

Election Director Report

Winter 2019

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Election Dates & Timeline

Dates Set and Timeline

On January 28th, the CSG Student General Counsel sat down with the University Council to pick dates for the semester's elections. The dates chosen were Wednesday March 27th and Thursday March 28th. Upon our hiring, we created the following timeline based on the Election Code which was included in the Candidate Packets.

- **Monday March 11th, 2019 at 5:00pm:** Filing Deadline
- **Monday March 11th, 2019 at 8:00pm:** Mandatory Candidates' Meeting, G325 Mason
- **Monday March 11th, 2019 at 9:00pm:** Campaign period begins
- **Wednesdays March 13th and 20th, 2019 at 8:00pm:** LSA SG General Meetings (1427 Mason, must attend 1 of these 2 dates)
- **Thursday March 21st, 2019:** Mandatory Candidates Forum, 7:00pm in (The League Koesler Room)
- **Friday March 22nd, 2019 at 11:59pm:** Candidacy withdrawal and Platform Submission deadline (to nfadanel@umich.edu)
- **Monday March 25, 2019:** Mandatory Executive Ticket Debate, 8:00pm, Location: Palmer Commons Forum Hall
- **Tuesday March 26th, 2019 at 11:59pm:** Campaign period ends and Financial Disclosure Forms are due
- **Wednesday March 27th, 2019 and Thursday March 28th, 2019:** Polls are open at vote.umich.edu for all LSA SG elections
- **Thursday March, 28th, 2019 at 11:59pm:** Polls close
- **Friday March 29th, 2019:** Unofficial elections results released

Recruiting Candidates

Social Media

We were able to work with LSA SG ERO Kevan Casson to generate a facebook post encouraging individuals to run in the LSA SG elections. Besides sharing this on the LSA SG page and encouraging members of the government to share it, we also shared the link to register to run in the elections on a variety of "Class of 20__" facebook pages.

Direct Constituents Email

We worked with LSA SG ERO Kevan Casson to create and send out a blurb in the DC Email about voting in the elections. We made sure to send this out the week before Spring Break in

order to give individuals that week and the duration of Spring Break to file to run. Below is the text that was sent out in the DC email.

RUN IN THE LSA STUDENT GOVT ELECTIONS

Do you want to make a difference in the College of LSA? Do you want to serve your fellow students? Do you want to have a vote on key policy decisions impacting the College and LSA Student Government? Run to serve as an elected representative or as the next LSA SG President or Vice President! LSA SG welcomes any and everyone in LSA to run! The deadline to declare candidacy is Monday March 11th, 2019 at 5:00 pm. Find out more information on running [HERE](#) and register to run in the elections [HERE](#).

Department Outreach

We drafted an email blurb and sent an email to every LSA department, several LSA academic resource units, and some University offices asking if they could help advertise students filing to run in our elections in any way. The process of sending out these emails took surprisingly longer than expected. We had several departments respond saying they had sent the information out, though to be more effective it may be wise to email the departments three (3) or more weeks in advance of the filing deadline. The text of the template email is below.

Dear _____,

Good afternoon. My name is Nicholas Fadanelli and I am this semester's LSA Student Government Election Director.

As you may be aware, LSA Student Government, unlike the Central Student Government, is the student government that specifically represents LSA students and focuses on issues and policies relating to the College of LSA. This includes working with the Division of Undergraduate Education on college-wide policies impacting students, working with programs and departments on course policies, and LSA student services including Newnan, ISS, LRC, the Opportunity Hub, the SLC, and Sweetland.

With the LSA SG Winter 2019 Elections coming up, LSA SG is trying to increase participation from all academic units of the College, and is seeking additional ways of reaching out to students to encourage them to join LSA SG and apply to run in the elections.

Would be possible to include either a photo, brief text description, or both into your program/department's upcoming newsletter to undergraduate students encouraging them to run in the upcoming LSA Student Government elections?

If so, included below is a sample text blurb and photo encouraging students to run in the elections.

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Intragovernmental Recruiting

We reached out to all representatives whose terms we knew were expiring, all appointed representatives, and many committee members encouraging them to run. We further reached out to individuals who had run and lost in the Fall 2019 LSA SG elections encouraging them to file to run. This intragovernmental recruiting appeared to be the most effective at getting people to run, as many individuals we encouraged to run for representative spots did so.

Recruiting overall was better than most winter semesters. At the time of the Candidates Meeting there were nineteen (19) individuals running for the thirteen (13) available representative seats, and four (4) tickets running for the Presidency and Vice Presidency. Due to individuals dropping out of the race this would eventually be reduced to seventeen (17) running for elected representative and three (3) tickets running for the Presidency and Vice Presidency by the time polls opened.

Candidates Meeting

Topics Covered

We edited the previously made slideshows to discuss the requirements of running in the elections, the rules regarding both the campaigning and the voting periods, and other important timelines for candidates. We also discussed our interpretations of certain sections of the Election Code that we felt would be incredibly important to go over given the contested nature of the executive ticket race. We also discussed many of the mechanisms and additional deadlines we created for purposes of attempting to enforce certain portions of the Bylaws - such as the endorsement submission form, the financial disclosure forms, and the election violation reporting form.

Makeup Meetings

We asked every candidate who attended the meeting to sign in. Anyone who failed to sign in - both those who had received an excused absence beforehand and those who had not - were emailed en masse to schedule make up meetings. We sent out a When2Meet to fill out to find a time that would work for the most individuals to avoid having a large number of separate meetings. We scheduled a meeting the Wednesday after the Candidates Meeting where all but two (2) of the candidates who missed the first meeting were present. We then were able to schedule one (1) of the other candidates who did not attend the Candidates Meeting, however they rescheduled on us twice and then failed to reschedule after that resulting in being granted a demerit.

Candidates Forum



Format

Due to the number of candidates and executive tickets running, we decided to give each representative candidate two (2) minutes to speak and three (3) minutes to answer questions, and each executive ticket five (5) minutes to speak and seven (7) minutes to answer questions. This time did not include that required to ask questions - but solely the time the candidates actually spoke to answer questions.

Questions

In advance of the Candidates Forum we sent a form out to the government asking for individuals to submit questions to be asked to candidates. We received approximately thirty-seven (37) responses. We used these questions during the Candidates Forum when there were no questions from the audience to ask the candidates. We also made up questions to ask in lieu of a good question submitted on the form or a question from a member of the audience.

Advertising and Footage

We worked with the LSA SG ERO to advertise the candidates forum via the DC email and a Facebook event. We live-streamed the forum in the Facebook event which worked out really well. Unfortunately not many non-candidates attended the event, and only two (2) non-government members that were not candidates attended besides the election directors.

Executive Debate



Formation

Due to the fact that the executive race was contested, we decided that it would be a good idea to create a separate time for the executive candidates to debate one another and highlight their platforms outside of the candidates forum. This ended up coming together in the idea of splitting the “candidates forum” into two events - one traditional candidates forum and one executive ticket debate.

Format and Organization

After getting approval from the LSA SG voting membership, we contacted *The Michigan Daily* to ask if they would be willing to moderate the debate. This was asked approximately three (3) weeks prior to the date of the debate. *The Michigan Daily* stated they were willing to host the debate, and we worked with them prior to the debate to ensure things went as smoothly as possible. As part of this we shared the google form results that contained the questions that members of LSA SG generated for the candidates - which amongst other things ensured that the questions asked were relevant.

The format we had for the debate was as follows. Executive tickets stood together during the debate instead of splitting it between a presidential debate and a vice presidential debate. Each executive ticket got two (2) minutes to give an opening statement. There were a total of eight

questions asked by *The Michigan Daily* to all the tickets from those questions generated in the google form. Each ticket was given two (2) minutes to answer each question. Rebuttals were allowed, and were granted when tickets or their platforms were directly attacked by another executive ticket. The order of who answered questions was shifted after each question. After those questions, since there was additional time, questions were asked from the audience, which we allowed tickets to answer in whatever order they were most comfortable. Then each ticket was given one (1) minute to give a closing statement.

The Michigan Daily Coverage

Below is the article that *The Michigan Daily* wrote about the debate. Asking *The Michigan Daily* to both cover and moderate the debate early was good, as it increased the likelihood of them doing it, their preparation for it, and goodwill amongst all parties involved (unlike CSG which asked them to moderate their debate less than two (2) hours beforehand). Unfortunately they did not live stream the debate as they had a competing livestream occurring on that day.

<https://www.michigandaily.com/section/student-government/lsa-sg-hosts-first-debate-five-years-contested-election-three-tickets>

Voting Polling Stations

Locations

With the help of Student Life Relations Officer Brian Wang, we were able to get LSA Instructional Support Services to offer to host and pay for the coffee and bagels for a second polling station in the LSA ISS MLB Media Center Loan Office. With regards to the payment for the additional coffee and bagels they told us to double our usual order, send us the receipts, and that they would transfer \$300.00 to cover the costs of setting up an additional station in their MLB office. Since this was set up just before the elections actually occurred, we were limited with regards to additional resources and set up from ISS.

However, they were phenomenal to work with, indicated they would like to do it again in the future, and in order to ensure that they have money set aside in future budgets and make it even better in the future we would recommend reaching out to LSA ISS regarding setting this up at minimum at the beginning of the semester that the election would be in.

The other location was the LSA SG Office at G325 Mason Hall.

Reserving Laptops

We reserved the laptops in person at the ISS office. We reserved two sets of three (3) laptops for both Wednesday and Thursday. We reserved one of the sets from the ISS office in Mason Hall and the other from the ISS office in the MLB. You also can reserve equipment by emailing lsa-iss-reservations@umich.edu.

Panera Coffee & Bagels

For the Panera bagels and coffee we emailed traci.lambert@panerabread.com to set up an account that would use the LSA SG shortcode. She walked us through the process and asked for the necessary information. When placing the order we followed her directions to ensure that the shortcode was charged. For the order we ordered the following for EACH day, 15 bagel packs (where we replaced the special whole grain bagels with plain since from experience we know no one eats the special whole grain ones), 2 light roast coffee, and 2 dark roast coffee tote. This was calculated by roughly doubling the order from the previous semester when we had only one polling station.

This ended up costing \$290.24 for each day, or \$580.48 overall. However, with LSA ISS paying for half of it, it ended up only costing LSA SG \$290.24.

A receipt for one of the two days is below.

Order Summary			
Qty	Description	Item Price	Amount
2	Light Roast Coffee	\$15.99	\$31.98
2	Dark Roast Coffee	\$15.99	\$31.98
15	Bagel Pack (2) Cinnamon Crunch Bagel (3) Asiago Bagel (4) Plain Bagel (2) Sesame Bagel (2) Cinnamon Swirl Bagel (2) Plain Cream Cheese Spread Tub (1) All Unsliced	\$13.99	\$209.85

Included In Your Order Napkins, utensils, plates and/or bowls, etc. for 100 people

Subtotal:	\$273.81
Tax:	\$16.43
Total:	\$290.24
Price Per Person:	\$2.90

It is notable that although we asked for napkins, utensils, and plates for 100 people for each of the orders, we were not supplied nearly enough coffee cups or plates for this. Thus moving forward LSA SG may need to additionally buy coffee cups for people. Further, without asking for it, Panera supplied us with cream cheese. An excessive amount of cream cheese. For each day we were easily given 30-50 tubs of cream cheese. Finding an innovative way to distribute all the extra cream cheese may be something good for LSA SG to look into.

Due to the speed that we ran out of coffee and bagels, we would recommend in the future either looking into only getting coffee and/or substituting bagels with a cheaper food item, as each bagel cost over \$1 each.

Setting Up Day Of

Beyond setting up three (3) laptops at each location, we also set up a sign giving instructions on how to vote at vote.umich.edu and a sign to set up in the hallway informing individuals that there were free coffee and bagels. We were able to work with the staff at the ISS MLB office to leave most of the items set up overnight between Wednesday and Thursday, and to store additional items there.

Setting Up Vote.Umich.Edu

Initial Steps

1. Make an MCommunity Listserv that contains the Election Directors. Label it along the lines of “W19 LSA SG Election Planning/Management”. Exact name does not matter, but make it specific to that election. Make sure the listserv is viewable to ANYONE.
2. Go to https://vote.umich.edu/?id=director_help#1-1 . READ THIS PAGE IN ITS ENTIRETY. This page has a lot of helpful information for setting up elections. (It even details a lot of the stuff I am going to go through below and more)
3. Click “Register an Election”
4. The name has to be unique and cannot match a previous semester’s election name. So something like “Winter 2019 LSA Student Govt. Elections” should work,
5. Choose the listserv that you set up in step 1 as the “Election Directors” for the election.
6. Fill in dates for the “Preview” phase (when individuals can see the election but cannot vote), the “Voting” phase (ie the Election Dates), and date the election expires from Vote.Umich.edu (set to be 1 month after end of voting period)
7. Write a “short description” for the election that is very broad and short. Discuss the offices and # of open seats (such as “Vote in the LSA Student Government Elections for a President-Vice President ticket, thirteen elected representative seats, and three ballot questions”). Should be about 1 sentence.
8. Write a “long description” that adds a tiny bit of elaboration to the short description. Should be closer to 1-2 SHORT paragraphs.

9. Make sure to allow individuals to fill in their own platforms.
10. Make sure to set for all candidates to be randomly ordered in each election.
11. Make sure to NOT allow Parties

Getting List of Eligible Voters

1. Fourteen business days prior to when you want the “Preview” phase to go live, send an email to the Office of the Registrar at student.data.request@umich.edu. Specifically request all the usernames of all students enrolled in the College of LSA. (They will send this in an excel or csv format. You will need to copy-paste this into a txt file).
2. Once you receive the usernames from the Office of the Registrar, upload the txt file on the Eligibility slide. Check to see that after you upload it that the “Number of eligible voters” is approximately the population of undergraduates in LSA (should be about 19,000).

Setting up Offices

1. Click on the “Offices” tab, and select the number of seats available as “number of preferences” that voters get. Turn on allowing write ins for all “Offices”. Make sure that “ranked” or “preference” voting is turned on.
2. Type a description of each Office and number of positions available.
3. Enter every candidate with their name and username.
4. (After getting Election Approved). You can either manually enter everyone’s platforms by “editing candidates” and adding it then OR you can have Vote.Umich.Edu send an email to all candidates with a link to upload their own platform.
5. Note - although not currently used in LSA SG elections - when setting up Offices is when you’d either allow parties or write a short blurb about each candidate. (This might be a useful feature to explore to allow for writing INCUMBENT next to anyone who is running for re-election or to be re-seated).

Setting up Ballot Questions

6. For Ballot Questions - for each one do NOT allow preference ranking and do NOT allow write-ins.
7. Type in text of question. Note - sometimes it won’t like the text when you copy-paste it from a different document, so actually typing it is IMPORTANT.
8. Type in all the answers as separate options.
9. If additional information is wanted to be provided for the ballot question outside of the text of the question itself (say a link to a google document with more information), you can put this in “Details”.

Submitting for Approval

Just make sure everything is as you want it by “Previewing Ballot” before you submit for Approval. Once it is approved you can still edit MOST of it (adding offices, changing eligibility, adding ballot questions, adding candidates, deleting candidates, adding platforms, etc) but there

are some things you can no longer change. For more information reach out to the Central Student Government (CSG) advisor, as they are the ones that approve all elections on Vote.Umich.Edu and also have a lot of experience with the system.

Campaigning in the Residence Halls

Set Up

Normally this is set up by CSG and we are able to utilize them asking Housing in advance to get the policies we need to send to candidates. Unbeknownst to us, CSG had not set this up this year. We reached out to Housing and were able to set it up within a matter of two (2) days - even though CSG said “we are not allowed to campaign in Housing per Housing rules” (which was blatantly not true).

Therefore, we advise all future election directors to IMMEDIATELY upon being hired email Housing at hsg-solicitation@umich.edu and Sharon Rizzo from Housing at sconklin@umich.edu. The reason for asking them so early is to be able to get a date for when candidates can start campaigning in the residence halls that is as early in the election cycle as possible.

What the policy will likely will be is (amongst other things) that the election director will need to send Sharon Rizzo and/or another Housing administrator at least three (3) business days prior to when they could start campaigning in the residence halls a list of all candidates, campaign managers, and campaign staffers to be granted access to campaigning in Housing - including their first and last names, usernames, and their UMID number.

This was fairly easy to set up, and if done again in future semesters could make it easier for LSA SG candidates to have yet another mechanism for reaching out directly to constituents.

Advertising Voting in the Elections

Joint Election Advertising w/ Other Student Governments

We reached out to the Central Student Government (CSG), the Engineering Student Government (ESG), and the Rackham Student Government (RSG) to attempt to set up joint election advertising. ESG informed us they were not holding elections on the same day due to internal issues. RSG never got back to us. CSG informed us they had already created a graphic, below, and had requested to have it posted on Canvas by the method underneath the photo.



Something that had been discussed with the CSG advisor Jim Hoppes but never pursued was getting this and/or other photos on the various UM and LSA social media accounts. Although we had reached out to LSA Advancement for doing it, and they were interested in a meeting, we were unable to secure one. Thus contacting LSA Advancement may need to be done at the beginning of the semester.

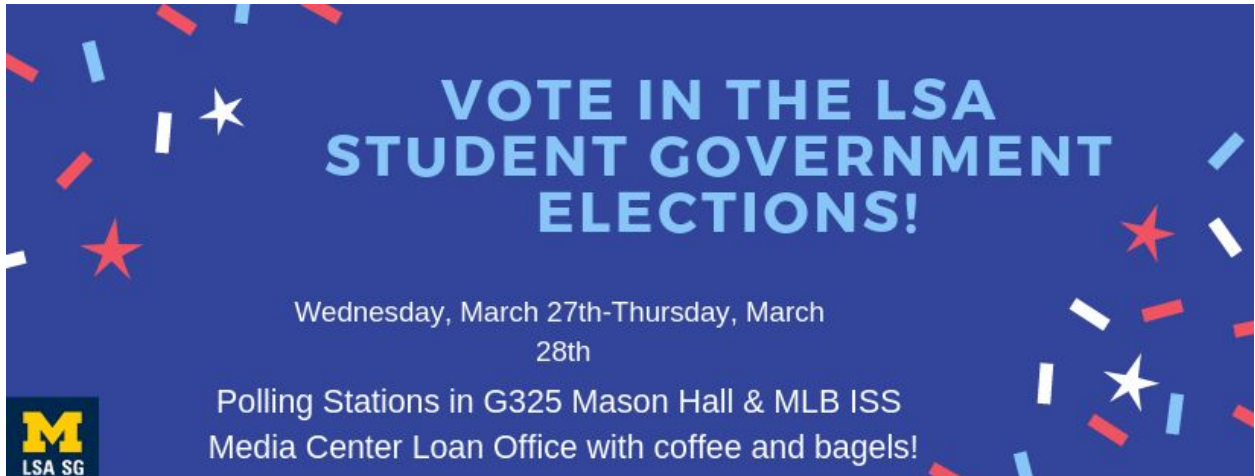
How to get Advertisement on Canvas

Email 4help@umich.edu about getting this image on the Canvas Dashboard to advertise the elections. This should be about 5 business days before you want it posted. They will divert you to this webpage: <https://documentation.its.umich.edu/node/806> . This webpage details everything you need - namely the image, the necessary specifications (550 pixels wide and 170 pixels tall), a link you want the image to go to (I had it go to vote.umich.edu), and the start and end date for advertising (For the Fall 2018 elections for example I had it advertised on Canvas from Friday, November 16th through Wednesday, November 28th - that way it would be up for the entire election period as well as serve as an advertisement before elections began).

Advertising the LSA SG Elections and Polling Stations

We worked with ERO Kevan Casson to make a Facebook event with the image below. ERO Kevan Casson and Communications Committee Vice Chair Riya Gupta also made a number of images for advertising voting in the elections which they shared with individuals. We also shared a number of old images relating to voting as well.


Social Media Images For Voting



**VOTE IN THE LSA
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
ELECTIONS!**

Wednesday, March 27th-Thursaday, March
28th

Polling Stations in G325 Mason Hall & MLB ISS
Media Center Loan Office with coffee and bagels!



Images Created by the ERO and Communications Vice Chair



VOTE!

in LSA Student
Government Elections!

3/27-11:59 PM 3/28

vote.umich.edu



VOTE!

in LSA Student
Government
Elections!

go to
vote.umich.edu

bagels & coffee
in G325 MH
if you vote!





Old Images from Semesters Past



VOTE IN STUDENT GOVT. ELECTIONS

November 26th-27th

Vote.Umich.Edu

-  Central Student Govt.
-  Engineering Student Govt.
-  LSA Student Govt.
-  Rackham Student Govt.



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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

VOTE TODAY!

VOTE.UMICH.EDU

Addressing Election Violations

There were two major election violation issues that we had to address during the elections. One regarding an email sent to the College Democrats listserv without their approval, and another regarding harvesting emails from BAC receipt confirmations. The full decisions that we wrote and sent to those involved, summaries, etc are copy-pasted below with some of the evidence acquired.

College Democrats Listserv Violation Judgement

At 10:05 am EDT on Friday 3/15/2019, John Cipriano sent an email to the entire College Democrats listserv campaigning on behalf of the Brian Wang and Mary McKillop campaign that Brian Wang, Mary

McKillop, and representative candidate Sai Pamidighantam were all CC'd on. This email went out to the entire College Democrats listserv, which contains nearly 1,200 email addresses.

When addressing this situation there are two different potential violations that Nick and I had to examine that could've applied to all or none of three different entities - the Brian Wang and Mary McKillop campaign, the Sai Pamidighantam campaign, and John Cipriano as an individual.

The two different potential violations at the heart of this are sending a campaign email to a non-campaign listserv with greater than 400 members (a violation of 18.06.09 and an egregious violation per 18.08.03(c)) and a violation of LSA SG's ban on parties (a major violation as of 18.08.02 (g)).

As per the election code - major violations can be worthy of up to three demerits and egregious up to four demerits, with campaigns being disqualified upon receiving four demerits.

As per 18.08.05;

18.08.05 **Interpreting procedures.** In interpreting these procedures, it shall be the policy of LSA SG to encourage the active and free dissemination of materials relating to LSA SG and that all rules shall be construed liberally in favor of free and open communication and debate. The purpose of the rules and regulations regarding student government elections is not to be used as a method to remove candidates from election, but rather to protect the integrity of the election process.

With that framework in mind Nick and I analyzed the issue at length.

Regarding the potential violation of LSA SG's ban on parties, Sai was CC'd on the email and the last paragraph of the email read;

"Please feel free to reach out to me or anyone else CC'd on this email if you are interested in hearing from us in person, or with any questions or concerns!

Best,

John Cipriano and the rest of the Brian Wang and Mary McKillop 2019 Campaign team"

Although this implies that everyone CC'd on the email is a member of the campaign, and this being in an email sent to a listserv of over 1,000 students clearly matches the definition of affiliating a representative with an executive ticket as a party by "public disclosure/announcement", Nick and I are not viewing this as a violation of the party rule. Our rationale for this decision is that 1) Brian and Mary informed us that this email was accidentally sent out to the whole listserv and 2) there is a possible reasonable argument that John may have meant to BCC Sai instead of CCing her.

Since we do not have any evidence to the contrary for arguments 1) or 2), per 18.08.05 Nick and I must interpret this case leniently, and therefore we cannot definitively state that this email to the College Dem's listserve was an intentional public disclosure of an association between the Brian Wang and Mary McKillop campaign and Sai Pamidighantam's campaign. ***Therefore the Brian Wang and Mary McKillop campaign, the Sai Pamidighantam campaign, and John Cipriano are all found NOT GUILTY of violating the LSA SG ban on parties.***

Regarding the potential violation of 18.06.09 of misusing email privileges, which counts as an egregious violation under 18.08.03 (c) as it was sent to a listserv with over 400 members (as the College Democrats' email listserv contains over 1,000 members).

First we shall address whether Sai Pamidighantam and her campaign may hold any responsibility. Similar to arguments 1) and 2) above, and further because it was sent on behalf of the Brian Wang and Mary McKillop campaign and not on behalf of Sai Pamidighantam's campaign, we cannot confirm that Sai in any way was responsible for or even consented to being attached to said email - so ***we find Sai Pamidighantam NOT GUILTY of any violation under 18.06.09.***

Due to the fact that John Cipriano sent the email, and has been publicly associated as the Brian Wang and Mary McKillop campaign's campaign manager - ***John Cipriano and the Brian Wang and Mary McKillop campaign are found GUILTY of violating of 18.06.09*** for sending a campaign email to a non-campaign listserv with more than 400 members. Although we wish to view whether or not this action was committed with a greater deal of leniency, the fact that it was sent to a listserv of over 1,000 members of politically active students and likely voters in the LSA SG elections makes it difficult to not find those involved guilty of some penalty under the election code.

Per 18.08.08 the violations that Nick and I may issue for a non-candidate are as follows;

18.08.08 **Penalties for Non-candidates.** Any violator of this election code who is not a candidate shall be subject to a fine of up to \$250, possible disqualification from holding a future office in LSA SG or receiving an appointment from LSA SG, as determined by the Election Director or the CSJ. The necessity for a fine shall be determined by CSJ.

For being the individual who committed this egregious offense with a listserv nearly 3 times the threshold for being an egregious offense, and potentially greatly impacting the outcome of the elections, Nick and I have determined that ***John Cipriano must cease and desist any activities he is undertaking as part of the Brian Wang and Mary McKillop campaign, must refrain from any official or unofficial relationship with the campaign for the rest of the campaign season, and is barred from holding a future office in LSA SG or receiving an appointment from LSA SG.***

With regards to the Brian Wang and Mary McKillop campaign, under 18.08.06 (below), Nick and I have the ability to be lenient and punish this offense more lightly towards the Brian Wang and Mary McKillop campaign in light of it being their campaign manager, John Cipriano, who sent the email to the listserve.

18.08.06. **Extenuating Circumstances.** If an offense is listed under a specific category for Section 18.08.01-03, the Election Director may treat a violation as one that is from a less severe category if there are other circumstances that cause them to believe it should be punished less harshly. The Election Director may not, however, treat a violation from a less serious category as one from a more serious category.

Although Brian and Mary are both responsible to some degree for educating their campaign members of the election rules, and making sure they follow them - it is difficult for us to warrant disqualifying this ticket over a member of their campaign committing an egregious violation. However, due to the possible impact on the election we cannot let this offense go entirely unpunished by the campaign as a whole.

For that reason Nick and have decided that the ***Brian Wang and Mary McKillop shall be issued three (3) demerits instead of four (4) for this offense of the election code - on the condition that they ensure that John Cipriano be removed from all his official and unofficial capacities on their campaign.***

Summary

Of the maximum seven (7) demerits that we could have prescribed to either the Brian Wang and Mary McKillop campaign or the Sai Pamidighantam campaign, or the various punishments we could have prescribed to John Cipriano for violating the election code as a non-candidate, below are the total demerits and/or punishments prescribed.

Total Demerits/Punishments Prescribed:

- Brian Wang and Mary McKillop campaign: 3 demerits
- Sai Pamidighantam campaign: 0 demerits
- John Cipriano: Must end all roles with the Brian Wang and Mary McKillop campaign, and may not hold any future office in LSA SG or receive any future appointment from LSA SG.

Evidence

From: John Cipriano <johncip@umich.edu>
Date: March 15, 2019 at 10:05:53 AM EDT
To: College Democrats at the University of Michigan <democrats@umich.edu>
Cc: Preetha Pamidighantam <ppamidig@umich.edu>, Brian Wang <bmwang@umich.edu>, Mary McKillop <marymck@umich.edu>
Subject: LSA SG Presidential Election

Hello College Democrats,

Hi! My name is John Cipriano. I'm a sophomore in the College of LSA helping manage the campaign for the election of Brian Wang and Mary McKillop to be LSA Student Government's (LSA SG) next president and vice-president! Our campaign wants to work on projects to bring necessary change to the University and especially in the College of LSA.

We recognize that the current University system within the college does not always address the issues most pressing to the students it serves. Whether it lacks the initiative to help develop student organizations and unions of diverse backgrounds or overlooks the importance of aiding new student groups on campus, we want to help in whatever way we can to connect the issues we see on campus to administrators and departments to be officially addressed.

We were also hoping to see if your organization could spare some time at your next meeting to discuss some of our platform ideas, issues that you and the rest of the College Democrats would like addressed, and hopefully spreading the word about getting more people from the College Democrats involved in LSA SG. We hope you share our sentiments in striving for greater campus representation and we hope you can trust us in working with you to bring the change you want to see on campus!

Please feel free to reach out to me or anyone else CCed on this email if you are interested in hearing from us in person, or with any questions or concerns!

Best,
John Cipriano and the rest of the Brian Wang and Mary McKillop 2019 Campaign team

11:59 LTE
mcommunity.umich.edu

Contact Information	Description
E-Mail: dems.core@umich.edu Requests To: dems.core-requests@umich.edu	College Democrats
Group Details	
Membership 1178 Members Expires: Feb 27, 2020	
Owners Collin John Kelly, Kellie Mackay Lounds, Cathrine A Kelly, Hannah E Katz, Charles Schneider, and 12 others	
Rules Summary Owners must add members Member list viewable by members only Messages can be sent to group by all Moderators must approve messages Sent to Google UMich: Yes	

University of Mich
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BAC Receipt Email Harvesting & Related Violations

On Wednesday March 27, 2019, during the voting period for the Winter 2019 LSA Student Government Elections, LSA Student Government Treasurer Gabriela Font sent emails replying to organizations that had received funding from the LSA Student Government Budget Allocations Committee (BAC) and were submitting receipts. In these emails she campaigned for Jon Reid and Wyatt Puscas for LSA SG President and Vice President respectively. Amongst other things, these emails cited candidate Wyatt Puscas as being a member of the LSA SG Budget Allocations Committee (BAC) which had approved the funding for the organization. A screenshot of an example of one of these emails is included in the appendix of this report.

These emails were sent to individual email addresses, specifically the contact people for student organizations that Gabriela Font had previously been in contact with regarding transferring the funds awarded to these organizations by the LSA SG Budget Allocations Committee and confirmed by the LSA SG voting membership.

There are a number of potential election code violations that could arise from these emails, including an attempt to bribe voters (an egregious violation per 18.08.03 (b)), campaigning during the voting period (a violation of 18.07.00 and a major violation per 18.08.02(b)), deception in advertising (a violation of 18.06.01 and a major violation per 18.08.02(d)), and proper use of email privileges (a violation of 18.06.09 and either a minor, major, or egregious violation per 18.08.01-03).

These violations could apply to all or none of two different entities - the Jon Reid and Wyatt Puscas campaign, and Gabriela Font as an individual.

As per 18.08.05;

18.08.05 **Interpreting procedures.** In interpreting these procedures, it shall be the policy of LSA SG to encourage the active and free dissemination of materials relating to LSA SG and that all rules shall be construed liberally in favor of free and open communication and debate. The purpose of the rules and regulations regarding student government elections is not to be used as a method to remove candidates from election, but rather to protect the integrity of the election process.

With that framework in mind Nick and I analyzed the issue at length.

Regarding parties potentially responsible for any violations committed, Gabriela Font was the individual who sent the emailing campaigning for the Jon Reid and Wyatt Puscas campaign. As Gabriela Font is not a known member of the Jon Reid and Wyatt Puscas campaign, they do not reasonably have control over her as an individual or over her actions. Further no evidence has been brought forward showing that Gabriela Font sent this email at the direction of Jon Reid, Wyatt Puscas, or any of their campaign staffers. ***Therefore, we find that the Jon Reid and Wyatt Puscas campaign are not responsible for any of the potential violations alleged, and therefore are found NOT GUILTY of violating any section of the election code, as Gabriela Font acted as a non-candidate individual of her own volition.***

Regarding the potential violation of 18.08.03(b) of bribing voters, which counts as an egregious violation. 18.08.03(b) of the election code states;

(b) Bribery. No candidate may promise or offer compensation, monetary or otherwise, in exchange for vote(s). Campaign pledges shall not constitute violations of this rule. The distribution of campaign material to voters shall not constitute a violation of this rule.

There is cause to argue that since this email was in relation to an organization receiving its allocated funding, that the position of Treasurer needs to officially transfer funds allocated through SOAS to organizations, and that the Treasurer can refuse to give an organization funding that they were promised if they believe the organization was seeking that funding for a purpose other than why BAC allocated them funding, that this email could be perceived as a bribe to receive the votes from an organization awaiting funding.

However, because of the implied “quid pro quo” nature of the email; it can reasonably be inferred that by reminding PSA that Wyatt Puscas had voted to fund their organization, Gabriela Font implied that future funding could be affected by how PSA voted. While not overt bribery, quid pro quo is unethical and considered a form of bribery.

Therefore we find Gabriela Font GUILTY of attempting to bribe a voter by potentially implying quid-pro quo.

Regarding the potential violation of 18.07.00 of campaigning during the voting period, which counts as a major violation under 18.08.02 (b). We already established that Gabriela Font was acting as a non-candidate individual who is not associated with a campaign. Non-candidates, so long as they are not being directed to campaign by a candidate or an individual associated with a campaign, are allowed to campaign during the voting period. No evidence has been submitted thus far indicating that either Jon Reid, Wyatt Puscas, or any of their campaign staffers directed Gabriela Font to send this email. ***Therefore Gabriela Font is found NOT GUILTY of violating the ban on candidates campaigning during the voting period.***

Regarding the potential violation of 18.06.01 with regards to use of name in advertising, which counts as a major violation under 18.08.02(d)) with regards to deception in advertising. Section 18.06.01 states;

18.06.01 **Use of name in advertising.** Any individual in the election who uses the name of any student organization in advertising must secure and retain permission from the appropriate governing board and membership of the organization. Written permission signed by an appropriate official of the organization must be filed with the LSA SG Election Director. Under no circumstances may any individual running for a seat in the LSA SG election use the name of any CSG political party in advertising.

In the email sent, Gabriela Font uses the acronym for the Budget Allocations Committee (BAC) in advertising that this organization should vote for Jon Reid and Wyatt Puscas. Specifically she writes, “Wyatt Puscas, who is in BAC voted to fund your org is running for VP”.

There are two ways to interpret this use of “BAC” with regards to whether or not it violated this clause. One is that Gabriela Font is not implying that Wyatt Puscas or the Jon Reid and Wyatt Puscas ticket are endorsed by BAC, but rather by just stating the fact that Wyatt Puscas is a member of BAC which is a committee in the government and not its own student organization. The other is that the use of the name and stating Wyatt Puscas is a member of BAC does constitute an implicit endorsement as it associates BAC with Wyatt in campaign material advocating for voting for him that is not in the context of a platform point.

Since 18.06.01 refers to the use of names of “student organizations”, and BAC is not a separate student organization but rather a committee of LSA Student Government, and all that Gabriela Font is stating is that Wyatt Puscas is a member of a committee of LSA Student Government, this bylaw clause does not apply. ***Therefore we find Gabriela Font NOT GUILTY of misusing a name in advertising implying an endorsement.***

Regarding the potential violation of 18.06.09 with regards to misuse of email privileges, which per 18.08.01-03 may constitute a minor, major, or egregious violation depending on if it was with regards to 1-100, 101-400, or 400+ email addresses.

18.06.09 states;

18.06.09 Proper Use of Email Privileges. A candidate can only send emails to email groups that are owned by the candidate as defined by “mcommunity.umich.edu.” and are created expressly for campaign purposes, during the current election cycle. The email group name must clearly indicate that it is a campaign related email group. Candidates and campaign volunteers are prohibited from harvesting student email addresses for campaign purposes.

With “harvesting” being defined in 18.00.02(n) as;

(n) Harvesting: The gathering of emails for campaign purposes that were not gathered during the campaign period, or were repurposed from other email group lists. Violations shall be based on the number of email recipients and expressed in the Minor, Major, and Egregious Violations sections.

All of the emails in question that were sent by Gabriela Font were sent to individual email addresses, and therefore do not constitute sending to an email group.

However, these individual email addresses were repurposed by Gabriela Font from her role as Treasurer of LSA Student Government - specifically from receiving receipts from organizations for the funding previously allocated to them by LSA Student Government. This blatantly fits the definition of harvesting.

Therefore we find Gabriela Font GUILTY of violating 18.06.09 with regards to misuse of email privileges for harvesting emails from her official position in LSA Student Government for campaigning purposes.

Assessment and Judgement of Violations

The number of emails that have been confirmed to have been harvested that this time, although numerous, is under 100. Therefore this counts as a minor violation per 18.08.01(f).

With regards to the judgement of being found guilty of attempting to bribe voters, although an implication of quid-pro quo is a form of bribery, it is extremely different than overt bribery. Further there are many reasonable arguments that could be made that Gabriela Font was not intending to imply a quid-pro quo bribe as part of her email. Furthermore, 18.08.03(b) uses the term “candidate” which Gabriela Font is not. We still do consider this a violation of the election code, and this use of the term “candidate” as merely an incredibly awful flaw in the line. However, the fact that it uses the term “candidate” and not “individual” makes assessing this violation as egregious difficult, as we believe it matches the definition of an “extenuating circumstance”. Per 18.08.06;

18.08.06. Extenuating Circumstances. If an offense is listed under a specific category for Section 18.08.01-03, the Election Director may treat a violation as one that is from a less severe category if there are other circumstances that cause them to believe it should be punished less harshly. The Election Director may not, however, treat a violation from a less serious category as one from a more serious category.

In order to deal with concerns regarding the technicality that the bribery clause refers to “candidate” and not “individual”, and our duty under 18.08.05 to rule leniently, we are considering this action a minor violation, as although it is still unethical behavior and in our opinion constitutes a violation, it does not rise to the level of bribery directly specified in 18.08.03(b).

Final Decision

As of this writing, we have found Gabriela Font guilty of breaking two sections of the election code, for both of which constituted minor violations. We additionally would like to emphasize that we find it extremely distasteful that a current executive board member would use BAC receipts to campaign for their preferred candidates. Had Gabriela Font been a candidate, her actions would have resulted in two demerits.

However, Gabriela Font is not a candidate. Per 18.08.08 the violations that Nick and I may issue for a non-candidate are as follows;

18.08.08 Penalties for Non-candidates. Any violator of this election code who is not a candidate shall be subject to a fine of up to \$250, possible disqualification from holding a future office in LSA SG or receiving an appointment from LSA SG, as determined by the Election Director or the CSJ. The necessity for a fine shall be determined by CSJ.

Therefore we ban Gabriela Font from holding any future LSA SG position or receiving any future appointment from LSA SG for one calendar year. In order to determine the specific time frame, we relied on the following guideline: One demerit would result in a one semester ban, two demerits would result in a calendar year ban, three demerits would result in a two year ban, and four demerits would result in a lifetime ban. While this is not codified, we recommend this scale be added to the bylaws as we feel it accurately reflects the severity of the assorted amounts of demerits. Furthermore, this scale reflects previous judgements made during this election cycle regarding non-candidates.

Additionally, while she is not a candidate, Gabriela Font is the current Treasurer of LSA SG whose term ends in less than a week, and is a second semester senior who graduates in a month. Because of this, clearly the one calendar year ban we are imposing from all LSA SG positions is incredibly impractical to adequately punish these offenses, unless Gabriela Font seeks another degree from the College of LSA.

An argument could be made that because this ban on holding future position in LSA SG is impractical that we should order her removed from her current position. However, we as Election Directors do not have the ability to remove individuals from their currently held positions in LSA Student Government - as that is outside the purview of our roles to manage and enforce the election code, and power not granted to us anywhere in the Bylaws. We only have the power to issue demerits, disqualify individuals from running in both current and future LSA SG elections, and/or banning individuals from holding any future position or appointment in or from LSA SG. Although 18.08.08 also references issuing a fine, the collection of said fine would be unenforceable due to no enforcement mechanism currently in place.

Due to these extremely unusual circumstances, and our inability under the Election Code to adequately punish these offenses, we have attached the two different mechanisms for removing an executive officer below for the Executive Board's convenience.

We recognize that these too may be impractical due to requiring at least a week's notice prior to specific votes of the voting membership, however they are the only options currently available to remove a member from the Executive Board. These may not be your only options for addressing this situation should you all endeavor to address this situation further, but the ones we could find directly embedded in the Bylaws.

While we cannot and are not recommending any additional specific punishment outside of our purview, we feel that the circumstances around Gabriela Font's campaign violations are extraordinary and wish to provide the Executive Board with potential options to pursue further punishment.

4.02.02 Government Officer Nominations. The President shall nominate all persons to fill the positions of Treasurer, Counsel, Academic Relations Officer, External Relations Officer, Student Life Relations Officer, and Secretary. The Treasurer, Counsel, Academic Relations Officer, External Relations Officer, and Secretary nominations shall each be approved individually by a simple majority (1/2) vote, excluding general consent, at the first General Meeting chaired by the newly elected President. Prior to being approved, the Government shall have the opportunity to ask up to five questions to each nominee. The Treasurer, Counsel, Academic Relations Officer, External Relations Officer, Student Life Relations Officer, and Secretary may be recalled by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Government provided that at least one week's notice of a recall vote is given.

5.03.01 Formal Consideration for Removal of Office. Any person in an elected or appointed position may be removed from office due to inappropriate actions that jeopardize governmental affairs. After a motion has been made, in which the nature of the accusation has been precisely stated, the Government may by two-thirds vote to conduct a trial to consider the formal removal of an elected or appointed member of the Government. This trial will take place one week following the motion for formal consideration for removal of office to give all parties time to prepare for discussion. During the week of consideration, the elected or appointed member is suspended from any actions related to his or her involvement in LSA SG. The trial shall be chaired by the President to maintain order. The member may be removed with a two-thirds vote of the Government. The Government shall consider each case individually. No accused party shall have the ability to participate in the trial of another individual accused of related offenses. The accused member may appeal his or her case within a week of the decision to the Steering Committee. In the case of an appeal, the Appointments Committee may not make any recommendations to replace the member. To be reinstated back into his or her office, a two-thirds vote by the Government in favor of reinstatement is required.

Remark About Incoming Information

It is worth noting that this version of this judgement was compiled at 2:30 am on March 28, 2019. If additional information is brought to our attention that may change this verdict, namely if evidence that could increase the penalties applied to one or more of the potential parties mentioned earlier, we reserve the ability to revisit this judgement and amend both it and the punishments prescribed as necessary.

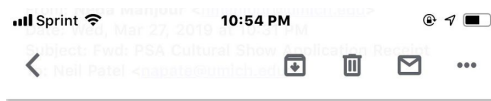
Summary

Of the maximum ten(10) demerits that we could have prescribed to the Jon Reid and Wyatt Puscas campaign, or the various punishments we could have prescribed to Gabriela Font for violating the election code as a non-candidate, below are the total demerits and/or punishments prescribed.

Total Demerits/Punishments Prescribed:

- Jon Reid and Wyatt Puscas campaign: 0 demerits
- Gabriela Font: May not hold any future office in LSA SG or receive any future appointment from LSA SG for the next one (1) calendar year.

Appendix: Example Email Sent



----- Forwarded message -----
From: Gabriela Font <gabyfont@umich.edu>
Date: Wed, Mar 27, 2019 at 5:18 PM
Subject: Re: PSA Cultural Show Application Receipt

Hello,

Hope all is well! Just wondering if you could share with your student org members in the College of LSA that LSA Student Gov't is holding elections from now until tomorrow (Thurs Marc 28) at midnight. Wyatt Puscas who is in BAC voted to fund your org is running for VP.

Thus, was wondering if your members can go to vote.umich.edu and please vote in w2019 Isa student govt elections for my friends Jon Reid and Wyatt Puscas, who voted to fund your org.

Best,
Gabriela Font

On Mar 10, 2019, at 1:36 PM, Gabriela Font <gabyfont@umich.edu> wrote:

Thanks for sending me this. Please use this email as confirmation that I have made the transfer request with SOAS

Constitutional Amendment Issue

During the LSA SG general meeting on Wednesday March 20th, one week before the first day of voting, the assembly approved adding a constitutional amendment to the ballot. This amendment was intended to clarify that LSA SG only represents the undergraduate students in the College of LSA, amend the apportionment of representatives to match solely the number of undergraduate students in the College of LSA, and make edits related to this.

There was a disagreement regarding if this was eligible to put on the ballot since it was passed only one week before the elections rather than two. There were two different readings of the Bylaws related to this. We decided initially to put it on the ballot, as the delay in it passing had no real tangible harm applied to the election or its integrity in our eyes (as the rest of the ballot was only approved by the CSG advisor the previous day).

However, less than six (6) hours before polls opened, a complaint was sent to us stating that this question being on the ballot was against the Bylaws. Amongst other statements, the complainant threatened implicitly to take LSA SG to the Central Student Judiciary to adjudicate this matter. Due to CSJ's past of unpredictability and preference for tossing out the results of entire elections, with the advice and consent of the Executive Board, we decided to take the question off the ballot. However, due to it being less than three (3) hours before the polls opened by this point, we were unable to remove the question due to coding of vote.umich.edu.

Therefore, LSA SG president Nathan Wilson sent out an email to the membership of LSA SG and the complainant informing them that although the question was still on the ballot, due to this concern, the result would not be recognized - as if the question had not been asked.

Results and Certification

At 12:02 am on Friday, March 29th 2019 we sent out the unofficial results of the election. The text of the email we sent is below. We sent the results of the executive race and representative races to both the Executive Board and the candidates, but only sent the ballot question results to the Executive Board.

Dear candidates,

Below are the unofficial results for all races - including the executive ticket race and the race for thirteen (13) elected representative seats. These results are pending certification and demerits have not been counted towards the results. However, regarding demerits, at this time no candidate or ticket has received the four (4) or more necessary to be disqualified from the race.

The results of the ballot questions shall be separately sent to the LSA SG executive board.

Regarding the executive ticket race, the top weighted vote getter not including "exception ballots" is the ticket which has won the race.

Regarding the elected representative race, the thirteen (13) candidates who received the most weighted votes not including "exception ballots" are those that have won a seat as an LSA SG elected representative. Any candidates ranked fourteenth (14th) or lower have failed to secure a seat in this election.

Per 18.04.06 certification of these results would normally be done with the LSA SG Counsel. However, since there

is a conflict of interest, it shall be conducted instead with the LSA SG President Nathan Wilson per 18.04.06 (a).

Per 18.04.07, if any of you wish to challenge the results of these elections with the Central Student Judiciary (CSJ), you must notify myself and Nick within the next twelve (12) hours - or by 12:02 pm EDT this afternoon. Should you intend to challenge these results, after sending your intent to challenge to Nick and I, you will need to file the suit with CSJ within one (1) week.

Should no candidate notify Nick and I that they seek to challenge the results of the election by 12:02 pm, Nick and I, alongside President Nathan Wilson, will reach a consensus on certifying the results of the elections. Once certified, the results are official and final, and not subject to appeal.

For your convenience, we have included 18.04.04-18.04.07 below which relate to the vote tabulation and certification process.

Congratulations to everyone on the hard work they put into the elections.

At 12:02 pm on March 29th 2019, having received no notifications from any of the candidates about any intention to challenge the results of the election in CSJ, and due to none of the races having any discrepancies between who received enough votes to win under “weighted vote totals” and “weighted votes with exception ballots” we, along with LSA SG President Nathan Wilson, certified the results and informed the candidates.

We sent the results for the executive and representative races to *The Michigan Daily* at their request. They then requested the results of the ballot questions. At the request of the Executive Board we referred their inquiry to the Executive Board.

Note about Voter Turnout

Voter turnout in this LSA SG election was a little over 1400 voters, or approximately 7.5% of all undergraduate and graduate students in the College of LSA. Although this number is less than or similar to the raw turnout rate in most years for winter elections, the Central Student Government elections this semester had particularly horrendous advertising and turnout. Therefore, whereas LSA SG elections usually receive many of their votes from the CSG race, this year’s turnout was likely almost entirely generated by LSA SG and its candidates itself - with minimal influence from the CSG election. With this in mind it is actually incredibly good!

Official Results

Winter 2019 LSA Student Government Elections

Number of Voters: 1415

President and Vice President - 1 seat(s)

#	Candidate	Weighted	Votes	Exceptions	Weighted Total Including Exceptions
1	Brian Wang & Mary McKillop	523	523	9	532
2	Jon Reid & Wyatt Puccas	368	368	15	383
3	Nick Bonde & Kevan Casson	239	239	5	244
4	Reggie Bee (write-in)	8	8	0	8
5	Selena bazzi (write-in)	1	1	0	1
6	Kathryn Mccaughey (write-in)	1	1	0	1
7	Maxwell Scroggs (write-in)	1	1	0	1
8	Anthony Bui & Samuel Rosenblum (write-in)	1	1	0	1
9	Sarah Rocap, Erin O'Neil, Erin Haley (write-in)	1	1	0	1
10	Shub (write-in)	1	1	0	1
11	Benjamin Jozwiak (write-in)	1	1	0	1
12	David Kamper (write-in)	1	1	0	1
13	Abhay Vora & Sashankh Parthasarathy(write-in)	1	1	0	1
14	Sashankh Parthasarathy & Abhay Vora(write-in)	1	1	1	2
15	Shub Argha (write-in)	1	1	0	1
16	Mo Salah (write-in)	1	1	0	1
17	n/a (write-in)	1	1	0	1
18	Abhay (write-in)	1	1	0	1

Elected Representative - 13 seat(s)

#	Candidate	Weighted	Votes	Exceptions	Weighted Total Including Exceptions
1	Sai Pamidighantam	3240	339	3	3277
2	Nicolas Pereira	3168	365	2	3184
3	Alli Goodsell	3027	335	2	3049
4	Kathryn Mccaughey	2785	315	2	2811
5	Sam Burnstein	2694	305	2	2702
6	Divya Manikandan	2699	314	3	2716
7	Jacob Cohen	2661	318	2	2674
8	Chayton Fivecoat	2488	304	3	2518
9	Rochelle Sims	2465	303	1	2471
10	Josephine Fonger	2409	286	0	2409
11	Tyler Watt	2171	281	2	2191
12	John Paul O'Neill	2099	270	1	2101
13	Tyler Ziel	2026	266	2	2047
14	Sulayman Qazi	1928	244	1	1939
15	Chase Powers	1697	228	1	1710
16	Brian Alcenius	1661	230	2	1681
17	Nicole Diaz	1327	179	1	1340
18	Reggie Bee (write-in)	66	6	0	66
19	Walter Aguilar (write-in)	25	2	0	25
20	Cyril Corder (write-in)	23	2	0	23
21	Aliyah Borntrager (write-in)	22	2	0	22
22	Destiny Mason (write-in)	21	2	0	21

The current Pass/Fail and Add/Drop deadlines are three weeks into the semester. Given the difficulty of adding courses later into the semester, the Add deadline must remain fixed at three weeks. However, do you feel that a later Pass/Fail and Drop deadline would be conducive to making a more informed decision on whether to drop a course or elect to take a course Pass/Fail?

Answer	Votes	Exceptions	Total including Exceptions
Yes, both the Pass/Fail and Drop deadlines should be later in the semester	756	11	767
Yes, the Pass/Fail deadline should be later, but the Drop deadline should remain the same	298	6	304
Yes, the Drop deadline should be later, but the Pass/Fail deadline should remain the same	90	2	92
No, both deadlines should remain at three weeks into the semester	64	0	64

How would you prioritize the university transitioning to 100% renewable energy, knowing this would potentially come at either a direct (e.g. tuition surcharge) or indirect (e.g. fewer building renovations) cost?

Answer	Votes	Exceptions	Total including Exceptions
Highly	555	11	576
Moderately	393	4	397
Slightly	179	2	181
Not at all	111	2	113

Do you think there is a shortage of accessible, on-campus microwaves?

Answer	Votes	Exceptions	Total including Exceptions
Yes, there is a shortage of microwaves	662	10	672
I do not use a microwave on campus and would not if more were accessible	294	6	300
No, I've had no issues	253	3	256

LSA Student Government is tasked with representing the student body of LSA. However, all LSA graduate students are represented through Rackham Student Government, per the Rackham Student Government Bylaws. LSA Student Government has traditionally served the undergraduate students of the College and has left matters pertaining to graduate students to Rackham Student Government. The amendments proposed by LSA Student Government would address this situation by clarifying the aim of LSA Student Government as serving the undergraduates in the college. To maintain the Government's current level of representation, the ratio of students to representatives would also need to be adjusted from 750 to 1 to 650 to 1. Should LSA Student Government amend its constitution to clarify its focus on exclusively addressing the needs of undergraduate students in the College of LSA with a proportional adjustment to its representation ratio? Changes are reflected in the additional information section of this question, with additions represented by text **bolded** and italicized, and omissions are represented by text that is **red and struck through**.

Answer	Votes	Exceptions	Total including Exceptions
Yes, LSA Student Government should amend its constitution in this manner	854	12	867
No, LSA Student Government should not amend its constitution in this manner	129	2	131

Elected Representative Information Sheet

The following information sheet was sent out to all individuals elected to representative positions in LSA Student Government.

	ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE
RESPONSIBILITIES	<p>Must attend...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● General Meetings every Wednesday (1427 Mason Hall 8:00 p.m.) ● ONE HOUR per week in the <i>Student Government Office (G325 Mason Hall)</i> open 10 a.m to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday. ● ONE committee meeting (G325 Mason Hall), of your choice, per week. ● Appointments Candidate Selection Meeting, which only occurs ONCE a semester
LSA SG COMMITTEES	<p>Non-Block Committees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Budget Allocations Committee (BAC)* ● Internal Review Committee (IRC)☒ <p>External Relations Committee Block</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Communications Committee (COMM)☒ ● Appointments Committee (Appointments)* <p>Academic Affairs Committee Block</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Subcommittee on Technology, Advising, and Academic Resources (STAAR) ● Committee Advocating for Transfer Students (CATS) ● Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) ☒ <p>Student Life Committee Block</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Taking Responsibility for the Earth and Environment Subcommittee (TREES) ● Health Subcommittee (Health) ● Diversity Affairs Committee (DAC) ● Student Life Committee (SLC)☒ <p>*Either need to be an elected representative, or otherwise appointed or elected to serve on these committees All other committees are open to any LSA student to join ☒ These committees are chaired by a member of the LSA SG Executive Board. All other committee chair and vice chair positions are elected each semester and open for any LSA student to run for (with the exception of Appointments Chair, Appointments Vice Chair, BAC Chair, and BAC Vice Chair).</p>
GOVERNMENTAL RIGHTS	One is allowed speaking and voting rights during General Meetings.
ABSENCES ALLOWED PER SEMESTER	4 Unexcused Absences
TERM-LENGTH	2 Semesters <i>For example, Fall 2018 to Fall 2019 OR Winter 2019 to Winter 2020.</i>
PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE	LSA SG General Meetings: Simplified Parliamentary Procedure is used. Most points/motions/actions you can take are listed on the back of your placard. Other rules are either in the LSA SG Bylaws or in Roberts Rules of Order. You can ask the LSA SG Counsel for assistance learning Parliamentary Procedure.

	<p>Committee Meetings: Almost never run with Parliamentary Procedure. Casual working atmosphere.</p> <p>For any and all LSA SG Parliamentary Procedure Questions please consult the LSA SG Counsel</p>
FINANCES	<p>Committee Projects: Talk with the respective committee chair. Every committee is allocated a budget at the beginning of the semester. Expenses are either financed via reimbursement (you spend money then submit receipts to the LSA SG Treasurer to get a reimbursement check) or via shortcode (you submit a code and money is taken directly from LSA SG's accounts).</p> <p>Student Org Funding: The Budget Allocations Committee handles all LSA SG funding of student organizations.</p> <p>Personal Student Govt. Projects: You can get funding for either projects which are too expensive for any one committee - such as purchasing a light therapy lamp for the UGLI or holding a Mental Health Week - or which are outside the scope of any one committee by passing a resolution through the LSA SG General Body. You should discuss this with both the LSA SG Treasurer and Counsel in advance for assistance.</p> <p>For any and all LSA SG Finance Questions please consult the LSA SG Treasurer</p>

Previous Successful LSA SG Projects

- Renamed C.C. Little Building
- Amended University Academic Calendar
- Creation of Minors such as Religion, Sociology of Health and Medicine, and Entrepreneurship
- Flu Shot Clinic
- Race & Ethnicity Forum: Tackling Issues with the R&E Requirement
- Alumni Connection Events
- SAPAC Syllabus Language

Timesheet

Task	Nicholas Fadanelli	Nicholas Martire
Candidates Packet, Schedule, Declaration form, Financial Disclosure Form, Endorsement Affidavit Form, Platform Submission form, other relevant documents and forms, and other pre-campaign preparation	5	2
Pitching Candidates Forum to General	0.5	0.5
Emailing Departments to help advertise applying to run in the elections	2.5	0
Emailing Folks to encourage to run or confirming candidacy	2	1
Preparing Candidates Meeting Materials	1	1
Candidates Meeting	1	1
Joint SG Election Advertising	0.5	0
Confirming No Candidate is Running in CSG	0.5	0
Scheduling a MakeUp Candidates Meeting	2	0
Makeup Candidates Meeting	1	1
Addressing Election Complaints/Violations	15	11
Setting up Executive Debate (getting org to host, getting room, etc)	3	1

Setting up Candidates Forum	0.5	0.5
Setting up Vote.Umich.Edu	1	0.5
Advertising for Voting in the Elections	1	1
Advertising the Polling Stations	1	1
Advertising the Executive Debate	1	1
Advertising the Candidates Forum	1	1
Reserving Laptops and Ordering Bagels for Polling Stations	1	1
Setting up the Polling Stations	2	1
Getting list of eligible voters from the Registrar	0.25	0.25
Working with Housing to allow candidates to campaign in the residence halls	3	0.5
DC Email Blurb for Candidates Forum and Executive Ticket Debate	0.5	0
Writing out interpretation of advertisements from voting period into campaign period	1	0.1
Emailing candidates about demerits for missing meetings	0.5	0
Writing the Election Director's Report	5	3
Total	52.75 hours	29.35 hours
Combined Total	82.1 hours	

Recommendations

Election Director Procedures:

- We recommend that LSA SG should always hire two election directors, one being a deputy director, for each election. We feel that when done correctly, running the LSA SG elections is a two person job and one election director would be hard-pressed to effectively conduct an election solo.
- We recommend LSA SG hire their election directors earlier, ideally within the first month of the semester, as this will give the directors time to coordinate with other student governments, departmental offices, *The Michigan Daily*, administrative offices, and other entities necessary to conduct a successful election. We believe that this extra time is essential in ensuring all parties necessary to conduct an election have adequate time to prepare.
- We recommend that immediately after being hired, the LSA SG election directors should review the bylaws and notify the LSA SG Counsel of any potential problems they find with the election code. We then strongly recommend that the Counsel and any other interested parties write a resolution to fix these problems before the election, should changes be necessary.
- We recommend that LSA SG election directors reach out to Housing to set up procedures for campaigning in the residence halls, LSA Advancement to try and coordinate

advertising on LSA and UM social media accounts, the CSG advisor and election directors for joint government election advertising, the Registrar to get the list of eligible voters, and LSA ISS for setting up a second polling station as soon as they are hired. These should all be done ideally before the candidate filing deadline.

Election Code Issues and Potential Solutions

1. The ban on campaigning during the voting period, established in 18.07.00 **Termination of Campaign period** should be revisited and we recommend amending to allow campaigning during the voting period. We believe the ban on campaigning during the voting period is unnecessary, does not compromise the integrity of the election, dilutes voter turnout, and is extremely difficult to enforce without screenshot evidence it has occurred. Further, what constitutes as campaigning, what materials can remain up and what need to be taken down, and candidate responsibility for the actions of non-candidates campaigning on their behalf during this period is not well articulated and therefore could cause issues from semester to semester with Election Directors interpreting the rules differently.
 - a. However, if the government chooses to continue to ban campaigning during the voting period, we strongly recommend that the government codify what exactly constitutes campaigning, because as currently written this is entirely up to the discretion of the election directors and may change from semester to semester. For example, a coherent policy about Facebook events must be codified in the bylaws if campaigning during the voting period is still banned.
2. The rules regarding campaign finances, 18.06.10, should be revisited. One big issue is that it is nearly impossible to enforce the ban on donors, as many individuals minimally will receive donations from their parents for their campaigns. Further, the spending limit is incredibly low at only \$50 per representative candidate and \$250 per executive ticket. Without parties to allow for the combination of these spending limits it means that each representative candidate is able to maybe print a few flyers and have a few sponsored facebook ads at most. Further although 18.06.10 allows Election Directors to require candidates to report their expenses, no clear mechanisms are provided which will lead to inconsistency from semester to semester. Therefore we recommend:
 - a. Allowing donations, but with a specific cap per donor, an overall donation cap, requiring all donors to be students, all donors to sign a form specifying the amount they donate, and each campaign being required to report and submit all of this.
 - b. Raising the spending limit of representative campaigns to \$100 and executive tickets to \$500. Should LSA SG ever introduce parties this may need to be brought back down, but without needs to be raised.
 - c. Specify rules regarding the reporting of finances, the formation of a standardized Financial Disclosure form, whether this data should be made available to others besides the election directors and if so whom and when, and a requirement for all receipts to be submitted as well.

3. The rules regarding penalties for election code violations for non-candidates, 18.08.08, should be revisited. This election cycle, there were significant election code violations by multiple non-candidates, which has exposed flaws in the current system. The current bylaws provide the election directors with two potential options when violations of this nature occur. Option one is a fine of up to \$250, and option two is a ban from all future LSA SG positions. As there were no specifications regarding how to issue out these punishments, we decided to punish violations using the following scale: violations worth one demerit received a one semester ban from LSA SG, violations worth two demerits received a one year calendar ban from LSA SG, violations worth three demerits received a two year ban from LSA SG, and violations worth four or more demerits resulted in a lifetime ban from all future LSA SG positions. We recommend that this scale be codified in the bylaws, as it correlates with the punishment scale already codified in the bylaws regarding candidate election code violations.

We decided that issuing a fine was problematic for multiple reasons; a fine is almost impossible to collect, not all students are able to pay such a fine, and we believe the punishment should fit the crime - meaning that violations of the LSA SG elections code should result in a punishment impacting an individual's future involvement in LSA SG, not their overall financial security. We believe the ability to fine individuals should be revisited and discussed by the government in order to determine if this is still a worthwhile punitive measure. Further, the Election Code currently requires CSJ approval and involvement in order to issue a fine. If LSA SG wants to attempt to still fine violators, it should eliminate this requirement for a fine.

In addition to codifying the non-candidate election code violation scale, we recommend the implementation of an process for commuting or lessening the punishments granted to non-candidates punished for election code violations (hereafter referred to as an "appeals process" though not to be confused with the appeals process for guilt which is CSJ). In our view, when issuing the initial punishment, intent should not be taken into account, rather just the impact the violation had on the integrity of the election. For example, even if accidental, committing an "egregious violation", as defined in the bylaws, should result in an immediate lifetime ban for a non-candidate. We elaborate on our reasoning for removing intent from the election directors' purview when we discuss clause 18.08.05 later in this document.

However, this is where we believe an appeals process would be beneficial for all parties involved. We believe all appeals should be to the executive board, however, if at least one third of the executive board is either running in the election in question or obviously biased and would have to recuse themselves, we believe an appeal should take place before the steering committee, with biased members required to recuse themselves from the appeal. In the appeal, first the punishment for the non-candidate in question should be read aloud so all on the appeals committee are aware of the punishment. Then, the non-candidate in question should be allowed to state their case for why their punishment

should be reduced. After the non-candidate has stated their case, the appeals committee (exec or steering) should be able to question the non-candidate in question so they can amass all the information they need to make a decision. After the non-candidate has been questioned, we believe the election director should then state their recommendation for the punishment of the non-candidate in question. The appeals committee should then be able to question the election directors about their logic and reasoning. After questioning has commenced, the non-candidate and election directors should leave the room (if they have not done so already) so the appeals committee can deliberate and come to a conclusion. We believe the appeals committee should have the power to reduce bans of a semester, calendar year, or two calendar years to a minimum of zero time, and we believe the appeals committee should have the power to reduce lifetime bans to a minimum of one semester. All decisions made by the appeals committee (exec or steering) should be final pending CSJ review.

We came to this conclusion about the appeals committee sentence reduction powers for two reasons. We believe that there may be extenuating circumstances surrounding bans of up to two years that would merit a LAS SG participation ban reduction to zero semesters, and additionally because an actual candidate isn't banned from an election until they accrue at least four demerits, we think that this possibility should at least be available for a non-candidate if the appeals committee deems the circumstances warrant it. However, regardless of a non-candidate's intent, we think that any violation committed by a non-candidate resulting in four or more demerits warrants some type of punishment because violations of this nature have the potential to significantly sway an election. This is why we think that while the appeals committee should have the power to reduce a lifetime ban to a minimum of one semester, they should not have the power to completely exonerate a non-candidate who has received a lifetime ban. We also believe that this standard is consistent with the election bylaws regarding punishments for candidates.

Additionally, we believe that any appeals process implemented by LSA SG should be retroactive - that is, we believe all non-candidates who have been punished under clause 18.08.08 should have the ability to appeal their sentence, regardless of if they were punished before an appeals process existed. We think that an appeals process should have already existed, and that it would be unfair to the non-candidates punished during this election to not have the ability to appeal their sentences.

In our view clause 18.08.08 clearly needs revision, and we believe that if implemented, the changes listed above will ensure that there is a clear punishment scale and appeals process for all affected non-candidates.

4. In addition to instituting an appeals process for non-candidate violations in clause 18.08.08, we recommend that an appeals process be implemented for candidate violations as well. We believe that this appeals process should take the same form as the one described for 18.08.08, and we believe this is necessary because it removes discerning intent from the election directors' judgement and implements a buffer between LSA SG

election code violation punitive decisions and CSJ, which has been known to issue strange and problematic rulings. As we will discuss in our critique of clause 18.08.05, we believe that the election director should not consider intent to ensure election violation punishment consistency and also because we believe that actions, while they may not have been intentional, can still greatly impact an election. We think that factoring in something as unquantifiable as intent should be the job of an appeals board should a candidate or non-candidate choose to appeal their punishment.

5. Codifying that during the Winter Elections, should there be a contested race for LSA SG President and Vice President, that there be an **Executive Ticket Debate**. The format for this debate should either be codified, or a process for approval similar to that for the format of the candidates forum should be established.
6. Specifying if candidates are allowed to announce they are running in the elections before the campaign period. This has been something there have been questions about for years, as CSG candidates always are able to announce before their campaign period so long as they do not campaign, but it is unclear whether LSA SG candidates may. This leads to the possibility that some Election Directors may view it as campaigning outside of the campaign period, whereas others may allow so long as they do not start telling people to vote for them or violate some other set standard.
7. Amending 18.05.04 to make it explicitly clear that all binding ballot questions and constitutional amendments need to be approved by the voting membership of LSA SG at least two (2) weeks prior to the election dates. Beyond the confusion regarding when constitutional amendments need to be passed that occurred this semester that caused the question to be asked to students but not considered, from a practical sense due to the mechanics of vote.umich.edu it makes sense to require passing the questions at least two weeks in advance. Vote.umich.edu needs to be set into a “frozen preview” mode starting at least 4-5 days before the elections. Therefore if a constitutional amendment is passed 7 days before the opening of polls, that gives the election director only two days to attempt to add the question to the ballot. Should there be an issue with the question, such as it being too long, then there would be no time to fix the issue before the start of the frozen preview period.
8. Having the election directors review questions before being added to the ballot to ensure that the question is not biased. Although not a problem this semester, in years past student government has put questions on the ballot that were written in a way to be biased towards a particular response. Although this may be good for advancing a particular project, it makes the data less meaningful, and further many administrators may notice that the question was biased and therefore when presented with the data not take it as seriously as they would a less biased question. If all ballot questions are required to be submitted at least two (2) weeks in advance then you could have the election director be required to inform LSA SG if they need to make any edits within that time, and allow the Executive Board approve any edits necessary to allow the question to be added to the

ballot. This is something that the Central Student Government currently has in their Compiled Code, requiring CSJ to approve all questions before they are added to the ballot.

9. Requiring that all ballot questions be less than 2,000 characters (including spaces) and any additional information to be added on vote.umich.edu be less than 4,000 characters. These are the technical requirements of vote.umich.edu, and any question that is longer than 2,000 characters will not fit on the ballot. Questions ideally should be shorter than that to make it easier for voters, but any longer and it physically cannot be added to the ballot.
10. Defining non-candidate campaign staffers and establishing specific rules around them. Currently the election code is vague about them, and this causes many problems from the issuing of demerits to making sure anyone who needs to be informed of the rules of the election is properly informed.
 - a. One method LSA SG could take to solving this issue is to require campaigns to report all campaign staffers and grant some sort of benefit for reporting or punishment for not. (For example, if a non-reported individual is found campaigning at the direction of the candidate or a campaign staffer it is a major violation and receives three (3) demerits). And then establishing that all rules that apply to candidates also apply to campaign staffers and any demerits that would be assessed to campaign staffers are assessed to the “campaign”/candidates.
11. Addressing whether representative candidates can campaign on behalf of tickets for the Presidency and Vice Presidency of LSA SG. Currently due to the party line it appears that current representative candidates are incredibly limited in the campaigning they can do for executive tickets, and the rules surrounding this are incredibly vague. Establishing
 - a) whether they can be part of an executive ticket campaign staff, b) if so in what capacities, c) if any distinction between the executive ticket campaign and the individual representative campaign need to be made, and d) if demerits for an action committed related to both campaigns by the rep candidate would apply to just one or both campaigns and the rules for establishing that.
12. 18.08.05 **Interpreting procedures** is both incredibly vague and problematic. Although the sentiment of it - that LSA SG election directors should not be as harsh as possible for the sake of being harsh - is admirable, by just stating that they should “be lenient” it makes it unclear to what degree of proof or harm caused by a violation is needed to issue a demerit. Does “lenient” mean with regards to intent? To circumstance? To the amount of proof required? To whether or not harm was caused by a violation of the election code?
 - a. The burden of proof for issuing demerits or finding someone guilty of a violation should be established in legal terms. This is what CSJ will look at when or if looking at an appeal.
 - b. To what degree the intent of a violator should be considered when issuing

demerits should also be specified. We believe intent should not be considered when the election director makes their initial punitive decision; if a punishment is appealed we believe it is the purpose of an appeals board (if created) to determine if an individual's intent warrants a lesser punishment. We believe this will ensure that punitive measures are based on a consistent legal standard, pending a potential appeal committee's ruling.

- c. To what degree the amount of harm caused by the violation should be considered should be added.

13. 18.08.06 Extenuating Circumstances either needs to be amended or a separate clause written to allow the Election Directors the ability to either punish a violation as more serious than what it is classified as if it seriously damages the integrity of the elections AND allowing Election Directors the ability to issue demerits for unethical behavior which is not otherwise covered by a violation already defined in the Election Code. 18.08.05 requires election directors to be both lenient and seek to maintain the integrity of the elections, but are currently given tools primarily to be lenient and not to maintain the integrity of the elections in circumstances that no one could have predicted beforehand.

14. 18.06.09 Proper Use of Email Privileges describes both sending emails to listservs that candidates do not own and/or are not made for campaign purposes AND harvesting of emails from non-campaign related sources. Further violations of both of these subsections are lumped together when issues punishments.

- a. The number of emails harvested to count as a minor, major, and egregious violation should be lowered in comparison to those required on a listserv that an email was sent to without permission of its owners for what counts as a minor, major, or egregious violation. For example, 1-10 emails harvested should be a minor violation, 11-100 should be a major, and 100 + should be egregious. Whereas the number of members on a listserv that received a campaign email that was not previously authorized should be maintained at its current levels of 1-100, 101-399, and 400+ for minor, major, and egregious levels respectively.
- b. This clause should be clarified to allow for candidates to email the listservs of organization eboards, as currently it could theoretically be interpreted as a minor violation for each time a campaign contacts an eboard's listserv, which is not the purpose of this clause (which is to avoid people spamming organization member listservs) and decreases the ability of candidates to reach out to organizations with minimal current relationship with LSA SG.
- c. There needs to be a discussion whether sharing to organization groupmes, organization group chats, social media pages that are non-campaign related (such as "Class of Michigan 20__" pages) campaigning without the permission of admins of that facebook page or group should be considered a violation of the election code similar to emailing non-campaign listservs.

15. 18.08.02 (d) Deception in advertising needs to be amended to include a clause stating that

lying about factual matters in campaign advertising should be a violation.

16. A clause should be created regarding when any individual in the government, particularly executive board members and committee chairs, abuse their powers in LSA SG to commit campaign violations and/or unethical behavior that negatively impacts the integrity of the elections, that impeachment proceedings and/or formal consideration for removal from office (as defined in 4.02.02 and 5.03.01) should immediately be prompted without the normal one (1) week's notice.
17. 18.06.04 **Posting** should be reviewed, as there are many methods of adhering posting - such as command strips, puddy, etc that are banned for no apparent reason.
18. The second sentence in 18.06.02 **Openness of Campaigning** stating "No person may campaign and no campaign literature may be posted in any computing site." should be made its own clause as it is not connected with the notion of putting the name of who paid for advertisements on advertisements.
19. There is the ability to place a "short blurb" next to the name of each candidate on the ballot which is separate from posting their platform or writing a party affiliation. Listing individuals as "incumbents" here would be a good idea - as it would allow individuals to know who may have been part of past projects or votes that they either approve or disapprove of, and make votes accordingly. The decision whether appointed reps would be allowed to be called incumbents or solely elected reps seeking re-election would need to be made.
20. Per the LSA SG Constitution, Article III clause A the "apportionment [of representatives] shall be tabulated once each year - preceding the November Election". However, nowhere in the constitution or the Bylaws does it define who and at what time during the Fall semester that the apportionment of representatives occurs. We recommend making this a duty either of the Counsel or the Elections Director - and if a duty of the Counsel require it before hiring the Election Director and if a duty of the Election Director require it occur before they release the Candidates Packet. Further the number of representatives apportioned total and between the Fall and Winter semester elections should be required to be reported to the Executive Board and conveyed to the Winter election director in the case it is not the same individual as the fall election director.
21. Reviewing the numbering of the clauses of the election code - as Nick and I noticed some errors including the lack of a clause 18.06.06 (it jumps from 18.06.05 to 18.06.07).
22. The LSA SG Constitution Article III A sets both that the number of reps in LSA SG should be apportioned as well as that if there is an odd number of reps the extra seat should be elected in the winter.
 - a. This should be amended to have the extra seat elected in the fall and not the winter, as there have almost always been more candidates running in the fall elections rather than

the winter elections for representatives.

- b. There should be a strict number of reps rather than an apportionment based model. The apportionment based model creates a scenario where if the population of the College changes by merely 375 students that a seat may be created or eliminated, which could cause issues to the functioning of the government. Further it creates a lot of uncertainty, and also the problem mentioned in point 20.
- 23. 18.00.06 Parties and 18.00.02 (g) Party** which ban political parties in LSA SG and define what one is respectively should be reviewed to see if they are still consistent with the values of LSA SG, whether an amendment would make the elections more accessible to the student body, and whether 18.00.02(g) is so broad as to make any effort by members of the government or individuals campaigning together a violation.