



# Committee Chairs' Meeting

November 2nd 2018, 6:00pm

Leanne Young - Chief Electoral Officer (CEO)

Isaac Levy - Deputy Electoral Officer (DEO)

# Chief Electoral Officer (CEO)

## Leanne Young

- ▶ Giving judgements and sanctions
- ▶ Managing the Online Voting System
- ▶ Preparing and uploading ballots
- ▶ Managing all communications with the student body
- ▶ Liaising with external offices & electoral agencies
- ▶ Approval of Campaign Committees
- ▶ Planning events and debates
  
- ▶ **Contact:** [elections@ssmu.ca](mailto:elections@ssmu.ca)
- ▶ **Office Hours:** By appointment via email in the SSMU Offices,  
3600 rue McTavish, Suite 1200

# Deputy Electoral Officer (DEO)

## Isaac Levy

- ▶ Background support
- ▶ Updating Elections SSMU website
- ▶ Monitoring campaign activity
- ▶ Point of contact for candidates and voters
  
- ▶ **Contact:** [deo@ssmu.ca](mailto:deo@ssmu.ca)
- ▶ **Office Hours:** By appointment

# Important Dates, Times

- ▶ Nomination Period for all Questions Ends: **Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>**
- ▶ Campaign Period: **Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> @6PM**
- ▶ Polling Period: **Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> @6PM**
- ▶ Elections Announcement: Online via listserv after polling closes

# Things to Keep in Mind

- ▶ Campaign Committee petitions must be submitted electronically in an excel file or a google sheet document including the following information from the minimum ten (10) founding members:
  - ▶ Name of committee chair and other members
  - ▶ Student ID, Faculty, Program Year of each member
  - ▶ Emails of each member
- ▶ Campaign Committees may only begin campaigning once their petition is approved by an Elections SSMU Officer (CEO/DEO)

**SSMU  
Internal  
Regulations  
Regarding  
Campaigns**

# Outline of the Rules (non-exhaustive)

- ▶ You may withdraw your candidacy up until **1 hour** before polling begins
- ▶ To form a campaign committee, send us your name/phone number, and a list of the Committee Members (CM's) with their student ID's, faculty, and year of study (have to be Members) → send as **Excel sheet**, if possible
- ▶ To add CM's, send us their info (same as above) → they can only start campaigning **once you've gotten approval** from the CEO or DEO
- ▶ All CM's equally responsible for knowing IR's
- ▶ Importance of **respect** for all other candidates and campaigns
- ▶ Campaigning may be done *only* by candidate and CM's
- ▶ Campaign **only during campaign period**
- ▶ **No External body** involvement in campaigns (see exceptions in 1.6, 1.7)

# Outline of the Rules (non-exhaustive)

- ▶ No campaigning within/near Elections SSMU Polling Stations, University residences, libraries, or designated study areas at the University
- ▶ No slanderous campaigning, or interference with others' campaigns
- ▶ Campaigners must be able to provide valid ID to elections officer when asked (or confiscation of materials)
- ▶ You may not use positions of power within other clubs/organizations to promote your own interests without proper endorsement process (eg. Access to IRSAM's listserv, convincing other executives you know to have the club publicly endorse you)
- ▶ Any broadcasting/programming/writing position must be suspended temporarily → no use of position to promote a campaign
- ▶ Posters/flyers, etc. may only be put up/distributed indoors in buildings operated by the University or the Society (not University libraries, near Polling Station, or in classrooms and designated study areas at the University).
- ▶ Campaigns responsible for removing posters
- ▶ Must run all social media pages/campaign material by CEO or DEO prior to publishing



# Outline of the Rules (non-exhaustive)

- ▶ No anonymous campaigning permitted, except Reddit
- ▶ No sending unsolicited electronic mail for the purpose of campaigning
- ▶ No gifts/promises violating spirit of fair campaign
- ▶ No distribution of food (bribery!)
- ▶ No slate (joint) candidacies (see exception 6.5)
- ▶ Endorsements from non-External Bodies permitted as long as they have given fair consideration to each candidate (no Student Association endorsements) → must disclose any affiliations to orgs. they are endorsed by; endorsements limited to email/social media
- ▶ Max campaign expenses for referendum committees is \$200
- ▶ Campaign committees must publicly publish/update expense report + **keep receipts** of expenses
  - ▶ Campaigns that receive **10+%** of vote will be reimbursed by SSMU (unless no receipt or illicit campaigning)
  - ▶ Reimbursement requests due **within 2 days** of election results

# CEO's Regulations for Media + Online Campaigning (currently a draft)

- ▶ Any SSMU Members **may**, on their *personal accounts*, post messages of support for or opposition to CC's, as well as change their profile and timeline pictures to support CC's, regardless of whether they are members of a CC.
  - ▶ All campaign profile/timeline pictures supporting a CC must be taken down before the end of the campaign period.
  - ▶ Failure by CC's to make all reasonable efforts to ensure that this is done may be subject to sanction.
  - ▶ Posts, messages and comments, however, **do not** have to be taken down at the end of the campaign period.
- ▶ CC's for candidates **may not** approach on- or off-campus media (CKUT, Bull & Bear, etc.) –or any member thereof—for the purposes of promoting their own campaigns or undermining their opponents'.
  - ▶ The CEO will provide CC's contact information to all campus media so they may contact candidates as they wish.
  - ▶ Yes/No Committees **may** write letters to the editors, but they must be published (both in print and online) by the end of the campaign period; and the decision to publish - or not publish - is entirely up to the publication itself.
  - ▶ CKUT and TVM **may** endorse a CC (in accordance with the IR's), but cannot explain why they are choosing to endorse.
- ▶ SSMU or CC Members **may not** post messages of support for or opposition to CC's on *private social media groups or listservs* that are not accessible to all other SSMU members using the same social media platforms (eg. A club social media page that only club members have access to).
  - ▶ Should a club or other campus organization choose to publicly endorse or oppose a CC (in accordance with the guideline in the IR's), it **may** use its available social media platforms to do so, so long as any message is communicated by the organization itself rather than an individual leader or member. Organizations cannot, however, give a lengthy explanation for why they are supporting a given candidate—they are prohibited from campaigning.

# CEO's Regulations for Media + Online Campaigning (currently a draft)

- ▶ All campaign-related messaging may be used by the CEO or DEO in deciding sanctions. The CEO or DEO may ask to see CC's group messages if they have reason to suspect illicit acts.
- ▶ Discriminatory, violent, or vulgar social media communications by any CC member or its supporters will be cause for sanction against said CC, as determined by the CEO.
  - ▶ Should a CC be responsible for, or itself face, any such communications, it is the CC's **duty** to report said communications and provide any possible proof (eg. via screenshot) to the CEO or DEO in a timely manner.
- ▶ CC Members **may** comment on and respond to any campaign-related communications from other CCs to voice both support or disagreement, so long as they remain respectful of all other CC's and candidates.
  - ▶ CC Members **may not** "spam" other CC's social media feeds or platforms. Such activity may be subject to sanction by the CEO, and must be reported to the CEO or DEO, along with any possible proof, in a timely manner.
  - ▶ Any comments made on a CC's social media platform **may** be removed by the CC's social media administrators as they see fit.

# Demerit System

INFRACTION	DEMERITS
Postering over another candidate's campaigning lit.	2-4
*Misuse of an elected or appointed position	2-15
Unauthorized handbill distribution	4-5
Postering in a restricted area	4-5
*Unauthorized campaigning	6-15
*Unsolicited Emails	6-10
Campaigning outside/off-campus/unauthorized areas	6-8
*Pre-Campaigning	8-15
*Negative Campaigning	8-15
Inhibiting other Candidates	8-11
*Engaging External Support	12-15
Spending over given budget	12-15
Failure to submit financial documents upon request	15
Deception of elections authorities	15
Bribery (attempted or successful)	15
Infraction of Online Campaign Guidelines	2-15

# Demerit System

- ▶ \*Please note that this is only a guideline. Elections SSMU is not bound by any of the examples below. We are simply providing you with a list of common campaign and elections infractions. The penalties may change in response to the severity and frequency of the offence. (\*=possible public censure).
- ▶ Actions of Elections SSMU:
  - ▶ 8 Demerits - Issuing a formal warning to Campaign Committee in question
  - ▶ 12 Demerits - Public Announcement
  - ▶ 15 - 20 Demerits - Automatic consideration of disqualification/invalidation and calling of the ERC. Written ruling by Elections SSMU.

# Thanks!

- ▶ Questions?
- ▶ If you are unsure about parts of the IR's, please let us know!

[elections@ssmu.ca](mailto:elections@ssmu.ca) or [deo@ssmu.ca](mailto:deo@ssmu.ca)