



# Rules and Policies Committee

## Minutes

Friday, February 17, 2012, 1:00-3:00PM, BSC, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Orion C

### I. Preliminaries

A. Call to Order **1:09**

B. Quorum Check

Attorney General, Anthony Juarez (Chair) **Present**

Agriculture Senator, Gabriel excused **Absent**

CEIS Senator, Cristina Aceves **Present**

CLASS Senator, Cristina Saca **Present**

Senator Pro-Tempore, Alicia Vajid **Present**

President, Johnathan Jianu excused **Absent**

Vice President, Matthew Stafford **Present**

Non-Voting Members

Treasurer, Brian Poirrier **Absent**

ASI Executive Director Designee, Barny Peake **Present**

University Advisor, Susan Ashe excused **Tardy**

Assistant Attorney General, Kiana Farzad **Absent**

C. Approval of Minutes- Minutes to be approved at next meeting.

D. Agenda Changes- Removal of action item A.

E. Introduction of Guests- No guests.

F. Open Forum- N/A

### II. Action Item

N/A

### III. Discussion Item

A. Online Elections Code

i. Anthony presented the newest draft version of the elections code to the committee. The committee moved to review the draft section by section.

1. Purpose: Nothing was changed.

2. Organization: A few changes were made in regards to conflict of interest matters. Matt suggested bullet a should be confirmed by Senate rather than ratified as it hereby states.

3. Tickets: Consensus among the Senate was that a ticket would only include President and Vice President and there would be no slate. The committee discussed not giving candidates the right to endorse a President or VP; Anthony says this violates 1<sup>st</sup> amendment rights. Pulkit Jain believes endorsements should come from councils or clubs from their respective colleges and candidates should not be able to endorse each other. Barny reiterated the rule that existing student officers are not allowed to endorse any candidates while in office. He also said endorsements should be outlawed because everyone is supposed to be voted on by their own merits. The committee agreed to have endorsements its own discussion. Susan proposed a new bullet, which stated tickets are limited to office of President and VP and shall not extend to candidates for other elected office.
4. Write-ins: Matt explained the write-in process as a positive effect in elections. However, write-ins will increase cost by 1,000 dollars. The committee found it important to set clear deadlines with the committee having the delegating task of setting the parameters. With a vote of 3-2, write-ins were consequently removed as an option. Therefore, section 10, bullet b was removed.
5. Online-Elections: Concern was mentioned regarding online elections having hurt the relationship between candidates and voters. Therefore, the committee agreed that there is the responsibility of making sure that does not happen, so voters have an incentive to vote.
6. Signatures: Matt says that the old numbers were feasible and they should not be changed. Cannot start marketing as a candidate until a signature card is turned in. The committee agreed to change the language in section B that a candidate can declare candidacy but cannot market until signatures are all turned in. The committee agreed to give wording to John and Amanda for further review. Susan proposed that colleges remained at 50 to be fair, at-large to 100, and 200 for president and vice president. In terms of candidates presenting in classrooms, they are allowed to do so; however, teachers cannot endorse a candidate.
7. Eligibility- (Section E) candidates must have at least a minor in the college they choose to run for in order to raise standards/merit.

The committee voted 3-1-1 in favor of keeping this section in place.

**IV. Information item**

N/A

**V. Adjournment- Meeting adjourned at 2:50PM**

- A. Next Rules and Policies Committee Meeting Friday, February 24, 2012, 1:00-3:00PM, BSC, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Andromeda C