Elections and Rules Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2015
Convene: 1:35pm
Conclude: 2:14pm

Present: Steven Wendeborn (Chair), Max Freedman (Vice Chair), Bella Rowe, Joshua Savitt, Rahul Bhide, Alexander Miller (CLI), Jake Mansoor

Jake Mansoor:
- Platform promises require the approval of the assembly.
- We are proposing RSO Congress, which would also require the approval of the assembly.
- We don’t believe we have cast any false impressions about our proposals requiring the assembly’s approval.
- We are presenting voters with this as a campaign goal and as something to consider as they make their choice.
- If they don’t think we can accomplish this, as with any other campaign promise, then we believe they will vote accordingly, but we don’t think of this as a misleading tactic. We consider it a promise like any other.
- These positions were new this year, so we’ve tried to balance how to factor them in the campaign.
- The slate and the cabinet members are listed separately on the website.
- A disclaimer is made on the website that the cabinet members are people we intend to surround ourselves with if elected.
- The construction of cabinet member bios is much less elaborated and formatted differently from the executive slate bios. We think this contributes to a clear differentiation.
- We consider this a campaign promise to voters and a way to transparently indicate whom we intend to surround ourselves with.

Steven Wendeborn:
- Website alleges that these positions will automatically carry over, and the ones not named in the constitution would in fact need to be recreated.

Jake Mansoor:
- Willing to add language to clarify mechanics, but we wanted to emphasize that we weren’t making positions for people, but that we would be continuing positions that exist this year.
- We were not implying that the members of the cabinet would automatically be elected with us; we understand that they need assembly approval. More than willing to add mechanics language to the site.

Max Freedman:
• Motion to put language from executive cabinet description from Open Minds website in the record.

Josh Savitt:
• Second

Steven Wendeborn:
• Motion is agreed to.

Open Minds Explanation of a Cabinet:
"Why a Cabinet? As part of our dual commitments to transparency and broader representation, we want to be upfront about the student officials we will surround ourselves with if we are lucky enough to be elected to serve you. Last year, cabinet positions were created by Executive Order of the current SG President and approved within the Assembly. In our quest for greater transparency, however, we believe that it is important to include you in the decision making process. It takes a lot more than three people to adequately represent the diversity on our campus. We chose people who are approachable, involved, and best of all - good at what they do."

Jake Mansoor:
• We didn’t feel that campaign promises on the candidates’ websites needed to include asterisks detailing the mechanics of passing any given campaign promises.

Committee deliberates in closed session.

Rahul Bhide:
Motion: It is the sense of the committee that no rule of the Elections and Rules Code and By-laws has been broken as described in the complaint.

Motion passes unanimously, Chair not voting.

Rahul Bhide:
Motion: To vote on sending a letter to all candidates reminding them of general campaign decorum. The passage of this motion should not be construed to constitute a new rule or regulation.

Motion passes unanimously, Chair not voting.

Minutes submitted by Max Freedman