

## ARTICLE 4. ELECTIONS

### 4.1. General Election

#### 4.1.1. Procedures

(a) General Elections shall be held twice a year with one (1) taking place during the fall semester and one (1) taking place during the spring semester.

(b) Each semester the General Election shall be held within thirty days of the first day of regular classes for the respective semester.

€ Elections shall be held using an electronic voting system.

(d) The voting period for all elections shall be a minimum of forty-eight (48) consecutive hours and shall be no longer than seventy-two (72) consecutive hours. The voting period shall not occur during weekends, orientation, university holidays, reading days, final exam periods, or semester breaks.

€ Ranked Choice Voting, or instant runoff voting, may be used in an election if approved by a majority vote of the Governing Body before the start of the voting period.

(f) Election results of all positions shall be emailed and conspicuously posted for the student body to view in a timely manner after the certification of the election.

#### 4.1.2. Appeals

(a) Any student may appeal the election results by emailing the Election Committee Chair within twenty-four (24) hours from the announcement of the election results.

(b) The Election Committee shall review the appeal and make a report of the findings and the committee's recommended remedy to the Governing Body within one (1) week from the time the appeal was made.

€ The Governing Body shall hold a meeting to resolve the matter within one (1) week from when the Election Committee's report is received.

#### 4.1.3. Ballots

(a) All ballots shall include, at a minimum, the name and photo of each candidate. All positions on a ballot shall state the number of positions available for such position.

(b) Fall General Election ballots shall include the following positions:

i. 1A Class Representative

ii. 1B Class Representative

ii. 2L Class Representative (two positions)

- iv. 3L Class Representative (two positions)
- v. LLM/MSL Representative
- vi. Half of the total number of Representative-at-Large positions Treasurer  
Communications Director
- ix. Secretary
- x. Events Director
- xi. American Bar Association (ABA) Representative

€ Spring ballots shall include the following positions:

- i. 1J Class Representative
- ii. Half of the total number of Representative-at-Large positions

- 5. President

- iv. Vice President

#### 4.1.4. Voting

(a) All student body members are eligible to vote in all WSBA elections, except as limited in this subsection.

- i. Class representatives shall exclusively be elected by the members of their respective specific class.
- ii. Elections for the William O. Douglas Awards shall be limited to members of the 3L class.

- 5. Candidates must receive the highest number of votes to be elected to the position sought. Positions with multiple openings are filled by candidates receiving more votes than other candidates for the respective position until all open positions have been filled.

4.2. (Reserved for Special Elections)

4.3. (Reserved for Recall Elections)

#### 4.4. Election Committee

(a) An Election Committee shall consist of seven (7) members. The members shall consist of three (3) members from the WSBA Governing Body and four (4) non-Governing Body student members, one from each class and the J-section. The Election Committee Chair shall be appointed by the WSBA President and shall be non-voting on the Election Committee. The remaining members of the Election Committee are appointed by the Election Committee Chair. The Election Committee shall be

responsible for overseeing the election process and certifying the election results. No member of the Election Committee shall be eligible for election in the semester they are serving on the Committee.

(b) All elections shall be certified by a majority vote of the Election Committee. In the event there is not a majority of the Election Committee available, the Election Committee Chair shall have the power to appoint additional members from the student body to the Committee.

(c) The members of this Committee shall not speak about the election results with anyone outside the Election Committee before the student body is notified.

#### 4.5. (Reserved for Election Auditing, Certification, and Integrity)

#### 4.6. Qualifying for Election

(a) Individuals seeking class-specific and section-specific positions shall be members of their respective class and section. If an individual files their candidacy for a class- or section-specific position for which they are not eligible, such individual shall not appear on the ballot nor campaign for such position.

(b) To be placed on the ballot, candidates must satisfy candidacy requirements as described in these Bylaws and meet filing deadlines as announced. The Election Committee must confirm the candidacy of individuals who file to run for a position. Any candidate may withdraw their candidacy at any time by informing the Election Committee Chair via email.

(c) A WSBA Governing Body member shall not hold any elected position concurrently. No individual may run for more than one office in any given election. No individual shall be a candidate for a position the term of which would expire after their graduation, except for class representative and representative-at-large positions.

#### 4.7. Campaigning

##### 4.7.1. Campaigning Generally

(a) Campaigning shall not begin until the filing period has closed.

(b) There shall be a minimum of two academic weeks available for campaigning between the filing period closing and the voting period opening. Campaigning may continue during the voting period.

(c) Campaign materials may be placed in student folders and around the law school in accordance with the Facilities Bylaw.

(d) Any campaign materials in violation of the Facilities Bylaw will be reported to the Capital Improvement Committee Chair for removal without notice.

#### 4.7.2. Restrictions and Prohibitions

- (a) Candidates shall not spend more than one hundred dollars on anything related to their campaign. Candidates shall not allocate their one hundred dollar campaign finance maximum to other candidates. Contributions or expenditures from sources other than the candidate are permitted but shall count toward the candidate's one hundred dollar campaign finance limit.
- (b) Outside funds or expenditures shall not come from WSBA funds including funds allocated to Registered Student Organizations. Student organizations that use WSBA funds on campaign expenditures shall be subject to discipline by WSBA.
- (c) Candidates must report any campaign expenses made by or on behalf of the candidate within twenty-four (24) hours to the Election Committee Chair. Candidate reports shall include the total amount spent; the total quantity received of an item, if applicable; what is the funding source; and where the funding was expended. Such reports may be made public on the WSBA website.
- (d) Candidates shall not use any class time to campaign. This prohibition shall apply within the confines of a physical or digital classroom and shall bar campaigning within the space ten minutes prior to the class start time and ten minutes after the class start time.
- (e) Actions by any student that could be reasonably perceived as pressuring or coercing students to vote in a certain way or for a certain candidate shall not be permitted. This includes monitoring or watching students while they are voting.
- (f) No candidate or student shall make gifts to any student that may be reasonably perceived as made in exchange for a vote. This shall not include minor nominally priced campaign paraphernalia and materials such as consumables, flyers, koozies, pens, buttons, and other similar campaign marketing materials.
- (g) No candidate or student shall directly or indirectly compensate any student in exchange for a vote.

#### 4.7.3. Enforcement

- (a) The Election Committee has authority review violations of this Bylaw and determine appropriate consequences. Violation reviews made by the Election Committee shall be made in consultation with the WSBA Faculty Advisor. In consultation and with the approval of the WSBA Faculty Advisor, the Election Committee may recommend disqualification for election and recommend an Honor Code investigation of any candidate who may have violated this Bylaw.
- (b) Any review, investigation, or discipline recommendation made by the Election Committee under this Section shall require a written report and give reasonable time for the candidate who is the subject of the report to file a written response to be included with the report. This report shall be submitted to the Governing Body. Only the Governing Body shall have the authority to disqualify a candidate for election as a disciplinary remedy. Any disciplinary action against a candidate under this Section, including disqualification, shall occur by an affirmative two-thirds vote of the Governing Body.