

**University of Regina Students' Union**  
**Special General Meeting**  
**RC Multipurpose Room**  
**February 14, 2019 at 4:00 pm**

***Agenda***

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

**3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

**4. APPROVAL OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT John Lax be appointed Chairperson for this Special General Meeting.

**5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the URSU Membership approve the agenda for the February 14, 2019 Special General Meeting.

**6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**6.1.** BE IT RESOLVED THAT the URSU Membership approve the minutes of the October 24, 2018 Annual General Meeting.

**7. EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

**7.1.** Vice President Student Affairs

**7.2.** Vice President Finance and Operations

**7.3.** President

**8. NORMAL BUSINESS**

**9. NEW SPECIAL BUSINESS**

**9.1. Limits of to Executive course load**

WHEREAS the duties and responsibilities associated with an URSU Executive position require a full-time commitment; and,

WHEREAS some students may be required to meet full-time student requirements; and,

WHEREAS it can be very difficult to balance both a full course load and a full-time job;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT that URSU Executives be limited to taking a maximum of nine (9) credit hours per semester; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT URSU Executives, prior to the beginning of a semester, may request to the Board to be permitted to take more than nine (9) credit hours per semester; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT such requests for overload shall be granted by the Board on a semesterly basis contingent upon the Executive's ability to demonstrate to the Board that they can successfully meet hourly and work requirements and expectations as outlined in the Executive's Employment Agreement and/or URSU governing documents.

**MOVED: Shawn Wiskar**

**SECOND:**

**9.2. Spring/Summer UPass referendum**

WHEREAS URSU currently provides a universal bus pass (U-Pass) service to students during the Fall and Winter semesters only; and,

WHEREAS the value of U-Pass to students is demonstrated by the continued growth in usage of the program; and,

WHEREAS URSU has received many inquiries as to why there is no U-Pass program during the Spring/Summer semester; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a referendum be held during the URSU 2019 general election on whether a Spring/Summer U-Pass program should be implemented; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the wording of the referendum question be as follows:

*“Should the URSU negotiate a U-Pass for the Spring/Summer semester that will;*

- *Cost every student enrolled in on-campus Spring/Summer semester courses no more than \$99 for the semester;*
- *Provide unlimited access to Regina Transit and, when eligible, Para-Transit services for URSU members in the Spring/Summer semesters; and,*
- *Have the same opt-out options as the existing Fall and Winter semester programs?”*

**MOVED: Derrick Gagnon**

**SECOND:**

**9.3. Election and Referendum Bylaw - update**

WHEREAS two new Board positions were created at the 2018 Annual General Meeting; and,

WHEREAS the URSU Board of Directors recently approved a reclassification of one director position; and,

WHEREAS recommended changes to the By-Law were submitted by the CRO of the 2018 URSU By-Election; and,

WHEREAS the Election and Referendum By-Law needs to be updated to reflect the aforementioned changes;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the URSU Election and Referendum By-Law be updated as presented.

**MOVED: Derrick Gagnon**

**SECOND:**

**10. Q & A**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**University of Regina Students' Union**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**RC Multipurpose Room**  
**October 24, 2018 at 11:30 am**

***Minutes***

**1. CALL TO ORDER - 12:10pm**

**2. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

Quorum established

**3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

**4. APPROVAL OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Juliet Bushi be appointed Chairperson for the 2018 URSU Annual General Meeting.

Moved: Mike Clark

Second: Shawn Wiskar

Motion CARRIED.

**5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the URSU Membership approve the agenda for the October 24, 2018 Annual General Meeting.

Moved: Shawn Wiskar

Second: Cole Fedrick

***PROPOSED AMENDMENT***

*Motion to move Executive Reports to after item 11. New Special Business*

*Moved: Shawn Wiskar*

*Second: J acq Brasseur*

*Amendment CARRIED*

Motion with Amendments CARRIED.

**6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**6.1.** BE IT RESOLVED THAT the URSU Membership approve the minutes of the October 26, 2017 Annual General Meeting.

Moved: Mike Clark

Second: Rylan Jensen

Motion CARRIED.

## **7. EXECUTIVE REPORTS (moved to item 12)**

- 7.1. Vice President Student Affairs
- 7.2. Vice President External Affairs
- 7.3. Vice President Finance and Operations
- 7.4. President

## **8. PRESENTATIONS**

- 8.1. Audited Financial Statements period ending April 30, 2018
  - Derrick Gagnon, VP Operations and Finance presented the statements

## **9. NORMAL BUSINESS**

### **9.1. Approval of Audited Financial Statements**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the audited financial statements for 2017/2018 be approved.

Moved: Alison Watson  
Second: Bryton Luxton  
Motion CARRIED.

### **9.2. Appointment of the Auditor**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT MNP be re-appointed as URSU's Auditor for the 2018/2019 fiscal year.

Moved: Derrick Gagnon  
Second: Shawn Wiskar  
Motion CARRIED.

## **10. OLD SPECIAL BUSINESS**

- none

## **11. NEW SPECIAL BUSINESS**

### **11.1. Creation of New Director Position**

WHEREAS Students enrolled in the Centre for Continuing Education are fee-paying members of URSU, and;

Whereas they currently have no representation on the URSU Board of Directors;

BE IT RESOLVED that URSU creates a position on the Board to ensure that these students are represented, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this new constituency representative be added to Article V(2) of the Constitution as "Continuing Education Director"

Moved: Conor Woolley  
Second: Libin Salad  
Motion CARRIED.

## 11.2. Amendment to Article VI of the Constitution

WHEREAS thorough and consistent Executive accountability measures are in the best interest of URSU; and,

WHEREAS responsibilities and duties of the Executive Committee should remain static and unchanging; and,

WHEREAS such consistent measures should be incorporated into the Constitution to ensure that they remain consistent with the will of the student membership; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following text be added to the Article VI POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the URSU Constitution:

(14) The Executive Committee shall be subject to the following additional duties and responsibilities, on account of the public nature of their duties to the Board of Directors and the URSU:

(14.1) The members of the Executive Committee shall be required to meet at least 20 hours per week of office hours during the open business hours of the University of Regina Students' Union.

(14.2) The Executive Committee shall be required to publicly disclose any and all additional honorariums, payments, or gifts received from any party that works with or for the University of Regina Students' Union to the Board of Directors and the membership.

(14.3) The Executive Committee shall recognize their duties as officers and employees of the organization and not engage in secondary work (practicum, work-term, Co-op placement, internship, other employment) during the majority of open business hours of the University of Regina Students' Union.

Moved: Shawn Wiskar  
Second: Austin Mcbhial

### *PROPOSED AMENDMENT*

*Change (14.3) to read: Executives shall recognize their duties as officers and employees of the organization and ensure a designate or alternate attends related events or duties when any secondary works affects their ability to attend providing such delegation does not contravene any URSU or University of Regina governing policies.*

*Moved: Jacq Brasseur  
Second: Sara Wyseman  
Amendment CARRIED*

(14.3.1) Executives who accept secondary work during the majority of open URSU business hours shall be given four weeks to adjust their schedules or a recall vote shall be called by the Board of Directors.

(14.4) Failure to comply with any duty or responsibility applicable to members of the Board of Directors, or the Executive Committee, shall be subject to review by the Board of Directors, and a recall vote may be ordered by a 2/3 majority of the Board.

*PROPOSED AMENDMENT*

*Add: (14.5) The members of the Executive Committee shall be required to be at work in the office at least 20 hours per week during the open business hours of the University of Regina Students' Union. URSU's "open business hours" shall be defined as the "hours in a day that the University generally schedules classes".*

*Moved: Sarah Wyseman  
Second: Skylar Wall  
Amendment CARRIED*

Motion with Amendments CARRIED.

**11.3. Addition to Article V of the Constitution (1)**

WHEREAS the current constitution allows for a potential eight (8) year consecutive term limit; and,

WHEREAS turnover of executive positions is healthy to a functioning democracy; and,

WHEREAS clear and concise rules are essential for URSU as an organization to plan for executive transition on an annual basis; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following text be added to ARTICLE V - OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION TERMS of OFFICE of DIRECTORS of the URSU Constitution:

(11) No student may be elected or acclaimed to serve more than three terms total in any one or several Executive positions, as defined in ARTICLE V (3), on the Executive Committee of the Students' Union."

Moved: Shawn Wiskar  
Second: Bryton Luxton  
Motion CARRIED

**11.4. Addition to Article V of the Constitution (2)**

WHEREAS the current executive employment contracts are reported to be in contradiction with URSU policies; and,

WHEREAS newly elected boards do not have the experience or the luxury to understand why a previous board may have made changes to the employment agreements of Executives; and,

WHEREAS there is an inherent conflict of interest in allowing an executive to petition to change their own employment contract; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following text be added to ARTICLE V OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION TERMS of OFFICE of DIRECTORS of the URSU Constitution:

(12) Each Executive Committee member shall sign an executive employment contract prior to the start of their term.

(12.1) For executives elected in the General Election that date is May 1.

(12.2) For executives elected in a By-Election, or appointed to fill a vacancy, that date shall be prior to assuming the duties of their elected position.

(12.3) Each employment contract is subject to review and amendments by the Board of Directors. Such changes may be made at any time, but said changes shall not take effect until May 1 of the following year.

(12.4) 12.3 shall not apply to changes that are required by Federal or Provincial labour Regulations.

Moved: Shawn Wiskar

Second: Jacq Brasseur

Motion CARRIED.

#### 11.5. CFS fee rebate

WHEREAS URSU has been tasked with holding a referendum on membership between the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) and the University of Regina Students' Union; and,

WHEREAS a year has gone by since this motion was passed and no progress has been made by URSU in holding this referendum; and,

WHEREAS the students of the University of Regina deserve an opportunity to choose if they are in favour of maintaining membership in CFS; and,

WHEREAS URSU is committed to alleviating financial hardship among students; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT any **currently enrolled** student who can prove they have not engaged in any services, activities, or promotion of CFS within the fall semester will be eligible for a full refund of their CFS fees for the **2017/2018 year**.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this refund shall be made from a new budgetary line separate from the CFS levy payable by URSU's to the CFS and that this line shall remain until a referendum date is announced.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that this refund shall be disbursed on a first come first served basis and shall be capped at \$10,000 of available funds.

Moved: Shawn Wiskar

Second: Benjamin Berge



*PROPOSED AMENDMENT:*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that any outstanding CFS fees be paid in full in the next 30 days so a referendum can be held.*

*Moved: Sara Wyseman  
Second: Shawn Wiskar  
Amendment CARRIED*

Motion with Amendments CARRIED.

**11.6. Executive Accountability (1)**

WHEREAS executive accountability is an essential aspect to the operation of the University of Regina Students' Union; and,

WHEREAS students have the right to know that their elected officials are meeting the expectations placed on them by the membership; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT an exception report be generated monthly announcing when URSU executives have failed to meet their monthly hourly obligations except in the case of (personal days, holidays or other approved time off as needed by the HR Committee), and give the Executive an option to add a note to explain why, should they feel comfortable in doing so.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT if a report is generated that it is posted on the URSU website for the membership to view.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these exception results take effect immediately.

Moved: Shawn Wiskar  
Second: Rylan Jensen  
Motion CARRIED.

**11.7. Executive Accountability (2)**

WHEREAS Article VIII.1 of the URSU Constitution requires that a "recall of a director shall only be successful if the number of votes to recall the director exceeds the number of votes it took to elect that director" during an Annual Meeting or Special Meeting; and,

WHEREAS the 2018 CRO's report has shown that all Executive members were elected with over 400 votes; and,

WHEREAS the average attendance of an Annual General Meeting is between 100 and 250 people and Annual General Meetings are not accessible to all members of URSU; and,

WHEREAS the University of Saskatchewan Student Union's removal from office bylaws require for a special resolution of non-confidence to be passed by the Board after a

petition requesting the removal of the member of the Executive or Director of at least 7.5% members or constituents is presented; and,

WHEREAS students should have an accessible way to hold their Directors and Executives accountable; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article VIII RECALL OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS be immediately amended to read:

- 1) Any member of the Board of Directors may be recalled, that is to say removed from office, when a quorum of two-thirds of members of the Board is present at a Board meeting, and a special resolution of non-confidence is passed by majority.
- 2) A special resolution of non-confidence shall be held when a petition requesting the removal of a member of the Executive containing the signatures of at least 7.5% of members or the greater of the percentage of votes they received during the election, is presented to the Board or when a petition requesting the removal of a Director of the board containing the signature of at least 7.5% of the constituents the representative represents is presented to the Board. Notification to membership must be made with 14 days of a petition being put forth.
- 3) When a petition is put forth, an ad hoc committee of URSU Staff, Board members and URSU members shall be formed to determine the validity of the petition.

Moved: Jacq Brasseur  
Second: Cat Haines  
Motion CARRIED.

#### **11.8. Spring/Summer U-Pass Program**

WHEREAS URSU currently provides a U-Pass service to students during the Fall and Winter semesters only; and,

WHEREAS URSU has received many complaints about the lack of a U-Pass program during the Spring/Summer semester; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT URSU holds a referendum during the next general election on whether a Spring/Summer U-Pass program should be implemented; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the wording of the referendum question be put to the members before voting takes place. The wording of the referendum question will be approved by the URSU Board of Directors at the last Board of Directors meeting prior to the election.

Moved: Derrick Gagnon  
Second: Tokini Briggs  
Motion CARRIED.

### **11.9. Change to Part-Time Intramural Fee**

WHEREAS URSU's mission statement is to provide students high-quality supports, services, opportunities, and advocacy, to ensure that all students have a fun, safe and healthy University experience; and,

WHEREAS Intramurals are an essential part of 2,200 students' healthy university experience; and,

WHEREAS all students have equal access to participate in intramurals regardless of credit hours registered; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the part-time intramural fee be raised from \$1.25 to \$2.50 to be equalized with the full-time intramural fee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this fee be in addition to any fees charged by URSU.

Moved: Chelsea Jones  
Second: Shawn Wiskar  
Motion CARRIED.

### **11.10. Increase of UR Pride Centre levy**

WHEREAS the UR Pride Centre levy is currently \$5.00 per full-time student; and,

WHEREAS the UR Pride Centre levy has not increased for over 5 years; and,

WHEREAS the UR Pride Centre would like to increase their wellness fund, emergency bursary, and student project funding pots; and,

WHEREAS all students can choose to opt-out of the UR Pride Centre levy on request; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the UR Pride Centre student levy be increased by \$0.25 per student; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this fee be in addition to any fees charged by the URSU; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT URSU ensures that UR Pride Centre provides an annual report with clear explanations of how students have benefited from their services and programs.

Moved: Jacq Brasseur  
Second: Cat Haines  
Motion CARRIED.

### **11.11 Review of Election Process**

WHEREAS in the most current By-Election and the last three elections, the winner of an election with 3 or more candidates has not received a majority (>51%) of the vote (excepting one); and,

WHEREAS in current URSU elections, only about 10% of the available student body votes; and,

WHEREAS with First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) voting, the winner in these elections of 10% of the student body is, more often than not, failing to achieve a majority of the vote; and,

WHEREAS FPTP can lead to vote-splitting and the "Spoiler Effect", both of which discourage candidates to run in fear of taking votes from another candidate;

BE IT RESOLVED that URSU adopts an Alternative Voting System (Ranked Ballot) in time for the 2019 Winter General Election.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT URSU form an ad-hoc "Election Reform Committee" with a representative from the Executive, Board, PAC and at least one past CRO, and that this Committee present a recommendation for a new voting system to the Board of Directors by January 31st, 2019, and that a new voting system be implemented by February 28th, 2019.

Moved: Cole Pedrick  
Second: Alex Leach  
Motion CARRIED.

### **11.12 Appointment of Election Officer**

WHEREAS there is consistently poor voter turnout at URSU elections and by-elections; and,

WHEREAS an election officer could be employed in a short-term contract position to promote voter turnout,

BE IT RESOLVED that URSU employ an election promotions officer with consideration given to a third party candidate.

Moved: Libin Salad  
Second: Rashad Haque  
Motion CARRIED.

### **11.13 HR Committee**

WHEREAS the URSU HR Committee has experienced difficulties when dealing with internal conflicts; and,

WHEREAS the lack of resolution of conflicts can lead to great discontent among employees; and,

WHEREAS this undermines the functioning of the Students' Union,

WHEREAS this situation often leads to a toxic work environment, which can threaten the mental health of those involved;

BE IT RESOLVED that URSU contracts an independent, third party human resources consultant to investigate and arbitrate all human resources matters that involve an Executive or a Director and to make recommendations for the Board to consider.

Moved: Sara Wyseman  
Second: Jacq Brasseur

*PROPOSED AMENDMENT*

*BE IT RESOLVED that URSU contracts an independent, third party human resources consultant to investigate all appeals of decisions made that pertain to human resources matters that involved an Executive or a Director. This consultant is to provide recommendations to the Board on its findings as is consistent with the current policy.*

Moved: Jacq Brasseur  
Second: Cat Haines  
Amendment CARRIED.

Motion with Amendments CARRIED.

**11.14 Creation of an Equity and Campaigns Director**

WHEREAS URSU'S Board of Directors is comprised of positions that represent faculties, federated colleges, and student special interest constituencies including; Aboriginal Students Director, Women's Directors, International Students Director, Director for Students with Disabilities, Francophone Students' Director and LGBTQ Students' Director; and,

WHEREAS most recently, on campus students from marginalized backgrounds expressed concerns for their safety about hate literature campaigns, social media photos, and classroom discussions that include racial discrimination, cultural appropriation, gender discrimination, and lack of support for students with disabilities and accommodations; and,

WHEREAS the University of Regina Students' Union's mission is to provide opportunities of advocacy with values of responsive and proactive action towards unique and changing needs of students,

BE IT RESOLVED that URSU creates an "Equity and Campaigns" director position that would advance the interests of marginalized students by organizing campaigns aimed at making the University of Regina campus community a more inclusive and equitable space; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this new position be represented as 'Equity and Campaigns Director' and added to Article V (2) of the URSU Constitution

Moved: Heather O'Watch

Second: Jacq Brasseur  
Motion CARRIED.

## **12. EXECUTIVE REPORTS**

- 12.1. Vice President Student Affairs
- 12.2. Vice President External Affairs
- 12.3. Vice President Finance and Operations
- 12.4. President

## **13. ADJOURNMENT - 5:32pm**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Reports (Item 12) not be presented, but that they be posted on URSU's website; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Annual General Meeting be adjourned.

Moved: Tokini Briggs  
Second: Sara Wyseman  
Motion CARRIED  
Meeting adjourned at 5:32 pm

## **14. EXECUTIVE REPORTS (item 7 in original agenda)**

- 14.1. Vice President Student Affairs
- 14.2. Vice President External Affairs
- 14.3. Vice President Finance and Operations
- 14.4. President

## **15. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

# Election and Referendum Bylaw

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Bylaw owner: URSU Governance Committee, General Manager  
Audience: Executive, Board of Directors, Candidates, Members  
Approved: Special General Meeting February 14, 2019  
Last Reviewed: January 26, [2019](#)  
Review Schedule: June 2019

## 1. Introduction

This bylaw is designed to govern and guide the elections and referenda of the URSU. It includes information for candidates, the Chief Returning Officer and the members of URSU that will guide them in planning and participating in an election or referendum. When this bylaw is in conflict with the constitution the relevant clauses of this bylaw are invalid.

## 2. Definitions

- **Active Campaigning** - Any activity carried out by a candidate or any other third party that promotes support for the candidate's campaign.
- **Ballot** - The paper, or electronic document marked by a voter.
- **Campus** - any and all main, subsidiary and/or remote campuses of the University of Regina and/or The First Nations University of Canada.
- **Candidates** - Includes both individual candidates running for election or by-election and those members who apply to the Referendum Fund to represent the "yes" or "no" side of referenda. Candidates must be members of URSU in good standing as defined in the URSU Constitution.
- **Chief Returning Officer (CRO)** - Typically a member of the general public with election or dispute-resolution experience. This person is primarily tasked with running the election.
- **Constituency** - A position on the Board of Directors of the University of Regina Students' Union as set out in the constitution of URSU.
- **Elections Committee** - A group consisting of the CRO, PEO and a SEO. This group is primarily responsible for resolving disputes submitted to the Elections Committee.
- **Executive Committee** - The committee of the URSU comprised of the President and the Vice-Presidents of Student Affairs, External Relations, and Operations and Finance.
- **Interest groups** - The following constituencies: Francophone, LGBTQ, Women's, Aboriginal, Students with Disabilities.
- **Member** - Any member of URSU who has paid their fees and that is entitled to seek election, and to vote under provisions of this Bylaw.
- **Public Elections Officer (PEO)** - Typically a member of the general public with election or dispute-resolution experience. As a member of the Elections Committee, this person is primarily involved in reviewing and resolving matters brought to the Elections Committee.

- **Referendum Fund** - The fund designated by the URSU Board of Directors that members may apply to cover campaign expenses related to a referendum question.
- **Student Elections Officer (SEO)** - Typically a student who is a member of URSU. As a member of the Elections Committee, this person is primarily involved in reviewing and resolving matters brought to the Elections Committee.

### 3. Bylaw

#### 3.1. General Election

##### 3.1.1. General Election Timeline

The CRO determines the deadlines and periods for the election. These deadlines and periods shall be subject to the following guidelines:

- The election results shall be announced no later than noon of the 1<sup>st</sup> business day following the close of the voting period
- The voting period shall last no more than three days.
- Voting dates for each academic year will be set by the Board of Directors by no later than July 31 for the following academic year.
- The campaign period shall last at least two weeks and may not coincide with the voting period
- The All Candidates Forum shall be held at least one week before the election results are announced
- The nomination period shall last at least two weeks and must begin no later than three weeks before the start of the voting period
- The election notice period shall last at least two weeks and must begin at least six weeks before the election results are announced

##### 3.1.2. Notice of Elections

Upon receiving notification from the Board of Directors of the date(s) for a General Election, the CRO shall publish a Notice of Elections, which includes the following:

- The position(s) which are vacant and available
- The date(s) during which a nomination paper may be filed
- The ways in which the CRO is available to receive a completed nomination form
- The date(s) on which voting is to take place
- Information regarding reimbursement for campaign expenses

##### 3.1.3. Constituencies and Positions

The available positions for the URSU Board of Directors are laid out in Article V of the Constitution. Eligibility for those constituencies is determined in one of two ways.

- 1) Eligibility for directors of the following constituencies shall be determined based on the status of one's enrolment at the University (e.g. Only students registered through FNUniv may be the First Nations University Director, Only part-time students may be the Part-Time director). URSU Members may only vote for representatives of their faculty. This group is as follows:



## Faculties

- Campion College
- Continuing Education
- Faculty of Arts
- Faculty of Business Administration
- Faculty of Education
- Faculty of Engineering
- Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research
- Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies
- Faculty of Media, Art, and Performance
- Faculty of Nursing
- Faculty of Science
- Faculty of Social Work
- First Nations' University of Canada
- **La Cité**
- Luther College

2) Eligibility for directors of the following group of constituencies shall be determined based off one's lived experience and personal identity. The CRO may request that all candidates nominated for the following positions sign documents stating that they identify as a member of the constituency they wish to represent. The CRO may not decide who is and is not eligible to run for these constituencies. All URSU members may vote for these positions though members are encouraged to abstain from voting on constituencies which do not represent themselves. These constituencies are:

### **Constituencies**

- [Equity and Campaigns](#)
- [Indigenous Students](#)
- [International Students](#)
- [LGBTQ Students](#)
- [Part Time Students](#)
- [Students with Disabilities](#)
- [Women Students](#)

Additionally, positions for University Council are laid out in Section 76 of the University Act. Currently this means up to 10% of the total membership of council with equitable distribution among the faculties, based on student population of the faculty. Students elected to University Council must be full time students.

Additionally, positions for Executive of Council are laid out in Council Rules and Regulations, Section 4.5.

Additionally, positions for Senate are laid out in Section 27 of the University Act and further described in Section 3.3 of the Senate Bylaws

### 3.1.4. Candidate Information Session

At least once at the end of the notification period and at least once at the end of the nomination period the CRO must organize a session to inform candidates about the positions available. If possible, members that formerly filled those positions shall be present. Candidates who wish to run for positions on URSU are highly encouraged to attend one of these sessions as part of the nomination process. This session only needs to be held during regular elections; it is not mandatory for referenda or by-elections.

### 3.1.5. Nominations

A [nomination form](#) created by the CRO shall be filed by all candidates for each position they want to contend. Nomination forms must include the following information:

1. The contact information and student number of the member being nominated
2. The name of the position the member is nominated for
3. The signature, name and student number of 10 members of URSU

The CRO shall reject any nomination form, which is found to contain factual errors or misrepresent the member nominated. Additionally, if a nomination form is incomplete, nominates a non-member or is filled out incorrectly it may be rejected by the CRO.

A member may fill up to one seat on each of the following:

- The Board of Directors
- The University Council [or Executive of Council](#)
- The University Senate

Members may sit on multiple sub-committees or fill multiple roles as members of these bodies.

Within twenty-four hours of the close of nominations the CRO shall publish a list of the names of all members nominated and the positions for which they have been nominated.

A candidate may withdraw from an election no later than three (3) days after the end of the nomination period by filing with the CRO a signed declaration of their intent to withdraw. If, because of withdrawals, there is only one candidate for any given position, the CRO shall declare the remaining candidate elected by [acclamation](#).

If no valid nominations papers are filed for an available position by the scheduled close of nominations, the position shall

1. In the case of URSU Constituency Director positions
  - a. Remain vacant until the next Election or By-election;
2. In the case of Council, Executive of Council or Senate positions;
  - a. Remain vacant until the next Election or;
  - b. Be filled from a list of faculty proposed representatives and ratified by the URSU Board of Directors via a Board vote of confidence.

[Eligibility of candidates for any available position is subject to confirmation of the CRO, URSU and/or the University of Regina.](#)

### 3.1.6. Candidate Profiles

Candidates must provide their profiles to the CRO no later than the first day of the campaign period.

During the election the CRO shall coordinate with URSU's Marketing Department to provide candidates the opportunity to post their profiles and/or platforms on URSU's website and/or any other digital platform within URSU's control. All candidates will be offered the same opportunity and it is up to each individual candidate whether or not they wish to participate.

**Deleted:** Vote of Confidence as provided by the 'Vote of Confidence' section of this bylaw.

### **3.1.7. Guide to Candidates**

The CRO shall create and supply all candidates with a "Guide to Candidates". It must include:

- An outline of nomination procedures
- A summary of significant dates during the election
- An outline of procedures to be followed by a candidate
- An outline of responsibilities and prerogatives of a candidate in the course of conducting their campaign
- A summary of penalties that may be imposed upon a candidate for contravention of provisions of this Bylaw

### **3.1.8. All Candidates Forum and Debate**

The CRO shall plan, promote and execute one or more of the following types of events during the campaign period:

- [A general information session for those having an interest in running for a position](#)
- An All-Candidates Forum
- A Debate
- A similar type of event approved by the Executive Committee

The All Candidates forum is an event where each candidate shall be invited to deliver remarks to members of the URSU, and to answer questions presented to them respecting their candidacy, and issues of the election. Individuals who are unable to attend the All Candidates Forum may supply a written speech (subject to editing for length by the CRO) to an appointed representative to be read. No one may answer questions for a candidate who is not in attendance.

A Debate is an event where members are invited to discuss a subject provided by the membership and presented by the CRO. No alternates are permitted at the Debate

### **3.1.9. Voting**

Electronic voting is the preferred method of voting for the URSU. A link to the voter sign-in page shall be placed in a prominent location on the URSU Homepage and URSU Elections page during the voting period. A secure voting technology must be used (typically UR Self Service).

All candidates will have an opportunity to review the ballot not less than seventy-two hours before the voting period begins. Any candidate who has concerns about the layout of the ballot may address those concerns in writing to the CRO for consideration.

The following criteria must be met when developing the layout of the ballot:

- The name of the candidates for a constituency shall be listed in alphabetical order, by last name
- Only the legal names of candidates, or reasonable derivations thereof, shall appear on the ballot, as approved by the CRO.

Votes shall be destroyed within five calendar days of the election results being ratified by the Board of Directors.

The CRO will provide assistance for students' who have difficulty voting online. In rare cases and at the CRO's discretion, a paper polling station may be used. When using paper polling stations the following procedures must be observed:

- The member shall be provided a paper ballot.
- The member shall mark the ballot. The CRO will determine if any marks will cause the ballot or the individual vote to be spoiled or rejected.
- The CRO shall appoint Election(s) Official(s) (as necessary) to supervise the polling

station. At the end of each day the CRO (or delegate) shall seal and sign the ballot box(es) and put them a safe location.

When counting the paper ballots:

- The CRO may declare a ballot "Rejected" and destroy it if it:
  - was not supplied to a voter by the CRO (or an Election Official);
  - is not clear what vote is being cast;
  - bears any mark by which a voter can be identified;
- The CRO may declare a ballot "Spoiled" and destroy it if it:
  - is soiled or improperly printed

The CRO shall be responsible for counting and reporting the results of the vote as described in the "Election Results" section.

### 3.1.10. Acclamations

If the nomination period closes and there is only one member running for a position, that candidate shall be deemed as acclaimed. In such cases the acclaimed candidate will need not appear on the ballot.

### 3.1.11. Election Results

The CRO shall declare elected the member who receives the greatest number of votes for the office or constituency in which they have run.

The CRO shall declare elected any member who receives more "yes" votes than "no" votes when running unopposed for a position.

At the earliest opportunity on the first business day after the close of the Voting period, the CRO shall publish the results of the count of ballots and the result of the Election, By-Election, or Referenda.

In the event a winning candidate in any election is disqualified, the runner-up will take the place of the disqualified winner.

### 3.1.12. Election Expenses

During an election, a candidate shall keep a record of the amount of campaign expenses that are incurred on behalf of their campaign.

Candidates may spend up to \$200 during their campaign. Materials that are donated that have a financial value must be counted towards that total. The work of volunteers does not count towards that total though materials they use must be counted. Volunteers may not be compensated by the candidate or any third party.

Candidates may be reimbursed for their election expenses, in part or in total, by URSU, from a pool of money whose size is determined annually by the Board of Directors.

Information regarding the availability of reimbursements should be finalized by the time of the All Candidates meeting.

Any candidate who fails to submit an expense form by the time set by the CRO or who exceeds the spending limit is guilty of an offence and will be given appropriate disciplinary action by the CRO.

### 3.1.13. Recounts

A recount may be requested by candidate(s) when using paper ballots. The recount must take place within two working days of when the vote was originally counted. The Elections Committee and the Candidates directly involved shall attend the recount.

**Deleted: Vote of Confidence**

**Deleted:** for URSU Board and Executive positions

**Deleted:** subject to a vote of confidence. There shall...

**Deleted:** be a vote of confidence for positions

**Deleted:** University Council or the University Senate. A vote of confidence will work in the following manner: ¶

If there are more votes in favour than in opposition the candidate shall be elected to the position. ¶

If there are more votes in opposition than in favour the position shall remain vacant until the next By-election

**Deleted:** By noon of

**Deleted:** Note: see "Vote of Confidence" for more information ¶

**Deleted:** Volunteers may not be compensated by any third party. ...

**Deleted:** by the Board of Directors

### **3.1.14. Campaigning Guidelines**

Candidates may campaign by any means except may not:

- a) Campaign:
  - i. In URSU businesses and other premises except as permitted by the CRO;
  - ii. In any University classroom during or immediately before a class without obtaining the prior permission of the professor;
  - iii. Within the proximity of polling location as designated by the CRO;
  - iv. Pool campaign finances. Candidates must individually report campaign spending.
  - v. Have another candidate's name or picture in the same graphic, poster, or video.
  - vi. Slate with any other candidates.
  - vii. Receive or encourage sponsorship from an outside body, including corporations or organizations.
  - viii. Put up posters or advertisements anywhere that is outside of the campus boundaries.
  - ix. Manipulate their preferred name in anyway that suggests that candidates are affiliated on the ballot.
  - x. Have campaign managers or volunteers that are not members of the URSU.
  - xi. Solicit off-campus businesses or organizations to provide services that might be deemed to exceed the campaign-spending limit.
  - xii. Solicit endorsements from professors or administrators from either the U of R or URSU.
  - xiii. Use profanity on any election material. This includes any statement or imagery that suggests hatred or intolerance towards any group.
  - xiv. Make discriminatory or defamatory statements against another candidate.
- b) Harass or display aggressive, violent, or threatening behaviour;
- c) Interfere, or attempt to interfere, with the administration of the Election;
- d) Jeopardize, or take any action which could reasonably be expected to jeopardize, the integrity of the Election;
- e) Impede or interfere with the ability of another Candidate to campaign;
- f) Remove, replace, modify, or damage the materials of, or cause similar harm to, another Candidate;
- g) Provide money or items of monetary value as an incentive or any form of consideration to a Member in exchange for his or her support; and
- h) Otherwise act in a manner inconsistent with the University policies related to student conduct.

Each infraction carries a numeric value of "demerit points." Each instance of an infraction incurs the associated number of demerit points. Demerit points are cumulative. A list of infractions and their associated demerit points and/or penalties can be found in Appendix 1.

The CRO shall have the authority to enforce provisions of this bylaw, and to investigate any alleged or perceived offences.

### **3.1.15. Voting Guidelines**

An offence is committed when a person:

1. votes at an election knowing that they are not entitled to vote
2. induces another person to vote knowing that such person is not entitled to vote
3. votes more than once using a real or fictitious name
4. fraudulently alters, defaces or destroys a ballot paper
5. supplies a ballot paper to any person without the permission of the CRO
6. destroys, takes, opens or otherwise interferes with a ballot box or ballot papers of any

- kind without the permission of the CRO
7. fraudulently prints a ballot paper
  8. prints ballot papers that they are not authorized to print
  9. attempts to alter or access a secure electronic method of voting
  10. knowingly publishes a false statement of the withdrawal of a candidate
  11. publishes a false statement in relation to the personal character or conduct of a candidate
  12. signs a false declaration of membership to any constituency when declaring their candidacy
  13. defaces any document required by this bylaw
  14. defaces or removes any promotional material of a candidate
  15. bribes or offers a bribe that could affect a person's vote
  16. campaigns in any unauthorized way during a voting day
  17. acts as a member of a team or slate as described in 'Slate Behavior' section
  18. acts in a manner that is in contravention to any other part of this bylaw

Any activity not listed here that could be considered an offence is subject to the investigation and judgment of the CRO. If an activity is judged to be an offence, the offence should be added to the above list and the disciplinary action applied should be added to the list found in the "Consequences for Non-Compliance" section of the bylaw. A member who has reason to believe that any offence or violation has been committed shall forward details regarding the offence to the CRO.

### **3.1.16. Slate Behaviour**

The CRO shall monitor candidate's publications (posters, handouts, digital platforms, etc) during the campaign period. Candidates will stand for election as individuals and be restricted from sharing a platform or campaign name with any other candidate(s). The following behaviours constitute slate behaviour and shall be prohibited:

1. Only candidate's legal names shall be permitted to appear on URSU elections ballots. No alternative or additional "names" shall be permitted.
2. Candidates are not permitted to appear in, or on, any campaign publications (posters, handouts, digital platforms, etc) with another candidate.
3. Candidates shall not have any name, logo, or other mark which denotes their affiliation with other Candidates on their promotional materials, website, or ballot.
4. Candidates will have distinct platforms
5. Candidates shall avoid choosing a layout or colour scheme for promotional materials that is the same or significantly similar to another Candidate's
6. Candidates shall not share websites. Shared hosting services are acceptable.
7. Candidates shall not run promotional events as a group.

Any other behaviours not listed here which could constitute slate behaviour are to be judged on a case-by-case basis by the CRO. Compliance with all rules is judged by the CRO. The CRO shall levy appropriate discipline if candidates are found to be in violation of the above rules. Candidates may appeal disciplinary actions levied by the CRO to the Board of Directors.

Note: Candidates may verbally endorse other candidates and their ideas.

### **3.1.17. Resolution of Campaigning Complaints**

Campaigning complaints which would entail 5 or fewer demerit points are assessed by the CRO. If the nature of the complaint, or the CRO's judgment of the nature of the complaint, would entail greater than 5 demerit points, the complaint will be brought before the Elections Committee. A complaint deemed legitimate by the CRO or the Elections Committee, as appropriate, is deemed a violation and the appropriate number of demerit points are

assessed against the candidate.

If at any time a candidate is assessed 5-7 cumulative demerit points, they may lose campaign privileges, such as posters, social media, or tabling.

If at any time a candidate is assessed 8 or more cumulative demerit points, they may be eligible for disqualification from the election. The history of the violations committed by the candidate will be brought before the Elections Committee who will decide whether the candidate is to be disqualified or, in exceptional cases, they may decide to remove violations of 5 or fewer demerit points only. If removing said violations brings the candidate below the threshold of 8, the candidate is not yet disqualified but may be if further violations are incurred.

### **3.1.18. Resolution of Voting Complaints**

Voting complaints are to be submitted to the CRO. The submitted complaint should contain as much detail as possible with as little hearsay or conjecture as possible. Complaints may be submitted by the CRO, or by any member of URSU, or by any staff member of URSU.

In all instances of voting complaints, the CRO shall assess the appropriate response in compliance with this document whether the complaint is against a member, non-member, or student group.

### **3.1.19. Appealing an Offense**

If a candidate feels that they have been incorrectly assessed demerit points, they may appeal that decision by notifying the CRO within 72 hours of the candidate being notified of the violation. The CRO will bring the particular violation in question before the Elections Committee for resolution within 72 hours of the appeal.

In considering an appeal the CRO shall have the power to invite any member to appear before the Elections Committee in order to better understand the situation. The appellant will also have an opportunity to present their case before the elections committee during this time.

The Elections Committee may obtain independent legal advice on the interpretation of this bylaw with the URSU incurring the cost. The individual(s) submitting the appeal may request that any meeting be held in the presence of the General Manager of URSU.

Decisions of the Elections Committee are final.

### **3.1.20. Report of the CRO**

Within two weeks of the close of a General Election, By-Election, or Referendum, the CRO shall publish a report for presentation to the Board of Directors, which report shall contain:

1. A statement of the number of candidates nominated at the election and the name of the constituency or office, or other position for which each was nominated.
2. A summary of their work.
3. A statement of final results
4. A review of every appeal or question of interpretation that was raised.
5. A review of the activity (if any) of the PEO and the SEO.
6. Any recommendations to improve future elections or referenda.
7. Any recommendations to modify, clarify or otherwise improve this bylaw.

## **3.2. By-Election**

Unless otherwise indicated a by-election shall follow the policies of a general election. By-elections will be held at the discretion of the URSU Board of Directors for the purpose of filling any or all unfilled positions.

### 3.2.1. By-election Timeline

The CRO determines the deadlines and periods for the election. These deadlines and periods shall respect these guidelines:

- The election results shall be announced no later than noon of the 1<sup>st</sup> business day following the close of the voting period.
- The voting period shall last no more than two days.
- The campaign period shall last at least one week and may coincide with the voting period.
- The All Candidates Forum shall be held at least one week before the election results are announced.
- The nomination period shall last at least one week and must begin no later than two weeks before the start of the voting period.
- The election notice period shall last at least two weeks and must begin at least one month before the election results are announced.

## 3.3. Referendum

### 3.3.1. Calling a Referendum

Referenda may be called in order to establish or eliminate a dedicated fee or to overturn the decision of the URSU Board of Directors and must be held in the following circumstances:

1. If proposed by the Executive Committee:
  - a. Upon receiving approval of two-thirds of members of the Students' Union Board of Directors at a Board of Directors meeting.
2. If proposed by a general member of the Students' Union in good standing:
  - a. Upon presentation of a petition to the Board of Directors containing the signatures of at least five percent of the members of the URSU. The petition must also be approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors at a regular meeting.
  - b. Upon presentation of a petition at a Special or Annual General Meeting, containing the signatures of at least five percent of the members of the URSU. Signatures on a petition presented in the above manners must be validated as soon as possible by URSU.
  - c. Upon the passing of a motion presented at a Special or Annual General Meeting which meets quorum.

### 3.3.2. Referendum Timeline

When the conditions in section 3.3.1 Calling a Referendum are satisfied, the Board of Directors must schedule a date for the Referendum. Unless the Referendum is deemed to be urgent, it will correspond with the campaigning and election period of the next General Election or By-Election, whichever comes first.

The CRO shall publish a Notice of Referendum, which includes the following:

- The actual dates on which voting on a Referendum is to take place
- The dates of the campaign period
- A clearly worded, neutral statement of the question, formulated as it will appear during the vote and so that it may be responded to with a "yes" or a "no".
- Contact information for the CRO

In the case of an emergency or in the absence of the CRO, the Board of Directors may, by a two-thirds majority vote, set the campaigning period for the referendum.

~~Deleted: Special~~

~~Deleted: Annual General Meeting~~



No referendum vote may be held between April 15 - September 15 or between December 5 - January 15.

### **3.3.3. Referendum Funding, Expenses, and Campaigning**

URSU shall ensure that the maximum budget for the "Yes" and the "No" campaigns shall be equal. The Board of Directors shall determine the size of the referendum fund to be provided to each side on a case-by-case basis and shall inform the members prior to the start of the referendum. So long as the maximum budget is equal for each campaign, URSU is not required to provide financial support to campaigns which are funded by other parties.

All members of the URSU may campaign for or against the referendum question(s) but may not claim to represent URSU in doing so. URSU may allow students who wish to campaign on a referendum question to apply to the fund for reimbursement of campaign expenses. Such reimbursements must be approved by the Board of Directors.

### **3.3.4. Referendum Results**

In a referendum, the CRO shall declare the results of the referendum valid if the number of ballots cast meets the quorum requirements as established by the policies of URSU or by the Non-Profit Corporations Act. The CRO shall:

1. Declare as "passed" any Referendum question in which the total number of "yes" ballots counted exceeds the total number of "no" ballots counted
2. Declare as "failed" any Referendum question in which the total number of "no" ballots counted exceeds the total number of "yes" ballots counted

## ***3.4. Roles & Responsibilities***

### **3.4.1. Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors shall:

- Set the dates of the election in accordance with this bylaw and Article XI of the Constitution.
- Hire the CRO, PEO, and SEO a minimum of two weeks before the scheduled start of the Notice of Elections period.
- Assist the CRO and the Elections Committee in the completion of their duties
- Follow the rules and regulations of the Election, By-election, Referenda that are laid out within this bylaw.
- Promote participation in the Election, By-election, Referenda to the members of URSU.
- Set honoraria for the CRO, PEO, and SEO in advance of hiring.

### **3.4.2. Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee shall:

- Recommend candidates for CRO, PEO, and SEO to the Board of Directors.
- Assist the CRO and the Elections Committee in the completion of their duties.
- Follow the rules and regulations of the Election, By-election, and Referenda that are laid out within this bylaw.
- Promote participation in the Election, By-election, and Referenda to the members of URSU.
- Recommend honoraria for the CRO, PEO, and SEO in advance of hiring.

### **3.4.3. Chief Returning Officer**

The Chief Returning Officer shall be nominated by the Board of Directors to be CRO of the

URSU. During their contract the CRO, shall be responsible to the Board of Directors and shall have access to all of the resources of URUSU as they complete their duties. The CRO shall be paid such honoraria, allowances, and expenses as the Board of Directors sees fit.

The CRO is responsible for the conduct of the election, by-election or referenda they are hired to supervise. The CRO must familiarize themselves with this bylaw and must complete their duties as laid out within this bylaw in order to ensure the integrity of the election, by-election or referenda. The CRO shall have the authority to enforce provisions of this bylaw, and to investigate any alleged or perceived offences. Specifically, the CRO shall:

- Take the votes of the members.
- Verify that members who are nominated are members of the relevant constituency (excluding interest groups).
- Conduct the election of members to the University of Regina Senate (while respecting Section 27(1)(d) of the University of Regina Act) and representatives to the University of Regina Council (while respecting Part II of the University of Regina Council Rules and Regulations).
- Ensure candidates and members comply with this bylaw, and other relevant documents (see references)
- Conduct any required training of candidates and Election Officials.
- Furnish each candidate with a current copy of this bylaw.
- Hold one or more Candidate Information Sessions.
- Disqualify candidates, materials, representatives or members who have broken the rules laid out in this bylaw and other relevant documents.
- Refer serious violations to the Elections Committee.
- Refer all appeals to the Elections Committee.
- Hear, in confidence, any appeal or request for review on the conduct of any candidate(s), officials or members.
- Investigate all offences, claims and questions brought before the office
- Develop and enforce appropriate disciplinary actions
- Take immediate action to rectify any infraction identified during the course of an election.
- Review all candidate expense claims with the General manager and the Vice President Operations and Finance and approve for payment only those claims that the CRO determines to be appropriate, and in accordance with the budgeted amounts approved.
- Make or approve all communications regarding Elections, By-Elections and Referenda and their conduct.
- Appoint and oversee any Election Officials.
- Publish a Guide to Candidates (see "Guide to Candidates").
- With the assistance of the Marketing Department, arrange the posting of candidate platforms and/or profiles of candidates who wish to have this information published on URUSU authorized digital platforms.
- Provide each Election Official with training and reference material which outlines procedures to be followed, and responsibilities of an Election Official.

NOTE: The CRO retains all residual and discretionary powers, not otherwise contained in this Bylaw, in regard to Elections, By-Elections and Referenda.

#### **3.4.4. Public Elections Officer**

The Public Elections Officer (PEO) shall be nominated by the Board of Directors to be PEO of the URUSU. During their contract the PEO, shall be responsible to the Board of Directors and shall have access to all of the resources of URUSU as they complete their duties. The PEO shall be paid such honoraria, allowances, and expenses as the Board of Directors sees fit.

The PEO sits on the Elections Committee and is responsible for resolving serious violations of this bylaw as well as appeals of the CRO's decisions. The PEO must familiarize themselves

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with this bylaw and must complete their duties as laid out within this bylaw in order to ensure the integrity of the election, by-election or referenda.

#### **3.4.5. Student Elections Officer**

The Student Elections Officer (SEO) shall be nominated by the Board of Directors to be the SEO on behalf of the URSU. During their contract the SEO, shall be responsible to the Board of Directors and shall have access to all of the resources of URSU as they complete their duties. The SEO shall be paid such honoraria, allowances, and expenses as the Board of Directors sees fit.

The SEO sits on the Elections Committee and is responsible for resolving serious violations of this bylaw as well as appeals of the CRO's decisions. The SEO must familiarize themselves with this bylaw and must complete their duties as laid out within this bylaw in order to ensure the integrity of the election, by-election or referenda.

#### **3.4.6. Elections Committee**

The Elections Committee is comprised of the CRO, the PEO and the SEO. Specifically, the Elections Committee is responsible for;

- Disqualifying candidates, materials, representatives or members who, in the opinion of the Elections Committee, have broken the rules laid out in this bylaw and other relevant documents.
- Hearing, in confidence, any appeal or request for review on the conduct of any candidate(s), officials or members.
- Investigating all offences, claims and questions brought forward by the CRO.
- Reviewing and bringing resolution to any appeals of the CRO's decisions.
- Resolving serious violations of this bylaw.
- Being the final authority in interpreting this bylaw.
- Referring to appropriate independent legal counsel, where and when deemed necessary. The costs incurred will be the responsibility of the URSU.
- Recommending changes or additions to this bylaw.
- Developing and or enforcing appropriate disciplinary actions.

The Elections Committee has the jurisdiction to impose any sanction it deems just for any conduct that amounts to a significant and substantive breach of election protocol. Where an unfair advantage has been obtained, a penalty shall be assigned that endeavours to fully counter-balance any advantage gained.

For example, the Elections Committee may:

- Withhold reimbursement of any amount of election expenses up to 100%
- Issue a letter of reprimand
- Require a letter of apology
- Publish a notice of the violation in The Carillon and/or on the URSU website.
- Require a new election to be held for any or all positions
- Disqualify candidates

Disqualification of a candidate may occur when the violation resulted in an unfair advantage which cannot be counter-balanced by a lesser penalty, or is malicious or prejudicial to another candidate or their campaign. For further clarification, the following types of violations will likely result in the disqualification of a candidate:

- Interference or attempted interference with the voting process;
- Interference, including defamatory or slanderous comments, written or oral, towards another candidate;
- Malicious or intentional breach of the Bylaw or elections policy;

- An attempt to undermine the electoral process;
- Has accumulated 20 or more demerit points.

#### **3.4.7. Elections Officials**

Elections Officials shall:

- complete their responsibilities as laid out within this bylaw and as laid out by the CRO
- sign a contract created and/or approved by the CRO.
- be paid an honoraria at a rate decided upon by the CRO, the Vice President Operations and Finance and the General Manager

#### **3.4.8. Candidates**

Candidates shall:

- follow the rules and regulations of the Election, By-election, Referenda that are laid out within this bylaw
- respect the decisions made by the CRO and the Elections Committee
- appeal decisions using the proper procedures
- keep elections positive in the understanding that negative actions by candidates could reflect negatively on the URSU

#### **3.4.9. Members**

Members shall:

- Follow the rules and regulations of the Election, By-election, Referenda that are laid out within this bylaw.

## **4. Consequences for Non-Compliance**

In determining if an offence has been committed, intent shall not be considered. In determining disciplinary action, intent shall be one of the determining factors along with severity of the actions, relative impact on the elections process and any other factor the CRO deems relevant.

Ignorance of the Policies, constitution and/or By-Laws of the URSU does not constitute a valid excuse for committing an offence. Any member who participated in the election or who has another Conflict or a Conflict of Interest (as laid out in the Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Commitment policy of the URSU) may not participate in determining disciplinary actions.

#### **4.1.1. Candidates**

Candidates may be disciplined in the following manners:

- Disqualification for the election or by-election.
- Loss of Campaign Privileges (ex: Posters, Websites, Tabling privileges)
- Monetary fines
- Loss of vote in future election(s)
- Loss of membership in URSU
- Legal action as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors
- Other penalties as recommended by the CRO and/or the Elections Committee

#### **4.1.2. Members**

Members may be disciplined in the following manners:

- Monetary fines
- Loss of membership in URSU
- Loss of vote in future election(s)
- Legal action as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors
- Other penalties as recommended by the CRO and/or the Elections Committee

#### **4.1.3. Student Groups**

Clubs or Societies may be disciplined in the following manners:

- Monetary Fines
- Loss of URSU ratification and/or the benefits associated with being an URSU related club
- Loss of URSU funding
- Legal action as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors
- Further disciplinary action for the member(s) responsible for the actions
- Other penalties as recommended by the CRO and/or the Elections Committee

#### **4.1.4. Non-Members**

Non-members may be disciplined in the following manners:

- Discipline for the member(s) they acted on behalf of
- Legal action as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors
- Other penalties as recommended by the CRO and/or the Elections Committee

#### **4.1.5. CRO, PEO, and SEO**

The CRO, PEO, and the SEO may be disciplined for committing an offence and/or failing to carry out their duties as laid out in this bylaw and their contract in in the following manners:

- Termination of their contract and forfeit of any remaining payment for their position
- Loss of vote in future election(s)
- Legal action as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors
- Other penalties as recommended by the Board of Directors

#### **4.1.6. Elections Officials**

Election officials may receive up to one written warning for offence(s) committed during the election. Election officials may be disciplined for committing an offence and/or failing to carry out their duties as laid out in this bylaw and their contract in in the following manners:

- Loss of vote in future election(s)
- Termination of their contract and forfeit of any future payment for their position
- Legal action as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors
- Other penalties as recommended by the Board of Directors

## **5. Related information**

[URSU Constitution](#)

[University Council Rules and Regulations;](#)

[University of Regina Act \(Section 27 and 76 are relevant for Senate and Council\);](#)

Appendix 1, Disciplinary Penalties

Appendix 2, Record of Discipline Sheet

**Deleted:** Available constituencies and other information; ¶

## Disciplinary Penalties

Each and every infraction, violation or offense of the By-law shall be assessed a numeric value of “demerit points” by the CRO. Each instance of an infraction incurs the associated number of demerit points. Demerit points are cumulative. Additional disciplinary actions (above and beyond those outlined below) may be taken as determined by the CRO and/or Elections Committee at any time. All members facing discipline may appeal the decision of the CRO to the Elections Committee as laid out this bylaw. Decisions of the Elections Committee are final and binding.

<b>Demerit Point Matrix</b>	
20 points:	Anyone improperly declared an eligible candidate.
	Any candidate spending over the maximum spending limit as set by these By-laws
	Intentional misrepresentation of campaign expenditures
	Interfere, or attempt to interfere, with the administration of the Election
	Interference or attempted interference with the voting process
	Use of electronic devices to facilitate, influence or coerce a members' vote
	Solicitation of U of R and/or URSU Amin staff to interfere in the election process
	Gross misrepresentation of facts
	Malicious or intentional violation of this By-law
8 points:	Behaving as a slate
	Offensive/illegal/inappropriate campaign material
	Slandorous behaviour or statements directed towards another candidate
	Failure to submit campaign expense form and receipts by deadline
	Intentional misrepresentation of facts
	Tampering with another candidate's campaign material
5 points:	Damage to URSU or University property
	Failure to attend the All Candidates' Meeting or the All Candidates' Forum
	Campaigning outside the Campaign period
	Campaigning anywhere other than on-campus or online
	Campaigning in any library on campus
	Campaigning in The Owl bar or the URSU offices
	Repeated frivolous complaints and/or appeals
	Unintentional Misrepresentation of Facts
	Use of URSU's logo on candidate materials
Serving alcohol at an event that is organized by a candidate or held in support of a candidate	
2 points:	Failure to submit a Candidate Profile by the deadline
	Using printed material that does not have a legible name of the candidate on the front
	Use of anything other than painter's tape to post campaign materials outside of the poster boards
1 point:	Making a frivolous complaint about another candidate (1 point per complaint)
	Improper poster placement (1 point per poster up to a maximum of 8 points)
	Use of any kind of sticker (1 point per sticker per sticker type up to a maximum of 8 points)
	Painting or chalking on buildings and sidewalks (1 point per incident)

Once a candidate has accumulated a minimum of 5 demerit points, the candidate will be subject to the following fines and/or penalties at the sole discretion of the CRO and/or Elections Committee;

<b>Fine and Penalty Matrix</b>		
<b>Demerit Points Accumulated</b>	<b>Fine</b>	<b>Penalty (at discretion of CRO and/or Elections Committee)</b>
5	\$25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss or restriction of Campaign Privileges (ex: Posters, Websites, Tabling privileges)</li> <li>• Other penalties as recommended by the CRO</li> </ul>
8	\$50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss or restriction of Campaign Privileges (ex: Posters, Websites, Tabling privileges)</li> <li>• Loss of vote in future election(s)</li> <li>• Other penalties as recommended by the CRO</li> </ul>
15	\$100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss or restriction of Campaign Privileges (ex: Posters, Websites, Tabling privileges)</li> <li>• Loss of vote in current and/or future election(s)</li> <li>• Loss of membership in URSU</li> <li>• Legal action as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors</li> <li>• Other penalties as recommended by the CRO and/or the Elections Committee</li> </ul>
20		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disqualification from Election or By-Election</li> <li>• Other penalties as recommended by the CRO and/or the Elections Committee</li> </ul>

Any activity not listed here that could be considered an offence is subject to the investigation and judgment of the CRO. If an activity is judged to be an offence, the offence should be added to the above list and the disciplinary action applied should be added to the list found in section 4 Consequences for Non-Compliance.

The CRO shall have the authority to enforce provisions of this bylaw, and to investigate any alleged or perceived offences.

## Record of Discipline Sheet

In the event that a member is disciplined for an offence this sheet should be filled out by the CRO to document disciplinary actions taken. These sheets should be turned in to the General Manager following the election.

Date and (approximate) time of Offence	
Name of Offender	
Description of Offence (use other side as necessary)	
Discipline	
Resolution (ex: was payment made?)	

If the candidate wishes to appeal, the request for appeal must be affixed to this sheet and submitted, along with the appeal and any and all supporting documents or evidence to the Elections Committee.