

**B W2021.15**

**An Amendment to the Second Chapter of the Election Code Seeking to Make Attendance  
Non-Mandatory for the Candidates Meeting**

*A bill for the consideration of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government*

February 12, 2021

Sponsored by: [Jacob Walter Cohen](#), [Max Woodrow Stoneman](#)

**Whereas**, the mission of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government (hereafter LSA SG) is to “actively seek the voices of LSA students and advocate their interests to improve academic and non-academic life”;<sup>1</sup> and,

**Whereas**, LSA SG utilizes its Bylaws to structure and facilitate official business, and recognizes the need for amendments to the Bylaws to improve its function and reflect current practices; and,

**Whereas**, one of the goals of Judiciary Establishment and Election Code Amendment Task Force (commonly known as the JEECAT Force) is to simplify and increase the clarity of the Election Code and the election process; and,

**Whereas**, LSA SG utilizes its Bylaws to structure and facilitate official business, and recognizes the need for amendments to the Bylaws to improve its function; and,

**Whereas**, the JEECAT Force has come to think that violations stemming from not attending the candidates’ meeting, which is purely informative in nature, are overly punitive; and,

**Whereas**, the information from the candidates meeting is already disseminated to all candidates as a matter of common practice.

**Be it therefore resolved**, that the Election Code be amended as illustrated in Appendix A; and,

**Be it finally resolved**, that this amendment take effect immediately.

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<sup>1</sup> The Constitution of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government. Article II

## Appendix A

2.02.06 **Candidate Attendance.** Each candidate seeking a representative seat and each candidate seeking the Presidency and the Vice Presidency must attend at least one LSA SG General Meeting between the date of the filing deadline and the election. Absences shall be under the jurisdiction of the Election Director, and acceptable conflicts may include, but are not limited to, examinations, religious observances, and family obligations. Failure to attend a LSA SG General Meeting, ~~Candidates Meeting~~ or the Candidates Forum will be considered a minor violation and result in a candidate receiving one demerit. The Election Director shall record and monitor candidate attendance at the Government meetings.

### Elections Timeline

2.03.00 **Time of Elections.** The dates for the LSA SG elections shall be established by the Government at least six weeks in advance of the election dates and must correspond with the CSG elections.

2.03.01 **Declaration of Candidacy.** A candidate will declare their intent to run for office by filling out the Candidate Packet as described in Section 1.02.02. The window to declare candidacy shall be no shorter than 14 days. For a withdrawal of candidacy, please see Section 1.02.05.

2.03.02 **Filing Deadline.** The filing deadline for all candidates shall be set by LSA SG and shall be no less than 17 days before the election.

2.03.03 **Candidates Meeting.** The candidates for election shall hold a meeting within 48 hours after the filing deadline. At this time a review of the election procedures and an LSA SG Orientation shall take place. *Though attendance at this meeting is highly encouraged, it is not required. Candidates who do not attend are still required to have a knowledge of election procedures. ~~All candidates are required to attend the Candidates Meeting or else they are guilty of a Minor Violation of the Election Code, unless their absence is excused by the Election Director. If a candidate is unable to attend the candidates meeting, excused or not, they are required to meet with the Election Director at a different time to go over the election procedures within one week of the original Candidates Meeting. If a candidate does not meet with the Election Director to go over the election procedures, they shall incur a minor violation.~~*

2.08.01 **Minor Violations.** Minor violations shall constitute the following:

- (a) An unexcused absence from a required event, such as ~~the Candidates Meeting~~, a General Meeting prior to the election, and/or the Candidates Forum
- (b) Posting in a prohibited area, or by a prohibited fashion, as defined in Section 2.06.04-07
- (c) Implying an elected incumbency status that a candidate does not have, as defined in Section 2.06.00
- (d) Campaigning in any residence hall after 12 AM as stated in Section 2.06.08
- (e) Not denoting the official source of campaign material(s) as stated in Section 2.06.02
- (f) Violation of Section 2.06.09 with email listservs containing 1-100 members