

University of Regina – CRO Report
Shafeeka Sayyid
Submitted: April 23, 2019

Background

The University of Regina Students Union engaged the services of Shafeeka Sayyid as the Chief Returning Officer for the 2019 URSU Election held on March 18 and 19th, 2019.

The election period lasted from February 11th to March 19th. The nomination period lasted from February 11th to the 27th. The campaigning period began on March 4th at 12:00 am and ended on March 17 at 11:59 pm. There were a total of 57 candidates initially in this election and 1 referendum question as followed:

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?

As a result of the verification process undertaken to verify the eligibility of each potential candidate, University Governance informed the CRO that 12 nominated candidates were:

- Not currently enrolled in the faculty for which was indicated to represent if elected
- Did not complete the nomination forms in full by the required deadline
- Are not registered as a full time student and therefore not eligible for an Executive of Council position

The following is a list of candidates that submitted a nomination form that was deemed invalid:

BOD Campion College	Harkaran Singh Rai
BOD Faculty of Business Administration	Akashpreet Singh Cheema
BOD Faculty of Education	Manpreet Singh
BOD Faculty of Engineering	Rupinder Kaur
BOD Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research	Niharika Sethi
BOD Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies	Amanpreet Singh Bassi
BOD Faculty of Social Work	Arshdeep Kaur
BOD Luther College	Moklesur Rahman
BOD Luther College	Param Grewal
Executive of Council - Faculty of Business Administration	Keone James Rohatensky

The following candidates retracted their nomination due to inability to commit, change of mind or personal reasons:

- Taranjot Singh
- Jared Price
- Zoey Yanush

A mandatory all candidates meeting was held on February 28th, 2019 by the CRO. The bylaw and the nomination package was briefly explained and expectation were emphasized and outlined during this time. Candidates also had the opportunity to ask any questions they may have had. Those not in attendance were demerited 5 points.

A mandatory all candidates forum was held on March 11, hosted by the CRO. This was an opportunity for all candidates running for board of director positions and executive positions to expand on their platforms and meet with the URSU student population. The following individuals were applied 5 demerit points and as a result, a loss of tabling privileges for not attending the forum and providing no prior notice.

Vice President of Operations and Finance	Manvinderjit Singh
Vice President Student Affairs	Ajit Singh
<i>Equity and Campaigns - constituency</i>	Sukhveer Garcha
Faculty of Arts	Gurkirat Singh Uppal
Faculty of Engineering	Tanaya Sharma
Faculty of Engineering	Pranav Mukesh
Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research	Kishore Kumar Reddy Bommvaram
Faculty of Science	Arshdeep Singh Simk
Faculty of Science	Yeasin Arafat
Faculty of Science	Jashneet
<i>International Students - constituency</i>	Yadwinder Singh Deol
<i>Students with Disabilities - constituency</i>	Sukhmandeep Kaur
<i>Students with Disabilities - constituency</i>	Gurpreet Singh
<i>Women Students - constituency</i>	Simran Simran

The following candidates have been acclaimed for the indicated positions as they were running unopposed:

URSU Board Director of Faculty of Business Administration

Amit Kumar Bansal

URSU Board Director of Faculty of Education

Rylan Jensen

URSU Board Director of Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies

Barzany Ridha

URSU Board Director of Faculty of Media Arts and Performance

Manjot Singh

URSU Board Director of Faculty of Nursing

Mark Matthies

URSU Board Director of Luther College

Zoey Yanush - resigned

URSU Board Director of Part Time Students – constituency

Jagmandeep Tejay

URSU Board Director of First Nations University Of Canada

Timothy Merasty

URSU Board Director of Continuing Education

Davinder Singh

Executive of Council for Faculty of Arts

Mason Van Luven

Executive of Council for Faculty of Business Administration

Amit Kumar Bansal

Executive of Council for Faculty of Engineering

Muhammad Khan

Executive of Council for Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies

Barzany Ridha

Executive of Council for Faculty of Media Arts and Performance

Katlyn Richardson

Executive of Council for Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Kishore Kumar Reddy Bommvaram - 5 demerit points for not attending forum – loss of tabling privileges was applied as indicated earlier but no further penalties assessed.

University Council for Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Akshyata

University Council for Faculty of Arts

Alfred Adenuga

University Council for Faculty of Arts

Adeoluwa Adebajji

University Council for Faculty of Arts

Moklesur Rahman

University Council for Faculty of Business

Amit Kumar Bansal

The voting ballot was comprised of the following candidates:

President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Davinderpal Deol - Harpreet Singh - Keone James Rohatensky - Victor Adeolu Oriola
Vice President Student Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ajit Singh - Ammad Maken - Harmeet Singh
Vice President Operations and Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dakota Kaufman - Manvinderjit Singh - Muhammad Usman Khan
Vice President External Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hamza Sheikh - Harman Deol - Karminder Singh
Women's Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amandeep Kaur

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Simran Simran
Equity and Campaigns Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jacq Brasseur - Sukhveer Garcha
Students with Disabilities Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gurpreet Singh - Katlyn Richardson - Sukhmandeep Kaur
International Students Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adekoya Oluwanifomo - Harshdeep Singh Binner - Yadwinder Singh Deol
Arts Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alfred Adenuga - Gurkirat Singh Uppal
Engineering Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pranav Mukesh - Tanaya Sharma
Science Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arshdeep Singh Simk - Jared Price - Jashneet Kaur - Yeasin Arafat
Senate (6 available positions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adeoluwa Adebajji - Ajit Singh - Alfred Adenuga - Amit Kumar Bansal - Colin Scheidt - Dakota Kaufman - Danyka Maurer - Harmeet Singh - Harpreet Singh - Harshdeep Singh

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jashneet Kaur - Karminder Singh - Mason Van Luven - Mohammad Sheikh - Pranav Mukesh - Rylan Jensen - Venkata Sai Kumar Pulimi - Victor Adeolu Oriola
RPIRG (4 positions available)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ariana Bourgeois - Chiara Wolfe - Isaac Tamlin - Saadia Burki

During the campaigning and voting period the CRO was made aware of general complaints and potential concerns by staff. The CRO responded to these concerns in the following way:

1. The CRO was informed by Glenys Sylvestre, the Executive Director, University Governance and University Secretary that 25 of the candidates running had a GPA below 60%, which would potentially put them at risk of being on academic probation, as a result they would no longer be in good standing with the University of Regina. Candidates that fell below this academic threshold were made aware of their position via email.
2. It was found that the URSU poster policies were not being adhered to and posters were being placed on poster boards without prior approvals from URSU. This was assumed to have been done due to pure ignorance so an email was sent out to all candidates informing them of the policies in place. The violating candidates immediately rectified this issue and no penalties were assessed towards any candidates.
3. The CRO was made aware that several CS reports were filed regarding harassment violations where candidates were involved. Candidates also unofficially reported being followed by individuals on campus. It was suspected that these individuals were acting on behalf of certain candidates. An email was sent out to all candidates notifying them of the complete no tolerance policy

regarding any kind of abuse or harassment. There was also a change made to the tabling policy to only allow the candidate and their respective campaign manager access to tables that were booked for campaigning purposes. This was done to prevent mass groups of intimidation or perceived intimidation, slate behavior or altercations from occurring.

4. The CRO was made aware by staff at URSU that there maybe some intention of individuals to manipulate votes using URselfservice. An email was sent out to IT to investigate any suspicious behavior. An email was also sent to all candidates indicating that URSU will be monitoring any suspicious behavior. Amarachi Joy Ejike, the Information Security Analyst, followed up with the following: “We have carried out our investigation and reached a conclusion that the results we found are not enough to influence the election results”. Several other student ID numbers were sent to her in regards to potential suspected manipulation and it was found that the issue may lie with the layout of the form as opposed to any manipulation.
5. The CRO sent out emails regarding details about slate behavior to all candidates to ensure the adherence to this policy.

The Elections Committee, made up of the CRO, Shafeeka Sayyid, Public Elections Officer, Marc Kelly and the Student Elections Officer, Vedyah Maharaj and student affairs coordinator met on March 19th to review the most serious allegation made against Harshdeep Binner and conduct an interview of Harshdeep Binner. The elections committee and the student affairs coordinator met again on March 26th to interview Harman Deol on similar allegations. The election committee met a third time on March 28th to review all complaints and determine next steps. The election committee met again on April 9th to conduct 5 interviews but only 3 candidates showed up to the interview. The election committee invited the remaining candidates, complainants and accused URSU members for interviews on April 11th. Out of the 18 individuals that were invited, 10 individuals responded to the request, and 8 individuals showed up to be interviewed.

The CRO received 35+ complaints during this election period. The following is a breakdown of assessed violations committed by each candidate in each respective position and the corresponding penalty that has been assessed and recommended by the elections committee. Please note that in some cases specific names and details have been withheld to protect the identity of the complainants:

President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Davinderpal Deol • No penalties assessed - Harpreet Singh • No penalties assessed
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keone James Rohatensky • No penalties assessed - Victor Adeolu Oriola • No penalties assessed
Vice President Student Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ajit Singh • 5 demerit points for non attendance to forum • 5 demerit points applied based on the violation of campaigning outside of the campaigning period. (Refer to complaint #4 in supporting documents) • Campaigning outside of the campaigning period - 5 demerit points and campaigning off campus - 5 demerit points. Total of 10 demerit points. (Refer to complaint #10 in supporting documents) • 10 demerit points for not attending the interview (Refer to complaint #22 in supporting documents) • 8 demerit points for those acting on their behalf in the interference with the election voting process (Refer to complaint #5 in supporting documents) <p>Total of 38 demerit points</p> <p><u>Penalty Assessed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of membership from URSU • 100\$ Fine • Disqualification

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ammad Maken • No penalties assessed - Harmeet Singh • No penalties assessed
Vice President Operations and Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dakota Kaufman • No penalties assessed - Manvinderjit Singh • 10 demerit points for not attending the interview (Refer to complaint #18 & #25 in supporting documents) • 5 demerit points for not attending forum Total of 15 demerit points <u>Penalty Assessed:</u> • Loss of vote in future election • Disqualification - Muhammad Usman Khan • No penalties assessed
Vice President External Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hamza Sheikh • No penalties assessed - Harman Deol • 5 demerit points for not attending forum • 8 demerit points for intentional slate behaviour (Refer to complaint #11 in

	<p>supporting documents)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 demerit points for behaving as a slate (Refer to complaint #18 & 25 in supporting documents) • A total of 20 demerit points assessed for grossly misrepresenting the facts and acting in a manner inconsistent with the University policies. (Refer to complaint #26 in supporting documents) • 20 demerit points applied for “harassing or display aggressive, violent, or threatening behaviour”. (Refer to complaint #2 in supporting documents) <p>Total of 61 demerit points</p> <p><u>Penalty Assessed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of membership from URSU • 100\$ Fine • Disqualification <p>- Karminder Singh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No penalties assessed
Women’s Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amandeep Kaur • No penalties assessed <p>- Simran Simran</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessed 10 demerit points for not attending the interview (Refer to complaint #18 & #25 in supporting documents)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 demerit points for not attending forum <p>Total of 15 demerit points</p> <p><u>Penalty Assessed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of vote in future election • Disqualification
Equity and Campaigns Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jacq Brasseur • No penalties assessed - Sukhveer Garcha • 5 demerit points for not attending forum – loss of tabling privileges was applied as indicated earlier but no further penalties assessed.
Students with Disabilities Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gurpreet Singh • 8 demerit points for indirect interference with the election voting process (Refer to complaint #5 in supporting documents) • 10 demerit points for not attending the interview (Refer to complaint #22 & #27 in supporting documents) • 5 demerit points for not attending forum <p>Total of 23 demerit points</p> <p><u>Penalty Assessed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disqualification • Loss of vote in future election

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Katlyn Richardson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No penalties assessed - Sukhmandeep Kaur <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 demerit points for not attending forum – loss of tabling privileges was applied as indicated earlier but no further penalties assessed.
International Students Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adekoya Oluwanifomo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No penalties assessed - Harshdeep Singh Binner <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 demerit points assessed for acting in a manner inconsistent with the University policies related to student conduct and “harassing or display aggressive, violent, or threatening behaviour”. (Refer to complaint #1 in supporting documents) • 20 demerit points assessed for grossly misrepresenting the facts. (Refer to complaint #1 in supporting documents) <p>Total of 40 demerit points</p> <p><u>Penalty Assessed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disqualification • Loss of voting in future elections • 100\$ Fine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yadwinder Singh Deol <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 demerit points for not attending forum

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 demerit points for not attending the interview (Refer to complaint #18 & #25 in supporting documents) • 20 demerit points assessed for acting in a manner inconsistent with the University policies related to student conduct and “harassing or display aggressive, violent, or threatening behaviour”. (Refer to complaint #26 in supporting documents) <p>Total of 35 demerit points</p> <p><u>Penalty Assessed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disqualification • Loss of membership from URSU • 100\$ Fine
Arts Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alfred Adenuga • No penalties assessed. - Gurkirat Singh Uppal • 5 demerit points for not attending forum • 10 demerit points for not attending the interview (Refer to complaint #18 & #25 in supporting documents) <p>Total of 15 demerit points</p> <p><u>Penalty Assessed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disqualification • Loss of vote in future election

Engineering Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pranav Mukesh • 5 demerit points for not attending forum – loss of tabling privileges was applied as indicated earlier but no further penalties assessed. - Tanaya Sharma • 5 demerit points for not attending forum – loss of tabling privileges was applied as indicated earlier but no further penalties assessed.
Science Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arshdeep Singh Simk • 5 demerit points for not attending forum • 10 demerit points for not attending the interview (Refer to complaint #18 & #25 in supporting documents) • 8 demerit points for intentional slate behaviour (Refer to complaint #11 in supporting documents) <p>Total of 23 demerit points</p> <p><u>Penalty Assessed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disqualification • Loss of vote in future election <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jared Price (resigned) - Jashneet Kaur

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No penalties assessed - Yeasin Arafat • 5 demerit points for not attending forum – loss of tabling privileges was applied as indicated earlier but no further penalties assessed.
Senate (6 available positions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adeoluwa Adebajji • No penalties assessed - Ajit Singh • See Above - Alfred Adenuga • No penalties assessed - Amit Kumar Bansal • No penalties assessed - Colin Scheidt • No penalties assessed - Dakota Kaufman • No penalties assessed - Danyka Maurer • No penalties assessed

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Harmeet Singh<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No penalties assessed - Harpreet Singh<ul style="list-style-type: none">• See Above - Harshdeep Singh<ul style="list-style-type: none">• See Above - Jashneet Kaur<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 demerit points for not attending forum – loss of tabling privileges was applied as indicated earlier but no further penalties assessed. - Karminder Singh<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No penalties assessed - Mason Van Luven<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No penalties assessed - Mohammad Sheikh<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No penalties assessed - Pranav Mukesh<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No penalties assessed - Rylan Jensen<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No penalties assessed
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Venkata Sai Kumar Pulimi • 5 demerit points for not attending forum – loss of tabling privileges was applied as indicated earlier but no further penalties assessed. - Victor Adeolu Oriola • No penalties assessed
Additional members penalties and points demerit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Taranjot Singh • 20 demerit points for his interference with the voting process <p>Total of 20 demerit points</p> <p><u>Penalty Assessed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of membership from URSU - Sukhdeep Brar • 5 demerit points applied for campaigning in a non-campaigning zone and 5 points applied for campaigning outside of the campaigning period. (Refer to complaint #6 in supporting documents) • 20 demerit points for interference or attempted interference with the voting process (Refer to complaint #10 in supporting documents) <p>Total of 30 demerit points</p>

	<p><u>Penalty Assessed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of membership from URSU • 100\$ Fine <p>- Dilpreet Singh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 demerit points for interference or attempted interference with the voting process and for the use of electronic devices to facilitate, influence or coerce a members' vote <p>Total of 20 demerit points</p> <p><u>Penalty Assessed:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of membership from URSU
Graduate Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Akshyata • No penalties assessed - Kishore Kumar Reddy Bommvaram • 5 demerit points for not attending forum – loss of tabling privileges was applied as indicated earlier but no further penalties assessed. - Venkata Sai Kumar Pulimi • 5 demerit points for not attending forum – loss of tabling privileges was applied as indicated earlier but no further penalties assessed.

Summary

No	Position	Eligible Voters	Votes
1	Referendum Question	16550	- Yes (1844) - No (323)
2	President	16550	- Victor Adeolu Oriola (770) - Harpreet Singh (423) - Davinderpal Deol (404) - Keone James Rohatensky (197) - Abstain (183)
3	Vice President Student Affairs	16550	- Harmeet Singh (592) - Ajit Singh (414) - DISQUALIFIED - Ammad Maken (347) - Abstain (545)
4	Vice President Operations and Finance	16550	- Muhammad Usman Khan (486) - Manvinderjit Singh (468) - DISQUALIFIED - Dakota Kaufman (418) - Abstain (450)
5	Vice President External Relations	16550	- Harman Deol (475) - DISQUALIFIED - Karminder Singh (412) - Hamza Sheikh (381) - Abstain (545)
6	Women' s Director	16550	- Amandeep Kaur (622) - Simran Simran (469) - DISQUALIFIED - Abstain (650)
7	Equity and Campaigns Director	16550	- Jacq Brasseur (698) - Sukhveer Garcha (483) - Abstain (538)
8	Students with Disabilities Director	16550	- Katlyn Richardson (600) - Gurpreet Singh (421) - DISQUALIFIED - Sukhmandeep Kaur (287) - Abstain (410)
9	International Students Director	3024	- Yadwinder Singh Deol (334) - DISQUALIFIED - Harshdeep Singh Binner (295) - DISQUALIFIED - Adekoya Oluwanifomo (229) - Abstain (115)
10	Arts Director	2998	- Alfred Adenuga (129) - Gurkirat Singh Uppal (40) - DISQUALIFIED - Abstain (85)
11	Engineering Director	1120	- Tanaya Sharma (106) - Pranav Mukesh (29) - Abstain (48)
12	Science Director	2544	- Jashneet Kaur (127) - Arshdeep Singh Simk (122) - DISQUALIFIED - Yeasin Arafat (68) - Abstain (140)

13	Graduate Director	1892	- Akshyat (66) - Kishore Kumar Reddy Bommvaram (57) - Venkata Sai Kumar Pulimi (28) - Abstain (63)
14	Senate	16550	A. Victor Adeolu Oriola (582) B. Adeoluwa Adebani (431) C. Colin Scheidt (354) D. Harmeet Singh (347) E. Alfred Adenuga (337) F. Rylan Jensen (333) G. Harpreet Singh (320) H. Ajit Singh (309) - DISQUALIFIED I. Dakota Kaufman (309) J. Mason Van Luven (269) K. Jashneet Kaur (263) L. Harshdeep Singh (249) - DISQUALIFIED M. Amit Kumar Bansal (245) N. Mohammad Sheikh (238) O. Karminder Singh (232) P. Danyka Maurer (201) Q. Pranav Mukesh (165) R. Venkata Sai Kumar Pulimi (85) S. Abstain (319)
15	RPIRG	16550	A. Ariana Bourgeois (526) B. Isaac Tamlin (452) C. Chiara Wolfe (449) D. Saadia Burki (411) E. Abstain (465)

Due to time constraints, recommendations of improvement by the CRO will be provided at a later date.