

## Appendix D: Standing Rules of the Elections

### General Rules

1. The candidates are not permitted to engage in any destructive action against any other opponent. This means tearing down flyers, slander, or any other unprofessional manner. Such actions may result in consequences deemed appropriate by the the Student Government elections committee.
2. No advertising for candidates may be placed in either the Student Government Office or any of the Major Student Organization offices. Student Government will provide the Posting Procedures for Advertisement & Announcements from the Center for Campus Life.
  - a. While the Posting Procedures for Advertisement & Announcements are maintained by the Center for Campus Life, all candidate questions and concerns about these rules should be brought to the Student Government elections committee.
  - b. All Candidates must abide by RIT posting policies for all RIT locations.
3. On election dates, candidates, or anyone soliciting for them, may not campaign near voting locations. Approaching people to solicit votes with a laptop or other device is prohibited.
4. At no time can a candidate advertise or solicit votes within any computer lab.
5. Candidates hold themselves responsible for their actions and anyone acting on their behalf, including word-of-mouth communications of the candidate's intention to run. The division of Student Affairs, the Center for Campus Life, and Student Government will not assume responsibility for candidate actions. This includes any measures taken in advertising or soliciting.
6. Student Government is an equal opportunity vehicle for advertising. We obligate ourselves to inform students, faculty, and staff of the elections.
7. All disputes or grievances regarding the election should be directed to elections committee.
8. Student Government defines campaigning as the dispersal of propaganda, in print and/or electronic forms, by prospective candidates to solicit votes from students. Included in propaganda are all visual forms of media and any form of personal communication that exceeds a reasonable level of speculation for candidacy. Campaigning does not include conversations.
  - a. Campaigning is not permitted until candidacy is confirmed.
  - b. Meeting with official Student Groups to discuss your candidacy is also not permitted until candidacy is confirmed.
9. Candidates may not solicit support from University faculty, staff, or departments.

10. Candidates may not attempt to solicit votes through the use of RIT venues, RIT service,s or any subset of RIT at the discretion of elections committee.
  - a. Student Government and RSO candidates who are current employees of Student Government or an RSO, whether elected or unelected, are not permitted to use any benefits or privileges associated with their current position to promote their platforms or themselves.
11. All candidates must meet eligibility requirements outlined in the Student Government Bylaws
12. Student Government reserves the right to re-open the application process if there are zero (0) eligible applications to campaign returned during the initial application period.
  - a. If an office still has zero (0) eligible candidates after the application period has been re-opened, the election for that office will not be held during Spring Semester pursuant to the guidelines of Article III of the Student Government Bylaws.

## **Penalties and Enforcement**

1. In the event that a candidate, prospective candidate, or presidential & vice presidential team fail to comply with these campaign regulations, it shall be the jurisdiction of the Student Government elections committee to determine appropriate penalties. Penalties shall include, but shall not be limited to:
  - a. Limits to campaign resources through Student Government
  - b. Restrictions on participation in campaign-related events
  - c. Expulsion from candidacy:
    - i. For a candidate or team of candidates to be expelled from candidacy, a member of the Student Government elections committee shall make an official written motion, including an evidence-based, documented justification for the motion for expulsion.
      1. It shall be the responsibility of the Student Government elections committee Chair to contact the candidate or team of candidates and to schedule and chair the meeting.
        - a. Once an official motion has been made, the candidate or team of candidates shall be present for the discussion of their eligibility, and shall have the opportunity to present and defend their actions and motives to the Student Government elections committee. Expulsion from candidacy shall be decided by two-thirds agreement of the Student Government elections committee, under supervision by the Administrative Advisors of Student Government.

- i. The Student Government elections committee chair shall not have the right to vote in the expulsion proceedings except in the event of a tie.
  - ii. Enforcement of this policy shall be at the discretion of the Student Government elections committee, under direct advisement by the Administrative Advisors.

## **Position Procedures**

1. Section 1: President & Vice President
  - a. The candidates for President and Vice President shall run on the same ticket.
  - b. Each candidate must have fulfilled 2 academic semesters at RIT by the end of the current semester.
  - c. Each team shall gather support as determined by the Student Government elections committee.
2. Section 2: Academic Senators
  - a. Each Academic Senator shall, before being elected, gather support to be determined by the Student Government elections committee, from the students enrolled in their college.
  - b. Each Academic Senator must be pursuing a degree within the college they wish to represent.
  - c. Each candidate must have fulfilled 2 academic semesters at RIT by the end of the current semester.
3. Section 3: Community senators
  - a. The Women's Senator shall be elected by a vote of her community's populous.
    - i. Each candidate must have fulfilled 2 academic semesters at RIT by the end of the current semester.
    - ii. A woman student is considered eligible for this position and to vote for this position as long as they identify as a woman.
  - b. The Greek Senator shall be elected pursuant to the following guidelines:
    - i. Each candidate must have fulfilled 2 academic semesters at RIT by the end of the current semester.
    - ii. All candidates must be a member of an Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life (OFSL) chartered organization.
    - iii. Each chapter recognized by the OFSL will receive one vote, to be cast by the chapter president. The method of determining the chapter vote is up to the respective chapter.
      1. Colonies shall be given one vote subject to OFSL recognition.
  - c. The First-Year Senator shall be elected by the Student Government Senate, pursuant to the following guidelines:

- i. Each candidate must be declared a first-year student during the current election process, and must not have completed more than 1 semester of postsecondary education by the end of the current academic semester.
- d. The Graduate Senator shall be elected by the Student Government Senate, pursuant to the following guidelines:
  - i. The Graduate Senator shall be elected by a vote from their community's populous. Each candidate must have fulfilled 2 academic semesters at RIT by the end of the current semester, barring exceptions outlined in Article III.
- e. The Cross-Registered Senator shall be elected by a vote from their community's populous.
  - i. Each candidate must have fulfilled 2 academic semesters at RIT by the end of the current semester.