

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Introduction

This report accounts the events of the UTSU Spring 2014 Elections period.

The Spring 2014 Election period held elections for UTSU Executive Committee and Board of Directors positions for the 2013/2014 term. No referenda were held during this period.

Throughout the elections, the Elections and Referenda Committee (ERC) provided valuable consultation and recommendations to the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) in regards to matters dealing with the Elections and Procedure Code and past practice. The Committee's main duties are to oversee the elections, review the rules governing elections, schedule election dates subject to Board approval, and hire elections officials.

Activities before the Voting Period

In preparation for the nomination and campaign period, and in accordance with the UTSU Elections Procedure Code, a number of tasks were completed prior to the start of the nomination and campaign periods:

1. Reviewing all relevant UTSU governing documents.
2. Preparing nomination- and election-related publicity materials for campus newspapers, including posters to be distributed on campus and on the UTSU website.
3. Preparing nomination packages for Executive and Board of Director candidates.
4. Hiring two Deputy Returning Officers (DROs) for logistical support at the St. George Campus and Mississauga Campus.
5. Site inspections, selection and booking of potential polling locations.
6. Obtaining an up-to-date voters list from the University of Toronto Office of the Vice-Provost, Students.
7. Arranging the renewal of the Simply Voting Online System with the University of Toronto Office of the Vice-Provost, Students.
8. Scheduling and logistical preparation for the All-Candidates' Meeting.
9. Planning and booking space for the UTSU Executive Candidates forum.
10. Ordering ballot boxes, voting screens and seals from Elections Canada.
11. Hiring poll clerks, scheduling and planning poll-clerk training sessions.
12. Preparing polling location kits.
13. Updating the UTSU website with relevant election material.
14. Designing ballots and determining ballot quantities and distribution.
15. Arranging for the rental of additional laptops.

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Nominations

Nominations for the UTSU elections opened Thursday February 13, 2014 at 09:00 and closed Thursday February 24, 2014 at 17:00. Eighteen (18) Executive nomination packages were signed out, including four (4) for President, two (2) for Vice-President Equity, five (5) for Vice-President External, five for (5) Vice-President Internal & Services and two (2) for Vice-President University Affairs. Sixty-four (64) Director nomination packages were signed out. When the nomination period closed, a total of twelve (12) Executive nomination packages were returned and fifty-three (53) nomination packages were returned for the Director positions. Director packages were submitted for seventeen (17) of the eighteen (18) constituencies available. All of the submitted nomination packages were ultimately approved except for five. One individual attempting to seek election in each of the following positions failed to meet the necessary requirements to be considered candidates: Vice-President External, New College Director, Victoria College Director, Professional Faculty At-Large Director and Faculty of Law. Each were found to have an insufficient number of nominators. Three of these individuals exercised their rights for a Request to Review to the ERC. The ERC upheld the rulings of the Chief Returning Officer, the individuals were unable to stand as candidates.

Additionally, there was an issue regarding the eligibility of a member seeking nomination for candidacy for more than one position. It was initially ruled that Pierre Harfouche would not be able to seek candidacy for more than one (1) position for the current election period. Mr. Harfouche appealed the Chief Returning Officer's decision to the ERC, who upheld the ruling of the Chief Returning Officer.

A number of elections staff worked over a total of forty (40) hours verifying signatures from nomination packages. The number of candidates equalled the number of available positions for the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design Director, the Faculty of Dentistry, the Faculty of Law Director, the Faculty of Medicine Director, the Faculty of Music Director, the Faculty of Nursing Director, and the Faculty of Pharmacy Director. As a result, seven (7) candidates were acclaimed, pending ratification. Eleven (11) candidates sought five (5) Executive positions, while forty-three (43) candidates prepared to vie for twenty-two (22) available director positions.

All-Candidates Meeting

The All-Candidates' Meeting was held on Sunday March 2, 2014 at 16:00 in the Hart House Music Room. Attendance was limited to candidates and candidates' authorized representatives, and all-candidates packages were distributed to all attendees. The meeting lasted approximately 1.5 hours, as the CRO reviewed the relevant sections of the Elections Procedure Code, University of Toronto and University of Toronto at Mississauga policies and the UTSU By-Laws, and discussed the role of the elections staff.

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Campaigning

The campaign period opened on Monday March 3, 2014 at 09:00 and closed on the last day of voting on Friday March 14, 2014 at 15:15.

Campaign materials, including posters, flyers, buttons, stickers, t-shirts, websites, Facebook content, Twitter content, Instagram content, Renren content, Reddit content and candidate videos were submitted and approved by the CRO throughout the campaign period. During the campaign period, complaints were submitted to the Elections Office alleging violations of the Elections Procedure Code. All complaints were submitted to the Elections Office via email, some with accompanying photographic, audio and video evidence. Forty-four (44) CRO rulings were made regarding complaints submitted during the campaign period. The complaints varied, encompassing allegations of misrepresentation of fact, postering, campaign materials/campaigning in a library, campaign materials/campaigning in a residence, fair play and responsibility of campaigners/supporters. All CRO rulings are appended to this report.

Executive Candidate Forum

The CRO arranged an Executive Candidate Forum where executive candidates could present a statement to, and answer questions from, the UTSU membership. The forum was held on March 6, 2014 at the Bahen Centre Room 1130 from 18:00 –21:15. The forum was also streamed live online to allow students who could not attend to watch and listen. The event was well attended.

The CRO arranged for Susan Froom, President of the Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students to moderate this year's forum. Speaking in a predetermined order (Vice-President External, Vice-President Equity, Vice-President University Affairs, Vice-President Internal and Services, and President), Executive candidates were given three minutes for an opening statement, 15 minutes of open questions from the floor, and one minute for closing remarks. Approximately two hundred (200) people attended the forum, while a number of individuals watched via the live online streaming.

During the Vice President External candidate opening speeches, one of the Vice-President External candidates, Luis Moreno, announced the withdrawal of his candidacy. Before the beginning of the open questions from the floor, Mr. Moreno was asked to rejoin the audience as he was no longer a candidate.

UTSU Elections at St. George Campus

Poll Locations

As a large campus spread out across downtown Toronto, the University of Toronto St. George campus presents some challenges in ensuring representative distribution of poll stations. The Election and Referenda Committee is required to consider a number of factors in allocating poll stations, including but not limited to: cost, wireless access, proximity to other poll stations, accessibility for residence and

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commuter students, and student traffic. There were some last minute changes made to the polling stations.

Online Voting

Online voting was available for this election period. The online election system was created and provided by Simply Voting, a company that provides and hosts online elections. The online system was adapted to match the requirements for the spring elections.

Poll Station Materials at St. George:

The following materials were used at St. George:

- Voting screens
- Ballot boxes
- Ballot box seals
- Laptops
- Extension cords
- Envelopes
- Ballots for UTSU executives and directors
- Pens and markers
- Scissors

The polling station locations provided tables and chairs, with the exception of the Bahen centre.

Poll Clerk Training

Poll Clerk training sessions were held at the Bahen Centre, on March 4 and 5, 2014. The training sessions were two hours long and consisted of an introduction to the roles and responsibilities of the CRO and DROs, poll clerk duties and responsibilities, polling station setup and closing, online voting system, trouble-shooting and scenario role-play. During the training sessions, poll clerks were given the opportunity to complete any missing paperwork (tax forms, confidentiality agreement, etc). Polling location specifics such as expected voter turnout and considerations were expressed to the poll clerks.

Voting

Voting took place on Tuesday March 11, Wednesday March 12, and Thursday, March 13, 2014. Poll stations were open from 09:00 to 18:30, with the exception of the Faculty of Dentistry Building polling location which was opened between 09:00 to 18:00. Additionally, the Old Victoria polling location that was opened between 09:00 to 16:00 on Tuesday March 11, 2014 due to a prior booking. Thirty (30) poll clerks worked various shifts throughout the voting days. Poll clerks used the Simply Voting online system to

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

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Monday, March 24, 2014

confirm voters' eligibility by entering their UTORids after confirming the voter's identity by checking their T-cards. Once the voter's eligibility was confirmed, poll clerks marked the voter has having voted offline using the Simply Voting system. Voters were asked to sign in and provide their name, student number, faculty/college and signature. Poll clerks were instructed to each initial every ballot as they were given out to students upon confirmation of their eligibility as voters. Poll clerks identified each voter's constituency through the Simply Voting system which indicated which ballots to give each voter. Other than some occasional delays due to slow internet connections, the Simply Voting system functioned smoothly.

If prospective voters did not have their T-Card (but knew their student number and had other photo ID) or if the prospective voter's status came up as 'ineligible' but the prospective voter believed that she/he was a full-time undergraduate student and/or a UTSU member, poll clerks were instructed to use the double envelope system.

St. George poll clerks met each morning at 08:00 at the UTSU office to collect the necessary equipment and materials from the CRO and DRO. Ballot boxes were assembled at the polling locations using Elections Canada seals, clearly marked. Poll stations were closed each day at 18:30 and ballot boxes were sealed and signed by poll clerks, the DROs and CRO.

All the ballots had been designed in house and the ballots were printed at All Solutions Printing. The ballots were delivered on Friday, March 7 where they were locked and stored in the Elections Office. The ballots were then sorted to the appropriate designated polling location box along with all the other election items.

After Mr. Moreno withdrew his candidacy for Vice President External at the Executive Forum, the ERC decided not to reprint the Vice President External ballots due to lack of time and expense. Mr. Moreno's name was removed from the Vice President External ballot online, and poll clerks were instructed to post a notice stating that Mr. Moreno was no longer a candidate.

Storage and Transportation of Ballot Boxes

At the close of each voting day, poll clerks transported the sealed ballot boxes to the University of Toronto Ombudsperson Office, where it was to be kept for safekeeping. The Ombudsperson along with the Assistant Ombudsperson facilitated access to the room through a secured key process. Only the Ombudsperson, Assistant Ombudsperson, CRO and DROs had access to the office. On March 14, 2014, poll clerks transported ballot boxes, accompanied by the CRO and DROs, from the Ombudsperson office to the UTSU office. Ballot boxes from March 14 were brought directly to the UTSU office for the count.

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

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Monday, March 24, 2014

UTSU Elections at UTM

This section details the following: (1) poll locations; (2) poll station materials shared with UTM; (3) poster locations allotted for UTSU candidates; (4) voting; and (5) the storage and transportation of ballot boxes.

Poll Locations

As a diverse campus, the University of Toronto Mississauga campus presents some challenges in ensuring representative distribution of poll stations. The ERC is required to consider a number of factors in allocating poll stations, including but not limited to: cost, wireless access, proximity to other poll stations, accessibility for residence and commuter students, and student traffic. There were some last minute changes made to the polling stations. The Davis Building, which has been a regular polling location in the past, was unavailable due to a prior booking. Therefore, it was moved from the Davis Building and an additional polling station was booked in CCIT Building for the voting days of March 11-13, 2014. Due to the closure of the University of Toronto Mississauga Campus on Wednesday, March 12, 2014, an additional day of voting for the University of Toronto Mississauga was booked, and the Davis Building was available to host a polling location on Friday March 14, 2014.

Poll Station Materials

The following materials were used at St. George:

- Voting screens
- Ballot boxes
- Ballot box seals
- Laptops
- Extension cords
- Envelopes
- Ballots for UTSU executives and directors
- Pens and markers
- Scissors

The UTMSU Elections Office provided tables and chairs. The materials listed above were transported by the CRO via car.

Poster Locations

Several poster locations were allotted for UTSU candidates. The locations were spread out between the CCIT Building, Instructional Building and Kaneff Centre. In contrast with St. George campus practices, poster boundaries were clearly delineated on the UTM campus map. Candidates faced demerit point assessments if they violated poster boundaries.

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

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Monday, March 24, 2014

Voting

Voting took place on Tuesday March 11, Wednesday March 12, Thursday March 13, and Friday March 14, 2014. Poll stations were open from 09:00 to 18:30 with the exception of poll stations opened Friday March 14, 2014 which were open from 10:00 to 15:00. Twenty (20) poll clerks worked various shifts throughout the voting days. Poll clerks used the Simply Voting online system to confirm voters' eligibility by entering their UTORids after confirming the voter's identity by checking their T-cards. Once the voter's eligibility was confirmed, poll clerks marked the voter has having voted offline using the Simply Voting system. Other than some occasional delays due to slow internet connections, the Simply Voting system functioned smoothly. Voters were asked to sign in and provide their name, student number, faculty/college and signature. Poll clerks were instructed to each initial every ballot as they were given out to students upon confirmation of their eligibility as voters. Poll clerks identified each voter's constituency through the Simply Voting system which indicated which ballots to give each voter.

If prospective voters did not have their T-Card (but knew their student number and had other photo ID) or if the prospective voter's status came up as 'ineligible' but the prospective voter believed that she/he was a full-time undergraduate student and/or a UTSU member, poll clerks were instructed to use the double envelope system.

UTM Poll clerks met each morning at 08:00 with the UTMSU CRO and DRO at the campus police office to collect equipment and materials. Ballot boxes were assembled at the polling locations using Elections Canada seals, clearly marked. Poll stations were closed each day at 18:30 and ballot boxes were sealed and signed by poll clerks.

All full-time UTM and St. George students were eligible to cast ballots for UTSU executives at any UTM poll location. UTM students were not, however, eligible to vote for Director candidates.

On Wednesday, March 13, 2014, due to inclement weather, the University of Toronto Mississauga Campus was closed at 13:00 by the University of Toronto administration. As a result, all UTM polling stations were also closed at this time. The ERC ruled that voting would be made available on Friday March 14, 2014 from 10:00 to 15:00 to make up for the voting hours lost by UTM students. The CRO, in conjunction with the UTMSU CRO and DRO, was able to staff three (3) polling stations at UTM for the above voting hours. The polling stations were located in the Davis Building, CCIT Building and Instructional Building.

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Monday, March 24, 2014

Storage and Transportation of Ballot Boxes

UTSU ballot boxes were transported to UTM Campus Police Office, located at the Davis Building as voting concluded on each day. When voting concluded on the last day of voting, all ballot boxes and polling station materials were transferred from the UTM Campus Police Office to a car by poll clerks, the UTMSU CRO, UTMSU DRO, CRO and ERC Chair, under the observation of scrutineers. The ballot boxes and polling station materials were then transported UTSU office via car by the CRO and ERC Chair.

Issues at Polling Stations

Polling stations operated smoothly aside from a few minor wifi connection issues at Bahen and Sidney Smith.

Master List Verification

Each day at the close of polls, sign-in sheets were gathered. Voters who were unable to be verified at polling stations and therefore added to the 'double envelope' list, were compiled on a list daily. This was used to produce the master list for double envelope verification.

Ballot Counting

At 17:30 after the close of voting on Friday March 14, 2014, the CRO oversaw the vote count at the UTSU office. The count was concluded at 05:00 on Saturday March 16, 2014.

Each candidate was allowed one scrutineer to be present for the count. Scrutineers were instructed to request any contested ballots to be ruled on by the CRO. Scrutineers were not allowed to touch ballots or disrupt the count. There were a total of twelve (12) scrutineers that signed in for the ballot count. Prior to the count beginning, the scrutineers were instructed that there would be five (5) counting stations, and two (2) scrutineers elected to leave the count.

Present for the vote count was the CRO as supervisor, two DROs, the Chair of the Elections and Referenda Committee, a member of the Elections and Referenda Committee, the Chair of the University of Toronto Students' Union, UTSU administrative support staff, poll clerks and scrutineers. On the main floor, ballot boxes were opened and 2-3 of the administrative staff sorted the different colour-coded ballots. Teams of three counters were set up on the main floor, there were five (5) teams overall. In each team of three, one person read the ballot result aloud while the other two recorded the result on a tally sheet, creating a double blind counting system. After each pile of ballots, the two recorders verified they had identical numbers to each other and then the team moved on to the next pile of ballots.

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Monday, March 24, 2014

Spoiled Ballots

Ballots were considered spoiled if:

- No voter intent for an eligible was indicated on the ballot;
- Only one poll clerk initialled the ballot;
- No poll clerks initialled the ballot;
- Too many candidates were selected on the ballot

Double Envelope Ballots

Elections staff verified the eligibility of voters who had used the double envelope system. Double envelopes were checked against the master voters list to determine if (a) the voter was eligible; and (b) the student had not already voted using their UTORid, either in person or online. Eligible voters' ballots remained in the second, interior unmarked envelope and were sorted and counted normally in order to maintain the anonymity of the voters' choices. All ineligible ballots were separated and not counted.

Announcement of Results and Recount

On March 15, 2014, a notice was posted on the UTSU website indicating that the announcement of the unofficial election results would be posted on March 17, 2014 and that the delay was due to the CRO awaiting information from Simply Voting. The unofficial election results were posted on the UTSU website on March 17, 2014.

On March 19, 2014, an automatic recount was conducted for the Executive positions of Vice President External and Vice President University Affairs and for the St. Michael's College Director position with scrutineers present for each position. These positions were required to be recounted as the vote margins between the successful and unsuccessful candidates fell below the minimum margin requirement. The individuals deemed elected in the above positions remained unchanged after the recounts.

On March 22, 2014, a recount was conducted for the Executive positions of President, Vice President Internal & Services and Vice President Equity and for the Woodsworth Director position at the request of candidates in these ballots. All candidates for those positions were contacted and afforded an opportunity to provide scrutineers for the recounts. Three of the candidates who requested recounts for their positions failed to send a scrutineer for their recount. The individuals deemed elected in the above positions remained unchanged after the recounts.

Appeals

A number of appeals were made throughout the elections, challenging both CRO and ERC rulings (see Appendix B and C). While the CRO and all committees endeavoured to respond to complaints and

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appeals in a timely manner, the high volume of complaints and appeals caused some minor and unavoidable delays. However, all complaints and appeals were ultimately dealt with.

Results: Acclamations and Election

Acclamations:

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design: | Neil Vas |
| Faculty of Dentistry: | Diana Liu |
| Faculty of Law: | Ella Henry |
| Faculty of Medicine: | Thomas Ying |
| Faculty of Music: | Nia-Imara Barberousse |
| Faculty of Nursing: | April Huang |
| Faculty of Pharmacy: | Veeral Gohil |

Election Results:

The total for the elections results are for all polling locations.

UTSU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| *Bollo Kamara, Yolen: | 3010 (47.00%) |
| Huang, Ye: | 2634 (41.13%) |
| Spoiled: | 760 (11.87%) |

Vice President Internal & Services

| | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| *Wathey, Cameron: | 2865 (44.81%) |
| Yin, Anna Chen Chen: | 2699 (42.21%) |
| Spoiled: | 829 (12.97%) |

Vice President University Affairs

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| *Harfouche, Pierre: | 2814 (44.02%) |
| Yang, Zijian: | 2767 (43.28%) |
| Spoiled: | 812 (12.70%) |

Vice President External

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Bhatty, Nicky: | 2555 (39.95%) |
| *Slobodian, Grayce: | 2593 (40.54%) |
| Spoiled: | 1248 (19.51%) |

Vice President Equity

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| *Ali Sardar, Najiba: | 2908 (45.43%) |
| Hashiru, Baliqis Olaitan: | 2478 (38.71%) |
| Spoiled: | 1015 (15.86%) |

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Monday, March 24, 2014

UTSU BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Arts & Science At-Large Director

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Khan, Sania: | 813 (15.25%) |
| *Lunianga, Kevin: | 1129 (24.05%) |
| Naqi, Maha; | 652 (13.89%) |
| *Qiu, Shaohua: | 852 (18.15%) |
| Tulloch, Kadija: | 716 (15.25%) |
| Spoiled: | 532 (11.33%) |

Innis College Director

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Gomes, Llyvell: | 82 (27.52%) |
| *Wu, Yiwen: | 177 (59.40%) |
| Spoiled: | 39 (13.09%) |

St. Michael's College Director

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| *Huang, Yu-Chun: | 141 (21.96%) |
| *Kanopolous, Michael: | 174 (27.10%) |
| Kuyoro, Bami; | 127 (19.78%) |
| *Ledchumanan, Lakisha: | 136 (21.18%) |
| Spoiled: | 64 (9.97%) |

New College Director

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| *Adeyinka, Bukky: | 174 (15.98%) |
| *Grant, Nick | 177 (16.25%) |
| Ko, Chen Han (Hank) | 157 (14.42%) |
| Kondan, Silviu | 128 (11.75%) |
| *Li, Xin Wei: | 177 (16.25%) |
| Marin, Daniel: | 135 (12.40%) |
| Tuyishime, Dennis: | 82 (7.53%) |
| Spoiled: | 59 (5.42%) |

Trinity College Director

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| *Andison, Patrick: | 260 (63.57%) |
| Zhang, Joanne (Weichong) | 96 (23.47%) |
| Spoiled: | 53 (12.96%) |

University College Director

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Hsiao, Michelle: | 163 (17.53%) |
| *McKinnon, Alexandra | 239 (25.70%) |
| *Schwenger, Eric | 292 (31.40%) |
| Vicencio-Heap, Felipe | 144 (15.48%) |
| Spoiled: | 92 (9.89%) |

Woodsworth College Director

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| *Lang, Sydney: | 217 (20.61%) |
| *Lin, Jenny | 229 (21.75%) |
| Liu, Junlin (Eva) | 163 (15.48%) |
| *Petrolo, Josephine | 191 (18.14%) |
| Zhang, Jennifer: | 178 (16.90%) |
| Spoiled: | 75 (7.12%) |

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Professional Faculty At-Large Director

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| *Alabi, Tolu: | 772 (43.08%) |
| Huang, Thomas Boyang | 344 (19.20%) |
| *Musa, Andi: | 360 (20.09%) |
| Spoiled: | 316 (17.63%) |

Faculty of Applied Sciences & Engineering Director

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Amalsadia, Abhinove: | 167 (7.96%) |
| *Chen, Kunsu | 554 (26.41%) |
| *Gomes, Ryan | 553 (26.36%) |
| Majumder, Safinur: | 151 (7.20%) |
| *Piguing, Paolo Cristopher: | 579 (27.60%) |
| Spoiled: | 94 (4.48%) |

Faculty of Kinesiology & Physical Education Director

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Firmalino, Niki Loren: | 182 (80.53%) |
| *Schwenger, Ryan: | 42 (18.58%) |
| Spoiled: | 2 (0.88%) |

*Successful candidates

Voter turnout

During the 2014 spring elections, the voter turnout was approximately 13%.

Recommendations

The CRO will submit recommendations for consideration by the Board of Directors and the Elections and Referenda Committee to improve processes and policies in order to facilitate future elections.

Acknowledgements

The CRO would like to thank the DROs, poll clerks, UTSU staff, UTMSU CRO, DRO and staff and ERC who provided logistical support for the elections.

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Appendix A – CRO Rulings 001-044

CRO Ruling 001

Date: March 3, 2014

Time: 21:35

On March 3, 2014 at 15:28, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) was contacted by a Mr. Theo Yan, a representative for The Varsity. Mr. Yan stated that he had been told that "Team Unite" had not had its campaign materials approved. Upon further investigation, the CRO has determined that members of a group of candidates calling themselves "Team Unite" gave Mr. Yan this information.

The information given to Mr. Yan was false and was descriptive of an unresolved situation.

Article VI.3.c "Committee Initiative" of the Elections Procedure Code states "Where the CRO or a member of the ERC [Elections and Referenda Committee] finds evidence of a violation, the ERC or CRO may charge a candidate with a violation of campaign rules."

The CRO has determined that members of "Team Unite" have violated the Elections Procedure Code.

Article VI.1.d.vii & viii "Rules for Elections: Campaigning: Fair Play" of the Elections Procedure Code states "Candidates shall campaign in accordance with the rules of Fair Play. Breaking the rules of fair play include, but are not limited to:...persistent attempts to undermine the ability of the CRO or the ERC to carry out their responsibilities; and any attempt to undermine the electoral process including:...misrepresentation of facts."

Article VI.1.f "Approval of Campaign Methods" states "All campaign tactics, material and advertisements need approval by the CRO in advance of posting or distribution."

By contacting Mr. Yan and stating that "Team Unite's" campaign materials had not been approved, despite the approvals sent via email as early as 22:02 on March 2, 2014 and as late as 13:06 on March 3, 2014, members of "Team Unite" have provided the press with false information. This is in violation of Article VI.1.d.vii & viii. As per Article VI.3.k.ii & iii, "Team Unite" has also engaged in:

Failure to follow the grievance procedures outlined in the Elections Procedure Code or Policy (maximum demerit points: 15)

Intentional misrepresentation of fact (maximum demerit points: 15)

As per Article VI.1.f and Article VI.3.k.i, by using The Varsity to spread platform information that had yet to receive approval by the Chief Returning Officer, members of "Team Unite" have engaged in:

Unapproved material (maximum demerit points: 15)

Misrepresentation of Facts (maximum demerit points: 3)

These violations are serious as they undermine members' faith in the elections. However, in recognition that these violations have occurred on the first day of campaigning the CRO is issuing the following demerit points:

Chenchen Anna Yin:

1 demerit point for intentional misrepresentation of fact

1 demerit point for unapproved material

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

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Monday, March 24, 2014

1 demerit point for misrepresentation of fact

Total demerit points: 3

Baliqis Olaitan:

1 demerit point for intentional misrepresentation of fact

1 demerit point for unapproved material

1 demerit point for misrepresentation of fact

Total demerit points: 3

Pierre Harfouche:

1 demerit point for intentional misrepresentation of fact

1 demerit point for unapproved material

1 demerit point for misrepresentation of fact

Total demerit points: 3

Ye Huang

5 demerit points for failure to follow the grievance procedures outlined in the Elections Procedure Code or Policy

3 demerit points for intentional misrepresentation of fact

1 demerit point for unapproved material

1 demerit point for misrepresentation of fact

Total demerit points: 10

Nicky Bhatti

5 demerit points for failure to follow the grievance procedures outlined in the Elections Procedure Code or Policy

3 demerit points for intentional misrepresentation of fact

1 demerit point for unapproved material

1 demerit point for misrepresentation of fact

Total demerit points: 10

CRO Ruling 002

Date: March 5, 2014

Time: 11:15

On March 3, 2014 at 13:32, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Vice-President University Affairs Candidate Zijian Yang, had violated the Elections Procedure Code by misrepresenting the powers of the Vice-President University Affairs. The complaint cites a poster of the candidate posted on Facebook in which a platform point states 'Advocate for the elimination of winter'.

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that Zijian Yang has violated the Elections Procedure Code.

Article VI.1.d.viii "Rules for Elections: Campaigning: Fair Play" of the Elections Procedure Codes states "Candidates shall campaign in accordance with the rules of Fair Play. Breaking the rules of fair play include, but are not limited to: ...misrepresentation of facts."

Article VI.1.f "Approval of Campaign Methods" states "All campaign tactics, material and advertisements need approval by the CRO in advance of posting or distribution."

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

By making public a poster with unapproved content which goes beyond the powers of the Vice President University Affairs, Zijian has engaged in:

Misrepresentation of Facts (maximum demerit points: 3)

Unapproved material (maximum demerit points: 15)

The CRO is issuing the following demerit points:

Zijian Yang:

1 demerit point for misrepresentation of fact

2 demerit points for unapproved material

Total demerit points: 3

CRO Ruling 003

Date: March 5, 2014

Time: 21:45

On March 3, 2014 at 23:08, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that "UofT Voice" had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that the "UofT Voice" platform contained a misrepresentation of fact. The complaint alleges that the "UofT Voice" platform point "Advocate for removal of \$750 international student fee introduced by the provincial government" is false on the basis that the fee was not introduced by the provincial government and is in violation of Article VI.1.d "Fair Play".

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that "UofT Voice" has not violated the Elections Procedure Code.

According to the Ontario Budget 2012:

"The [Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities] has identified a reduction in indirect support, through operating grants that the government provides to non-PhD international students, as well as the elimination of subsidies for non-PhD international students provided to institutions to pay for municipal taxation in lieu of property taxes."

The International Student Recovery Fee is a reduction in per-student funding from the provincial government for each non-PhD international student. The fee is realized as a \$750 reduction in the operating grant of each University in Ontario.

The University of Toronto describes the fee as an "International Student Recovery charge" in Planning & Budget documents.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 004

Date: March 5, 2014

Time: 23:00

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

On March 3, 2014 at 23:08, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that "UofT Voice" had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that the "Victory" section of the "UofT Voice" website contained a misrepresentation of fact. The complaint cites that the statement "This past summer, our Vice-President Equity candidate Najiba Ali Sardar co-launched the "I HEART Transit" campaign in Toronto" is false and in violation of Article VI.1.d "Fair Play".

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that neither "UofT Voice" nor Ms. Sardar violated Article VI.1.d of the Elections Procedure Code. Najiba Ali Sardar has been confirmed as co-launching the "I HEART Transit" campaign taking place over summer 2013, and thus this is not a misrepresentation of fact.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 005

Date: March 6, 2014

Time: 00:15

On March 4, 2014 at 00:23, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that "UofT Voice" had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that posters on the "UofT Voice" Facebook page contain similar features to that of the current University of Toronto Students' Union (UTSU) logo and the former UTSU website. The complainant reasons that this resemblance gives "UofT Voice" an unfair advantage in the election.

The CRO investigated and determined that there was no violation of the Elections Procedure Code. As the use of a speech bubble in design is commonplace and the poster and website design of "UofT Voice" is materially different in design, use and configuration from that of the UTSU, and therefore unlikely to create an unfair advantage.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 006

Date: March 7, 2014

Time: 19:30

On March 5, 2014 at 20:32, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that "UofT Voice" had violated Articles VI.1.i.viii "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials", VI.1.s.iii "Campaigning During Voting Period", and VI.1.s.i "Campaigning During Voting Period" of the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant provided photographic evidence of the alleged violations regarding posters located in E.J. Pratt Library and St. Hilda's Residence.

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that "UofT Voice" has not violated the Elections Procedure Code.

Article VI.1.i.viii "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code states that "No Candidate may post one of their posters within one (1) foot (30.5 cm) of another one of their own posters."

Article VI.1.s.iii "Campaigning During Voting Period" of the Elections Procedure Code states "Campaigning and campaign materials are not allowed within six (6) metres of a Library."

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Article VI.1.s.i "Campaigning During Voting Period" of the Elections Procedure Code states "Campaigning is not allowed within six (6) metres of a student residence."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined there was no violation of the Elections Procedure Code. At the time of complaint, no poster in E.J. Pratt demonstrated a violation, as each of "UofT Voice" candidates' posters was located well beyond the one-foot minimum. A violation of Articles VI.1.s.iii and VI.1.s.i is not possible as the voting period has not yet begun.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 007

Date: March 7, 2014

Time: 20:10

On March 6, 2014 at 00:52, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that "UofT Voice", had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that the "UofT Voice" Facebook page contained a misrepresentation of fact. The complaint cites that the statement "This year, many of our team's members worked on Homecoming 2013. Next year, we are committed to working with our colleges, faculties and clubs to make it even bigger" is false and in violation in violation of Article VI.1.d.iv.3 "Fair Play".

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that "UofT Voice" has not violated the Elections Procedure Code. Some of the candidates did take part in the planning and execution of the event. As the term "many" is subjective and it is difficult to rule on whether the number of candidates who did work on Homecoming 2013 event satisfies the use of the term, a change in phrasing is suggested to better reflect participation of "UofT Voice" in the event.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 008

Date: March 7, 2014

Time: 20:15

On March 6, 2014 at 3:44, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Presidential candidate Ye Huang and University College Director candidate Eric Schwenger had violated the violated Articles Article VI.1.d.v "Fair Play", and VI.1.i.vii "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that candidates Ye Huang and Eric Schwenger or one of their Non-Arm's-Length Parties had moved campaign materials of opposing candidates in violation of Articles VI.1.d.v "Fair Play" and VI.1.i.vii "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant provided photographic evidence of the alleged violations regarding posters located in the University College Residence.

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that neither Mr. Schwenger nor Mr. Huang have violated the Elections Procedure Code.

Article VI.1.d.v "Fair Play" of the Elections Procedure Code states "Candidates shall campaign in accordance with the rules of Fair Play."

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Article VI.1.i.vii "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code states "No Candidate's poster may overlap another Candidate's poster."

The CRO has investigated and determined that there is insufficient evidence to find a violation of Articles VI.1.d.v and VI.1.i.vii. Though some candidates posters overlapped others, there is insufficient evidence to determine that the campaign materials were moved by Mr. Schwenger, Mr. Huang or a non-arm's length party of either of these candidates, specifically.

Candidates are reminded that such behaviour is not in the spirit of the elections and will not be tolerated.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 009

Date: March 7, 2014

Time: 20:20

On March 6, 2014 at 11:30, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Presidential candidate Ye Huang had violated Article VI.1.d.viii (3) "Fair Play" of the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that the candidate had violated the Elections Procedure Code by misrepresenting the powers of the President. The complaint cites the candidate's posters in which a platform point states „You want to drop your lowest grade. I can make that happen.”

Article VI.1.d.v "Fair Play" of the Elections Procedure Code "Candidates shall campaign in accordance with the rules of Fair Play. Breaking the rules of fair play include, but are not limited to: ...misrepresentation of facts."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that Ye Huang has not violated the Elections Procedure Code. The language used on the poster speaks to a promise being made to work towards the ability to drop one's lowest grade, rather than the ability to do so, as a power of the President.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 010

Date: March 10, 2014

Time: 16:30

On March 8, 2014 at 16:42, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Vice President Equity candidate Najiba Ali Sardar had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that the candidate had placed a campaign poster over another candidate's poster in violation of Article VI.1.i.vii "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant provided photographic evidence of the alleged violation regarding posters located in the Goldring Centre.

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that Najiba Ali Sardar has not violated the Elections Procedure Code.

Article VI.1.i.vii "Candidate Posters and Campaign" of the Elections Procedure Code states "No Candidate's poster may overlap another Candidate's poster."

The CRO has investigated and determined that there is insufficient evidence to find a violation of Article VI.1.i.vii. While the CRO acknowledges that the candidate's poster overlaps another, there is insufficient

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

evidence to determine that Ms. Ali Sardar or a non-arm's length party of Ms. Ali Sardar moved the campaign materials, specifically.

Candidates are reminded that such behaviour is not in the spirit of the elections and will not be tolerated.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 011

Date: March 11, 2014

Time: 20:30

On March 9, 2014 at 20:50, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Faculty of Engineering candidate Abhi Amalsadia had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that the candidate Abhi Amalsadia had violated the Code by posting posters lacking stamps indicating CRO approval. The complainant provided photographic evidence of the alleged violations regarding posters located in the Sanford Fleming and Galbraith buildings.

Article VI.1.f "Adherence to Existing Policy" of the Elections Procedure Code states "All campaign tactics, material and advertisements need approval by the CRO in advance of posting or distribution."

The CRO has investigated and determined that there is sufficient evidence to find a violation of Article VI.1.f. There were multiple posters missing the stamps indicating CRO approval for physical materials, indicating that it was not an oversight during stamping.

By posting a poster lacking the stamp indicating CRO approval, Mr. Amalsadia has engaged in:

Unapproved material (maximum demerit points: 15)

In light of the fact that the CRO was contacted in regards to the unapproved posters by a non-arms' length party of Mr. Amalsadia prior to investigation and was co-operative in removing the posters lacking the stamp, in addition to the fact that Mr. Amalsadia's posters were reprints rather than new unapproved material, the CRO is issuing the following demerit points.

Abhi Amalsadia:

3 demerit points for unapproved material

Total demerit points: 3

CRO Ruling 012

Date: March 11, 2014

Time: 22:30

On March 10, 2014 at 00:03, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that "UofT Voice" violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that in a "UofT Voice" video, a volunteer states: "I'm currently volunteering with the UTSU", while the subtitle related to the volunteer states: "I'm currently volunteering with UofT Voice". The complainant alleged that the video creates an association between "UofT Voice" and UTSU and is a misrepresentation of fact, as the individual is a volunteer for "UofT Voice" and not the UTSU. The complainant also alleged that the association with the current UTSU gives "UofT Voice" an unfair advantage.

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Article VI.1.d.v "Fair Play" of the Elections Procedure Code states that "Candidates shall campaign in accordance with the rules of Fair Play. Breaking the rules of fair play include, but are not limited to: ...misrepresentation of facts."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that "UofT Voice" has not violated the Elections Procedure Code. The volunteer named in the complaint is both a volunteer with the current UTSU, as well as a volunteer with the "UofT Voice" campaign. The CRO further rules that association established through the volunteer in question is not an unfair advantage as other candidates may also recruit volunteers involved in the UTSU.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 013

Date: March 12, 2014

Time: 14:30

On March 10, 2014 at 14:34, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Presidential candidate Ye Huang had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that Mr. Huang had violated the Code by posting one of his posters over that of another candidate's, substantially blocking the other candidate's platform. The complainant provided photographic evidence of the alleged violation.

Article VI.1.i.vii "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code states "No Candidate's poster may overlap another Candidate's poster."

The CRO has investigated and determined that there is sufficient evidence to find a violation of Article VI.1.i.vii. The candidate or a non-arms' length party acting on behalf of the candidate posted the material over another candidate's poster and in doing so obscured the other candidate's platform and a substantial part of the poster.

By posting a poster over that of another candidate, Mr. Huang has engaged in:

Materials displayed in an unauthorized area (maximum demerit points: 5)

The CRO is issuing the following demerit points.

Ye Huang

2 demerit points for unapproved material

Total demerit points: 12

CRO Ruling 014

Date: March 12, 2014

Time: 19:20

On March 10, 2014 at 19:46, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that New College Director candidate Xinwei Li had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complaint alleged that the candidate had placed their campaign poster over that of an opposing candidate's in violation of Article

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

VI.1.i.vii "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant provided photographic evidence of the alleged violation regarding posters located on a poster barrel.

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that Xinwei Li has not violated the Elections Procedure Code.

Article VI.1.s.iii "Candidate Posters and Campaign" of the Elections Procedure Code states "No Candidate's poster may overlap another Candidate's poster."

The CRO has investigated and determined that there is insufficient evidence to find a violation of Article VI.1.i.vii. While the CRO acknowledges that the Ms. Li's poster overlaps another, there was another poster not related to the elections that was placed on top of the other candidate's poster first. Ms. Li's poster was placed on top of this poster.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 015

Date: March 12, 2014

Time: 21:43

On March 11, 2014 at 11:45, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that "UofT Voice" had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that "Team Voice" had placed campaign materials within site of the polling station, in violation of Article VI.n.iii "Campaign Restrictions on Polling Stations".

The complainant further alleged that a campaign material of "UofT Voice" was placed within six metres of a polling station during a voting day, in violation of Article VI.n.ii "Campaign Restrictions on Polling Stations".

Article VI.n "Campaign Restrictions on Polling Stations" of the EPC states "No campaign materials shall be placed within six (6) metres of a polling station during voting days", and "No campaign materials may be clearly visible from the polling station".

The CRO has investigated and determined that there is insufficient evidence to find a violation of Articles VI.n.ii or VI.n.iii. There were no campaign materials clearly visible from the polling station. Members of "UofT Voice" did not place campaign materials within six (6) metres of a polling station.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 016

Date: March 12, 2014

Time: 8:00

Beginning on March 10, 2014 at 10:56, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that "UofT Voice" violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainants alleged that they had received unsolicited SMS and/or emails campaigning for members of "UofT" Voice. One complainant provided evidence of the SMS they received.

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that there is insufficient evidence to find a violation of the Elections Procedure Code in this matter. While the CRO acknowledges that at least one of the complainants received a SMS containing a message campaigning for members of "UofT Voice", there is both insufficient and conflicting evidence to indicate that the complainants did not provide their personal contact information to "UofT Voice" for the purposes of receiving such information. No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 017

Date: March 13, 2014

Time: 15:00

On March 11, 2014 at 15:39, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that "UofT Voice" had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complaint alleged that a volunteer for "UofT Voice" had been campaigning and campaign materials were being left by voters within the 6-metre boundary of a polling station in violation of Articles VI.1.n.i and VI.1.n.ii "Campaign Restrictions on Polling Stations" of the EPC.

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that there is insufficient evidence to find a violation of Article VI.1.n.i, in regards to campaigning occurring within the 6-metre boundary.

Upon further investigation, the CRO has determined that "UofT Voice" has not violated Article VI.1.n.ii. While the CRO acknowledges that voters have left materials at voting booths, candidates are not responsible for the actions of voters who are arm's length parties. Election staff has been instructed to remove all campaign materials from unauthorized areas continuously throughout the voting period. The CRO has requested that voting staff remind voters to clear the voting area after use.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 018

Date: March 13, 2014

Time: 16:00

On March 11, 2014 at 16:09, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Presidential candidate Yolen Bollo-Kamara, Vice-President Internal & Services candidate Cameron Wathey, Vice-President Equity candidate Najiba Ali Sardar, Vice-President External candidate Grayce Slobodian, and Vice-President University Affairs candidate Zijian Yang had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complaint alleged that posters of the aforementioned candidates were placed in Woodsworth Residence during the voting period, violating Article VI.1.s.i "Campaigning During Voting Period". The complainant attached photographic evidence.

Article VI.1.s.i "Campaigning During Voting Period" states that "During the specified voting period, and subject to Article VI.1(n), Campaigning is allowed with the following restrictions: ... Campaigning is not allowed within six (6) metres of a student residence."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that Ms. Bollo-Kamara, Mr. Wathey, Ms. Ali Sardar, Ms. Slobodian and Mr. Yang have not violated Article VI.1.s.i of the Elections Procedure Code. The photographic evidence submitted indicates that the posters are located in the Rotman Commerce facility in Woodsworth College.

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 019

Date: March 13, 2014

Time: 16:30

On March 11, 2014 at 16:30, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that "UofT Voice" had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that a "UofT Voice" flyer was placed in St. Hilda's College Residence during the voting period, violating Article VI.1.s.i "Campaigning During Voting Period". The complainant attached photographic evidence of the alleged violation.

Article VI.1.s.i "Campaigning During Voting Period" states "During the specified voting period, and subject to Article VI.1(n), Campaigning is allowed with the following restrictions: ... Campaigning is not allowed within six (6) metres of a student residence."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that there is insufficient evidence to find a violation of the Elections Procedure Code. While the CRO acknowledges the presence of campaign materials in the residence, there is insufficient to determine that "UofT Voice" or a non-arms' length party of "UofT Voice" placed the campaign materials in the residence during the voting period.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 020

Date: March 13, 2014

Time: 20:00

On March 11, 2014 at 16:30, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that New College Director candidate Dennis Tuyishime had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that the candidate's posters were visible in New College Residence during the voting period, violating Article VI.1.s.i "Campaigning During Voting Period". The complainant attached photographic evidence of the alleged violation.

Article VI.1.s.i "Campaigning During Voting Period" states that "During the specified voting period, and subject to Article VI.1(n), Campaigning is allowed with the following restrictions: ... Campaigning is not allowed within six (6) metres of a student residence."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that there is insufficient evidence to find a violation of the Elections Procedure Code. While the CRO acknowledges the presence of campaign materials in the residence, there is insufficient to determine that "UofT Voice" or a non-arms' length party of "UofT Voice" placed the campaign materials in the residence during the voting period.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 021

Date: March 14, 2014

Time: 9:00

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

On March 12, 2014 at 12:23, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Victoria College Director candidate Victor Lee violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that they had received unsolicited private Facebook message from the candidate. The complainant provided photographic evidence of the message.

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that it would be inappropriate to make a judgment on this complaint. As the exchange passed between Facebook 'friends', it is not unreasonable that a candidate would personally reach out in private exchanges through social media to campaign.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 022

Date: March 14, 2014

Time: 12:00

On March 12, 2014 at 16:30, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that "UofT Voice" had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that there had been multiple messages written on chalkboards in Sidney Smith Classrooms during the voting period, violating the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant attached photographic evidence of the alleged violation.

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that "UofT Voice" has not violated the Elections Procedure Code. There is no rule in the Elections Procedure Code preventing the use of classroom chalkboards for campaigning.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 023

Date: March 14, 2014

Time: 12:00

On March 13, 2014 at 19:06, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education Director candidate Ryan Schwenger had violated the Elections Procedure Code (EPC). The complainant alleged that Mr. Schwenger claimed that candidates on "UofT Voice" had authorized a retreat for five people at a cost of \$10,000, violating Article VI.1.d.viii.3 "Fair Play" of the EPC.

Article VI.1.d.vii.3 of the Elections Procedure Code states "Candidates shall campaign in accordance with the rules of Fair Play. Breaking the rules of fair play include, but are not limited to:...misrepresentation of facts."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that Mr. Schwenger's statement is in violation of the EPC. "UofT Voice" members authorized a retreat for 40 people at a cost of \$10,000. This creates the impression that members of "UofT Voice" have engaged in irresponsible spending and misrepresents candidates currently serving as members of the Board of Directors.

Ryan Schwenger

2 demerit points for unintentional misrepresentation of facts.

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Total demerit points: 2

CRO Ruling 024

Date: March 14, 2014

Time: 13:45

On March 13, 2014 at 13:20, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Vice-President Internal and Services candidate Anna Chenchen Yin had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that the candidate campaigned to voters within six (6) metres of a polling station, violating Article VI.1.n.i "Campaigning Restrictions on Polling Stations". The complainant attached photographic evidence of the alleged violation.

Article VI.1.n.i states "Candidates are not allowed within six (6) metres of a designated polling station, except to vote."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that there is sufficient evidence to find a violation of Article VI.1.n.i of the Elections Procedure Code.

The CRO is issuing the following demerit points:

Chenchen Anna Yin:

2 demerit points for campaigning in an unauthorized area.

Total demerit points: 5

CRO Ruling 025

Date: March 14, 2014

Time: 13:50

On March 13, 2014 at 17:05, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Faculty of Arts and Science Director candidate Kevin Lunianga had violated the Elections Procedure Code (EPC) . The complainant alleged that the candidate campaigned to voters within six (6) metres of a polling station, violating Article VI.1.n.i "Campaigning Restrictions on Polling Stations". The complainant attached photographic evidence of the alleged violation.

Article VI.1.n.i states "Candidates are not allowed within six (6) metres of a designated polling station, except to vote."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that there is insufficient evidence to find a violation of Article VI.1.n.i of the Elections Procedure Code.

No demerit points will be awarded for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 026

Date: March 14, 2014

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Time: 14:10

On March 13, 2014 at 19:29, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Arts & Science At-Large candidate Kevin Lunianga had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that the candidate campaigned to voters within six (6) metres of a polling station, violating Article VI.1.n.i "Campaigning Restrictions on Polling Stations". The complainant attached photographic evidence of the alleged violation.

Article VI.1.n.i states "Candidates are not allowed within six (6) metres of a designated polling station, except to vote."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that there is sufficient evidence to find a violation of Article VI.1.n.i of the Elections Procedure Code.

The CRO is issuing the following demerit points:

Kevin Lunianga:

2 demerit points for campaigning in an unauthorized area.

Total demerit points: 2

CRO Ruling 027

Date: March 14, 2014

Time: 14:00

On March 13, 2014 at 13:25, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Presidential candidate Yolen Bollo-Kamara and Vice President Internal & Services candidate Cameron Wathey had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that the candidates had abused their position on the basis of having volunteers campaigning on their behalf as benefit of office in violation of Article VI.1.p "Benefits Acquired by Virtue of Office" of the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant further alleges that some of the volunteers misrepresented their affiliation with the candidates by indicating they were University of Toronto students in violation of Article VI.1.d.v "Fair Play" of the Elections Procedure Code.

Article VI.1.p "Benefits Acquired by Virtue of Office" of the Elections Procedure Code states that "Candidates cannot use services or funds that they acquired through holding a position in a campus organization unless the same services are available to all other Candidates. This includes the use of office supplies, equipment, advertising space and staff."

Article VI.1.d.v "Fair Play" of the Elections Procedure Code states that "Candidates shall campaign in accordance with the rules of Fair Play. Breaking the rules of fair play include, but are not limited to: ...misrepresentation of facts."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that Ms Bollo-Kamara and Mr. Wathey have not violated Article VI.1.p. The use of volunteers that they may have met through service of UTSU does not constitute the use of "staff" as described in the Elections Procedure Code. Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that Ms Bollo-Kamara and Mr. Wathey have violated Article VI.1.d.v. As per Article VI.1.c "Responsibility of Candidates", candidates are responsible for actions of any Non-Arm's Length Party. As a volunteer misrepresented their status as a student at University of Toronto, Ms. Bollo-Kamara and Mr. Wathey are responsible for this misrepresentation.

By giving a false statement to students, Ms. Bollo-Kamara and Mr. Wathey have engaged in:

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Intentional Misrepresentation of facts (maximum demerit points: 10)

The CRO is issuing the following demerit points:

Yolen Bollo-Kamara:

2 demerit points for misrepresentation of facts

Total demerit points: 2

Cameron Wathey:

2 demerit points for misrepresentation of facts

Total demerit points: 2

CRO Ruling 028

Date: March 14, 2014

Time: 14:00

On March 13, 2014 at 11:55, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Vice-President Internal and Services candidate Anna Chenchen Yin had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that the candidate engaged in intentional misrepresentation of fact, malicious or intentional breach of elections policy by knowingly presenting false information to voters, violating Article VI.1.d.vi and Article VI.1.d.viii "Fair Play" of the EPC. The complainant attached audio evidence of the alleged violation.

Article VI.1.d states "Candidates shall campaign in accordance with the rules of Fair Play. Breaking the rules of fair play include, but are not limited to:...malicious or intentional breach of elections policy;...misrepresentation of facts."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that there is sufficient evidence to find multiple violations of the Elections Procedure Code.

Ms. Yin claimed that the UTSU membership fee was \$345. Ms. Yin has already been told to correct this claim in a previous ruling. This is in violation of VI.1.d.viii.3 and VI.1.d.vi and is intentional breach of elections policy, in addition to both intentional and gross misrepresentation of fact.

Ms. Yin claimed that the UTSU has no report indicating where funds are spent. The CRO has investigated and found that there is an audit report on the UTSU website as well as budgets. This is in violation of VI.1.d.viii.3 and is both intentional and gross misrepresentation of fact.

Ms. Yin claimed that the UTSU's largest expense is Executive salaries. The CRO has investigated and found that this false. This is in violation of VI.1.d.viii.3 and is an intentional misrepresentation of fact.

Ms. Yin claimed that the UTSU allowed the University of Toronto Mississauga to leave the organization in the past and divert fees to UTM. The CRO has investigated and found that this is false. This is in violation of VI.1.d.viii.3 and is a misrepresentation of fact.

Ms. Yin claimed that the UTSU is preventing autonomous organizations from "leaving" the UTSU by citing UTSU bylaws. The CRO has investigated and found that this is false. This is in violation of VI.1.d.viii.3 and is a misrepresentation of fact.

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Ms. Yin claimed that a Student Society Summit was created to investigate undemocratic UTSU bylaws. The CRO has investigated and found that this is false. This is in violation of VI.1.d.viii.3 and is a misrepresentation of fact.

There is a concern that this false information has been presented to multiple students multiple times, deceiving potential voters to secure votes.

Ms. Yin has engaged in:

Misrepresentation of facts (maximum demerit points: 3)

Intentional misrepresentation of facts (maximum demerit points: 10)

Gross misrepresentation of facts (maximum demerit points: 20)

Malicious or intentional violation of Elections Procedure Code or Policy (maximum demerit points: 20)

Failure to comply with the spirit and purpose of the elections (maximum demerit points: 35)

The following demerit points are issued for this complaint:

Chenchen Anna Yin:

3 demerit points for misrepresentation of facts

10 demerit points for intentional misrepresentation of facts

15 demerit points for gross misrepresentation of facts

15 demerit points for malicious or intentional violation of the Elections Procedure Code or Policy

15 demerit points for failure to comply with the spirit and purpose of the elections

Total demerit points: 63

CRO Ruling 029

Date: March 14, 2014

Time: 14:45

On March 13, 2014 at 12:34, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) was contacted by Vice-President Equity candidate Baliqis Olaitan Hashiru to approve a statement to be used as campaign material. The CRO then discovered that the statement was already being used as campaign material as of 12:09.

Article VI.3.c "Committee Initiative" of the Elections Procedure Code states "Where the CRO or a member of the ERC [Elections and Referenda Committee] finds evidence of a violation, the ERC or CRO may charge a candidate with a violation of campaign rules."

The CRO has determined that Baliqis Olaitan Hashiru has violated the Elections Procedure Code.

Article VI.3.k.i states that the use of unapproved material is a violation for which demerit points may be issued.

By using the material before sending it to the CRO for approval, Ms. Olaitan Hashiru has violated Article VI.3.k.i and engaged in:

Unapproved material (maximum demerit points: 15)

The CRO is issuing the following demerit points:

Baliqis Olaitan Hashiru

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

5 demerit point for unapproved material

Total demerit points: 8

CRO Ruling 030

Date: March 14, 2014

Time: 14:55

On March 13:53pm, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Faculty of Engineering candidate Abhi Amalsadia had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that the candidate Abhi Amalsadia had violated the Code by posting posters lacking stamps indicating CRO approval.

Article VI.1.f "Adherence to Existing Policy" of the Elections Procedure Code states "All campaign tactics, material and advertisements need approval by the CRO in advance of posting or distribution."

The CRO has investigated and determined that there is sufficient evidence to find a violation of Article VI.1.f. There were multiple posters missing the stamps indicating CRO approval for physical materials, indicating that it was not an oversight during stamping.

By posting a poster lacking the stamp indicating CRO approval, Mr. Amalsadia has engaged in:

Unapproved material (maximum demerit points: 15)

In light of the fact that the CRO ruled on this issue previously and had requested that the candidate's posters be taken down, the CRO is issuing further demerit points.

Abhi Amalsadia:

10 demerit points for unapproved material

Total demerit points: 13

CRO Ruling 031

Date: March 14, 2014

Time: 15:20

On March 12, 2014 at 15:30, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) discovered evidence that New College Director candidate Silviu Kondan had violated the Elections Procedure Code. One of the candidate's posters was found to be posted in Robarts Library, violating Article VI.1.s.iii "Campaigning During Voting Period", and VI.1.s.i "Campaigning During Voting Period" of the Elections Procedure Code.

Article VI.1.s.iii "Campaigning During Voting Period" of the Elections Procedure Code states "Campaigning and campaign materials are not allowed within six (6) metres of a Library."

By posting a candidate poster within six metres of a library, Mr. Kondan engaged in:

Campaigning in an unauthorized area (maximum demerit points: 10)

The CRO is issuing the following demerit points:

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Silviu Kondan:

3 demerit points for unapproved material

Total demerit points: 3

CRO Ruling 032

Date: March 15, 2014

Time: 18:00

On March 14, 2014 at 16:31, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint Team Unite had violated the Elections Procedure Code (EPC) . The complainant alleged that a volunteer from Team Unite had campaigned to voters within six (6) metres of a polling station, violating Article VI.1.n.i "Campaigning Restrictions on Polling Stations". The complainant attached photographic evidence of the alleged violation.

Article VI.1.n.i states "Candidates are not allowed within six (6) metres of a designated polling station, except to vote."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that there is insufficient evidence to find a violation of Article VI.1.n.i of the Elections Procedure Code.

No demerit points will be awarded for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 033

Date: March 15, 2014

Time: 18:30

On March 13, 2014 at 16:37, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Engineering candidate Ryan Gomes had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that the candidate campaigned to voters within six (6) metres of a polling station, violating Article VI.1.n.i "Campaigning Restrictions on Polling Stations". The complainant attached photographic evidence of the alleged violation.

Article VI.1.n.i states "Candidates are not allowed within six (6) metres of a designated polling station, except to vote."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that there is sufficient evidence to find a violation of Article VI.1.n.i of the Elections Procedure Code.

The CRO is issuing the following demerit points:

Ryan Gomes:

2 demerit points for campaigning in an unauthorized area.

Total demerit points: 2

CRO Ruling 034

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Date: March 15, 2014

Time: 19:00

On March 15, 2014 at 17:41, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that "UofT Voice" had violated Article VI.1.s.iii "Campaigning During Voting Period" of the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant provided photographic evidence of the alleged violations regarding posters located in Robarts Library.

Article VI.1.s.iii "Campaigning During Voting Period" of the Elections Procedure Code states "Campaigning and campaign materials are not allowed within six (6) metres of a Library."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that "UofT Voice" has not violated the Elections Procedure Code. While the CRO acknowledges the presence of "UofT Voice" campaign materials, there is no evidence to indicate that the materials were brought into and distributed in the library by members of "UofT Voice" or by a non-arms' length party.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 035

Date: March 16, 2014

Time: 17:00

On March 15, 2014 at 17:09, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that the operation of a polling station in the Davis Building at University of Toronto Mississauga on March 14, 2014 from 10am-3pm contravened the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant went on to allege that member of "UofTVoice" were aware of this information prior to the general public being made prior to this information, giving "UofTVoice" an advantage. The complainant contended that in respect of the above, all the votes from the Davis Building should be disposed of and not counted towards the results.

Article IV.1.j. "The Elections and Referenda Committee" of the Elections Procedure Code states "... To ensure a fair and equal distribution of polling stations, locations shall be ratified by the Elections and Referenda Committee on recommendation of the CRO in consultation with the ERC Chair. In allocating polling stations, the ERC will consider factors including, but not limited to, cost, logistics, proximity to other polling stations, accessibility, traffic, and poll locations in previous elections.

Article IV.1.j. "The Elections and Referenda Committee" of the Elections Procedure Code states "Polling locations shall be publicized at the start of the campaign period."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that there has been no violation of the Elections Procedure Code. The CRO acknowledges that the original polling stations for University of Toronto Mississauga did not include the Davis Building. However, the Davis Building had been ratified as a polling location by the ERC on January 8, 2014, and was not used on March 11-13, 2014 due to a prior booking. Additionally, it was at the request of UTM students the polling station was moved to the Davis Building on the morning of the final day of voting. Finally, due to the scheduling of an ancillary day of voting to accommodate for the closure of University of Toronto Mississauga on March 12, 2014 as a result of weather conditions, it was deemed necessary to accommodate the students' needs in this respect.

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that members of "UofTVoice" were not informed of the polling station in Davis prior to the general public. Members of "UofTVoice" were at the University of

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Toronto Mississauga campus well in advance of the polls opening at 10:00 and saw the polling stations being set up at the same time as the general public.

The CRO has decided that the above issues are not sufficient reason to dispose of the votes from the Davis Building, in that to do so would disenfranchise University of Toronto Mississauga voters and would not contribute to a fair election for the entire constituency of the University of Toronto Students' Union.

CRO Ruling 036

Date: March 18, 2014

Time: 14:00

On March 16, 2014 at 14:21, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that "UofT Voice" had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complaint alleged that "UofT Voice" still had a picture up on their website claiming Candi Chin-Sang was their University College Board of Director Candidate, and that by not removing the poster in 2 weeks, "UofT Voice" was committing a misrepresentation of the composition of their team. Further the complainant alleged that by keeping the picture & platform of Ms. Chin-Sang, "UofT Voice" was further misrepresenting that Ms. Chin-Sang's platform points were still a part of the goals of "UofT Voice" in violation of Article VI.1.d.v "Fair Play" of the Elections Procedure Code.

Article VI.1.d.v "Fair Play" of the Elections Procedure Code states that "Candidates shall campaign in accordance with the rules of Fair Play. Breaking the rules of fair play include, but are not limited to: ...misrepresentation of facts."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that there is insufficient evidence that "UofT Voice" has violated Article VI.1.d.v. Ms. Chin-Sang did not officially give notice to the CRO of the withdrawal of her candidacy until Monday, March 11, 2014, and additionally did not inform "UofT Voice" or make any contact with "UofT Voice" in regards to this matter. While the CRO acknowledges that Ms. Chin-Sang's picture remained on the website, this material had been approved well in advance of her withdrawal, and it stands that it would be Ms. Chin-Sang's responsibility to contact "UofT Voice" in regards to removing social media material displaying her as a candidate. Additionally, there is insufficient evidence to rule that Ms. Chin-Sang's platform was no longer a part of "UofT Voice"'s goals though Ms. Chin-Sang was no longer a part of "UofT Voice".

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 037

Date: March 19, 2014

Time: 8:00

On March 16, 2014 at 14:13, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Team Unite had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complaint alleged that Team Unite, particularly the Executive candidates, had misrepresented that the Professional Faculty At-Large Candidate, Andi Musa, was a part of Team Unite, in violation of Article VI.1.d.v "Fair Play" of the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged that this misled some members from the Engineering constituency to vote for Team Unite.

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Article VI.1.d.v "Fair Play" of the Elections Procedure Code states that "Candidates shall campaign in accordance with the rules of Fair Play. Breaking the rules of fair play include, but are not limited to: ...misrepresentation of facts."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that there is insufficient evidence to find that Team Unite has violated Article VI.1.d.v. While the CRO acknowledges that Team Unite promoted Mr. Musa as an independent candidate, there is insufficient evidence to demonstrate that Team Unite attempted to capitalize on Mr. Musa's independent status to garner more votes.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint

CRO Ruling 038

Date: March 19, 2014

Time: 12:00

On March 17, 2014 at 16:42, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Professional Faculty At-Large candidates Andi Musa and Thomas Boyang Huang, and Faculty of Engineering candidate Abhi Amalsadia had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged the candidates had left their posters up in the Bahen Building past the forty-eight hour deadline to remove print materials, in violation of Article VI.1.i.ix "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant attached photographic evidence.

Article VI.1.i.ix "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code states that "All print campaign materials must be removed within forty-eight (48) hours after the close of the voting period."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined there is sufficient evidence to indicate that Mr. Musa, Mr. Huang and Mr. Amalsadia have violated the Elections Procedure Code.

By leaving print materials up beyond the forty-eight hour deadline for removal, the candidates have engaged in:

Post-Campaign Materials (Maximum demerit points: 5)

The CRO is issuing the following demerit points:

Andi Musa:

1 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 1

Thomas Boyang Huang:

1 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 1

Abhi Amalsadia:

1 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 14

CRO Ruling 039

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Date: March 19, 2014

Time: 12:10

On March 17, 2014 at 17:18, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Vice President External candidate Grayce Slobodian and Vice President Equity candidate Najiba Ali Sardar had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged the candidates had left their posters up in the Faculty of Rotman Commerce in Woodsworth Residence past the forty-eight hour deadline to remove print materials, in violation of Article VI.1.i.ix "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant attached photographic evidence.

Article VI.1.i.ix "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code states that "All print campaign materials must be removed within forty-eight (48) hours after the close of the voting period."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined there is sufficient evidence to indicate that Ms Slobodian and Ms Ali Sardar have violated the Elections Procedure Code.

By leaving print materials up beyond the forty-eight hour deadline for removal, the candidates have engaged in:

Post-Campaign Materials (Maximum demerit points: 5)

The CRO is issuing the following demerit points:

Grayce Slobodian:

1 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 1

Najiba Ali Sardar:

1 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 1

CRO Ruling 040

Date: March 19, 2014

Time: 12:20

On March 17, 2014 at 17:18, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Yolen Bollo-Kamara, Cameron Wathey, Grayce Slobodian, Zijian Yang, Andi Musa, Thomas Boyang Huang, Abhi Amalsadia, and Niki Firmalino had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged the candidates had left their posters up in the Faculty of Rotman Commerce in Woodsworth Residence past the forty-eight hour deadline to remove print materials, in violation of Article VI.1.i.ix "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant attached photographic evidence.

Article VI.1.i.ix "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code states that "All print campaign materials must be removed within forty-eight (48) hours after the close of the voting period."

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined there is sufficient evidence to indicate that Ms Slobodian and Ms Ali Sardar have violated the Elections Procedure Code.

By leaving print materials up beyond the forty-eight hour deadline for removal, the candidates have engaged in:

Post-Campaign Materials (Maximum demerit points: 5)

The CRO is issuing the following demerit points, in light of the number of print materials remaining posted per candidate:

Yolen Bollo-Kamara:

1 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 1

Cameron Wathey:

2 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 2

Grayce Slobodian:

2 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 2

Zijian Yang:

2 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 3

Andi Musa:

2 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 3

Thomas Huang:

2 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 3

Abhi Amalsadia:

2 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 16

Niki Fimalino:

1 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 1

CRO Ruling 041

Date: March 20, 2014

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Time: 23:45

On March 19, 2014 at 00:04, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that "UofT Voice" had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleges that Corey Scott, as a non-arm's-length party of "UofT Voice", committed a misrepresentation of fact in violation of Article VI.1.d.v "Fair Play" of the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant referenced an online article which quoted Mr. Scott and alleged that they included the following misrepresentations by Mr. Scott:

- 1) That all scrutineers were given the same instructions and access to scrutineer the online and paper ballots.
- 2) That the count included scrutineers for all candidates.
- 3) That the count included scrutineers, elections staff, as well as the CRO and DROs.

The complainant alleged that the above were misrepresentations on the basis that:

- 1) That the scrutineers had not had access to scrutineer the online ballots.
- 2) That the count did not include scrutineers for all candidates, and further that only five scrutineers from each 'team' were allowed in the room.
- 3) That the room included other people beyond the elections staff, CROs and DROs.

Article VI.1.d.v "Fair Play" of the Elections Procedure Code states that "Candidates shall campaign in accordance with the rules of Fair Play. Breaking the rules of fair play include, but are not limited to: ...misrepresentation of facts."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined that Mr. Scott as a non-arm's-length party of "UofT Voice" has not violated the Elections Procedure Code. The statement that all scrutineers were given the same access to scrutinize the online ballot is correct. The statement of the count, rather than the room, including scrutineers, elections staff as well as the CROs and DROs is correct as it was only these people who participated in the counting process. The statement in regards to the count including scrutineers for all candidates is not correct, but whether this can be attributed to Mr. Scott or the article's parsing is unclear. Further, the allegation by complainant that only five scrutineers from each 'team' were allowed in the room is incorrect as one of the 'teams' elected to send some scrutineers home prior to the count beginning.

No demerit points will be awarded for this complaint.

CRO Ruling 042

Date: March 21, 2014

Time: 00:30

On March 19, 2014 at 01:03, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Vice President External candidate Grayce Slobodian and Trinity College Director candidate Joanne Zhang had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged the candidates had left their posters up in the Gerald Larkin Building past the forty-eight hour deadline to remove print materials, in violation of Article VI.1.i.ix "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant attached photographic evidence.

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Article VI.1.i.ix "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code states that "All print campaign materials must be removed within forty-eight (48) hours after the close of the voting period."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined there is insufficient evidence to indicate that Ms. Slobodian and Ms. Zhang have violated the Elections Procedure Code.

No demerit points will be issued for this complaint

CRO Ruling 043

Date: March 21, 2014

Time: 20:00

On March 19, 2014 at 13:30, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) discovered posters of Vice President University Affairs candidate Pierre Harfouche, Professional Faculties At-Large candidate Tolu Alabi, and New College Director candidate Xinwei Li in the Bahen Centre.

Article VI.3.c "Committee Initiative" of the Elections Procedure Code states "Where the CRO or a member of the ERC [Elections and Referenda Committee] finds evidence of a violation, the ERC or CRO may charge a candidate with a violation of campaign rules."

The CRO has determined that Pierre Harfouche, Tolu Alabi and Xinwei Li have violated the Elections Procedure Code.

Article VI.1.i.ix "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code states that "All print campaign materials must be removed within forty-eight (48) hours after the close of the voting period."

By leaving print materials up beyond the forty-eight hour deadline for removal, Mr. Harfouche, Mr. Alabi and Mr. Li have engaged in:

Post-Campaign Materials (Maximum demerit points: 5)

The CRO is issuing the following demerit points:

Pierre Harfouche:

1 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 4

Tolu Alabi:

1 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 1

Xinwei Li:

1 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 1

CRO Ruling 044

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Date: March 21, 2014

Time: 20:15

On March 21, 2014 at 16:45, the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) received a complaint that Vice President Internal & Services Candidate Anna Yin had violated the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant alleged the candidate had left their posters up in the Bahen Centre past the forty-eight hour deadline to remove print materials, in violation of Article VI.1.i.ix "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code. The complainant attached photographic evidence.

Article VI.1.i.ix "Candidate Posters and Campaign Materials" of the Elections Procedure Code states that "All print campaign materials must be removed within forty-eight (48) hours after the close of the voting period."

Upon investigation, the CRO has determined there is sufficient evidence to find that Ms. Yin has violated the Elections Procedure Code.

By leaving print materials up beyond the forty-eight hour deadline for removal, the candidates have engaged in:

Post-Campaign Materials (Maximum demerit points: 5)

The CRO is issuing the following demerit points:

Anna Yin:

1 demerit points for post-campaign materials

Total demerit points: 35

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Appendix B – ERC Rulings 001-010

ERC Ruling 001

Date: February 26, 2014

Time: 17:40

On February 20, 2014, the Chief Returning Officer notified Pierre Harfouche, an individual seeking to gain candidacy in the elections, that he would not be permitted to seek candidacy for more than one (1) position for nomination for the current election period.

On February 23, 2014, Mr. Harfouche submitted an appeal to the Elections & Referenda Committee on the grounds that there is no rule that prevents an individual from seeking candidacy or election to multiple positions on the Board of Directors.

The Elections & Referenda Committee has reviewed the appeal and has resolved to uphold the ruling of the Chief Returning Officer. The Elections & Referenda Committee relies on Article VI.3.a.iii, which states, "The Chief Returning Officer and the Elections & Referenda Committee both have the power to make decisions about issues and events not covered by this Code."

The Elections and Referenda Committee has denied the appeal. Mr. Harfouche will not be permitted to seek candidacy or election for more than one (1) position.

ERC Ruling 002

Date: March 3, 2014

Time: 22:53

On March 2, 2014 the Chief Returning Officer ruled that Wenjun Lu did not meet the requirements for candidacy in the election.

On March 2, 2014, Ms. Lu requested that the Elections and Referenda Committee review the decision.

As of March 3, 2014, the Elections and Referenda Committee has completed an extensive review of the decision.

The Committee has upheld the ruling of the Chief Returning Officer. Ms. Lu has not met the requirements for candidacy in the election.

ERC Ruling 003

Date: March 3, 2014

Time: 22:53

On March 2, 2014 the Chief Returning Officer ruled that Billi Wun did not meet the requirements for candidacy in the election.

On March 2, 2014, Mr. Wun requested that the Elections and Referenda Committee review the decision.

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

As of March 3, 2014, the Elections and Referenda Committee has completed an extensive review of the decision.

The Committee has upheld the ruling of the Chief Returning Officer. Mr. Wun has not met the requirements for candidacy in the election.

ERC Ruling 004

Date: March 3, 2014

Time: 22:53

On March 2, 2014 the Chief Returning Officer ruled that Matthew Lee did not meet the requirements for candidacy in the election.

On March 2, 2014, Mr. Lee requested that the Elections and Referenda Committee review the decision.

As of March 3, 2014, the Elections and Referenda Committee has completed an extensive review of the decision.

The Committee has upheld the ruling of the Chief Returning Officer. Mr. Lee has not met the requirements for candidacy in the election.

ERC Ruling 005

Date: March 5, 2014

Time: 22:46

On March 5 at 17:36, Vice-President Vice-President University Affairs Candidate Zijian Yang appealed CRO Ruling 002 to the Elections and Referenda Committee (ERC). Mr. Yang was assigned 3 demerit points in the ruling for violating Articles VI.1.d.viii "Fair Play" and VI.1.f "Approval of Campaign material" of the Elections Procedure Code.

The ERC allowed Mr. Yang's representative to make an appeal on his behalf. The appellant requested that the demerit points assigned be reduced to 0 based on the following argument:

- The appellant produced an email wherein a poster for Mr. Yang that contained the platform point "Advocate for the elimination of winter" was approved by the Chief Returning Officer (CRO).
- The appellant produced a subsequent email wherein an updated poster for Mr. Yang containing the platform point "Advocate for the elimination of winter residence fees" was approved by the CRO. In this email, it was clarified that Mr. Yang's platform did not include an intention to advocate for the elimination of winter and that the original poster was the result of a typographical error.
- That Mr. Yang had no intention of misleading students and had unintentionally posted the poster with the typographical error on a social media platform. Mr. Yang corrected the error as soon as he was aware it had occurred, within a matter of hours.

On the matter of unapproved material, the Committee resolved to affirm the appeal. There will be no demerit points assigned for unapproved material.

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

On the matter of misrepresentation of fact, the Committee resolved to uphold the ruling of the CRO. Though the misrepresentation was minor and in error, the fact remains that Mr. Yang's platform does not contain an intention to advocate for the elimination of winter.

In summary,

The Committee upheld the ruling of the CRO with respect to "misrepresentation of facts".

The Committee affirmed the appeal with respect to "unapproved material". All demerit points previously assigned by the CRO were expunged by the ERC.

Zijian Yang:

1 demerit point for misrepresentation of fact

0 demerit points for unapproved material

Total demerit points: 1

ERC Ruling 006

Date: March 5, 2014

Time: 23:17

On March 5 at 18:14, Vice-President External Candidate Nicky Bhatti appealed CRO Ruling 001 to the Elections and Referenda Committee (ERC). Mr. Bhatti was assigned 10 demerit points in the ruling for violating Articles VI.1.d.vii & viii "Fair Play" and VI.1.f "Approval of Campaign material" of the Elections Procedure Code (EPC).

The ERC allowed Mr. Bhatti and Mr. Bhatti's representative to make an appeal on his behalf. The appellant requested that the demerit points assigned for "intentional misrepresentation of fact" to be reduced to one (1) and for the demerit points assigned for "failure to follow the grievance procedure outlined in the Elections Procedure Code or Policy" based on the following argument:

- The appellant stated that his campaign manager had erroneously assumed that his poster was approved when most of "Team Unite's" campaign materials were sent approvals by 10:00 on March 3.
- The appellant stated that he then put his campaign poster online between 10:00 – 10:30.
- The appellant stated that he was then contacted by the Chief Returning Officer, who informed him he had received a conditional approval, and that the conditions had not been met. He stated that he was informed that his platform point to: "reallocate the millions spent on advertisements by the government to better fund jobs for youth" was misleading as it was beyond the powers of an Executive Committee member of the University of Toronto Students' Union.
- The appellant stated that he agreed with the CRO and changed the phrasing to make clear that he would lobby for the reallocation of millions spent on advertisements by the government to better fund jobs for youth.
- The appellant stated that he had no part in contacting The Varsity about the misphrasing on his poster.
- The appellant stated that he had no part in communicating to The Varsity that his team was unable to campaign.

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

- The appellant stated that some of his teammates were frustrated that they had to wait for responses from the CRO and decided to inform The Varsity.
- The appellant stated that an individual representing him and his team contacted The Varsity on behalf of his team.
- The appellant stated that this individual overstepped his boundaries.
- The appellant stated that he was not quoted in The Varsity.

On the matter of “intentional misrepresentation of fact”, the Committee resolved to uphold the ruling of the CRO, but to reduce the assigned demerit points from three (3) to two (2). Mr. Bhatti's testimony further corroborated that The Varsity was provided with false information. The Committee recognizes that Bhatti himself did not make these claims. However, he is still responsible for them, as they were made on his behalf. The Article VI.1.c of the EPC states that candidates are responsible for the actions and violations of any non-arm's-length parties.

On the matter of “failure to follow the grievance procedure outlined in the Elections Procedure Code or Policy”, the Committee resolved to uphold the ruling of the CRO, but to reduce the assigned demerit points from five (5) to three (3). Mr. Bhatti's testimony further corroborated that a representative acting on his behalf had a grievance for which he contacted The Varsity instead of following the prescribed procedures. The Committee recognizes that Bhatti himself did not take this action. However, he is still responsible for them, as they were taken on his behalf. The Article VI.1.c of the EPC states that candidates are responsible for the actions and violations of any non-arm's-length parties.

In summary,

The Committee upheld the ruling of the CRO with respect to “intentional misrepresentation of facts”. Demerit points previously assigned were reduced to two (2).

The Committee upheld the ruling of the CRO with respect to “failure to follow the grievance procedure outlined in the Elections Procedure Code or Policy”. Demerit points previously assigned were reduced to three (3).

Nicky Bhatti:

3 demerit points for failure to follow the grievance procedures outlined in the Elections Procedure Code or Policy

2 demerit points for intentional misrepresentation of fact

1 demerit point for unapproved material

1 demerit point for misrepresentation of fact

Total demerit points: 7

ERC Ruling 007

Date: March 16, 2014

Time: 21:27

On March 16 at 18:00, Vice-President Internal & Services Candidate Anna Chenchen Yin appealed CRO Ruling 028 to the Elections and Referenda Committee (ERC). Ms. Yin was assigned 58 demerit points in the ruling for violating Articles VI.1.d.vi & viii “Fair Play” of the Elections Procedure Code (EPC).

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

The ERC allowed Ms. Yin and Ms. Yin's representative to make an appeal on her behalf. The appellant requested that the demerit points assigned for "Fair Play" to be reduced based on the following argument:

- That she did not receive evidence of her violation within 24 hours.
- That she told a student that students pay a "fee" of \$345 to the UTSU, but did not refer to this as a membership fee.
- That while she said that there is "no report indicating where fees are spent", that she later stated that there is an audit report released on an annual basis.
- That while she said that Executive Committee salaries are the largest expense of the UTSU, she later corrected herself, and stated that Executive and staff salaries are the largest expense.
- That she did not claim that UTM students "left" the UTSU, but said that UTM fees were "diverted" or remitted.
- That the claim that the UTSU was preventing autonomous groups from leaving is true, and corroborated by a letter written by former UTSU President Shaun Shepherd, dated February 27, 2013.
- That the claim that the Student Societies Summit was created to investigate undemocratic bylaws was an opinion, not a fact.

The Committee reviewed the audio evidence and decided the following:

Ms. Yin misrepresented the membership fee.

Ms. Yin misrepresented the fact that the UTSU provides reports of where membership fees are spent.

Ms. Yin misrepresented the largest expense of the UTSU.

Ms. Yin claimed that UTM students "left" the UTSU.

Ms. Yin's claim that the UTSU was preventing autonomous groups from leaving is untrue, and Mr. Shepherd's letter referred to the process to alter membership fees only.

That the claim that the Student Societies Summit was created to investigate undemocratic bylaws was stated as fact, but could be an opinion understood by the membership.

On the matter of "misrepresentation of facts", the Committee resolved to uphold the ruling of the CRO. On the other matters, the Committee agreed with the CRO that there was intentional misrepresentation and gross misrepresentation of facts. The Committee did not agree that her violations were sufficient to warrant disqualification.

In summary,

The Committee reduced the amount of demerit points issued for this violation to 29.

Total Demerit Points

Anna Chenchen Yin: 34

ERC Ruling 008

Date: March 16, 2014

Time: 16:10

On March 16 at 13:59, Presidential candidate Yolen Bollo-Kamara and Vice-President Internal & Services candidate Cameron Wathey appealed CRO Ruling 027 to the Elections and Referenda Committee

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

(ERC). Ms. Bollo-Kamara and Mr. Wathey were assigned two (2) demerit points each in the ruling for violating Article VI.1.d.v "Fair Play" of the Elections Procedure Code (EPC).

The ERC consulted with the Chief Returning Officer who stated that she agrees with the appellants that the ruling should be expunged. She stated that she misread the complaint that led to this ruling and that it was not a violation of Article VI.1.d.v "Fair Play".

The Committee affirmed the appeal with respect to "Fair Play". All demerit points previously assigned by the CRO on this matter were expunged by the ERC.

Yolen Bollo-Kamara:

0 demerit points for fair play

Total demerit points: 1

Cameron Wathey:

0 demerit points for fair play

Total demerit points: 2

ERC Ruling 009

Date: March 20, 2014

Time: 18:30

On March 16 at 14:24, Faculty of Engineering candidate Abhi Amalsadia appealed CRO Ruling 030 to the Elections and Referenda Committee (ERC). Mr. Amalsadia was assigned 10 demerit points in the ruling for violating Article VI.1.f "Adherence to Existing Policy" of the Elections Procedure Code (EPC).

The ERC allowed Mr. Amalsadia's representative to make an appeal on his behalf. The appellant requested that the demerit points assigned for "Adherence to Existing Policy" to be reduced based on the following argument:

- That the Mr. Amalsadia proactively contacted the Chief Returning Officer upon learning that he had accidentally posted unstamped posters.
- That the custodial staff informed Mr. Amalsadia that all posters lacking a stamp had been removed.
- That the candidate and his volunteers removed any remaining posters they could find after contacting the Chief Returning Officer.
- That opponents of Mr. Amalsadia may have attempted to sabotage the candidate by submitting photographic evidence of unstamped posters that had been taken on the same day multiple times.
- That Mr. Amalsadia may have missed some posters because other posters had been placed on top of them.

The Committee reviewed the evidence and decided the following:

- There was no attempt to sabotage Mr. Amalsadia by submitting photos that had been taken on the same day multiple times.
- That Mr. Amalsadia should have responded to the CRO's earlier request for information regarding this matter.
- That Mr. Amalsadia's good faith action of contacting the CRO about his error should be recognized.

On the matter of "Adherence to Existing Policy", the Committee resolved to uphold the ruling of the CRO, but reduce the amount of demerit points issued.

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

In summary,

The Committee reduced the amount of demerit points issued for this violation to 5.

Total Demerit Points

Abhi Amalsadia: 11

ERC Ruling 010

Date: March 23, 2014

Time: 17:00

On March 18, 2014 at 11:13, the Elections and Referenda Committee received a request for the appeal of the unofficial results of the election of the Vice President External, pending a full recount. The appellant requested one of the following changes to be made:

1. That all ballots cast for the Vice-President External position at polling station that did not feature a sign informing voters that Luis Moreno had withdrawn be discarded.
2. That all ballots cast for Luis Moreno be assigned to Nicky Bhatti in the recount, as opposed to be counted as "spoiled".

The appellant drew attention to Mr. Moreno's withdrawal of his candidacy for the Vice President External position, and his endorsement of Mr. Bhatti on March 6, 2014 during the Executive Candidate Forum. While the appellant acknowledged that the ballots for the Vice President External position had been printed at the time of Mr. Moreno's withdrawal, the appellant suggested that instructions could and should have been given to poll clerks to cross Mr. Moreno's name off every ballot prior to handing the ballots to voters. The appellant further referenced a newspaper article stating that some polling stations were not initially equipped with these notices, so that voters were unaware that Mr. Moreno had withdrawn. The appellant suggested that due to the above, voters could not have made an informed decision. The appellant further suggested that as Mr. Moreno had endorsed Mr. Bhatti personally during the Executive Candidate Forum, all ballots mistakenly cast for him should be assigned to Mr. Bhatti. The appellant indicated Mr. Moreno would like all votes cast for him to be transferred to Mr. Bhatti and would have preferred that his supporters had voted for Mr. Bhatti initially.

Article IX "Appeal Process" states:

Appeals of Election Results

- a. Any candidate may challenge the validity of their election result in a written submission containing their reasons to the CRO within forty-eight (48) hours of the close of the voting period.
- b. The CRO, on behalf of the ERC, shall investigate any appeal and make a recommendation to the Board on the appropriate action.
- c. Upon the recommendation of the ERC, the Board may refuse to ratify any single Director election. The Board may not amend rulings of the CRO or ERC.

The Chief Returning Officer, on behalf of the Elections and Referenda Committee has investigated and the Committee makes the following statement:

1. This appeal was submitted past the forty-eight (48) hour deadline as per Article IX "Appeal Process", ss.(a) and cannot be considered. However, the Committee felt it necessary to address some of the concerns articulated by the candidate, which are found below.

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

2. Due to Mr. Moreno's late withdrawal, the Elections and Referenda Committee could not reprint the Vice President External ballots due to both expense and lack of time. Mr. Moreno's name was removed from the online ballot and the Elections and Referenda Committee resolved that notices should be placed at poll stations, and checked by the Deputy Returning Officers each day.

Each poll had a voting screen with a notice affixed inside of it. This was double-checked by elections staff each voting day. Even so, to discard ballots would deprive voters of their democratic rights.

In regards to the withdrawal of candidacy, the standard Canadian electoral procedure dictates that any votes cast for said candidate are void.

The request that all ballots indicating voter intent for Mr. Moreno be transferred to Mr. Bhatti, rather than be considered "spoiled" would additionally disenfranchise voters. There is no way to determine a voter's intent on a ballot beyond what is superficially on the ballot. A voter may have selected Mr. Moreno on the ballot for any number of reasons, including to purposefully spoil their ballot. Additionally, though Mr. Moreno endorsed Mr. Bhatti, to extrapolate that this would mean that any vote for Mr. Moreno automatically means a vote for Mr. Bhatti would also disenfranchise voters. To do so makes the assumption that all voters had notice of Mr. Moreno's endorsement and would automatically follow this endorsement rather than exercise their own decision when voting. This is an assumption that elections staff cannot make for the electorate.

In conclusion, to perform of the above requests would disenfranchise UTSU voters. Regardless of whether a voter had notice of Mr. Moreno's withdrawal, the voter has the right that their ballot and therefore their choice of candidate will not be interfered with. To change a voter's choice of candidate to another would infringe on their democratic rights.

FINAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

University of Toronto Students' Union Spring 2014 Elections

Submitted by: Alex Flor, Chief Returning Officer

Monday, March 24, 2014

Appendix C – Election Notices

Notice 001

February 14, 2014: Nomination Packages Unavailable at UTM During Reading Week

Nomination packages will be unavailable for pick up at the University of Toronto Mississauga campus during Reading Week (February 17 – 21, 2014) due to the closure of the Student Centre.

Nomination packages will be available for pick up from at UTM until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 14, and starting from 9:00 a.m. on Monday, February 24.

Nomination packages will be available throughout reading week from the UTSU office at the St. George Campus.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Notice 002

MARCH 13, 2014: EXTENDED VOTING HOURS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO MISSISSAUGA CAMPUS

Dear members of the University of Toronto Students' Union:

On Wednesday, March 12, the Mississauga campus closed at 13:00 due to weather conditions. As a result, polls were closed at 13:15 at the Instructional Building and CCIT. There have been some concerns that students on the Mississauga campus did not have the same opportunity to vote as their peers because of the early closure.

As a result, paper ballot polling has been extended on the Mississauga campus. Polls will be open from 10:00 to 15:00 on Friday, March 14. Polling will not be open on the St. George campus or online.

As a result of this extension, ballots will not be counted on Thursday, March 13 as originally planned. Ballot boxes will remain in their secure locations until Friday, March 14.

Finally, ballots will be counted starting at 17:00 on Friday, March 14. As a result, the University of Toronto Students' Union office will be closed as of 16:00.

Apologies to all affected students for the inconvenience.

Notice 003

Notice in Regards to Unofficial Elections Results

Date: March 15, 2014

The UTSU Spring Elections unofficial results will be announced on Monday, March 17th, 2014.

The delay is in respect to awaiting further information from the online voting company used for these elections.

Apologies to the candidates and volunteers, all of whom have worked very hard during these elections and deserve a great deal of respect and congratulations for their efforts.