Election Supervisory Board Advisory Opinion (ESB/AO 2018-005)

Subject: Accessibility of resources, Financial Disclosures

Whereas, The ESB continues on the precedent set by ESB Complaint Dismissal 2017-002 regarding restrictions on equal-access, on-campus resources during campaigning, and;

Whereas, As per Sec. 7.14 of the Campus-Wide Election Code, Candidates are required to list all expenditures and in-kind donations in their financial disclosure reports, and;

Whereas, Sec. 7.14 of the Campus-Wide Election Code requires that “campaign receipts and expenditures” be listed, along with in-kind donations, and;

Whereas, Resources that are on-campus and accessible to all students involved in a Candidate’s race do not count towards a campaign’s purchases, expenditures, or donations, and;

Whereas, As per Sec. 8.3 of the Campus-Wide Election Code, Candidates involved in college-specific or organization-specific races are not required to include resources that are reasonably available to all Candidates in their particular race on their financial disclosure reports, therefore;

Resolved: The ESB identifies that the terms “expenditures” and “in-kind donations” do not include resources equally available to all students regardless of college or participation in student organizations.

Opinion authorized by: Jennifer Valdez, Chair
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