

ASSOCIATED STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTION REGULATIONS

PREAMBLE

In order to provide a more efficient means of campaigning and to create an atmosphere of legitimacy in campus elections, the following regulations will govern the elections of student government representatives, Associated Student Government.

ARTICLE I

Candidates

Section 1. Those persons running for office must meet constitutional qualifications of candidacy, and must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0, with the exceptions of first semester freshman.

1.1 Vice-presidential and presidential candidates must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5.

Section 2. In order to be a candidate for vice-president or president, a person must submit a petition, per ticket, bearing the names and student identification numbers of fifteen percent (15%) of the Associated Students at Emporia State University.

2.1 Official petitions will be released by the election commissioner exactly four (4) weeks prior to the first day of elections.

2.11 Petitions may be obtained after that time.

2.12 Petitions will be released only to candidate or to his/her authorized (in writing) representative.

2.2 The petitions must be presented in the Center for Student Involvement office ten (10) days calendar days following the first day of availability.

2.21 In the event that petitions are completed on the same day they are released, they may be turned in that evening at a time set by the election commissioner.

2.3 The order in which names are to be listed on the ballot shall be the order in which official petitions are returned to the Center for Student Involvement office or filing fees submitted in the place of petitions for senatorial candidates.

2.4 The president and vice-president of Associated Student Government will be elected by a ticket voting system.

2.41. The ballot will list the president and vice-president candidate on each ticket together from left to right across the ballot.

Section 3. In order to be a candidate for a senatorial position, the candidate must complete one of the following options:

- 3.1 Candidate must submit a petition of fifty (50) legible signatures with student identification numbers from students in the candidate's representative college.
- 3.2 Any candidate wishing to bypass the petitions may pay a filing fee of \$15 to the elections commissioner starting on the Wednesday following release of petitions.
 - 3.21 Any proceeds derived from the payment of a filing fee shall be deposited into the Associated Student Government administrative fund.
- 3.3 The informational meeting will be conducted by the election commissioner and the Senate Operations Chairperson.
 - 3.31 All campaign information and petition forms will be distributed during this meeting.
 - 3.32 Petitions will be released to only the candidate or an official representative with written authorization.
- 3.4 Petitions must be filed at the Center for Student Involvement office by 5pm one week before the first day of the election.
- 3.5 Attendance by senatorial candidates at the informational meetings is not mandatory, but petitions and regulations can only be released by the election commissioner.

ARTICLE II
Campaign Materials

- Section 1. There will be defined, limited campaign areas on campus in which campaign materials may be placed.
 - 1.1 These areas are as follows:
 - 1.11 Directly to the east of Visser Hall, the area enclosed by the innermost sidewalks.
 - 1.12 Directly to the east of Cremer Hall, the area enclosed by the innermost sidewalks.
 - 1.13 Directly to the east of Cram Hall, the area enclosed by the innermost sidewalks.
 - 1.2 Candidates will be limited to seventy-five (75) posters total that may be posted in the areas listed in section 1.1.
 - 1.21 Double-faced posters shall count as two posters.
 - 1.22 Any cooperative posters for two or more candidates shall be counted for all of the candidates involved, as a part of the above limit (section 1.2)
 - 1.3 All exterior posters must be made of cardboard, poster board, plastic, cloth, or any other sturdy material.
 - 1.31 All posters used must be driven into the ground.

- 1.4 Campaign materials in the above listed (section 1.1) areas may not be placed on sidewalks or hand railings.
 - 1.41 Any materials on trees within these areas must be taped or tied in.
 - 1.42 No nails, tacks, staples, etc. may be used to affix campaign materials to trees.

- Section 2. Portable posters and banners may be brought into any area of campus during rallies but must be removed after the event is completed.
 - 2.1 Memorial Union Square will be open for rallies, if approved by the Conference/Scheduling office.

- Section 3. No posters or other campaign materials will be allowed in or on any campus edifice without the consent of the head of department which occupies that area.
 - 3.1 Any campaign materials posted in the residence hall must conform to residence hall policies regulations regarding this matter.

- Section 4. There will be no etchings, or markings upon any campus property, including sidewalks, walls, and all other edifices.

- Section 5. Any letters making charges of other candidates may not be distributed, prior to the opening of the polls.

- Section 6. There will be no written campaign correspondence with individuals or organizations before the second Monday in February.

- Section 7. There will be no use of eligible voters for any campaigning purposes.

- Section 8. There will be no use of the Center for Student Involvement office materials or facilities for campaigning purposes.
 - 8.1 Candidates will not be allowed to use the ASG logo on their campaign material.
 - 8.2 Associated Student Government bulletin boards will available to official candidates to post campaign material.
 - 8.21 Flyers and posters for these boards must not exceed 11" X 14 1/2".

- Section 9. Candidates are directly responsible for their campaign materials.
 - 9.1 Campaign materials shall not be posted on any campus property any earlier than ten school days proceeding the first day of elections.
 - 9.2 Candidates are required to have all campaign materials removed from the campus on the final day of election.

Section 10. There shall be no campaigning or campaign materials of any form in any campus computer lab or on the same floor as computer voting stations sponsored by Associated Student Government, with the exception of buttons worn by supporters during the act of voting or passage through the area.

Section 11. Web sites may be used for campaign purposes, but there cannot be a link to any Associated Student Government Website.

ARTICLE III

Campaign Materials

Section 1. Each candidate shall be required to submit to the election commissioner an itemized account of all his/her expenditures, donations, and other pertinent financial information by 5pm on the Friday preceding the election, and a complete listing of financial information by 5pm on the day following the election.

1.1 A copy of each piece of campaign material (posters, flyers, cards, written correspondence, leaflets, etc.) must be received by the election commissioner by 5pm on the day previous to the distribution of said material.

1.11 With each new item of campaign material, a receipt listing how many copies of the item were printed and the total cost of the material must accompany the copy given to the election commissioner.

Section 2. Candidates may not spend more the \$250 on campaigning.

2.1 Any money or materials donated to a candidate, if used by that candidate for campaign purposes, shall be counted as part of the limit above (section 2).

Section 3. All campaign materials must clearly identify the candidate(s) responsible for it.

ARTICLE IV

Violations

Section 1. Candidates shall be held directly liable for their own action, and those of their authorized representatives.

1.1 The term “authorized representative” shall apply to all persons listed by candidate in accordance with Article I.

1.2 Additions to and/or deletions from, the list of authorized representatives may be made; however, such changes will take effect only upon notifying the election commissioner (in writing) thereof.

Section 2. Any violation of any part Articles I through III will result in penalties to violator.

2.1 The candidate in question may be subjected to fines and/or disqualification.

- 2.2 Official scrutiny applied to one candidate shall be applied simultaneously to all other candidates for that office.
- 2.3 The amount of fines will be left to the discretion of the election commissioner.
 - 2.31 Fines will not exceed \$15 per candidate, per violation.
 - 2.32 If fines exceed \$50, the candidate's name will be removed from the election process.
 - 2.33 Fines assessed will be due within 24 hours of notification of violation.
 - 2.34 Any exceptions to this are at the discretion of the election commissioner.
- 2.4 Fines collected will be used to help defray election costs for the Associated Student Government.
- 2.5 The penalty to be applied to the violator will be decided the election commissioner.
 - 2.51 Any penalty must have the approval of the Election Committee of Student Senate.
 - 2.511 The election commissioner must bring all penalties before Election Committee within 72 hours after the first notification of the violation.
 - 2.52 Any penalty may be appealed to the Student Senate.
 - 2.521 The appeal must be in writing, stating the grounds for the appeal, and be presented to the President of the Student Senate within ten (10) days of Election Committee action described above (section 2.41).

Section 3. All fines must be paid to Associated Student Government by the candidate within 72 hours of assessment.

ARTICLE V
Election Commissioner

Section 1. The election commissioner will be the person directly responsible for the administration of Associated Student Government elections.

- 1.1 The election commissioner will be chosen at least six (6) weeks prior to the first day of elections.
 - 1.11 The election commissioner may not be a candidate in the election, or authorized representative thereof.
- 1.2 The election commissioner may be removed and/or replaced by the Senate Operations Committee, subject to Student Senate approval.

Section 2. The Senate Operations Committee may, at its option, select a deputy election commissioner.

- 2.1 The deputy commissioner, if one exists, shall assist the commissioner in the performance of his/her duties.
 - 2.11 In the event that the commissioner is incapacitated, deputy commissioner shall act in his/her place.
- 2.2 The deputy commissioner is subject to same requirements and procedures for his/her election and removal as are outlined for the commissioner in Section 1.

Section 3. It shall be the responsibility of the election commissioner to:

- 3.1 Publicize information concerning the election prior to, during and after the election.
- 3.2 Enforce the election regulations.
- 3.3 Before the election:
 - 3.31 A general informational meeting will be arranged with all candidates four (4) weeks prior to the first day of elections.
 - 3.32 Check accuracy of the petitions submitted by the candidates.
 - 3.33 Arrange a “meet the candidates,” general informational meeting for the campus population to be held during the daytime prior to the election.
- 3.4 During the elections:
 - 3.41 Determine the locations for, and reserve area and equipment for, the voting polls.
 - 3.42 Determine the hours for voting.
 - 3.43 Arrange for the printing of the ballots.
 - 3.44 Obtain lists of the eligible voters for each of the voting polls.
 - 3.45 Locate people to operate the voting polls.
 - 3.46 Schedule an appropriate area for the counting of the ballots.
- 3.5 Tabulate and publicize the results of the elections.

ARTICLE VI

Elections

Section 1. Spring elections shall be held on the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of the week preceding Spring Break.

Section 2. Election dates are subject to change by the Student Senate.

ARTICLE VII

Voting

Section 1. The locations of the voting polls shall be determined by the election commissioner, subject to the Senate Operations Committee approval.

- Section 2. Those persons running the polls will be appointed by the election commissioner, subject to the Senate Operations Committee approval.
- 2.1 No such individual may be a candidate or authorized person thereof.
- 2.2 Those persons will be responsible to the election commissioner.
- Section 3. Students will vote according to their majors and classifications at the time of the elections.
- Section 4. Voting will be done by secret ballot.
- 4.1 The ballot will contain no information about the candidate other than his/her name, as listed on his/her petition, and the office which he/she is seeking.
- 4.11 The order in which the names are to be listed shall be specified in Article I, section 2.3.
- 4.12 The ballot shall have places for write-in votes equal in number to number of positions for that election.
- 4.13 All ballots will be printed according to school, and will include the following information: "Indicate the candidate(s) of your choice by placing a mark in the box(es) provided."
- 4.131 "If you wish to vote for write-in candidate(s), you must also mark the box(es) provided."
- 4.2 No one, except the election commissioner, in the presence of an ASG advisor, has the authority to open the ballot box for any reason whatsoever until after the closing of the polls on the final day of the election.

ARTICLE VIII

Counting Ballots

- Section 1. After the polls have closed, a printout shall be taken to the officially designated area for counting.
- 1.1 Any ballot or portion of a ballot in which directions have not been correctly followed must be declared void by the election commissioner.
- 1.2 Write-in votes shall be counted if they contain both the first and last names of candidates, not necessarily spelled correctly and must be marked as indicated on the ballot.
- 1.21 Questionable spellings will be decided by the election commissioner.
- Section 2. The candidate receiving a plurality of votes shall be declared the winner.
- 2.1 In constituencies with more than one representative, section 2 will be applied once for each position (i.e., for senate constituency with three seats, the top three candidates, ranked in descending order of votes received, shall be declared the winner).

2.2 Write-in candidates must receive ten percent (10%) or more of the total ballots cast for that position in order to be declared a winner.

2.3 In the case of a tie, the election commissioner shall devise a run-off election, subject to Senate Operations approval.

Section 3. The following persons shall be the only persons present at counting of the election ballots:

3.1 One or more ASG faculty advisor(s).

3.2 The Election Committee.

3.3 A member of Senate Operations Committee, as determined by said body.

3.4 The election commissioner, deputy commissioner (if any), and any assistants specifically authorized by the election commissioner.

3.5 The above (section 3.1 through 3.4) is subject to provision that none of the persons present be a candidate or any person who at any time during the campaign was authorized as a candidate's representative under Article IV, Section 1.1.

ARTICLE IX

Reporting of Election

Section 1. The election commissioner will be responsible for notifying all candidates who have been elected.

Section 2. It will also be the responsibility of the election commissioner to post lists regarding the results of election.

2.1 Lists will be posted at the following locations:

2.11 In the Rotunda of Plumb Hall

2.12 On the door of the Center for Student Involvement office

2.13 In The Bulletin

Section 3. Within one week after the election, the election commissioner must submit a written summary of the election to the ASG President, to be kept on file in the Center for Student Involvement office for future reference.

ARTICLE X

Certification of Election

Section 1. The Student Senate shall certify the results of the election.

Section 2. Anyone wishing to challenge the results of election must present ground for challenge, in writing, to Chair of Senate Operations Committee within one week (5 school days) after the election.

2.1 It will be the responsibility of the election commissioner and Senate Operations to investigate the challenge.

2.2 If the challenge is found to contain valid statements of nature of the violation in procedures and/or administration of the election, that would deem the election invalid, the election commissioner is responsible for devising the procedure for rectifying such invalidity, subject to approval of the Senate Operations Committee and is subject to appeal under the same procedure as outlined in Article IV, Section 2.52.

ARTICLE XI

Revision of Regulation

Section 1. Any revision in the election regulations must be approved by a majority vote of the Student Senate.

