The Hare Election System Explained

The legislation of the University Faculty mandates the use of the Hare System for all Faculty elections. In the Hare system, voters are asked to rank-order their preferences.

In the first round, only first choices are counted. If no one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, then the candidate receiving the least votes is eliminated, and the equivalent of a run-off election is held. The process continues until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast. If your first-choice candidate is not eliminated, your vote in any subsequent run-off is not changed. If, however, your first choice is eliminated, your vote is cast for your second choice. Thus, it is important to rank-order all the candidates.

The Hare system is designed to produce a result that best reflects the mix of views of the electorate.

To see the dictionary definition of the Hare system, please see this link:
http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/hare%20system