THE BASICS

Fall elections for YCC are for the First-Year Class Council and any vacant seats on the Council of Representatives.

The Class Councils – First-Year Class Council (FCC), Sophomore Class Council (SoCo), and Junior Class Council (JCC) – promote bonding, organize events, and address issues specific to their respective classes. FCC is composed of 2 elected representatives from each of the 14 residential colleges. Following a 2017 constitutional amendment, SoCo and JCC elect a President in the spring election prior and solicit applications in the fall in a blind selection process. Senior Class Council (SCC) is separate from the YCC and elects a Secretary in the spring and solicits applications.

The YCC Senate is the primary forum for the discussion of undergraduate affairs. The Senate develops and executes projects that address current issues raised by undergraduates. It is composed of 2 representatives from each residential college, for a 28-member council. Senators are elected in spring elections, but appointments to Executive Board and other circumstances can lead to vacant seats on the Senate. **This year, we will be electing 9 Senators in fall elections. Berkeley (1), Branford (1), Davenport (1), Ezra Stiles (1), Pauli Murray (1), Saybrook (2), Timothy Dwight (1), and Trumbull (1) have vacancies on the Senate.**

In fall elections, first-year students can vote for their respective college’s class council representatives, and all students can vote for their YCC Senator for their residential college, if applicable.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact YCC Vice President Heidi Dong at heidi.dong@yale.edu or (309) 634-5781.

FALL 2018 ELECTIONS TIMELINE

Tuesday, September 4, 7PM LC 102: YCC Information Session. Attendance is mandatory for any student interested in running for class council or YCC Council. If you cannot attend, please email heidi.dong@yale.edu.

Saturday, September 8, 11:59PM: Deadline to submit candidacy statement through YaleConnect

Monday, September 10, 8AM: Campaign Period begins

Thursday, September 13, 8AM: Voting portal opens online on YaleConnect

Thursday, September 13 & Friday, September 14: Voting booths on Cross Campus

Friday, September 14, 8PM: Voting portal closes

Friday, September 14 after 8PM: Results announced via student body-wide email
GUIDELINES

1. Candidates

a. Eligibility: Any undergraduate who will be enrolled at Yale College and in New Haven for the next two semesters is eligible to run for office. The candidate must be a member of the residential college for which they are running to represent during the year of their term.
b. Registration: Each prospective candidate must register online via YaleConnect by submitting a candidacy statement and agreeing to follow the Fall 2018 Election Guidelines. The form can be found in the YC Voting Booth portal on YaleConnect. This form must be completed by 11:59PM on September 8, 2018. YCC will not publish a list of candidates until the campaign period begins.
c. Multiple Candidacies: A student may run for class council and the YCC Senate.
d. Statements: Candidacy statements must be no more than 250 words and will be available to voters on the ballot.
e. Availability: Candidates must make themselves available to the Vice President at all times and must respond honestly, thoroughly, and promptly when asked for information.

2. Campaign Period

a. Start: Public campaigning may begin on Monday, September 10 at 8am. No public campaigning is allowed before this time. Any question of what determines public campaigning should be directed to the Vice President.
b. Compliance with Regulations: All campaigning and publicity must be in accordance with the Undergraduate Regulations (http://catalog.yale.edu/undergraduate-regulations).
c. Spending

i. Each candidate for YCC Council of Representatives or Class Council is allowed $50 to spend on his or her campaign. This $50 encompasses both traditional and innovative (i.e. anything other than posters, business cards, etc.) publicity techniques. Candidates should retain receipts for proof of purchase should there be allegations of exceeding the spending limit.
ii. Rule of Access: In general, a “rule of access” determining whether other candidates have access to the same form of publicity will be applied.
iii. Non-Purchased Items: Items used in campaigning that are not purchased because they are previously owned by candidates, or are given or loaned from another individual or organization, must be counted toward the $50 spending limit. The approximate value of all non-purchased campaign items must be reported to the Vice President at the outset of the campaign, or as soon as they are obtained.
iv. Donated Funds and Goods: Individuals may donate funds to or spend money on
behalf of any candidate or candidates, up to, but not in addition to, the $50 spending limit. Undergraduate organizations are strictly prohibited from benefiting a candidate through donated funds or goods.

v. Multiple Candidates: Any materials with multiple candidates’ names on them count toward the spending limit for each of the named candidates.

d. Postering
   i. When possible, all posters and publicity must be on recyclable paper.
   ii. Size: No posters may exceed a size of 8.5 by 11 inches or be adjoined together to make a poster larger than the aforementioned size.
   iii. All posters must be hung in a way that is consistent with the postering regulations of Yale College and of the specific residential college in which they are hung. Any posters in violation of regulations will be removed and may not be replaced. You can find the regulations here (under Regulations, Student Activities, Section K: http://catalog.yale.edu/undergraduate-regulations/)

e. Emailing:
   i. Candidates and individuals working on the candidate’s behalf may not email panlists to which they do not belong.
   ii. Mass emails (emails sent to more than 20 recipients at a time) are strictly prohibited.
   iii. All campaign emails (from the candidate or otherwise) sent during the campaign period must include the following disclaimer:

   This is a disclaimer. No emails sent by a candidate or on a candidate’s behalf may be sent to any panlist that the sender is not on. No emails may be sent to the entire campus, entire class years, entire residential colleges, or entire class years within residential colleges. Candidates are urged to act with restraint in the use of all electronic messaging systems. If you feel that this or any candidate is abusing the email system, please contact the YCC Vice President at heidi.dong@yale.edu.
   iv. All campaign emails (from the candidate or otherwise) sent during the campaign period must CC ycc.elections.2018@gmail.com. No email addresses may be BCC’ed.
   v. The YCC will not tolerate abuses of the Yale College email system for the purposes of campaigning. Candidates are urged to act with restraint in the use of all electronic messaging systems and are advised that the Vice President will address complaints about abusive email practices on an ad hoc basis. The Vice President will exercise discretion in individual cases to define unethical emailing practices, issuing one preliminary warning to offending candidates before taking disciplinary action, including the possible disqualification of any candidate who repeatedly abuses the email systems of Yale College.
f. Unacceptable Publicity:
   i. Neither a candidate nor a member of the candidate's campaign team may
      inappropriately harass or detain a student, either for purposes of campaigning or
      to get them to vote directly.
   ii. No notice of candidacy may be written with chalk.
   iii. Any publicity that is deemed fraudulent, or deemed primarily to intimidate or
derogate another candidate, is not permitted.
   iv. Candidates are not allowed to enter suites and bedrooms while residents are not
      present. Even when residents are present, candidates may not enter those spaces
      without residents' verbal permission.
   v. No administrators, faculty, or staff may be included in campaign videos or posters.

g. Supporters: Individuals aiding candidates must follow these guidelines. Any
violation committed by an individual aiding a candidate may be considered as committed under
the auspices of the candidate. Candidates will be held accountable for any infractions of
these guidelines by friends campaigning for them.

h. Tampering: Damaging, removing, or defacing other candidates' publicity is strictly prohibited.

3. Voting Period

   a. Voting Times: Voting will take place online from 8:00am on Thursday, September 13, 2018
      until 8:00pm on Friday, September 14, 2018. Students will get an email with a link to vote
      on the morning of the 13th. The voting portal will be accessible on YaleConnect.
   b. Vote: For YCC Senators, voters can select either one or two candidates
      depending on how many seats must be filled. Voters in Saybrook can select two
      candidates for YCC Senator. All other colleges with vacancies can vote for one candidate.
      For Class Council elections, all voters can select two candidates.
   c. Ballots: The electronic ballots will present each candidate's full name as it
      appeared in registration along with the candidate's college, year and submitted
      statement. The order in which the candidates' names appear on the ballot is chosen at
      random.
   d. Absentee Ballots: No absentee ballots will be accepted.
   e. Access: The Vice President will have sole authority over access to the voting system.
   f. Students not enrolled in Yale College are unable to vote.
   h. Candidates and their supporters may ask students to vote during this period and provide
      them with a device on which to vote. However, they are prohibited from coercing
      students to vote specifically for a certain candidate.

4. Determination of Winners

   a. Tabulation: All ballots will be collected and tabulated via the online voting system. Results will
b. Candidates will be selected by plurality. In elections with two winners, the two candidates with the most ballots cast will be declared the winners. In elections with one winner, the candidate with the most ballots cast will be declared the winner.

5. Penalties

a. It is the sole responsibility of the candidate to seek clarification on any issue not explicitly addressed in these guidelines. Candidates who do not adhere to these regulations will be penalized at the discretion of the Vice President.

b. The Vice President shall have the power to review infringements on these guidelines and the discretion to penalize candidates, depending on the severity of the infringement. Potential penalties include (but are not limited to) delaying public campaigning, decreasing the $50 spending limit, revoking campaign emailing privileges, confiscating a campaign’s posters, publicizing a candidate’s infractions, and/or disqualifying a candidate. Any infractions that violate the Undergraduate Regulations will be referred to the Yale College Executive Committee for disciplinary action.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact YCC Vice President Heidi Dong at heidi.dong@yale.edu or (309) 634-5781.