



University Students' Council of the University of Western Ontario
BY-LAW #2

BY-LAW #2

of

**UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' COUNCIL
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO**

ELECTIONS PROCEDURES

Last Amended
January 2012



University Students' Council of the University of Western Ontario
BY-LAW #2

ELECTION PROCEDURES
of the
UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' COUNCIL

ELECTION PROCEDURE CODE

The University Students' Council of the University of Western Ontario, hereinafter called the "Corporation" is a governing body incorporated in 1965 under Letters Patent with Directors and members duly elected by the students of the University of Western Ontario, and, in this capacity, the Corporation finds itself concerned with the democratic operation of electoral rules and procedures by which it abides. As such, the Corporation has approved the procedures and standards set out in this By-Law in an attempt to accomplish the following:

VISION STATEMENT

To maximize the opportunity for students to be involved in USC-governed elections at the University of Western Ontario, as candidates, voters and informed individuals.

Principles:

- To ensure fairness and democracy
- To provide a manner of balloting that is efficient, effective, impartial and confidential
- To increase student awareness as to the occurrence of student elections
- To allow any student to be a candidate in an election, regardless of financial status
- To raise the level of debate surrounding student issues
- To protect the reputation of the University and the USC in the city and elsewhere



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PART A: ELECTIONS

1.00 DEFINITIONS:

For the purpose of this By-Law:

- 1.01 **"Arm's-length Party"** means any individual or group who is not a "Non-arm's-length party";
- 1.02 **"Building On Campus"** means any building owned and/or operated by the University of Western Ontario, except for a student residence;
- 1.03 **"Campaign Material"** means any item, giveaway, design, sound, symbol, or mark that is created or copied in any form in order to and/or likely to influence at least one voter to cast a ballot in favour or in opposition of a candidate;
- 1.04 **"Campaign Period"** means the designated days during which a candidate may campaign, as set by the CRO;
- 1.05 **"Campaigning"** means any attempt by an individual or organization to encourage a student to cast a ballot in favour or in opposition of a candidate. This may occur with or without campaign material;
- 1.06 **"Candidate Forums"** means organized events by the Committee, where candidates may present their platforms;
- 1.07 **"Committee"** means Elections Committee;
- 1.08 **"CRO"** means Chief Returning Coordinator of the USC;
- 1.09 **"Days"** means school days unless specified otherwise;
- 1.10 **"Designated Polling Station"** means an electronic polling station installed and under the control of the CRO during balloting;
- 1.11 **"Distribute"** means the dissemination of campaign materials by a candidate, or a non-arm's-length party, to any individual or group;
- 1.12 **"Divisional Election"** means an election other than for the USC President or Vice Presidential Elections;
- 1.13 **"DRO"** means Deputy Returning Commissioner of the USC;
- 1.14 **"Election"** shall include any by-election;



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- 1.15 **“Endorsement”** means supporting a candidate either verbally, or through the provision of materials, advertisements, or non-financial donations;
- 1.16 **“GO”** means the Governance Officer of the USC;
- 1.17 **“Non-arm’s-length Party”** means an individual or group who a Candidate knew, or reasonably ought to have known, would assist that candidate with her campaign. An organization will be deemed to be non-arm’s-length of a Candidate if the candidate is a member of the organization. Knowingly distributing more than one of the same type of campaign item to an individual shall result in that individual being deemed an non-arm’s-length party;
- 1.18 **“Presidential Election”** means an election for the USC President;
- 1.19 **“Public Domain”** means any place to which the public has an automatic right of access;
- 1.20 **“Regulations”** means guidelines released by the Elections Committee indicating how the bylaw will be interpreted and applied.
- 1.21 **“Secretary of the University”** as defined by the University of Western Ontario;
- 1.22 **“Spoiled vote”** means any ballot cast that is not a valid vote;
- 1.23 **“Sponsorship”** means a financial contribution made for the purpose of supporting a candidate’s campaign;
- 1.24 **“Student”** includes any individual with undergraduate status registered at the University of Western Ontario or any of its affiliated colleges. As well, the President of the Corporation shall be recognized as a student for the purpose of this By-Law;
- 1.25 **“University”** means The University of Western Ontario;
- 1.26 **“USC”** means University Students’ Council of the University of Western Ontario;
- 1.27 **“USC recognized organization”** shall include, but is not limited to, Members of Council, clubs, Faculty Councils, USC Services, Affiliate Councils, and accredited groups;
- 1.28 **“University recognized organizations”** shall include, but is not limited to, Western Athletics, sports teams, Residence Councils, Faculty Associations;
- 1.29 **“Valid Vote”** means any ballot that is cast with x number of candidates selected when the voter can legally select y number of candidates, and where $y+1 > x > 0$;



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1.30 **“Vice Presidential Election”** means an election for the USC Vice Presidential positions;

1.31 **“Votes Cast”** means the total of valid votes and spoiled votes.

2.00 JURISDICTION:

2.01 Jurisdiction of this By-Law shall extend to include all students registered at the University.

2.02 The provisions of this By-Law shall apply to those USC elections, by-elections, plebiscites and referenda conducted by the USC.

2.03 Notwithstanding section 2.02, the Secretary of the University is the Chief Returning Officer of the Board of Governors' and Senate's elections. The CRO shall assist the Secretary of the University in the facilitation and regulation of Board of Governors and Senate campaigning.

2.04 For the purposes of expediency and fairness, in the event of a by-election for faculty, residence or college representatives, the Committee may, at its discretion, surrender jurisdiction of the election to the respective faculty, residence or college student council.

3.00 ADMINISTRATION OF BYLAW 2:

3.01 It will be the duty of the CRO, the DRO and the Committee to administer this By-Law, and to uphold its Vision and Principles.

3.02 The Elections Committee shall:

(1) Be composed of:

i. the Chief Returning Coordinator (CRO), *ex-officio*, as chairperson, voting,

ii. the Governance Officer, *ex-officio*, as vice-chair, voting,

iii. the Deputy Returning Coordinator (DRO), *ex-officio*, voting,

iv. six (6) students of the University at least one of whom is a first year student and at least one of whom is from an affiliate, voting, and

v. the Senior Manager, Government Services, non voting

a. shall act as an advisor, as required by the committee,



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- (2) Oversee the Spring and the Fall Elections in accordance with the provisions of By-Law #2;
- (3) Develop and maintain a clear set of criteria and considerations to be used by the Committee when making decisions relating to elections;
 - i. The Committee may release Regulations detailing how By-Law #2 will be interpreted and applied during an election period. The Regulations shall be binding as though they were a part of the bylaws, provided that:
 - a. The Regulations are consistent with the bylaws; and,
 - b. The Regulations are openly available to candidates at the start of nominations.
- (4) Make recommendations to Council on all matters, including By-Law amendments, that relate to the elections;
- (5) Not seek office in an election, support any candidate, or endorse a position in a referendum administered by the Elections Committee during her term; and,
 - i. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the immediate removal from the Elections Committee;
- (6) Seek the USC President's advice on electoral matters.

4.00 AMENDMENTS TO BYLAW 2:

- 4.01 Written notice of any amendments to provisions of this By-Law regarding Board of Governors or Senate elections, as approved by the USC, shall be provided to the Secretary of the University by the Governance Officer as soon thereafter as practicable.

5.00 ANNUAL ELECTIONS TIMETABLE:

- 5.01 There shall be four sets of USC elections each year: Fall Elections, Spring Elections, Vice Presidential Elections, and the Speaker election. The Fall Elections will consist of Divisional candidates, whereas, the Spring Elections will consist of both Divisional and Presidential candidates.

- (1) All campaign periods shall be no longer than twelve (12) days and no shorter than seven (7) days. As an exception, the VP election campaign period may be up to fifteen (15) days.
- (2) For the purposes of this By-Law, a campaign period is that determined by the Committee, in accordance with this bylaw.



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- (3) Referenda and plebiscites are subject to PART B of this By-Law, and they shall be held concurrently with either the Fall or Spring election period.

5.02 Subject to necessary changes by the Corporation, the Fall Election timetable shall be as follows:

- (1) **Nominations:** Nominations for Divisional candidates shall open no later than September 28th and close no later than October 16th and in the event of change, nominations shall open not less than two (2) days prior to the commencement of the campaign period;
- (2) **Campaigning:** The campaign period for Divisional candidates shall begin no later than October 19th and shall continue up to and including the day preceding the balloting; and,
- (3) **Balloting:** Balloting shall take place on-line over two consecutive days (from 12:01a.m. on day 1 to 8:00p.m. on day 2), and shall commence no later than October 29th.

5.03 Subject to necessary changes by the Corporation, the Spring Election timetable shall be as follows:

- (1) **Nominations:** Nominations shall open no earlier than January 1st, and no later than January 12th; and close, in any event, not more than two (2) days prior to the commencement of the campaign period;
- (4) **Campaigning:** The campaign period for both Presidential and Divisional candidates shall begin not more than two (2) days after nominations close and shall continue up to and including the day preceding balloting. In any event, the campaign period shall begin no earlier than January 24th each year;
- (5) **Balloting:** Balloting shall take place on-line over two consecutive days (from 12:01 a.m. on day 1 to 8:00 p.m. on day 2), and shall not commence earlier than February 1st.

5.04 **Vice Presidential Elections**

- (1) Nominations for Vice-Presidential candidates shall be open for at least 5 days and shall not close before the announcement of the Presidential elections results and close no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the second-half of the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation;
- (2) **Campaign Period** - The campaign period for Vice- Presidential candidates shall continue up to and including the day preceding balloting at the second half of the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation.



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5.05 Speaker of Council Elections

- (1) Each candidate shall be permitted to participate in a Candidates Forum at the first Duly Constituted Meeting following the second-half of the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation.
- (2) Voting for the Speaker of Council shall take place at the occur at the first Duly Constituted Meeting following the second-half of the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation.

6.00 THE CONSTITUENCY:

- 6.01 The constituencies and number of Councillors representing each shall be as indicated by the By-Laws of the Corporation.

7.00 CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY:

- 7.01 Any student who has any outstanding fines, as issued by the Elections Committee or the Secretary of the University shall be deemed ineligible to be a candidate for election, until such time as those fines are paid.
- 7.02 Any student who has outstanding loans from the USC Presidential election, and who has not made arrangements for the repayment of the said loan with the Senior Manager Finance of the Corporation, shall be deemed ineligible for election until such time as repayment arrangements are made.
- 7.03 Candidates as students at the University:
- (1) Candidates in the Fall Elections shall be full- or part-time undergraduate students at the University at the time of their candidacy.
 - (2) Candidates in the Spring Elections shall be full or part-time undergraduate students at the University at the time of their candidacy and shall be planning to be full- or part-time undergraduate students at the University for the duration of the term of office relating to the position for which they are running, except for Presidential or Vice Presidential candidates.
 - i. Candidates who are eligible to represent more than one faculty must provide proof to the Committee that they will be a student for the duration of the term of office in the faculty they are running in the election to represent. Eligibility shall be at the discretion of the Committee.
- 7.04 Candidates shall only be eligible if, prior to the opening of the campaign they leave a deposit of:



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- (1) Presidential candidates: \$200.00
- (2) Vice Presidential candidates: \$25.00
- (3) Divisional candidates: \$25.00
- (4) Senate candidates: \$50.00
- (5) Board of Governors candidates: \$75.00

with the USC Senior Manager, Finance as a bond to cover campaign fines, with the balance to be returned to the candidate.

7.05 Candidates for all elected positions must complete a nomination form.

- (1) A nomination form shall only be valid if the required nomination form has been submitted prior to the closing of nominations, and has been filled out completely and accurately.
- (2) Appeals regarding the validity of a nomination shall be made in writing to the Committee no later than twenty-four (24) hours following the closing of nominations. The Committee will render a decision prior to the beginning of the campaign period.
- (3) A person may not submit a nomination form to be both a Divisional and a Presidential candidate in the same election.

7.06 Candidates will be declared ineligible if they fail to attend the All-Candidates Meeting or if the candidate fails to send a proxy to the All-Candidates Meeting. The Candidate, whether present in person or not, is entirely responsible for all information provided at the All-Candidates Meeting.

8.00 ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS:

8.01 The Committee

- (1) Elections sponsored by the Corporation shall be conducted and supervised by the Committee.
 - i. all Committee members must abide by the USC's Conflict of Interest Policy

8.02 The Chief Returning Coordinator

- (2) The following items will be publicised by the CRO, on behalf of the Corporation, for the purposes of each election period:



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- i. call for nominations for USC elections;
- ii. announcement of candidates for USC elections;
- iii. announcement of the time and date for on-line balloting and,
- iv. announcement of official results for USC elections.

9.00 THE BALLOT:

9.01 The fall and spring ballots shall include the following segments:

- (1) Fall Elections: the list of constituencies being contested by Divisional candidates and the slate of candidates in each constituency;
- (2) Spring Elections: the slate of Presidential candidates, as well as a list of constituencies being contested by Divisional candidates and the slate of candidates in each constituency; and,
- (3) Either Ballot: referendum/plebiscite question(s), if applicable.

9.02 A hyperlink to the voter sign-in page shall be placed in a prominent location on the USC Homepage and USC Elections page during the Fall and Spring Elections balloting periods.

9.03 The following criteria must be met when developing the layout of the ballot:

- (1) The name of the candidates for a constituency shall be listed in alphabetical order, by last name;
- (2) Only the legal names of candidates, or reasonable derivations thereof, shall appear on the ballot, as approved by the CRO.

9.04 The layout of the ballot shall be inspected by the Governance Officer prior to balloting, to ensure that it conforms with the criteria set out herein.

9.05 All candidates will have an opportunity to review the ballot not less than seventy-two (72) hours before balloting.

9.06 Any candidate who, after inspecting the ballot, has concerns about the layout of the ballot, may address those concerns in writing to the CRO for consideration by the Committee.

- (1) The Committee shall respond to any concerns within twenty-four (24) hours of the submission; and,



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- (2) Any appeals of a decision made by the Committee with respect to a submission made under paragraph (a) must be submitted in writing to the Governance Officer not less than twenty-four (24) hours before balloting begins.

10.00 VOTER IDENTIFICATION:

10.01 In order to be entitled to vote, each student must log online using a University email username and password. The President and Vice Presidents of the shall be added to the database for all elections.

11.00 RULES FOR ELECTIONS, PLEBISCITES AND REFERENDA

11.01 Campaigning

- (1) All forms of advertising through any campus media, the distribution and/or posting of any material designed and/or likely to influence voters, speeches, shall not take place prior to the campaign period;
- (2) Campaigning as a slate is prohibited. Each candidate must maintain separate finances, produce unique campaign materials and present campaign platforms distinct from other candidates. Candidates may campaign together in campus buildings, so long as they present themselves as individuals.
- (3) Candidates for Divisional and Presidential Elections may, once duly nominated, meet with members of the executive body, or equivalent representative of USC or University recognized organizations on a consultative basis to develop a platform of ideas for the campaign period. Candidates may not address Executive or General meetings of USC or University recognized organizations prior to the start of campaigning, and must schedule meetings with executive members on their own initiative. The candidate may not solicit votes or support during consultative meetings.
- i. Any student may meet with any voting member of Council at any time to discuss issues reasonably connected to an office that they intend to, or are considering seeking.
 - ii. The foregoing shall not impede any officer or member of the Corporation from carrying out all duties reasonably incident to her portfolio;
- (4) Campaigning must cease by 11:59 pm before the first day of balloting subject to the following:
- i. Candidate websites and online campaigning may remain online;
 - ii. Candidates may campaign by email and electronic messaging;



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- iii. Candidates may campaign in the UCC Atrium, subject to specific rules set out in this By-Law and by the CRO.
- (5) Candidates shall be responsible for the actions, and violations stemming from such actions, of any non-arm's-length party, however occurring;
- (6) Candidates shall campaign in accordance with the rules of fair play. Breaking the rules of fair play include, but are not limited to, breaching generally accepted community standards, libel, slander, general sabotage of the campaigns of other candidates, and misrepresentation of fact;
- (7) It is the responsibility of the Candidate to ensure that all campaign plans, materials and/or advertisements, conform with all policies and regulations of the USC and the University, and with all municipal, provincial and federal laws. Campaign displays and the distribution of literature on campus are also subject to the approval of the Physical Plant and/or the Reservations Office;
- (8) All campaign materials and posters to be printed commercially shall be printed at Inprint, unless the printing required is unavailable, or a reasonably comparable replacement is unavailable at Inprint.
 - i. Where Inprint services are priced significantly above Fair Market Value, the candidate shall be reimbursed for the cost of printing services charged by Inprint. The amount charged to the candidate's campaign expenditures shall be Fair Market Value.
- (9) Candidates may campaign and distribute campaign material at their own discretion, subject to this By-Law. Candidates that receive the prior approval from the CRO for campaign materials shall not be found in violation of this By-Law, but may nonetheless be prohibited from distributing certain materials at the discretion of the Committee.
- (10) Any campaigning using space in a faculty building must be approved by the CRO as well as the faculty President or faculty designate (if the faculty President has a conflict of interest).
- (11) All emails or mass communications via social media, which shall include but not be limited to, Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, LinkedIn, sent for the purpose of campaigning to a managed list of more than one person must be approved in advance by the list administrator. A copy of the email and a statement from the list administrator who authorized the email must be sent to the CRO within one hour of the message's distribution.
- (12) The colour purple cannot be used as a campaign colour by any candidate for Presidential, Divisional, or Vice-Presidential elections.



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(13) Restrictions regulating campaigning that are unique to:

- i. the University's Affiliated Colleges,
- ii. student residences, and,
- iii. any building on campus,

must be strictly adhered to. It is the responsibility of the candidates to familiarize themselves with the different rules which may govern each of the aforementioned entities;

(14) Campaign signs may NOT:

- i. be posted in any outdoor locations on campus, except for those locations specifically permitted by University administration.
- ii. Have dimensions larger than 2' by 4' as per section 4.1 of the Board of Governor's "Signage" policy.
- iii. overlap or be attached to a campaign sign already affixed to something,
- iv. be posted on the outside of any building on campus or on windows in any such building, regardless of the way the sign is facing,
- v. be posted in classrooms or seminar rooms, and,
- vi. be removed from any posted location, even if posted in contravention of the bylaws, without the authorization of the CRO, except a candidate's own sign removed by that candidate;

(15) Areas designated for campaigning will be determined and disclosed by the CRO at the All-Candidates Meetings, subject to the following restrictions:

- i. no campaigning of any form is permitted in the USC office,
- ii. the use of campaign materials or campaigning within a classroom is forbidden, without the expressed permission of its presiding faculty member(s). To campaign in a classroom, a candidate must obtain consent from the professor/lecturer before the start of class.

(16) All candidates shall be responsible for the removal of all posters and other materials, within the control of the candidate, within forty-eight (48) hours following the close of balloting. Items beyond the control of the candidate are limited to distributed materials and the actions of any arm's-length party.



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- i. Posters and other campaign materials shall not be within a direct line of sight of a Designated Polling Station during the balloting period, and may be removed at the discretion of the CRO.
 - ii. A candidate will forfeit her bond if all campaign materials and posters that are within the control of the candidate are not removed within the forty-eight (48) hours following the close of balloting.
 - iii. Where the cost of cleanup incurred as a result of an infraction is greater than the candidates bond, the Committee may withhold campaign reimbursements until the candidate removes the offending materials. The Committee may issue additional monetary fines at its discretion, and reduce candidates' campaign expense reimbursements accordingly.
- (17) Candidates are not entitled to use in their campaign, any service or tangible benefit conferred onto them by virtue of their holding any position in any organization on campus. This includes, but is not limited to, office supplies, equipment, advertising space and, secretarial services;
- (18) In determining a candidate's campaign expenditure, the Committee reserves the right to include the fair market value (FMV) of any materials or advertisements which endorses or supports a candidate, as per Section 11.02(5). This may, at the discretion of the Committee, include situations whereby a non-arms length party producing the material or advertisement does so without the consent of the candidate.
- (19) Where a candidate purchases goods or services at a discounted price, or receives them as a donation, the FMV of the purchase will be included in determining a candidate's campaign expenditure, as per Section 11.02(5).
- (20) Candidates may not, through any means, electronic or otherwise, influence, appear to influence or attempt to influence a voter while she is in the process of voting.
- (21) All of the above rules apply to use of social media, which shall include but not be limited to Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube.

11.02 Campaign Expenditures

- (1) The spending limit for Presidential Elections shall be \$0.025 per voter.
- (2) The spending limit for Divisional Elections candidates, other than Faculty President candidates, shall be \$0.05 per voter, subject to the following limitations:
 - i. The maximum spending limit shall be \$150.



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- ii. The minimum spending limit shall be \$50.
- (3) The spending limit for Faculty President candidates shall be \$25 more than the spending limit of other divisional candidates in the faculty.
- (4) The CRO shall make available the spending limit for each candidate no later than September 15th.
- (5) The spending limit for Vice Presidential Elections shall be \$150.
- (6) All candidates shall submit to the CRO original receipts of all expenditures, a statement indicating the FMV of an expenditure for which no receipt is available or a signed statement to the effect that no campaign expenses were incurred by four (4) p.m. on the last day of campaigning. The CRO may, at any time, request from any candidate, original receipts prior to this date;
- (7) Only campaign expenses with valid, verifiable and corresponding receipts will be eligible for reimbursement. Any item deemed not to be an appropriate campaign expense may be excluded from reimbursement by the Committee or the USC's Senior Manager Finance.
- (8) All Presidential candidates shall submit an interim calculation of all expenses to the CRO, by a date to be determined by the CRO;
- (9) The calculation of a candidate's spending shall be made according to the fair market value of all purchases, services, donations, and items, which are deemed by the Committee to be used for the purposes of the campaign.
 - i. **Fair Market Value** ("FMV") of a product or service shall be the lowest price, without special concessions or discounts that is available in London for that product or service, to all persons who approach a person or company that sells, or deals in, that product or service, and,
 - ii. the Committee shall contact three (3) major suppliers in the London area and shall adopt the lowest price as the FMV. Such FMV may be rebutted by the candidate if the Candidate is able to produce/submit receipts from London area merchants which evidence a lower FMV than that obtained by the Committee;
 - iii. FMV for the production of campaign videos shall be set as follows, at the discretion of the Committee: a one-time expense of 1/15th of the applicable campaign spending limit for an amateur quality video and 2/15ths for a professional quality video, or the actual cost of producing the video, whichever is higher.



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- (10) The Corporation shall reimburse Presidential, Vice Presidential and Divisional candidates for campaign expenses incurred according to the following formulas.
- i. the Corporation shall provide full reimbursement for campaign expenses incurred by Presidential candidates who receive at least 10% of the total number of valid votes cast in the Presidential election,
 - a. Candidates who receive less than 10% of the total number of valid votes cast in the Presidential election shall also receive full reimbursement, if the Committee determines that the candidate actively solicited votes throughout the campaign period.
 - ii. the Corporation shall provide full reimbursement for campaign expenses incurred by Vice Presidential candidates who receive at least 10% of the total number of valid votes cast in the Vice Presidential election,
 - iii. the Corporation shall provide full reimbursement for campaign expenses incurred by Divisional candidates according to the following formula:
 - a. $\text{total votes cast} \div \text{positions available} \times 10\% < \# \text{ of votes received}$
 - (a) (e.g. if 1000 votes were cast, and there were 10 councillor positions available, a full reimbursement would be provided where the candidate received more than 10 votes)
 - b. The following Divisional candidates will not be reimbursed for their campaign expenses:
 - (a) Senate and Board of Governors candidates; and
 - (b) Candidates in elections administered by their Faculty.
 - iv. if a Presidential Candidate does not meet the criteria for full reimbursement, as described in section (i) above, the Corporation shall provide partial reimbursement according to the following formula:
 - a. $(\% \text{ of total votes received by candidate}) \times (5) = \% \text{ of campaign expenses reimbursed}$
 - b. (e.g. - if a candidate received 4% of the votes, the calculation would be: $4 \times 5 = 20\%$);
 - v. the CRO and the Committee shall have the authority not to reimburse a campaign expense, and to decide whether an expenditure shall be included as a campaign expense; and,



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- vi. A Presidential Candidate disqualified prior to the election shall be reimbursed 10% of the Candidate's campaign expenditures or 10% of the maximum spending limit as set by the Committee, whichever is less. This shall be subject to any fines issued and/or outstanding loans.

11.03 Campaign Loans

- (1) A Presidential candidate may obtain an interest-free loan for the amount of the bond plus the spending limit established pursuant to Section 11(2)(a), by applying to the USC Senior Manager, Finance.
 - i. any loans granted pursuant to this section must be repaid, subject to any amount reimbursed and fines owed, within 30 business days from the close of balloting, and,
 - ii. any loan which is not repaid within this time period will be pursued legally and will be subject to an interest rate as provided for in the Courts of Justice Act, RSO 1990.

11.04 Violation of Campaign Rules

- (1) The Committee shall have the sole authority to enforce the provisions of this By-Law and no candidate may attempt to enforce the provisions of this By-Law;
- (2) Allegations of violation of this By-law shall be submitted in writing to the Committee who shall decide on the charge;
- (3) The Committee may lay charges of violations of campaign rules on its own initiative;
- (4) Any charge of a violation must be given in writing within five (5) days of the close of balloting to the CRO;
- (5) The Committee shall meet from time to time, at the call of the CRO, to discuss any charges of violations to this By-Law, and decide on the appropriate action to be taken, subject to the following:
 - i. to issue four (4) demerit points or less, a decision can validly be made by the CRO, DRO, and GO;
 - ii. to issue five (5) demerit points or more, the majority of the voting members of the Committee must be present;
 - iii. the CRO shall invite the candidate to the meeting where the alleged violation will be addressed, at least eighteen (18) hours in advance. At the



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time notice is given, the candidate shall be informed of the nature of the complaint and all relevant facts surrounding the alleged violation. The candidate may attend a portion of the meeting and present her case;

- iv. minutes of the meeting will be made available to the public on written request within a forty-eight (48) hour period;
- (6) It will be the responsibility of the candidate to ascertain his/her position on a daily basis with respect to decisions made by the Committee regarding alleged violations committed by the candidate;
- (7) The Committee, where it finds there has been a violation of this By-Law, must make available for publication the details of the violation;
- (8) The Committee, where it finds there has been a violation, :
 - i. Shall assign a demerit point penalty and resulting fine against a candidate or a group representing a side, consistent with the guidelines in subsection (10) below;
 - ii. Shall disqualify a candidate from the election automatically if required by subsection (12) below;
 - iii. May disqualify a candidate from the election discretionarily, if permitted by subsection (10) below.
 - iv. May reduce or eliminate a candidate's or referendum/plebiscite group's reimbursement;
 - v. May declare that an election in a particular USC constituency or the election of a specific candidate be ruled void; and
 - vi. Shall declare a referendum or plebiscite to be void, if the Committee determines that the violation(s) have compromised the integrity and/or reliability of the results;
- (9) The Committee, where it finds that there has been a violation, must communicate to the candidate the reasons for the decision within 48 hours after any penalties take effect. An instance of a failure of the Committee to communicate these reasons does not invalidate or otherwise affect the status of the penalties.
- (10) Demerit points shall be assigned for infractions as follows. The Committee may reduce the demerit points assigned for an infraction by up to half, where mitigating circumstances warrant a lesser penalty.



i. Campaigning

Misrepresentation of Facts	3
Campaign Materials displayed in an unauthorized area (per piece of material)	1*
Campaigning in person in an unauthorised area	10
Failure to submit campaign receipts (or signed statement of having no expenses)	4**
Same violation in multiple locations	4
Improper distribution of campaign materials	8
Multiple violations in different locations	8
Pre/Post Campaigning	8
Breaking any municipal, provincial or federal law while campaigning	***

* Up to a maximum of ten points per location

** If the Committee determines that the candidate has exceeded her campaign spending limit, discretion shall lie with the Committee to disqualify the candidate, or attach sufficient demerit points as found reasonable, considering all surrounding circumstances.

*** The Committee may assign a demerit point penalty of an amount determined at its discretion, including a sufficient amount to disqualify a candidate, to any candidate who has committed this offence.

ii. Fair Play

Unsanctioned use of USC resources	15
Gross Misrepresentation of facts	15
Abuse of position or status	15
Failure to Comply with the Spirit and Purpose of the Elections	15*

* The Committee may assign a demerit point penalty of an amount determined at their discretion, not to exceed fifteen (15) points, to any candidate who has deliberately circumvented or manipulated the bylaws in order to obtain an unfair advantage.

(11) In addition to demerit points, candidates will be levied a monetary fine on a per demerit point basis as follows:

USC President	\$6 per point
USC Vice President	\$4 per point
All Other USC Candidates	\$4 per point
Board of Governors	\$4 per point
Senator At Large	\$4 per point



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- 12.02 Where a USC recognized organization or organization executive member has been alleged to have violated By-Law 2:
- (1) The Committee shall send a summary of the alleged violations to the organization e-mail address on file with the USC, including information about any subsequent action that may be taken under this By-Law and any relevant times or dates.
 - (2) The organization shall have a reasonable period of time to send a response to the Governance Officer, having regard to the timing and nature of the alleged violation.
 - (3) The Committee shall hold a hearing to determine if the organization has violated By-Law 2 and may impose sanctions or prohibitions on the club at the Committee's discretion that shall last for the remainder of the campaign and balloting period.
 - (4) Upon the announcement of the electoral results, the sanctions shall be suspended and the matter shall be referred to the Clubs Governance Committee for further measures at their discretion, where the organization is a club.
- 12.03 Notwithstanding provisions dealing with candidates, non-arms-length parties, and clubs, no student may engage in actions that are likely to bring the electoral process into disrepute. Where such an action takes place, the following procedure shall be followed:
- (1) Any student alleged to be violating this by-law by the Committee shall be notified via their UWO e-mail address, including information about any subsequent action that may be taken under this By-Law and any relevant times or dates.
 - (2) The student shall be given the opportunity to respond with a written statement to the Committee within a reasonable period of time.
 - (3) Where the Committee finds a violation has occurred, the Committee may refer the matter to an outside person or body with recommendations, including, but not limited to, the Vice Provost, Student Services regarding the Code of Student Conduct, University Police and Information and Technology Services.

13.00 ELECTION RESULTS

- 13.01 In each constituency the candidate with the most number of votes shall be declared the winner.
- 13.02 In the event of a tie, the winner shall be decided by a coin toss initiated by the CRO.
- 13.03 Election results for a constituency will be valid only if at least half of the votes cast are valid votes.



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13.04 In the event of an invalid election, the Committee shall convene and recommend a course of action to Council.

14.00 SPECIAL RULES FOR VP ELECTIONS

14.01 Candidates may make campaign materials available to current Council members through the USC Office front desk.

14.02 No campaigning shall be allowed during the first-half of the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation, except for the following:

(1) Candidates shall be allotted five (5) minutes to address Council.

14.03 No campaigning shall be allowed during the second-half of the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation, except for the following:

(1) Candidates may place campaign materials in an area designated-by the CRO; and,

(2) A group-formatted question period shall be available for all candidates competing for a Vice-Presidential position. The Speaker of Council shall set the length of time for the question period.

14.04 **Special Balloting Rules:**

(1) Balloting for the Vice Presidential election shall occur during the second-half of the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation.

(2) Voting shall take place by secret ballot.

(3) Each Voting Member, including the incoming and outgoing Council Voting Members, and the Assistant to the President shall be entitled to one (1) vote per ballot for any given Vice-Presidential position.

(4) No Voting Member shall cast more than one (1) ballot for each Vice-Presidential position.

(5) **Advanced Polling** - The CRO shall designate a time and place for advanced polling subject to the following:

i. Voting in the advanced poll shall take place the week prior to the second-half of the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation;

ii. The option to vote in the advanced poll shall not be available for more than 2 days;



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- iii. The votes cast in the advanced poll shall be received by the CRO or Governance Officer;
 - iv. All votes must be cast in person;
 - v. A vote cast in the advanced poll shall be placed in a sealed envelope and shall be counted at the same time as the votes that are cast at the second-half of the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation; and,
 - vi. Notwithstanding By-Law #1, a vote cast in an advanced poll is final. Once a Voting Member has cast her vote the vote shall not be altered or cancelled.
- (6) **Ballots:** Preferential voting will proceed by a numbered ballot such that on the preferential ballot for each position, each voter must indicate the order in which she prefers the candidates by placing a numeral '1' beside her first preference, a numeral '2' beside her second preference, in numerical order up to and including the final candidate.
- (7) **Counting Ballots:** The counting of the ballots shall take place according to the following:
- i. Each candidate may designate an agent to act as her scrutineer during the counting of the ballots;
 - ii. In the first count, first preference votes for each candidate are counted;
 - iii. If a candidate receives 50% + 1 of the eligible votes cast, that candidate shall be elected.
 - iv. Where the top place candidate fails to achieve 50% + 1, the second choice votes of the candidate finishing last in that round of ballot counting shall be reassigned accordingly. This process is repeated until one candidate receives the majority of the highest preferences remaining on the ballots;
 - v. If two (2) or more candidates are tied for the least popular position, those candidates shall be redistributed accordingly;
 - vi. Failure to select a preference in any round of voting shall result in that ballot being spoiled for that and all subsequent rounds of balloting. A ballot shall not be deemed spoiled so long as the voter's intentions can be reasonably ascertained from the ballot;
 - vii. **Tie result** - In the event of a tie, whenever possible, tie shall be resolved in favour of the candidate with the most first place votes;



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- viii. **Tie result-** Where the election outcome cannot be resolved by the method outlined above, the election shall be resolved by a re-vote between the tied candidates to take place at the next Duly Constituted Meeting. The re-vote shall be subject to the following procedures:
- a. The tied candidates shall be permitted to campaign following the end of the second-half of the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation;
 - b. All Voting Members who were eligible to vote at the second half of the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation shall be permitted to vote;
 - c. The CRO shall designate a time and place for advanced polling in accordance with the procedures set out in paragraph (2) (iii.) (e.);
 - d. The votes shall be counted in accordance with rules as set out above in paragraph (2)(iii)(g); and,
 - e. Should the re-vote result in a tie between two candidates, the election shall be resolved by way of a coin toss.

- (8) **Vote of Confidence** - If only one candidate stands to be elected for a Vice-Presidential position, the Speaker of Council shall initiate a vote of confidence in place of balloting during the second-half of the Annual General Meeting. The candidate shall be acclaimed if a simple majority of eligible Council members votes in favour of the resolution to acclaim the candidate.

15.00 SPECIAL RULES FOR SPEAKER ELECTIONS

- 15.01 Campaigning for the position of Speaker of Council is strictly prohibited excepting activities that take place during the Candidates Forum provided for above in section 5.05(1).
- 15.02 With the exception of the timeframe, the voting process and method shall be the same the Vice-Presidential elections provided for in section 14.04.

16.00 APPEALS OF COMMITTEE DECISIONS OR ELECTION RESULTS

16.01 Appeals of Committee Decisions

- (1) Appeals regarding decisions made and/or sanctions levied by the Committee shall be made in writing to the Governance Officer within (2) days of the candidate being informed of the decision;



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- (2) A candidate is deemed to be informed of a Committee decision six (6) hours after the decision is posted on the designated elections space in the USC office. All decisions shall indicate the time posted;
- (3) Appeals from a Committee decision shall be heard by the USC Executive Council. The Executive Council shall assemble and hear the case forthwith to respect the fact that time is of the essence;
 - i. Where an appellate decision could substantially alter the result of a referendum or presidential election, appeals shall instead be heard by an arbitrator.
 - a. The General Manager shall be responsible for finding persons capable of acting as an arbitrator, and should be prepared to do so on short notice.
 - b. The general manager shall hire an independent arbitrator agreed upon by the parties to the appeal or, if the parties are unable to agree, as selected by the Executive Council.
 - c. The arbitrator shall provide directions for the conduct and determination of the appeal according to his/her discretion, including the submission of written materials and the convening of an oral hearing, if deemed necessary, and shall establish the applicable time limits for such steps. The arbitrator's decision shall be released to the interested parties, the Committee and the Executive Council, where possible, within 15 days of the arbitrator's appointment.
- (4) The Executive Council, acting as the appellate body, may conduct appeals from decisions of the Committee on an inquisitorial or adversarial basis, at its discretion. The Executive Council may accept written and oral submissions from the Governance Officer, the CRO or her agent, the candidate in question or the candidate's agent, and any person who the Executive Council believes may provide relevant information;
- (5) The Executive Council shall, within twenty-four (24) hours of hearing the appeal, submit to the Governance Officer its written (consensus) decision.
- (6) The decision of the Executive Council shall be final, subject to the following:
 - i. Where the Executive Council upholds the decision of the Elections Committee to disqualify a candidate for the Board of Governors or Senate, the candidate may submit a written request for further appeal to the Secretary of the University.



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16.02 Appeals of Election Results

- (1) Any candidate may challenge the validity of her election result in a written submission containing her reasons to the Governance Officer no sooner than two (2) days and no later than five (5) days after the close of balloting;
- (2) Written submissions appealing election results shall contain the appellant's name, student number, telephone number and address, as well as a detailed explanation of the reason(s) for challenging the results; and,
- (3) The Committee shall investigate any appeal and decide on the appropriate action.



PART B: REFERENDA AND PLEBISCITES

17.00 GENERAL

- 17.01 Without limiting any section of By-Law #2, Part A, this Part covers any referendums or plebiscite conducted by the USC.
- 17.02 The administration of this Part, unless otherwise stated, is vested with the CRO.
- 17.03 The results of any referendum shall be binding on the USC unless the results affect the Letters Patent or the Articles of Incorporation of the USC or unless, by implementing the directive of the referendum, the Executive Council would be breaching its fiduciary obligations to the corporation.
- 17.04 The results of a plebiscite shall not be binding.
- 17.05 Any referendum or plebiscite requiring a motion of Council must be posted as required by By-Law #1. The CRO shall advertise meetings of Council, in which motions and writs to hold referenda or plebiscites will be put forward, in *The Gazette* at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to such a Council meeting.
- 17.06 For the purposes of this part, the number of students in the student body shall be the number of full-time equivalent students registered at the University during the previous academic year.
- 17.07 The results of any referendum shall be binding only if a minimum of 20% of the student body vote in the referendum.
- 17.08 A referendum may be initiated either by Council or by students at large.
- 17.09 A plebiscite may be initiated either by Council or by students at large.

18.00 STUDENT-INITIATED REFERENDUM

- 18.01 For the purposes of this Section:
- (1) A "policy issue" means any issue or proposal which is not likely to have any direct financial or legal implications on the USC;
 - (2) The Executive Council, in consultation with any relevant individuals and/or committees, shall determine whether an issue is one which is likely to have direct financial or legal implications on the USC; and,
 - (3) An issue shall be deemed to have a direct financial implication on the USC if it will result in the imposition of any fee on students.



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- 18.02 Any student wishing to initiate a referendum shall contact the Governance Officer and Government Services Manager to review the process to have a referendum question put on the ballot prior to collecting signatures, including the collection of signatures, the campaigning process, and any other pertinent information.
- 18.03 Any student may present a petition to the CRO requesting that a referendum be held on any matter, subject to the following.
- (1) Student-initiated referenda may not establish any fee to fund the activities of a USC Ratified Club, or Clubs.
 - i. This does not prohibit funding for activities that are simply supported by a USC Ratified Club.
 - (2) Any petition requesting a student-initiated referendum must be submitted to the CRO no later than nine (9) days before the last Council meeting prior to the commencement of the campaign period for the election.
 - (3) A petition is only valid if it contains the following:
 - i. The names, student numbers and signatures of at least 10% of the student body when a request is being made for a referendum on any issue; and,
 - ii. A clear indication of the issue on which the requested referendum is to be held.
 - (4) The CRO shall check the validity of each name on the petition. If greater than 10% of the names are invalid, the petition is invalid.
 - (5) Any petition which contains any material misstatements of fact or material misrepresentations is invalid.
 - (6) For a petition to contain a clear indication of the issue, it must include at least the following:
 - i. The amount of any fee which will be levied upon students directly for the purpose of implementing the proposal; and,
 - ii. A statement summarizing the question which will be decided by the referendum.
 - (7) Any student-initiated referendum involving levying a student fee shall require:



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- i. A University administrative advisor to the Board of Governors to be contacted by the USC to determine whether or not the Board would allow such a fee to be collected by the USC; and
 - ii. The VP Finance to work with the student to determine the exact fee that is to be levied by means of a budget prepared by the student,
 - a. If no such budget exists, the VP Finance shall assist the student in putting together a budget from which a student fee can be derived.
 - (8) The Committee shall assess the validity of all petitions and shall notify the student submitting the petition if it is found to be invalid.
 - i. Prior to submitting a completed petition, any student may submit a draft petition question to the Governance Officer for review. Any petition question which is reviewed and endorsed by the Governance Officer shall be deemed to contain a clear indication of the issue and not to contain any material misrepresentations.
- 18.04 If a petition is found to be valid, a “**writ of referendum**” shall be drafted by the CRO in consultation with the Committee, which shall include the following:
- (1) The particulars of the petition, including the name of the petitioner and the number of student signatures on the petition;
 - (2) The Executive Council’s decision about the financial and legal implications of the proposal, with a brief summary of the reasons for that decision;
 - (3) The proposed referendum question;
 - i. the Committee shall be responsible for developing an objective referendum question; and.
 - (4) A budget outlining the projected cost of holding the referendum.
- 18.05 A valid petition requesting that a referendum be held on a policy issue shall automatically result in the initiation of a referendum and shall not require the approval of Council.
- (1) The CRO shall present the writ of referendum to Council.
- 18.06 A valid petition requesting that a referendum be held on an issue or proposal which is likely to have direct legal or financial implications on the USC must be approved by Council before a referendum may be initiated. A Simple Majority vote of Council will be required to prevent the referendum as requested from being placed on the ballot.



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- (1) The CRO shall present the writ of referendum as well as a motion to place the referendum question on the ballot.
- 18.07 In addition to the above, the following considerations apply to student-initiated referenda for Third Party Fees.
- (1) A “**Third-Party Fee**” is a fee that funds a program or service run by an organization other than the USC, and which benefits of Western students.
 - i. USC Clubs are not considered third parties for the purposes of this section.
 - (2) Any referendum question imposing a Third Party Fee must:
 - i. Include reasonable and meaningful constraints on the way the fee will be used, and must be conditional on adherence to those restraints; and
 - ii. Require Council renewal every four years in order to continue.
 - (3) A petition to hold a student-initiated referendum for a Third Party Fee will only be valid if the petition states the referendum question.
 - i. If the petition signed by students contains a referendum question that the Elections Committee finds to be misleading or inadequate, the Elections Committee may determine that the petition is invalid.
 - ii. The Elections Committee will draft a satisfactory referendum question if approached to do so.
 - iii. The referendum question appearing on the petition does not need to be identical to the referendum question ultimately approved by the Elections Committee, provided that the differences are not material.
 - (4) The referendum shall be classified as a Registered Interested Party referendum and the ‘Yes’ Campaign shall be run by the individual initiating the referendum or a proxy thereof.
 - (5) The USC will enforce the result of a student-initiated referendum to establish a Third Party Fee, subject to the following:
 - i. A referenda result may be invalidated by the Committee, if there is sufficient impropriety to cast doubt upon the result.
 - ii. The Board of Governors may refuse to allow the USC to collect the fee.



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- iii. If a fee is imposed, the VP Finance must be supplied with financial information describing the use of the fee at least once per year. The VP Finance shall be responsible for reviewing the way in which the student fee is being used, and evaluating compliance with the terms of the referendum.
 - a. If the VP Finance reports that any conditions of the referendum are not being satisfied, Council may resolve to terminate the fee from future budgets.

19.00 COUNCIL-INITIATED REFERENDUM

19.01 Council may initiate a referendum on any issue through a motion of Council, duly passed by a simple majority vote of those present and voting.

20.00 STUDENT-INITIATED PLEBISCITE

20.01 A student initiated plebiscite is subject to the same rules and procedures as a student-initiated referendum, with the only exception being as follows:

- (1) The names, student numbers and signatures of at least 5% of the student body are required when a request is being made for a plebiscite on any issue.

21.00 COUNCIL-INITIATED PLEBISCITE

21.01 Council may initiate a plebiscite on any issue through a motion of Council, duly passed by a simple majority of those present and voting.

22.00 REGISTERED INTEREST PARTY

22.01 Registered interested parties are entitled to campaign on behalf of any side in any referendum or plebiscite. More than one registered interested party may represent each official side.

22.02 Any group may request recognition as a registered interested party provided that the following conditions are met:

- (1) They are a student group, or party approved by the Committee, autonomous from the USC, that has been in existence for at least six (6) months prior to the writ, including, but not limited to the following: clubs, Faculty Councils, Affiliated Colleges and Residence Councils; or,
- (2) If a student group or party approved by the Committee, as described above, does not register, then a group of students may register.



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- 22.03 When applying to be a registered interested party, a group must prepare a written submission indicating how they will be directly affected by the result of the referendum or plebiscite.
- 22.04 All applications for status as a registered interested party must be submitted to the CRO within seven (7) days of the passing by Council of the motion or writ of referendum or plebiscite.
- 22.05 The Committee will decide on the merit of an application for status as a Registered Interested Party with such decision being subject to appeal to the Executive Council and finally to Council.
- 22.06 All registered interested parties must name an official spokesperson and this name must be handed into the CRO with the request.
- 22.07 Where there is only one registered interested party, it will constitute the only official side.
- 22.08 Subject to the following, all registered interested parties, including the USC, when applicable, are deemed to be candidates, and are bound by the campaign rules in Part A, as well as by the rules and procedures governing referendums and plebiscites, when representing their side of the issue.
- (1) All Campaign Materials produced by a registered party, including electronic materials, must clearly indicate that they are authored by a registered interest party.
 - (2) Registered interest parties shall be allowed a maximum of thirty (30) demerit points.
 - i. A registered interest party that accrues more than thirty (30) demerit points shall be automatically disqualified.
 - ii. A registered interest party shall be fined \$8 for each demerit point received, up to a maximum of \$240.
 - (3) **Consequences of Disqualification:**
 - i. If the disqualified group is a USC-ratified club, they shall be prohibited from further campaigning. Failure to adhere to this prohibition will be reported to the Clubs Governance Committee, and could result in further sanctions.
 - ii. Individual students cannot be prohibited from further campaigning. However, students that continue to campaign after their group has been disqualified will not be reimbursed for any new campaign expenses.



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- iii. A disqualified group will not be reimbursed for the cost of any campaign materials that continue to be used after the group's disqualification.
- iv. A disqualified group may not refer to themselves as an "official registered interest party".
- v. The disqualification of the "Yes" registered interest party does not automatically mean that a referendum fails. The Committee must make a separate determination as to whether the referendum result is valid. In doing so, the Committee must consider the potential impact of the infractions on the results.
- vi. The disqualification of the "No" registered party never means that a referendum carries.

23.00 USC-SPONSORED SIDE

23.01 Subject to subsection 24.02(1), where the USC has an interest in the outcome of a referendum or plebiscite, or where it is felt that a side of an issue is not being adequately represented by a registered interested party, the Executive Council has the option of campaigning or appointing someone to campaign on behalf of a particular side.

24.00 INFORMATION-BASED CAMPAIGN

24.01 Where Council supports the provision of information to the electorate, the USC, by a simple majority vote of Council, may provide financing for an information-based campaign in accordance with the financing rules prescribed in section 25.00.

- (1) Information-based campaign funding can be allotted in addition to registered interest party campaign funding, or in place of registered interest party campaign funding.

24.02 The Executive Council shall be responsible for administrating information-based campaigns.

- (1) As a consequence, the Executive Council shall be prohibited from sponsoring a side whenever an information-based campaign has been approved.

24.03 All information-based campaign materials must be reviewed and approved by the Committee before being posted or distributed.

- (1) The Committee shall review the materials to ensure that they are neutral, and unbiased.

25.00 FINANCES



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- 25.01 Registered interested parties may apply to the Committee for the funding available for their official side.
- 25.02 Each official side shall be entitled to funding up to 100% of the Presidential limit as established, unless there is only one official side in which case the spending shall be at 50% of the Presidential limit.
- 25.03 An Information-Based Campaign shall be entitled to funding as follows
- (1) 100% of the Presidential limit, if there are no registered interest parties;
 - (2) 75% of the Presidential limit, if interest parties are only registered for one official side; or
 - (3) 50% of the Presidential limit, if there is at least one registered interest party for both official sides;
- 25.04 Registered interested parties shall be entitled to spend the equivalent of 20% of the official side's allowable limit on non-campaign expenditures, which could include:
- (1) Research material; and,
 - (2) Administrative costs.
- 25.05 If any registered interested party overspends their allowable limit, the surplus shall be applied to the official side's spending in addition to an automatic fine of 100% of the surplus.
- 25.06 All official sides and registered interested parties shall present a full financial statement to the CRO by 12:00 noon on the last day of campaigning.
- 25.07 Each official side will give the USC a three hundred dollar (\$300.00) bond to be used for election fines.
- 25.08 Interested parties are not eligible for any USC loans for either bonds or expenses.

26.00 APPEALS OF PLEBISCITE OR REFERENDUM RESULTS

- 26.01 Any student may challenge the validity of any referendum or plebiscite results. All appeals must be done in a written submission that:
- (1) Is presented to the Committee no sooner than two (2) days and no later than five (5) days after the close of balloting; and,



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- (2) Contains the appellant's name, student number, telephone number and address, as well as a detailed explanation of the reason(s) for challenging the results.
- 26.02 The Committee shall investigate the appeal within fourteen (14) days, and decide on the appropriate action.
- 26.03 All voting data collected shall be destroyed not less than thirty (30) days after the close of balloting.