

February 2007

5.1. Recirculation and Voting Reports

The ExSC discussed ANSI's recirculation requirements and the associated reporting of votes. Specifically, should (and if so, how) the names and votes of members of a consensus body, who subsequently leave the consensus body during the course of the standard development process and before the final vote, be reported to the ANSI BSR? Further, should such an individual's negative comments be recirculated and should s/he subsequently be issued written notification of appeal? If the BSR-9 submittal is to reflect the vote of the consensus body, and some original members, for example, are no longer voting members, should any vote be reported to the BSR for that person?

The ExSC discussed the following considerations and varying opinions:

- Records related to membership must be retained as part of a developer's records.
- ASDs must preserve negatives as the process progresses and these should be recirculated to the consensus body.
- If someone resigns during the ballot period and s/he did not vote, this individual should not be required to be included in the final membership list forwarded to ANSI.
 - If such an individual submitted a negative vote, it should be recorded as such and recirculated to the consensus body, but the ASD is not required to notify the objector of the right to appeal. Negative voters who resign should not be given the right to appeal.
- If an individual is a member of a consensus body when a ballot is issued, then s/he should receive the ballot. If s/he has resigned, then s/he should not be issued a ballot.
- Some noted that some developers do not allow new members to participate in recirculation ballots.
- With regard to the right to appeal, ASD should try to the best of their ability to notify the negative voter of the right to appeal, in those instances where this member has dropped off the consensus body during a ballot.
- Some developers' procedures do not require notification of the right to appeal if someone has dropped off of the consensus body: they would not notify them of the right to appeal because once someone resigns, they are out of the system. There is no way of knowing how to contact the individual; and for some developers, membership is by individual, not the company/organization. The thinking here is that once someone resigns, s/he waives the right to appeal.

Upon conclusion of their discussions, the ExSC reaffirmed that developers have some flexibility in this area in accordance with their procedures and that based on the developer's procedures, they do not have to account for everyone who has ever been on a consensus body during a specific cycle, just who is on the final ballot and recirculation.