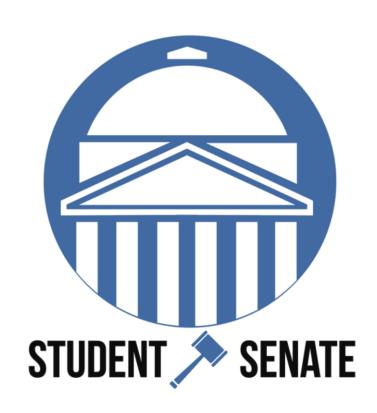
SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE ELECTION CODE

(Amended February 6th, 2018)



STUDENT SENATE ELECTION CODE

Section I: General Principles and the Membership Committee

- 1.01 All candidates must abide by the rules and regulations established in the Student Senate Constitution, the Student Senate Bylaws, the Student Senate Election Code, and the **Student Code of Conduct**.
- 1.02 The elections will be run by the Student Senate Membership Committee.
- **1.03** The Membership Committee reserves the right to exercise its discretion in the interpretation of the Election Code. Any clarification of the Election Code can be obtained from the Membership Committee Chairperson. Further, the Membership Committee has the right to make decisions and deliver sanctions in any matter concerning ethics; the Membership Committee can warn, sanction, or disqualify any candidate for breaking the rules set forth in the Election Code and the **Student Code of Conduct.**
- 1.04 The Membership Chair and members of the Membership Committee shall not be allowed to run in the Election being held during the time he or she is serving as chair or committee member. Additionally, the Membership Committee Chair and the Membership Committee members shall not endorse, campaign for, make a contribution to, or in any other manner support any candidate.
- **1.05** The Membership Committee is responsible for the conduct of general, special, runoff, and constitutional amendment elections as outlined in the Student Senate Election Code. In the conduct of these elections, the committee is specifically responsible for:
 - · Mandatory Candidate's Meeting
 - · Providing copies (or directions to) updated documents used by candidates
 - · Organizing Student Body Officer Events (Candidate Debate)
 - · Working with the Communications Chair to publicize the election
 - · Publicizing the available offices
 - · Running the election
 - · Revising the Election Code to be approved by the Student Senate
 - · Verifying candidate expense reports
 - · Holding complaint hearings

Section II: Definitions

- **2.01** "Candidate" refers to any student competing for an available position in an election.
- **2.02** "Campaigning" is defined as any action taken to solicit votes, including but not limited to speaking before groups, displaying or distributing campaign materials, and conducting door-to-door solicitation.

- **2.03** "Coalition" is defined as two or more candidates running for office jointly and pooling their resources to campaign together (for example: common campaign materials).
- **2.04** "Campaign Workers" are defined as any person who gives their time and effort to support a candidate and help said candidate campaign, where said candidate has knowledge of the time and effort delivered by the worker. No staff or faculty member of Southern Methodist University may serve as a Campaign Worker for any election.
- **2.05** "New Campaigning" refers to the distribution or placement of campaign materials after the polling period for the first election.
- **2.06** "Mass Voice-Mail" is defined as sending a message to more than one person or phone mailbox at a time.
- **2.06.1** "Mass E-Mail" is defined as sending an e-mail to a specific college, undergraduate, graduate, faculty, staff and campus wide electronic mailing list.
- **2.07** "Election Day" refers to any day during which students can vote in an election.
- **2.08** "**Proxy**" refers to one person casting a vote for another person.
- **2.09** "Procedural Error" is defined as an error that occurred due to the process the Membership Committee used when hearing a complaint.
- **2.10** "Bulletin Board" is defined as any surface on which documentation is designed to be publicly displayed.
- **2.11** "Unethical Behavior" refers to any action taken to unfairly manipulate, mutilate, or monopolize any aspect of an election. Examples of unethical behavior include, but are not limited to, destroying, and manipulating another candidate's campaign materials and collecting student identification numbers and passwords in order to vote by proxy.
- **2.12** "Results" refers to a listing of the candidates elected.
- **2.13 "Endorsement"** is defined as supporting a candidate.
- **2.14** "Running Mate" is defined as two or more candidates running jointly for election to their respective positions. All candidates are running individually for each position, there are no running mates.
- **2.15** "Social Media" is defined as websites and applications that enable users to create and share content or to participate in social networking.

Section III: Eligibility for Candidacy

- **3.01** Candidates for school seats on the Student Senate are only eligible to run for seats of the school or for the constituency (in the case of special interest positions) in which they are enrolled or are a member of at the time of the election. Students who have not yet declared a major that wish to run for an academic seat must run for a Pre Major seat.
- **3.01.1** Students who have multiple majors can select the school they want to run to represent, but cannot run for both schools.
- **3.02** Undergraduate candidates for all seats must have at least a 2.5 semester and cumulative GPA (with the exception of First-Year Students running for a position during the first semester). Graduate candidates must have at least a 2.0 semester and cumulative GPA. All candidates, both undergraduate and graduate, must be SMU students enrolled full-time in a university degree-granting program, students enrolled in a co-op program, or students with minimum hours to graduate.
- **3.03** Each candidate's eligibility must be verified by the Student Senate Advisor prior to the publishing of the official ballot.
- **3.04** Candidates must file their applications with the Membership Committee by 5 PM on the application deadline. Failure to submit the application on time will result in disqualification. No appeals will be accepted.
- **3.04.1** Abroad Students will be allowed to submit their application by e-mail by the aforesaid deadline.
- **3.05** For student senator positions there will be one representative per three hundred currently enrolled full-time and part-time students, with a minimum of two representatives for each school including the Cox School of Business, Dedman College, Lyle School of Engineering, Dedman School of Law, Meadows School of the Arts, Perkins School of Theology, Simmons School of Education and Human Development, Pre Major, and First-Year Senators.
- **3.05.1** If the number of currently enrolled full-time and part-time students is one hundred fifty one students over any multiple of three hundred students, then that school will receive an additional representative.
- **3.05.2** The number of senators per school will be determined the first week of March each year by the Membership Chair in consultation with the registrar before the Spring Election.
- **3.06** In addition there will be one student for each of the following special-interest senator positions:
- · African-American Senator
- Asian-American Senator
- · Hispanic-American Senator
- · International Senator
- · Transfer Senator (held with First-Year elections in the fall)

- Student Athlete Senator
- · Oueer Senator
- MILVET Senator
- **3.07** Those individuals wishing to run for Student Body Officer positions must have served previously as a member of the Student Senate excluding general members as defined under Article II of the Student Body Constitution.
- **3.08** Members of the Student Senate must be available to meet every Tuesday the Senate convenes from 3:30-6:00 PM. Senators are also required to host an office hour OR participate in a thirty-minute Collaboration Group meeting each week that the Senate convenes. Each candidate will be required to submit their course schedule for the following Fall semester to the Membership Chair before the end of the current Spring semester.
- **3.08.1** Student Body Officers will be required to attend Executive Committee meetings.
- **3.08.2** Student Senators will be required to attend committee meetings in addition to Tuesday chamber meetings of full senate.
- **3.09** Former Student Senators, Chairs, or Officers who resigned or were vacated from the Student Senate previously due to excessive unexcused absences will not be allowed to run for any Senate position during the election cycle immediately following the term in which he or she resigned. Exceptions will be made for absences relating to class or work conflicts.

Section IV: Campaigning Guidelines

- **4.01** All Candidates are required to attend the Mandatory Candidate Meeting. Ballot positions will be randomized. Candidates who are not present or represented at the meeting may not be allowed on the ballot, subject to the discretion of the Membership Committee Chairperson.
- **4.01.1** Candidates not present at the meeting, but who are excused from attending by the Membership Committee Chairperson, must still pick up an Election Packet and meet or contact the Membership Committee Chairperson to go over the rules and regulations of the election. Candidates must receive their information directly from the Membership Chairperson.
- **4.01.2** No campaigning can take place before the Mandatory Candidate Meeting.
- **4.02** No coalitions will be allowed.
- **4.02.1** Candidates may endorse another candidate verbally. However, since candidates are running individually, the term "running mate" may not be used.
- **4.02.2** No candidate may appear in the campaign materials (flyers, posters, etc...) of another candidate.

- **4.02.3** No candidate may endorse another candidate through any form of social media. This includes, but is not limited to, posting campaign posters as profile pictures, liking campaign pages, posting statuses about other candidates, and tweeting about other candidates.
- **4.03** Campaign Materials and placement of campaign materials shall comply with the **Student Code of Conduct**, University policies and this Election Code. Failure to follow those guidelines will result in a penalty as deemed appropriate by the Membership Committee. (See Section V for rules regarding the creation and placement of campaign materials).
- **4.04** Candidates are responsible for violations committed by anyone campaigning on their behalf. Campaign Workers must abide by the Election Code and the **Student Code of Conduct**.
- **4.05** Candidates are required to follow all rules regarding expenses used during their campaign in accordance with Section VI.
- **4.06** No campaigning may be performed within any residence hall at any time, with the exception(s)
 - 4.06.1 Commons Council meetings that the candidate is specifically invited to attend.
 - 4.06.2 Private doors pursuant to 5.04
- **4.07** Candidates cannot campaign by mass voice-mail. Additionally, candidates cannot have another party send mass voice-mails on their behalf.
- **4.08** Candidates cannot campaign by mass e-mail. Additionally, candidates cannot have another party send mass e-mails on their behalf.
- **4.09** No campaigning may take place within 15 feet of a student in the act of voting. If a complaint is filed, it will be the discretion of the Membership Committee to decide whether or not there was an intent to campaign by the candidate, as defined in Section 2.02.
- **4.10** No candidate may campaign through a third party that is a Student Life professional at Southern Methodist University, or any other staff or faculty member. This includes, but is not limited to, a staff or faculty member's endorsement of a candidate at a meeting of a student organization. If the Student Senate Membership Chair is notified of staff or faculty member interference in a student election, the Chair will report such activities to the Dean of Student Life and Director of Student Activities.
- **4.10.1** Additionally, no candidate may receive endorsement from any individual while they are performing a professional service at the University (i.e. Aramark food service employees).

Section V: Campaign Material Distribution

- **5.01** Campaign materials and placement of campaign materials should comply with the **Student Code of Conduct**, university policies and the Student Senate Election Code. Failure to follow those guidelines will result in a penalty determined by the Student Senate Membership Committee.
- **5.02** No stake signs or other forms of campaign material may be placed in the following areas:
- Perkins Administration
- · Hughes-Trigg Student Center (with the exception of passing out buttons and/or flyers to individual students)
- · Theology School (i.e., Perkins Chapel)
- · Meadows Museum
- · The Laura Lee Blanton Student Services Building
- **5.03** Campaigning signs and posters are prohibited from being placed on any:
- · Wall or building inside or outside of any academic or residential building.
- · Classroom or bathroom doors.
- Any professor's office or student's private residence door without their explicit permission.
- · Over any department information or safety information display on a public bulletin board. This includes fire escape maps and procedures.
- · No signs, posters, or writing may be placed on chalkboards or whiteboards in classrooms.
- **5.04** Campaigning signs and posters may be placed on:
- · Any public bulletin board within any academic building. This includes bulletin boards in hallways and classrooms.
- · Any professor's office door within any academic building provided that the professor places the sign on his or her own initiative.
- Any student's private door within the residence hall, provided that the student places the sign on his or her own initiative. Bedroom/suite doors of constituents in the residence halls may contain campaign materials for more than one candidate, provided that the candidates are not represented on the same materials.
- **5.05** Distribution of campaign material for residence halls must be submitted to the Department of Residence Life and Student Housing located in Boaz Hall.
- **5.05.1** All submitted signs (for use in residence halls) must be no larger than $8^{1/2}$ x 11 inches in size.
- **5.06** One sign per residence hall, not including students' private doors, is allowed.
- **5.07** Candidates are required to follow SMU Office of Facilities Planning and Management rules for signs displayed outdoors.
- **5.07.1** All outdoor signs must be no larger than 24 in. x 24 in., or 576 square inches.

- **5.07.2** All outdoor signs must be placed on temporary stakes
- **5.07.3** No outdoor signs may be placed on trees, garbage cans, building benches, or other permanent structures.
- **5.07.4** All outdoor signs must be laminated in order to be water resistant.
- **5.07.5** No candidate is allowed more than 20 stake signs.
- **5.08** Candidates must remove all campaign materials from all bulletin boards and public spaces, by the following deadlines: By 11:59 p.m. on the night of the last election day, and 11:59 p.m. on the night of the last run-off election day. This does not include materials posted on private doors of either professors or students within the residence halls and academic buildings.
- **5.08.01** Failure to remove signage from campus grounds by the deadline will result in a charge of \$50 as assessed by Office of Facilities Planning and Management.
- **5.08.02** Materials removed from polling places during the General Election may be replaced after election returns have been announced for that race in races where a run-off election is necessary.

Section VI: Expense Guidelines

- **6.01** Candidates are limited to the following expense limits:
 - Student Body Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, Graduate Affairs Officer) \$200
 - Student Senator (except First Year Senator) \$100
 - First Year Senator \$50
- 6.02 All candidates must file a completed (with receipts and donation letters) expense report by 5 PM on the day before the end of an election. All campaign expenses must be recorded, including estimates on donations and loaned equipment. Sales receipts should be attached to the report. A letter must accompany all donations noted on the expense report from the donor. The letter must state the supplies donated and the exact price of the donated supplies. Sales Tax will not be added into the total. Failure to submit an expense report shall result in the immediate disqualification of a candidate (barring extenuating circumstances as deemed acceptable by the Membership Committee). No appeals will be accepted.
- **6.02.1** The following Materials Cost Appendix must be used to record materials that have fixed costs:

•	Markers	\$5.00
	Poster Board	\$0.50

Lamination \$1.00 per foot
Buttons \$0.25 per button
Flyers \$0.05 per flyer

- · Stake Signs: \$2.00 per sign
- **6.02.2** All expense limits will be considering gross receipts of applicable items. Above standards will apply in the case that a price is unable to be determined or a price less than the standard is obtained.
- **6.03** Candidates who exceed the allotted spending amount will be disqualified.
- **6.04** Candidates seeking more than one office are limited to the expense limits of the highest office for which they are running, not the combined total.
- **6.05** All materials used in the campaign must have an estimated value recorded on the expense report. Only the portion of materials used on visual display needs to be recorded as an expense. Compensation for paid labor and professional services must be included (students are not considered professionals unless they are serving in a professional capacity).
- **6.05.1** Previously owned materials that produce the visual display will be valued according to the values designated in the Materials Cost Appendix or an estimated cost seen as legitimate by the Membership Committee.
- **6.05.2** Materials that are not included in the visual display, but which were used in its manufacture will not be counted as an incurred expense (i.e., staple guns, hammers, etc.)
- **6.06** An identical sign may replace any sign that is torn down or destroyed without recording the additional cost on the candidate's expense report.
- **6.07** Candidates in a run-off election will have a new expense limit with a value of one-fourth of the previous expense limit. Previously recorded expenses need not be recorded.
- **6.08** Expense reports of all run-off candidates are due to the Membership Committee Chairperson by 5 PM on the day before the last day of the run-off election. An expense report must be filed even if no new expenses were incurred. Failure to submit an expense report on time will result in disqualification (barring extenuating circumstances as deemed acceptable by the Membership Committee). No appeals will be accepted.
- **6.09** No activity fee funds may be used to advocate a position in any election, including the purchase of a Daily Campus ad. Individuals or groups may purchase ads and advertise a position with their own money. For any student organization that violates this rule, the Membership Committee will recommend that their affiliation status be revoked.

Section VII: Write-in Candidates

7.01 Write in candidates must abide by all the rules of the Election Code and the Student Code of Conduct, except the application filing deadlines and attendance at the Mandatory Candidate Meeting.

- **7.02** Write-in candidates shall not be allowed to participate in the debate and other events sponsored by the Membership Committee.
- **7.03** Write-in candidates who wish to use campaign expenses or donations must notify (and receive confirmation from) the Membership Committee Chairperson before the election. Write-in candidates must pick-up an Election Packet provided by the Membership Committee Chairperson. Write-in candidates will also be required to submit an expense report by the official expense report deadline.
- **7.03.1** Official candidates are allowed to file complaints against write-in candidates who violate the aforesaid rules.
- **7.03.2** Write-in candidates who do not use expenses or donations will still be required to submit an expense report.
- **7.04** No write-in candidates will be allowed for run-off elections. Write-in candidates in the general election who make the run-off will be placed on the run-off ballot.

Section VIII: Running for More Than One Position

8.01 An individual can only hold one position. If a candidate wins more than one seat, they must postpone a decision about which office to keep until the final results of all races they are involved in, including run-offs, are announced.

Section IX: General Procedures for Elections

- **9.01** The official ballot of eligible candidates will be prepared and verified by the Student Senate Membership Chairperson at least 48 hours before the first Election Day.
- **9.01.1** The aforesaid ballot will include the legal first and last name of the candidate.
- **9.01.2** Use of any variation of a candidate's legal name (such as a nickname) will be subject to the approval of the Membership Committee Chairperson.
- **9.02** First-year elections and general elections will take place over two voting days. If a run-off election is necessary, voting will take place over two additional designated days.
- **9.03** Voting will take place at the Orgs@SMU site. The Membership Committee will ensure that the website is ready for the election days.
- **9.04** Voting times and available locations will be announced at the Mandatory Candidate Meeting.
- **9.05** Voting by proxy is prohibited.

- **9.06** Students must vote independently of any external pressure and of their own free will. No candidate or campaign worker may aid or interfere with an individual who is using the ballot web page. Any violation would be considered unethical behavior (see **Section XII**) and a penalty will be incurred as is deemed suitable by the Student Senate Membership Committee.
- **9.07** Students may vote only in the election of their schools of record. Problems with voting should be reported to the Membership Committee Chairperson via e-mail.
- **9.08** Students who wish to withdraw from an election before the voting days should notify the Membership Committee Chairperson immediately after making the decision to withdraw. The Membership Committee Chairperson shall remove the student from the ballot of candidates within 24 hours of the receipt of this notification.

Section X: Results

- 10.01 Results from the General Elections, will be posted and announced at 5 PM in the commons of Hughes-Trigg by the Membership Chairperson. Additionally, the Membership Committee Chairperson will e-mail the results to all candidates and students as quickly as possible.
- **10.01.1** First-Year Senator elections and run-off elections will be announced in an email to the Student Body the day following the results.
- **10.01.2** If a complaint is filed, the results of the contested race and races affected by the contested race's outcome will be held until the complaint is resolved.
- 10.02 To be elected President, Vice President, or Secretary of the Student Body, or the Graduate Affairs Officer, a candidate must receive a minimum of 50% of all the votes cast for that office; otherwise, there will be a run-off election between the top two candidates for that office. If no candidate receives a majority and there is a tie for second place, there will be a run-off among the three top candidates and the winner will be selected by a plurality of the votes cast in the run-off election.
- 10.03 Elections for all positions except Student Body Officers will be decided by a plurality of the votes cast. In the event of a tie vote for an open seat, a run-off election will be held.

Section XI: Run-off Elections

- 11.01 The results of a run-off or subsequent elections will be determined by the following rules:
- **11.01.1** If only two candidates appear in a run-off or subsequent election and one candidate is disqualified, there will be no run-off or subsequent election.

- **11.01.2** If more than two candidates appear on the ballot and one of the candidates is disqualified, there will be a subsequent election if the number of candidates on the ballot is equal to or less than the number of open seats in that particular race.
- **11.01.3** No write-in candidates are allowed in subsequent or run-off elections.
- 11.02 Vote totals for candidates in run-offs, with the exception of those running for Student Body Officer Positions, will be kept confidential.
- 11.02.1 Candidates in run-offs will be allowed to see their own vote totals.

Section XII: Ballot Manipulation

- **12.01** Vote manipulation, rigging, or fraud is strictly prohibited and can result in punishment or disqualification, and/or referral to the University Judicial Officer.
- **12.02** At the close of an election, the Membership Chair and Senate Advisor will systematically investigate said election for the presence of voter fraud and manipulation. If said manipulation is suspected, special proceedings pursuant to Section XVI will convene.

Section XIII: Constitutional Amendments

- **13.01** Ratification of Constitutional Amendments will be decided by a two-thirds vote of the voting student body.
- **13.02** Constitutional elections must be held within three school weeks of constitutional amendments passed by the Student Senate. Otherwise, the amendment fails by default.

Section XIV: Special Elections

14.01 The Membership Committee must approve all special elections at least two weeks prior to the scheduled election date.

Section XV: Resignations and Vacancies

- **15.01** In the event of a resignation of any Student Senator, the Membership Committee shall solicit applications and screen for replacement Senators and recommend appointments of Student Senators, who must be confirmed by the Student Senate.
- **15.02** Additionally, any unfilled Student Senator positions that exist after General Elections shall be filled in the same manner.

Section XVI: Complaint Filing

- **16.01** Any protest complaint concerning a candidate's campaign, or an election procedure must be submitted in writing to the Membership Committee Chairperson within 24 hours of the results being announced. All complaint submissions are subject to this time constraint with the exception of the internal findings of the Membership Committee, per Section XII.
- **16.02** When a complaint is filed it must include the name of the person filing the complaint along with the name of the candidate against whom the complaint is filed. No anonymous complaints will be accepted.
- **16.03** The complaint must specify an allegation to the Membership Chair in a manner consistent with 16.04. The Membership Chair shall determine which section of the Election Code may have been violated and take any necessary action.
- **16.04** The complaint must be submitted in writing via form on the Student Senate ORGS@SMU form page with the date, time, and a description of the incident in question.
- **16.05** The Membership Committee Chairperson will notify the candidate against whom the complaint is filed and will provide the accused with a copy of the complaint.
- **16.06** During the complaint process, the complainant will have the opportunity to add relevant information to the previously filed complaint and the new information will be considered as important as the complaint itself. It is up to the discretion of the Membership Committee to decide whether the new information is relevant or not.

Section XVII: Complaint Hearing Procedures

- **17.01** The Membership Committee will hear all cases arising from violations of the Election Code and the **Student Code of Conduct.** The proceeding will be closed unless both parties request an open hearing. If an open hearing is requested, it will be the responsibility of both parties to notify anyone they wish to be present during the hearing. During a closed meeting, only Membership Committee members, the committee chair, Student Senate Parliamentarian, the accused, and the complainant are allowed to be present.
- 17.02 If the complainant fails to appear at the hearing within fifteen minutes of the scheduled time of the hearing, the complaint will be dropped.
- **17.03** The Membership Committee Chairperson will preside during the hearing and will vote only in the event of a tie.
- **17.04** The hearing will follow these steps:

- The complainant will give a statement. The committee will question the complainant on such issues as the committee may deem appropriate, and then the complainant will leave. At this time, the complainant can bring in any witnesses to give statements and be questioned.
- The accused will give a statement. The committee will then question the accused on such issues as the committee may deem appropriate, and then the accused will leave.
 At this time the accused can bring in any witnesses to give statements and be questioned.
- · The accused and complainant will then be allowed back in to question each other.
- The committee, at its sole election, can call either the complainant or the accused back for further questioning.
- · If the committee votes to close questioning, then the committee will move into deliberation.
- **17.05** The Membership Committee reserves the right to vote in secrecy.
- **17.06** Any Membership Committee member filing a complaint will step down from the committee for the duration of that particular hearing.
- **17.07** Both parties involved in the complaint have the right to protest the participation of a committee member in a particular hearing based on a conflict of interest. The Membership Committee will vote as to whether or not the protested member should step down from the hearing board for that hearing.

Section XVIII: Resolution of the Complaint

- **18.01** The Membership Committee will take two votes. A simple majority will decide each vote. The first vote will determine if the accused is responsible or not responsible for the complaint. If the accused is found responsible, the Membership Committee will take a second vote to determine the punishment. Any or all of the following are feasible forms of punishment
- Disqualification
- · A percentage of the guilty candidate's votes can be deducted at the discretion of the Membership Committee with consideration given to the nature and degree of the offense.
- · Referral to the University Judicial Officer
- · Actions deemed appropriate by the Membership Committee
- **18.02** Any candidate who is for any reason disqualified before the election will have his/her name removed from the ballot.
- **18.03** The Membership Committee reserves the right to exercise its discretion in the interpretation of the Election Code. Any clarification of the Election Code may be obtained from the Membership Committee Chairperson.

Section XIX: Appeals and the Election Appeals Board

- **19.01** Appeals may be filed only on the basis of procedural error.
- **19.02** Either party involved in a complaint may request an appeal.
- **19.03** Intent to file an appeal must be declared to the Membership Committee Chairperson within one hour after the decision of the Membership Committee is made in the complaint hearing.
- **19.04** Appeals must be filed in writing with the Membership Chairperson within 24 hours of the Membership Committee's decision.
- **19.05** Appeals shall be made to the Election Appeals Board. The Election Appeals Board shall be comprised of five Student Senators and three Committee Chairs elected by the Student Senate. The Student Senate Parliamentarian shall chair the committee.
- **19.06** Members of the Election Appeals Board cannot be associated with the election in question.
- **19.07** No member of the Membership Committee can be a member of the Election Appeals Board.
- 19.08 The decision of the Election Appeals Board requires a majority to pass and is final.
- 19.09 The Appeals Board will follow these steps in hearing an appeal: Before the hearing begins, the chair of the Appeals Board will give the person filing the appeal a list of the members of the Appeals Board. He/she will then be given the opportunity to challenge any member of the Appeals Board. It will be the decision of the chair as to whether or not a challenged member will be allowed to remain and serve on the Appeals Board. The Appeals Committee will then determine if there are grounds to hear the appeal. The Appeals Board will meet and read the appeal. The Appeals Board can then:
- 1) Determine that there are no grounds for an appeal
- 2) Determine there are grounds for an appeal and either:
- a) Overturn the decision of the original hearing and make any finding they see necessary following the same rules for hearings as is laid out in 18.01.
- b) Hear presentations from the person filing the appeal and the chair of the original hearing and make a determination on the appeal.
- c) Re-hear the complaint on the basis of procedural error.
- **19.10** The decision of the Appeals Committee is final.

Section XX: Amendments to the Election Code

- **20.01** This Election Code shall be revised and reviewed yearly.
- **20.02** Amendments to the Election Code shall be presented to the Senate, by the Chair of the Membership Committee. Recommended amendments may be seen individually or voted on in block.