

2024 Elections Guidelines
19th Annual Gathering – Twin Cities of Minnesota, MN
April 5th – 7th, 2024

Article VIII – Section 3, of the By-Laws of LECUSA establishes the appointment of the Nominating Committee, an Ad Hoc committee, to conduct the elections of officers of LECUSA in the year of general elections at an Annual Gathering. Members of the Nominating Committee for the 19th Annual Gathering are:

1. Lady Elfreda Thorpe
2. Augusta J. Paye-Elliott
3. G. Alvin Jones
4. Rev. Fr. Edward Thompson
5. Paul Bel George, Chairman

The following offices/positions, as per Article III, Sections 1 of the By-Laws of LECUSA, are declared open for nominations and subsequent elections:

President
Vice President
Secretary
Financial Secretary
Treasurer
Chaplain
Parliamentarian

Eligibility of Candidates

1. Members desirous of contesting for offices in LECUSA must have attended at least one of the last four Annual Gatherings and must be present at the Gathering of the election.
2. All incumbents of open positions/offices, who have not served two consecutive terms, are eligible for re-election (Article III, Section 1, By-Laws of LECUSA).
3. All aspiring nominees must be in good standing – annual dues paid in full for last three years including current Gathering year, and fully registered for Gathering Year of the election.

Eligibility of Voters

1. Annual dues paid in full
2. Duly and fully registered for the Gathering

Process for Nomination to Contest Offices in LECUSA

1. Members desirous to contest an office or position shall do so by written application to the Nominating Committee – via Committee Chairman’s email address: paulbel1111@msn.com.

2. Aspiring nominees must indicate their motivations and qualifications for seeking respective offices in LECUSA, and a short bio.
3. The deadline for submitting applications for the 19th Gathering Election Year will be 18th February 2024.
4. Nominations on the floor are strongly discouraged; however, when deemed necessary, individuals making said nominations must have had prior consultations with nominees about their eligibility - all criteria met, and their consents obtained. Names of said nominees shall be written in blank spaces provided on the ballots, and they shall be afforded a maximum of two minutes to give a bio about themselves.

Elections Process

1. Election shall be conducted by secret ballot – ballots shall be obtained from the Nominating Committee, only, upon the presentation of a clearance issued by the Finance Team.
2. Candidates for all positions will be allowed to make a 2-minute speech on why they believe that they are best qualified for the respective positions – remarks should attempt to address:
 - a) Leadership and professional experience
 - b) Upholding the Mission statement of LECUSA
 - c) Commitment to transparency on all matters – financial, and the like
 - d) Ability to represent a balanced mission and needs of LECUSA, in terms of the membership, ECL, and other bodies.
 - e) Would you continue to support the mission and ministry of LECUSA even if you lose the election?
3. Voting will take place 1 hour before lunch on Saturday, April 6th, 2024.
4. A simple majority shall be sufficient to determine a winner – tie vote shall be recast until a winner emerges. Winners will be announced after the results of the elections are verified by the Nominating Committee
5. Results of all elections will be made available to the LECUSA voting public – number of votes received by each nominee
6. Written complaints or challenges to elections results and/or any perceived unfairness in the administration of the elections shall be presented to the Nominating Committee within two hours, after the announcement of elections results, for investigation by an independent body to be appointed by the outgoing President.