

Election Supervisory Board Advisory Opinion

(ESB/AO 2015-004)

Subject: Prohibited Association Clause

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 the Election Supervisory Board would like to reiterate that the only candidates allowed to work together and endorse each other are those in the Student Government and Graduate Student Assembly executive alliances. By working together, the Election Supervisory Board means speaking jointly without differentiation at events, sharing campaign finances and materials, and volunteering for other campaigns. If any candidate is questioning whether their practices might be in violation of this clause, please contact the Election Supervisory Board.

Any candidate that does not follow these guidelines will be found in violation of Section 3.3, and may have a complaint filed against them.

Nicholas Andrew Molina, Chair

Virginia Kay Luehrsen, Vice Chair

Ryan Lutz, Chair Emeritus

Forrest Wolfe, Secretary

Preston Covington, Member

Zachary Long, Member

Kali Lang, Member

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David Engleman, Member