Fall 2024 First-Year Elections Election Supervisory Board Advisory Opinion 2024-007 (Issued: September 24, 2024)

The Election Supervisory Board has determined that a ballot error occurred in the First-Year Election on Monday, September 24, 2024, resulting in some voters not being able to rank all candidates on the ballot. To ensure election integrity, we are not able to update or alter the ballot once voting has begun. Section 6.9 of the Student Government Constitution affords voters in the First-Year Election the ability to rank all candidates when voting. Any election with a technical error that prevents students from ranking the candidates is not in accordance with the constitution and therefore cannot be certified.

To correct this issue, the Office of the Dean of Students will host a new election for First-Year Representative candidates. This election will occur on **Thursday**, **September 26**, **2024 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

We contacted all impacted candidates regarding the error and the corrective action.

New Election Information and Timeline

- Election Supervisory Board will create a new randomized election ballot order.
- Election Supervisory Board and a Student Government student representative will test and approve the new ballot
- An email will be sent to all first-year undergraduate students promoting the new election
- Students will get the same 9-hour time block to vote in the First-Year Election.
- No votes will be counted from the initial ballot with the error. Voting will reset and start over.
- Candidates will be permitted to resume campaigning immediately be required to submit a financial disclosure #3 at a new date/time.
- Students/candidates will be allotted the normal time to submit complaints and appeals. Election Supervisory Board and appellate will have a modified time frame to resolve complaints/appeals.
- The election results announcement will occur at the same time on Monday, September 30, 2024 at 2 p.m. in WCP 1.106.

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT
September 26, 2024	Thursday	7 a.m.	First-year student email promoting voting in the First-Year Election
September 26, 2024	Thursday	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Election Day - Online voting from any computer
September 26, 2024	Thursday	4:30 p.m.	Deadline to submit Financial Disclosure #3
September 26, 2024	Thursday	5 p.m.	Deadline to submit a complaint
September 27, 2024	Friday	11:59 p.m.	Deadline for ESB to resolve any complaints
September 28, 2024	Saturday	11:59 a.m.	Deadline for student to appeal ESB decision to SG appellate
September 29, 2024	Sunday	11:59 p.m.	Deadline for SG appellate to resolve all appeals
September 30, 2024	Monday	2 p.m.	Election Results Announcement - WCP 1.106

^{**}The above timeline will be added to the Student Election website **

Opinion Authorized by: Ty Gribble (Chair)

Sydney Baker (Vice Chair)

Riya Gantla

Lauren Guerra-Flores