threats or attacks, illness, desire to be excused. Those of the second order are usually never ruled to interrupt business.

² Formal RR language – I move to lay on the table. . .

³ Formal RR language – I move the previous question

⁴ A Point of Order asks for the **enforcement** of a parliamentary or local rule. It must be made immediately after the error has occurred except if clear violation of Constitution or By-Laws.

⁵ A Parliamentary inquiry is used when you are **not sure of parliamentary procedures** for a specific instance and want clarification.

Source: Jim Slaughter, Certified Professional Parliamentarian-Teacher, www.jimslaughter.com with editorial comment by L. Holmström Vega