

THE ELECTION RULES OF PURDUE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

REVISED February 15th, 2017

Article I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1.01 Authority

The Election Rules of the Purdue Student Government shall take direct authority from Article X, Section 10.04, of the Constitution of the Purdue Student Government. The Election Rules herein shall be subordinate to the Constitution of the Purdue Student Government.

Section 1.02 Ethics

The Student Body has the right to an unbiased, fairly conducted and professional election. Pursuant to the Purdue Student Government Constitution Article II, Section 2.01, Part A, every member of the Purdue Student Body is a member of the Purdue Student Government. Therefore it shall be the duty of every member of the Student Body to ensure it is presented with an election of the aforementioned description.

Article II. THE ELECTION COMMITTEE

Section 2.01 Composition

Part A. The Election Committee must be composed of at least three members, one being designated as the Election Director, and one being designated as the Election Outreach Director.

Part B. The Election Committee shall be appointed by the Purdue Student Government Chief of Staff.

(a) The Chief of Staff must submit the members of the Election Committee for approval by the third Senate meeting of the spring semester. All members of the election committee, including the Election Director, must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Student Senate.

(b) Members of the Election Committee are prohibited from filing candidacy for office.

(c) In the event that there is a vacancy on the Election Committee, the Chief of Staff shall appoint a replacement, subject to two-thirds confirmation by the Student Senate.

Section 2.02 Function

The Election Committee shall be the primary facilitator of the Student Body Election and serve in an advisory role to the candidates with the following responsibilities:

(a) Ensuring a fairly conducted, unbiased and wellpublicized election,

(b) Ensuring the timely release of all records and results of the election,

(c) Creating the election schedule, election packets, and all petitions required by these Election Rules,

(d) Remaining publicly unbiased throughout the Student Body Election process,

(e) Contacting all candidates by email before a ticket goes to court for a grievance hearing,

(f) Upon a candidate's reporting of an offense, see Article VIII, Section 2 herein;

(g) In the event of a grievance hearing, committee members shall be appointed to advise the complainant and accused parties (see Article VIII, Section 2 herein),

(h) Ensuring that all university rules and regulations are available to the candidates,

(i) Responding to all reasonable administrative requests of the candidates with regard to the Student

Body Election within 24 hours:

- (i) Requests will be deemed reasonable at the discretion of the Election Director,
- (ii) All requests will remain confidential with exception of the Student Government Advisor(s).
- (j) Outreach to a variety of student organizations and students, including outreach to each Academic College.

Section 2.03 Oversight

Part A. The Chief of Staff shall maintain direct oversight of the Election Committee and ensure that the election is proceeding in a timely and organized manner:

- (a) Upon findings of untimely and unorganized proceedings, the Chief of Staff shall take the proper steps necessary to ensure a wellconducted Student Body Election;
- (b) In the event of a removal of an Election Committee member, proper steps shall be taken as outlined in the Purdue Student Government Constitution, Article XI, Section 11.01, Part B. The Chief of Staff may take over all Election Committee responsibilities, upon twothirds confirmation of the Student Senate;
- (c) In the event that the Chief of Staff intends to submit a petition for candidacy or publicly support any candidate in the Student Body Election, all of the Chief of Staff's powers of oversight shall be immediately transferred to an executive officer designated by the Student Body President who does not intend to be a candidate or publicly support a candidate in the election, subject to twothirds confirmation of the Student Senate. If no executive officer meets these criteria, the power shall be transferred to the most senior (Semester Classification) Student Senator not seeking another term or office, upon twothirds confirmation of the Student Senate.

Part B. The Student Body President shall maintain indirect oversight over the Election Committee and shall be charged with ensuring the competency of the Election Committee to provide an unbiased and fairly conducted election. Upon findings of gross negligence, incompetence, or other malfeasance of office, the Student Body President has the ability to immediately recall the Election Committee, with twothirds consent of the Student Senate.

Part C. The Student Government Advisor(s) shall be charged with ensuring that the Student Body is presented with a fair and unbiased election.

Article III. STUDENT SUPREME COURT

Section 3.01 Composition

Refer to the Constitution of the Purdue Student Government, Article VII, Section 7.01.

Section 3.02 Function

Part A. The Student Supreme Court shall be responsible for the review, upon petition of any member of the Purdue Student Government, of any document or action of the Student Government with regard to its constitutionality. The Student Supreme Court shall be the primary facilitator for resolving disputes relating to infractions, malfeasance, and/or other violations that may occur throughout the Student Body Election once grievances have been reported through the Election Committee. The Student Supreme Court may establish a resolution or directive for any unforeseen circumstance that directly affects the Student Body Election for the above disputes. PSSC shall determine point values for

violation of these Election Rules at a grievance hearing consisting of both the accused and accusing parties and all available evidence.

Part B. The Student Supreme Court shall be the judicial and punitive body of oversight during the Student Body Election.

Section 3.03 Procedures

Part A. Subject to the Constitution and ByLaws of the Purdue Student Government and the Standing Rules of the Supreme Court, the Student Supreme Court shall be responsible for conducting a proper hearing as outlined in the Purdue Student Supreme Court Standing Rules.

Part B. Any Supreme Court Justices in attendance to hear a reported offense must have participated in at least one Community Standards Board hearing in order to ensure familiarity with the Preponderance of Evidence Standard that is to be used to determine the outcome of the grievance hearing.

Article IV. PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Section 4.01 Eligibility Requirements

Part A. Members wishing to be placed on the ballot for the Office of Student Body President and Vice President must provide proof to the Election Committee that they meet the requirements for holding office as stated in the Regulations for Recognized Student Organizations: Requirements for Members, Officers, and Advisors, Section B.

Part B. Members must provide proof to the Election Committee that no less than one thousand members of the current Student Body support their petition for candidacy.

Section 4.02 The Formulation of the Ticket

Part A. The Student Body Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates shall run for office as a single, nonsplitting ticket.

Part B. The candidates shall make clear which member is running for the Office of Student Body President and which is running for the Office of Student Body Vice President.

Article V. SENATORIAL ELECTIONS

Section 5.01 Eligibility Requirements

Part A. Members wishing to be placed on the ballot for the office of School/College Senator must provide proof that they meet the requirements for holding office as stated in Regulations for Recognized Student Organizations: Requirements for Members, Officers, and Advisors, Section B. Members shall provide proof that they are currently enrolled in the school that they are petitioning to represent.

Part B. Members wishing to represent their college shall provide proof to the Election Committee that the lesser of five percent or one hundred constituents enrolled within their school supports their candidacy.

Part C. Students filing Senatorial candidacy to represent the Exploratory Studies Program shall provide proof to the Election Committee that no fewer than the lesser of five percent or twentyfive constituents within the program support their candidacy.

Part D. Student Senators running to represent their respective schools shall be elected from and by the students of their respective schools during the election.

Part E. A candidate for Senator shall only appear on the ballot once.

Section 5.02 The Formulation of the Ticket

Part A. Each Senatorial candidate shall be listed as an individual ticket on the finalized ballot.

Part B. Senatorial candidates are welcome to campaign with another candidate but shall be unaffiliated with one another on the ballot.

Article VI. ELECTION PROCESS

Section 6.01 The Petition

Part A. Each member of the Student Body wishing to be placed on the ballot for consideration of office must submit a petition for candidacy to the Election Committee.

Part B. The petition for candidacy shall be produced annually by the Election Committee and shall contain the following minimum requirements:

- (a)** The names and student ID numbers of the candidates;
- (b)** The minimum required number of signatures of the Student Body as required for eligibility (see Article IV, Section 4.01 Part B and Article V, Section 5.01 Parts B and C herein);
- (c)** All petitions for the office of Student Body President and Vice President must clearly state which student is the candidate for President and which is the candidate for Vice President. Any changes to the Presidential or Vice Presidential candidate after a petition has been signed will invalidate that petition.

Part C. The petition must be accompanied by a copy of the Election Rules from each candidate with the candidate's initials on each page of the document.

Part D. It is the responsibility of all candidates to verify that all campaign activities are in compliance with the Election Rules. Candidates are responsible for understanding all of the Election Rules and conveying all of the Election Rules to any student representing their campaign.

Part E. The petition for candidacy is required to be submitted to the Election Committee no later than 5:00 PM by the final Monday before Spring Vacation.

Section 6.02 The Formulation of the Ballot

Part A. The official Student Body Election ballot shall be published by the Election Committee no later than 3:00 PM on the final Friday before Spring Vacation.

Part B. Ballot format shall be at the discretion of the Election Committee.

Part C. The placement of any candidate on the Student Body Election ballot is dependent on that candidates' attendance of a meeting with the Election Committee and all other candidates as a group to discuss the Election Rules and election process. This meeting will take place the same Monday evening that petitions are due to the Election Committee.

Part D. The placement of any Presidential and Vice Presidential ticket on the Student Body Election ballot is dependent on the two candidates' attendance of a meeting with the Election Director, the purpose of which is the overview and clarification of specific areas of the Election Rules. The determination of the aforementioned areas to be discussed is at the discretion of the Election Director, with counsel from the Chief Justice. This meeting must take place no earlier than the time that all candidates meet with the Election Committee to discuss the rules as a group and no later than 2:00pm the final Friday before Spring Vacation. Similar meetings between the Election Director and Senatorial candidates are not required but may be pursued if the candidate so desires.

Section 6.03 Campaigning

Part A. Definition: Campaigning is the public release of a campaign platform or the distribution of campaign material.

Part B. Election campaigning shall commence at 12:01 am on the Wednesday after the student body returns to class from Spring Vacation and shall continue until the closure of the Purdue University sponsored voting system.

Part C. A ticket may schedule campaign appearances at any time after the submission of their petition, but may not make an appearance until the first day of campaigning.

Part D. Campaign logo and literature shall not incorporate any of the following and must be approved by the Election Committee prior to distribution:

(a) No logo or symbol of Purdue University or the Purdue Student Government may be altered or incorporated into a larger symbol without the expressed written permission of the Student Government Advisor(s), which must be included in the initial submission of the logo and literature to the Election Committee;

(b) Statements or graphics depicting illegal substances, alcohol, tobacco, weapons, or any derogatory, inflammatory or offensive material shall not be used without the expressed written permission of the Student Government Advisor(s), which shall be included in the initial submission of the logo and literature to the Election Committee;

(c) The Student Government Advisor(s) shall be the final authority on the suitability of statements or graphics.

Part E. Prohibited Campaigning: Types of prohibited campaigning are defined in Article VIII, Section 8.03 Part B herein.

Part F. Any and all public, scheduled campaign events that a candidate wishes for the Election Committee to market as such must be recorded and the details (including date, time, location, etc.) provided to the Election Committee no later than 5:00pm on the first Monday the student body returns from Spring Vacation. Each candidate has the right to seek unbiased marketing support from the Election Committee by submitting these event details by the aforementioned deadline.

Section 6.04 Voting

Part A. The Student Body Election shall be held the third Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday after the return of the Student Body to regular classes following the Spring Vacation of each year.

Part B. Voting shall take place through a Purdue University sponsored voting system in accordance with the following regulations:

(a) The Election Committee shall provide at least one voting station on campus during each day of voting. The times and locations of each voting station shall be designated by the Election Committee and must be made publicly available to the Student Body. The Election Committee shall have the authority to dismiss any student volunteer working at a voting station from his or her volunteer duties if the conduct of said student volunteer creates, intentionally or otherwise, an advantage or disadvantage to any candidate.

(b) All campaigning by a candidate or member of a candidate's campaign shall be prohibited within twenty feet of a designated voting station or within twenty feet of a University computer lab. Candidates and campaign managers shall furthermore be prohibited from volunteering at a voting station, operating a voting station or facilitating voting through a computer owned by a candidate or campaign member.

(c) A University computer lab shall be defined as any room consisting of fifteen or more computers owned or operated by Purdue University.

Part C. Votes shall be tabulated by Student Activities and Organizations and returned to the Director of the Election Committee.

Part D. The ticket that receives the plurality of votes shall be declared the winner of the election and shall gain the title of officeelect, except when the ticket with the plurality of votes has incurred infraction points that dictate a percentage of votes to be removed from the ticket. See Article VIII, Section 8.04 for the removal of votes process.

Part E. Each ticket may make one request for a recount to the Election Committee within twentyfour hours after the results are made public. The request will only be granted if deemed reasonable by the Election Committee or Student Government Advisor(s). No further recounts shall be allowed.

Part F. In the event that tickets receiving the highest number of votes are tied, the election shall be decided by a runoff election of the tied tickets. The runoff election will be governed by the Election Committee and must occur no later than three business days from the announcement of election results. The runoff election will last no fewer than twentyfour hours and no longer than seventytwo hours. A time frame will be chosen and publically posted by the Election Committee during which time the tied tickets may campaign again for the duration of the runoff election. No further funds will be allocated to either party, and the same infractions will be enforced. In the event that two or more tickets still receive the same number of votes, the election shall be decided by a majority vote of the Student Council Presidents for a Presidential/Vice Presidential tie and a majority vote of the respective Student Council for a Senatorial tie.

Section 6.05 Campaign Clean Up

Part A. All campaign flyers or campaign materials left on university property must be disposed of by 11:59 pm on the Saturday following the final voting day.

Section 6.06 Announcement of Results

Part A. The public announcement of the results of the Student Body Election shall take place within one week of the final tabulation of results. The Election Committee, with consent of the Student Body President, may delay the release of results for no more than thirty days from the date of final tabulation in order to allow reported offenses to be resolved, infraction point appeals to be exhausted, financial records to be reconciled, and campus to be cleared of campaign literature.

Part B. No persons may know the results until announced other than the appointed members of the Election Committee, the Student Government Advisor(s), and the manager of the Purdue University sponsored voting system. Release of results by the Election Committee before the public release date shall constitute a malfeasance of office.

Article VII. FINANCIAL LIMITATIONS, DISCLOSURES, AND INFORMATION

Section 7.01 Financial Limitations

Part A. Presidential and Vice Presidential tickets

- (a) Presidential and Vice Presidential tickets shall be limited to \$3,500 in campaign expenditures.
- (b) Presidential and Vice Presidential tickets may not receive campaign contributions in excess of \$500.00 from any single source, including any individual or organization.

Part B. Senatorial tickets

- (a) Senatorial tickets shall be limited to \$500.00 in campaign expenditures.
- (b) Senatorial tickets may not receive campaign contributions in excess of \$100.00 from any single source.

Part C.

- (a) Any expenditure made, either by an external body or a member of the the student body, on behalf of, for, or to the benefit of a candidate shall constitute as part of that candidate's campaign expenditure.

Section 7.02 Financial Records

Part A. Candidates shall be required to keep record of all campaign expenditures and provide proof of those expenditures.

Part B. Candidates shall be required to keep record of all campaign contributions that shall include the following minimum requirements:

- (a) Name of contributing organization or individual;
- (b) Amount contributed.

Part C. Candidates shall be required to keep record of all campaign contributions that they make from their own personal resources that shall include the following minimum requirements:

- (a) Individual contributions;

(b) Amount contributed.

Part D. Candidates shall keep records of all donated goods and services along with the fair market value of those services that shall include the following minimum requirements:

(a) Name of contributing organization or individual;

(b) Value of donated goods and services.

A service provided free of charge by a member of the Student Body shall not constitute a campaign contribution and shall not contribute to a candidate's total allowed expenditures, but must still be recorded.

Part E. Fair market value shall be defined as the price at which the property would change hands between a willing buyer and a willing seller, neither being under any compulsion to buy or to sell and both having reasonable knowledge of relevant facts, except in the case of private discount not available to the general public. If a good or service is offered at a discounted price, and the discount in question is not available to the general public, the price available to the general public must be reported as the fair market value.

Section 7.03 Financial Disclosures

Part A. The method and format of all financial disclosure shall be at the discretion of the Election Committee, with the approval of the Student Body Treasurer.

Part B. Each Presidential and Vice Presidential ticket shall submit a preliminary budget report no later than 5:00pm on the first day of public campaigning that shall include:

(a) All campaign expenditures thus far;

(b) Projected final campaign expenditures;

(c) Fair market value of all goods and services;

(d) Contributed funds with note of contributor.

Part C. Each candidate shall submit a working budget report no later than 5:00pm on the first day of voting that shall include:

(a) All campaign expenditures thus far;

(b) Projected final campaign expenditures;

(c) Fair market value of all goods and services;

(d) Contributed funds with note of contributor;

(e) Documentation of changes from the preliminary report.

Part D. A final financial report shall be submitted within twentyfour hours of the close of voting that shall include:

(a) A full account of all campaign expenditures;

(b) A full disclosure of all contributed funds, services, and materials including both the contributor and the full market value of all goods and services;

(c) Copies of all receipts and financial records associated with the campaign.

Section 7.04 Public Reporting

Part A. The Election Committee, with the guidance of the Student Body Treasurer shall make the financial records of each campaign public, upon request, before any election results are announced.

Part B. The Election Committee shall create a financial report of all campaigns that shall be maintained by the Student Government Staff Secretary for public review for one calendar year. The report shall include:

- (a) The total amount of election expenses from the candidate ticket;
- (b) A financial report of each ticket;
- (c) A record of any financial violations.

Section 7.05 Financial Reimbursements

Part A. The Student Senate shall budget \$3,000.00 for allocation to Purdue Student Government Presidential/Vice Presidential tickets and \$2,000.00 for allocation to Purdue Student Government Senatorial tickets, with the total allocation budget not exceeding \$5,000.00.

Part B. Financial reimbursement of candidates shall follow the procedure below:

(a) Any single candidate may apply for the following amount in reimbursements, up to the total personal expense incurred, pending any infractions:

- (i) In the case of Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates, maximum \$500
- (ii) In the case of Senatorial candidates, maximum \$100

(b) In the event that the total amount being asked for in reimbursements exceeds \$3,000.00 by Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates combined or exceeds \$2,000.00 by Senatorial candidates combined, the candidates may receive:

- (i) In the case of Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates, the lesser of the amount being asked and \$3,000.00 divided by the total number of Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates;
- (ii) In the case of Senatorial candidates, the lesser of the amount being asked and \$2,000.00 divided by the total number of Senatorial candidates.

(c) To receive financial reimbursement each ticket is responsible for clearly identifying expenses incurred and providing appropriate and timely documentation as outlined in Article VII, Section 7.05 Part D herein;

(d) Total reimbursement received from the Purdue Student Government allocated fund shall not exceed \$500 for any single Presidential or single Vice Presidential candidate and shall not exceed \$100 for any single Senatorial candidate.

Part C. When a ticket submits a completed reimbursement petition with all requirements and the ticket has incurred less than ten infraction points, they will be eligible for reimbursement after review from the Election Committee and Student Body Treasurer.

Part D. The reimbursement timeline shall proceed as follows:

(a) Any candidate wishing to receive reimbursement must file a petition complete with all receipts within twentyfour hours of the close of voting with the Election Committee.

(b) The Election Committee will provide notice to each candidate seeking reimbursement by the Wednesday following the close of voting. This notice will include the total amount able to be reimbursed to any candidate based on the information provided in Article VII, Section 7.05 Part B herein.

(c) Final reimbursement will be distributed no later than thirty business days following the close of voting.

Article VIII. DIRECTIVES, INFRACTIONS, AND PENALTIES

Section 8.01 Process for Offense Reporting and Consequence Determination

Part A. Any member of Purdue Student Government (Student Body) may report an alleged offense to the Election Director. Within 48 hours of an alleged offense occurring, the accusing party must file and submit a completed offense report to the Election Director. The offense report must include the following:

- (a) All members of the accusing party that wish to be associated with the reported offense (i.e.: wish to represent the accusing side in the event of a grievance hearing),
- (b) The party/campaign being accused of violating any part of these Election Rules,
- (c) The alleged offense at hand,
- (d) If the accusing party so chooses, they may provide a reasonable and wellreached suggestion of whether the reported offense should be considered Minor or Major, including why they came to this conclusion. This suggestion does not have to be honored by the party deciding the severity of the offense, but it may assist their decision.

Part B. Upon receiving an offense report, the Election Director will determine the severity of the alleged offense (see Article VIII, Section 8.02 herein). Such a decision must be made within twelve hours of receiving the offense report.

Part C. Following the determination of severity, a Minor offense will be referred to as a Complaint and a Major offense will be referred to as a Grievance.

- (a) Complaints shall be settled by the Election Committee by way of communication with the accusing and accused parties. The resolving of a Complaint does not constitute any immediate punitive consequence to the accused party, however record of Minor offense reporting will be kept in order to assist the deciding party in later determinations of the severity of a later offense.
- (b) Grievances shall be settled by the Purdue Student Supreme Court by way of a Grievance Hearing.

Part D. Grievance Hearing process

- (a) Upon determination of a Major offense reporting, the Election Director shall immediately notify the Chief Justice that a Grievance will need to be heard by the Court. The Chief Justice will take no more than twelve hours to schedule the Hearing and notify the Election Director of the day, time and place. The Hearing itself must take place between 48 and 72 hours of it being scheduled. Once the Hearing is scheduled, the Chief Justice or the Election Director will send notification via email to both parties with details of the hearing including day, time, place, the offense being discussed, and instructions for the Evidence Collection Period.
- (b) Evidence Collection Period: Upon notification of the Hearing, both the accusing and accused parties have a total of 36 hours to collect evidence on their behalf. At the end of the 36 hour period, all evidence must be surrendered to the Chief Justice. Once all evidence has been surrendered to the Chief Justice, no new information may be submitted except in outstanding circumstances, which would require approval from the Chief Justice. **Evidence may not be submitted anonymously.**
- (c) Sufficient evidence period: Within 36 hours to 48 hours of the hearing being scheduled by the Chief Justice, the Supreme Court will use the Rule of 4 to determine the validity of the claim. If validity is found, the hearing will continue as scheduled. If validity is not found, the Chief Justice will notify both parties and the grievance will be dropped.

(d) The Grievance Hearing shall be conducted by the Chief Justice or their designee as a Public

Hearing, as outlined in the Purdue Student Supreme Court Standing Rules. The Student Supreme Court proceedings shall be outlined as follows:

- (i) During the hearing, the candidate shall have the right to participate in the hearing, including but not limited to: the right to cross-examine any person testifying, to testify, and to produce witnesses to support each party's claim, in accordance with the Purdue Student Government Constitution, the Bylaws of Purdue Student Government, and the Purdue Student Supreme Court Standing Rules;
 - (ii) The Student Supreme Court shall utilize the Preponderance of Evidence Standard when determining the outcome of a grievance hearing, which can be found outlined in the Purdue University Regulations Governing Student Conduct, Disciplinary Proceedings, and Appeals, C. 7. b.
 - (iii) The Student Supreme Court shall make its ruling immediately after deliberation.
 - (iv) The Student Supreme Court shall assign points to tickets of candidates found to be in violation of the Election Rules.
 - (v) All tickets shall be notified of the decision of the Student Supreme Court after deliberation.
- (e) Burden of Proof
- (i) Following the concept of Innocent Until Proven Guilty, the Burden of Proof shall rest on the accusing party. The accusing party shall be expected to provide evidence to show that it is more likely than not that a Grievance was committed by the accused party, as outlined by the Preponderance of Evidence Standard utilized by the Student Supreme Court when deciding Grievance Hearings (see Article VIII, Section 8.01 Part D herein).
 - (ii) The accused party's effort to prove their own innocence is not required but may be beneficial to their case in deciding the outcome of a Grievance Hearing.

Part E. Anyone may issue a Grievance against the Election Committee.

- (a) Grievances must be submitted within forty-eight hours of the alleged abuse by the Election Committee to the Student Body President and the Student Government Advisor(s).
- (b) The Student Body President and the Student Government Advisor(s) shall issue a mutual binding opinion on these grievances, which shall be made public, and may recall the Election Committee.

Section 8.02 Determination of Offense Severity

Part A. Determination of offense severity (i.e.: Minor or Major) will be determined solely by the Election Director. In the event that the accused or accusing party wishes to request it, a majority vote of the Election Director, the Chief Justice, and the Chief of Staff will decide the severity of an offense. **The Student Supreme Court holds the ability to send a suggestion of revision from major to minor back to the Election Director for reconsideration after an infraction has been determined and the evidence has been sent for members of court to evaluate.**

Part B. In determining the severity of an offense, the deciding party shall reference the list of Minor and Major offenses provided herein Article VIII, Section 8.03 Part B.

Part C. The referenced lists of both Minor and Major offenses are neither exhaustive nor mutually exclusive. For example, multiple reports of individual Minor offenses may in turn escalate to a Major offense case, if the deciding body (i.e.: the Election Director or the Election Director, Chief Justice, and Chief of Staff combined) feel that the allegedly repeated Minor offenses provide greater advantage or disadvantage to any ticket(s). Similarly, an individual report of a Major offense may be considered a Minor offense case if the deciding body (i.e.: the Election Director or the Election Director, Chief

Justice, and Chief of Staff combined) feel that the allegedly reported Major offense does not provide great advantage or disadvantage to any ticket(s).

Section 8.03 Infractions

Part A. Infractions shall consist of any action of candidate(s) or supporters of a ticket that violates the Election Rules, University Regulations, or directives of the Student Supreme Court.

Part B. Infractions shall be defined as the following:

(a) Minor offenses shall be defined as the first commitment of any of the following activities *reaching an insignificantly impressionable amount of students*

(i) Early campaigning including but not limited to:

1. Facilitation of an online presence prior to the campaign period,
2. Public release of a campaign platform or distribution of campaign materials prior to the campaign period, or
3. Campaign appearances in a group setting prior to the campaign period.

(ii) Illegal display or distribution of campaign materials including but not limited to:

1. Chalking on prohibited surfaces or with prohibited materials, or
2. Inappropriate placement of marketing materials.

(iii) Public displays of disrespect for an opposing campaign to the public, opposing campaigns, members of PSG, or the Election Committee

(b) Major offenses shall be defined as the commitment of the following activities *reaching a significantly impressionable amount of students*, OR the *repeated* commitment of the following activities *reaching an insignificantly impressionable amount of students*

(i) Early campaigning including but not limited to:

1. Facilitation of an online presence prior to the campaign period
2. Public release of a campaign platform or distribution of campaign materials prior to the campaign period, or
3. Campaign appearances in a group setting prior to the campaign period.

(ii) Illegal display or distribution of campaign materials including but not limited to:

1. Chalking on prohibited surfaces or with prohibited materials
2. Inappropriate placement of marketing materials.
3. The recreation/renaming/repurposing of a preexisting (anytime prior to legal campaigning time) electronic platform with a preestablished follower base in order to reach that follower base with campaign information once legal campaigning time has begun

(iii) Public displays of disrespect for an opposing campaign to the public, opposing campaigns, members of PSG, or the Election Committee

(iv) Prohibited campaigning activities including but not limited to:

1. Actively campaigning within twenty feet of a University computer lab
2. Operating an unauthorized voting station
3. Using a Purdue University administration operated email list
4. Permanent defacing of public or university property except when permitted by the University Postings Policy (IV.B.2)
5. Coercing a member of the student body to vote unwillingly
6. Destroying or tampering with other candidates' campaign materials
7. False representation of campaign materials to the Election Committee
8. Failure to include unsubscribe feature in campaign communications

- (v) Any violation of Purdue University's Regulations
- (vi) Any violation of Residence Hall Regulations

Part C. Points incurred from infractions shall be cumulative.

Part D. The determination of point totals incurred for infractions shall be at the discretion of the Purdue Student Supreme Court during the discussion period of the grievance hearing at which the reported offense is heard. The basis for determining point allocation to a ticket if that ticket is found to be responsible for one of the above grievances shall be both the number of students reached by the grievance and the severity of the grievance itself. **The Purdue Student Supreme Court may award from 0-10 points.**

Section 8.04 Penalties for Infraction Points

Part A. Each point that a candidate accrues shall deduct a certain percentage from their total votes received from the Student Body during the Election period. In the event of points being issued to a ticket, see Article VIII, Section 8.04 for the removal process. The percentage of vote removal will be as follows:

- (a) 1 point: 4 percent
- (b) 2 points: + 4 = 8 percent
- (c) 3 points: +4 = 12 percent
- (d) 4 points: +4 = 16 percent
- (e) 5 points: +4 = 20 percent
- (f) 6 points: +6 = 26 percent
- (g) 7 points: +7 = 33 percent
- (h) 8 points: +8 = 41 percent
- (i) 9 points: +9 = 50 percent
- (j) 10 points: Removal of Candidate(s) Ticket from Ballot

Part B. Appeal Process for Infraction Points:

- (a) Any ticket found in violation of these Election Rules and therefore receiving any number of infraction points may appeal those points to the Office of the Dean of Students. The Purdue Student Government Advisors will administer the evaluation of the appeal, and it will be decided with a majority vote of those advisors.
- (b) If a candidate chooses to submit an appeal, within 24 hours of the close of the Grievance Hearing where points were applied to a ticket, the candidate(s) represented on that ticket must submit an appeal to the Election Director, who will transfer it to the hands of a Purdue Student Government Advisor to be evaluated. Within 36 hours, the Advisors must deliver their decision to the Election Director, who will communicate the findings to all parties.
- (c) The appeal itself must contain the following:
 - (i) The Candidates names as they appear on the ballot,
 - (ii) A copy of the Grievance Hearing findings, directly from the Chief Justice via the Election Director, including copies of the offense report, all evidence submitted and used at the Hearing, and both majority and dissenting opinions of the Court Justices hearing the case,
 - (iii) A clear and concise explanation of the candidate(s) reason for appeal,
 - (iv) The candidate(s) may request only ONE of the following in their appeal:
 1. That the finding of responsibility for the reported offense on the part of the candidate(s)

- was illreached, and that ALL points added to the ticket should be removed; OR,
2. That the points added to the ticket were in excess of the deserving amount based on the severity of the offense committed and the number of students reached by the offense. This request by the candidate(s) represents an acceptance of responsibility for the offense committed, but not an acceptance of the number of points assigned to the ticket,
- (v) If one of the two options above returns an unsuccessful appeal, the candidate(s) DO NOT have the option to submit a second appeal for the same offense finding using the other request. Only one appeal may be granted *per offense* that the ticket is found to have committed.

Part C. Upon final removal from the ballot (ten or more points assigned to a ticket and all appeals exhausted), the member(s) of a disqualified ticket may no longer be eligible for campaign financial reimbursement.

Part D. Any ticket violating University Regulations shall be immediately reported to the Office of the Dean of Students.

Section 8.05 Process for Removal of Points from a Ticket

Part A. Immediately following the issuance of infraction points to a candidate's ticket (and the closure of an appeal process, if any), the grievance hearing information and infraction point totals shall be passed on to the Office of the Dean of Students representative in charge of vote tabulation.

Part B. The Office of the Dean of Students representative, with oversight from the Election Director, shall apply the appropriate percentage deductions to the official vote tabulation reports.

Section 8.06 Claims of Gross Negligence or Corruption within the Election Process

Part A. Any member of the Purdue Student Government, by procedure herein, may submit a petition of no confidence in the Student Body Election. The petition shall be submitted to the Student Government Advisor(s) within five business days of the first day of voting and must contain the reasons for a no confidence vote along with the signatures of at least one twentieth of the Student Body, of the constituency base in question, as determined by the University Registrar. Once verified by the Office of the Dean of Students as legitimate, the Office of the Dean of Students, or a representative of, shall investigate the election process and determine the legitimacy of the claim.

Part B. Upon written ruling of no confidence, signed by the Office of the Dean of Students, the Student Government Advisor(s) shall appoint Purdue Student Government members to initiate a new election within fifteen calendar days. A board of oversight that is appointed by the Dean of Students, or representative thereof shall oversee the Election and all persons having an active role in the Election, including the Election Committee.

Part C. The decision by the Office of the Dean of Students may be appealed to the Campus Appeals Board. In such cases, it may affirm, change, or reverse a decision, and its action is final.