

ELECTION BILL
DATA, PROCEDURES & RULES IN REFERENCE TO:
THE SGS STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS
Spring 2014

DISTRIBUTION OF PETITIONERS:

Petitions will be available in the Student Center, John White Room from **March 27th through April 3rd**.

REFERENDUMS:

A draft of any referendum must be submitted to the Election Commissioner to be considered a valid referendum for the SGS Student Government Election.

RETURN OF PETITIONS AND SIGNED REFERENDUMS:

Petitions with valid signatures are due by **April 3, 2014 by 5:00 PM in John Whyte, student center**. This applies to referendums also. **Any referendums or petitions delivered past this date will not be accepted.**

WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE TO BE ON THE BALLOT: 5:00 PM on April 4th, 2014

NOTE!

The e-mail address of the Election Commissioner is danitoiv@gmail.com. The Election Commissioner may also be contacted by leaving a message in the mailbox located in 302 Student Center.

WHO MAY RUN

Any student may run for office provided that he/she is a matriculated degree seeking student registered in the (SGS) School of General Studies during the term immediately preceding the SGS Student Government Elections and that he/she meets the qualifications set forth for each individual office.

PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

- A)** Minimum of twelve (12) credits completed as a degree-seeking student in the SGS School of general studies prior to the election semester.
- B)** Minimum of six (6) credits taken in SGS as a degree seeking student during the semester of the election and each semester during the term in office.
- C)** Minimum of 2.5 overall indexes.
- D)** If the student has already accumulated 45 credit hours then the student shall be allowed to carry a minimum of three (3) credit hours.
- E)** Must have completed two (2) terms in SGS as a degree-seeking student prior to the elections.
- F)** Candidates running for president or vice-president may not run for the position of editor-in-chief of a newspaper or periodical.
- G)** The president/vice-president are required to bring in a petition with a total of twenty (20) valid SGS student signatures (more than 20 are recommended).

ASSEMBLY & DELEGATE REPRESENTATIVES

- A)** Minimum of nine (9) credits completed as a degree-seeking student in SGS prior to the election semester.
- B)** Minimum of one (1) term in SGS as a degree-seeking student prior to the election semester.
- C)** Candidates must be members in good standing (2.0 index or over is defined as good standing). The class curriculum number as of the Fall-term immediately preceding the elections determines class status index. The index is determined by the last cumulative available index.
- D)** Candidates running for assemblypersons may not run for the position of editor-in-chief of a newspaper or

periodical.

- E)** Candidates for assemblyperson are required to bring in a petition with ten (10) valid SGS student signatures (10 signatures are recommended).

These requirements may be waived (due to extenuating circumstances) by the Election Commission. The decision of the Election Commission is final in respect to both interpretations of requirements and decisions resulting from their applications.

- A)** The four (4) candidates who have received the highest number of votes for the at-large seats shall be elected as at-large representatives of the SGS student assembly.
- B)** The five (5) or less candidates who have received the highest number of votes to the alternate seats shall be elected as alternate representatives to the SGS student assembly.

Campaign Expenses

- 1)** Every slate must have a president and a vice president and also representatives from each class. Each slate will be permitted to spend a maximum of \$350.00 for campaign expenses. (SEE NOTE 4)
- 2)** Each candidate running independently, not affiliated with a slate, may spend a maximum of \$40.00 for campaign expenses. (SEE NOTE 4)
- 3)** A president and vice-president running independently, with a slate will be considered as an individual and entitled to a maximum of \$40.00 for campaign expenses. (SEE NOTE 4)
- 4)** Valid documented bills for campaign expenses must be submitted to Central Depository (302 Student Center) for reimbursement from the appropriate line in the student government budget. No funds from any other source are permitted. No violation of the above will be permitted.

Referendums

- A)** Any SGS student seeking to place a referendum on the ballot shall present their referendum to the Election Commission. The commission shall then draw up the legal form of referendum desired.
- B)** Only referendums printed and initiated by the Election Commission will be considered valid to be placed on the ballot.
- C)** Withdrawal of a referendum from the ballot will be strictly enforced (See page 1 withdrawal).
- D)** All referendums require signatures totaling 10% of the SGS fall student body. Any referendum with less than 10% will not be placed on the ballot, no extensions for signatures will be granted. (More than 10% is recommended.)

All referendums not submitted in accordance with these regulations shall be declared null and void.

GENERAL

Petitions must be picked up by each candidate personally at which time the candidate is required to sign a waiver empowering the commission to certify that he/she is a matriculated SGS student. A student who is not a registered SGS matriculated student at the time of petitioning shall not be permitted to file petitions. All petitions taken shall carry on each page the name of the candidate, and the office that he/she is pursuing. Candidates are forbidden to change any information on petitions or referendums after the Election Commission has initiated them. Any alteration will cause all signatures to become null and void. Signatures on petitions and referendums must be genuine in ink only (no pencils).

If a presidential candidate drops out of the ballot, his/her vice-president will automatically be dropped from the ballot, but they have the option of running as an assemblyperson. If the vice-presidential candidate drops out, the president can still run with his/her slate.

Interpretations of these rules are completely at the discretion of the Election Commissioners.

It is the responsibility of the candidates (or those placing a referendum):

- 1) To keep him/her informed of the campaign.
- 2) Convey all messages directly to the Election Commission. If conveyed to anyone else, it is the responsibility of the candidate to see to it that it reaches the Election Commission.

Withdrawals/Slate alignment

Every slate must have president and vice-president and ten (10) representatives and four (4) at-large representatives.

The election commission will designate a deadline date by which each president shall inform him as to who will be running on his/her ticket. All changes, delegates, and additions are effective to that date only, (see page 1-**There will be no exceptions to the deadline.**)

The Election Commission will designate a deadline date for withdrawals, which shall in effect mean that the candidate's name will not appear on the ballot. Withdrawals are effective up until the deadline indicated on page 1. (No Exceptions)

Party names on request will be assigned to slates only, on a first-come/first serve basis. Requests must be made directly to the Election Commission.

All unaligned candidates run as independents. If the presidential candidate withdraws after submitting the required number of signatures and forming a slate, the slate will still run as a party.

Split ballot voting is permissible except between president and vice-president.

Petitions will be available in John Whyte Room (Student Center)

A student may sign more than one petition. However, on each petition only once, these signatures may be presented only on petition forms of the prescribed kind available at John Whyte student center.

Note:

Signatures of students who are registered in the fall semester prior to elections and students who are registered in the spring semester of the SGS Student Government Elections will be considered valid as for the registrar's verification.

Election Procedures:

SGS student government elections for spring 2014 shall be held online from the period of **April 28th through April 30th**.

During the election period, SGS student elections will be held on-line. SGS students shall be able to vote on any device with internet connection.