

2014 Election Supervisory Board

In Res Vaughn/Gamez/Foster

February 20th, 2014

Chair Ryan T. Lutz delivered the opinion of the Board:

In the matter of Piper Vaughn, Adrienne Gamez and Chandler Foster, candidates for University-wide Representatives during the 2014 campaign season, heard on one count of violation of the prohibited association clause of the Student Government Election Code.

Whereas the Student Government Election Code Chapter III Subchapter A Section 3.3 reads:

SEC. 3.3 PROHIBITED ASSOCIATION. Except in cases of a bona fide executive alliance as provided for in this election code, the prohibition against association means that no candidate is allowed to contribute financially or provide any other form of tangible support to another candidate.

(a) This generally includes, but is not limited to, donating or sharing of campaign materials, campaign money, and campaign organization resources, including people, or jointly soliciting votes between and amongst candidates who are not in a bona fide executive alliance.

(b) Because the purpose of the association rule is to encourage a diverse slate of candidates to compete in a fair and equitable election on the basis of their positions, the association prohibition should be applied only to further this purpose

Therefore, on the count of violating the above mentioned prohibited association clause, the 2014 Election Supervisory Board finds the parties in question to be fully culpable. Upon weighing the evidence provided, the Board unanimously agrees on the following points:

1. The candidates chose to stand up at the same time as a group to speak during the event in question.
2. The candidates made no attempt to distinguish themselves as individual candidates besides stating their individual names. There was no distinction between platform points offered during the event.
3. The candidates admitted to visiting up to nine (9) distinct organizations on the date in question, all as a group.

Whereas the Board has found the candidates in violation, the Board has deemed a Class C punishment as governed by the Student Government Election Code appropriate. This punishment shall entail the levy of a 10% fine of total available expenditures for the University-wide race, and a moratorium of two (2) consecutive days starting at 12:00pm on Friday February 21st and ending at 11:59 am on Sunday February 23rd. This restricts any activity defined as campaigning under the Student Government Election Code. Furthermore, the candidates, agents and workers shall refrain from any use or distribution of campaign materials as defined in the Student Government Election Code. All sanctioned activities may resume after the scheduled date.