PER CURIAM Complainant Jeremy Kedziora alleges that Student Services Finance Committee (SSFC) Representative Peter McCabe has violated the Associated Students of Madison (ASM) By-Laws Part Four, Article IV, Section 1(a) in missing a meeting of the SSFC for an unexcused absence. ASM By-laws require mandatory attendance at SSFC meetings unless a representative has been excused prior to the meeting by the Chair or Vice-Chair. We find that Representative McCabe did not violate the By-laws and thus dismiss the case.

Representative McCabe was absent at the SSFC meeting of November 12, 2003; he was a member of a panel presentation on the minimum wage increase elsewhere on campus. Prior to meeting in question, McCabe received an excuse from SSFC Vice-Chair Wise. Accordingly, we find that he is not in violation of the By-laws.

While we are not unaware of the pernicious danger of absentee representatives on the elected branches of ASM, the By-laws vest authority in the chairs and vice-chairs of the branches to determine what is and is not an excused absence. Complainant argues that the criteria to determine are “too vague” and that we should take the opportunity to set out clearly what activities are and are not permitted. We disagree. The By-laws clearly state what general categories allow for absences. It is not the place of this panel to make broad pronouncements and rule on every possible conflict that may come up. Instead, chairs are given discretion to actualize the general categories on a case-by-case basis. The By-laws envision that the chairs and vice-chairs will make these decisions. Conflicts with this vision should be taken care of by amending the By-laws. Representative McCabe was excused; the Vice-Chair exercised her statutory discretion to grant him an excuse. If Complainant feels that his alternate activities are not acceptable, then he should address this to the Vice-Chair or Chair or seek to amend the By-laws to enact different criteria that reflect his views on acceptable absences.

Accordingly, we DISMISS the complaint.