## Elections Board Agenda

## ASsquare_logo.tifAssociated Students

4/3/20, 11:00 AM

Virtual Meeting - Zoom

**CALL TO ORDER by Davis Quan at 11:04 AM**

**A. ATTENDANCE**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Note:** | **Name** | **Note:** |
| Davis Quan(Chair) | **Present** | Ruth Garcia Guevara(Advisor) | **Present** |
| Andrew Yan | **Present** | Diana Collins Puente(Advisor) | **Present** |
| Emma Xing | **Present** |  |  |
| Wessal Esber | **Present** |  |  |
| Shannon Hollingsworth | **Present** |  |  |

**B. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**B.1. Voter Threshold**

Davis: Yesterday I had a meeting with a few other people in AS. As you all know, Senate tabled our last motion to decrease the voter threshold from 20% to 15% in light of COVID-19 and virtual campaigning.

Davis: But first, just a quick announcement. Diana is back on the board with us in a role as director.

Diana: I have been part of AS for the past five years. I'm now a director with oversight over the community affairs and the government affairs group. Ruth continues as your advisor and I’m just really here to support the whole process and to see how I can support you all.

Davis: So now we need to talk about the threshold. We need to retract our last motion. Ruth, what would you advise as the shortest process?

Ruth: I think opening last week’s minutes and changing it there, then with the discussion right now that should cover it.

Davis: One path we can go towards is extending the 15% threshold to everything – including fees, amendments, as well as candidates. I know earlier we said we didn’t want to decrease the threshold for fees. Also the other thing is this might not be approved at all because this has to go through the chancellor.

Ruth: I’m going to preface this by saying that other campuses have already petitioned like Berkeley. If we make this change we need very specific reasons why.

Emma: I think we should do the petition.

Wessal: I’m weary of doing it now because of the fees. Because of financial security it’s not fair to tell students to pay new fees with a decreased threshold.

Andrew: I agree. I don’t want to do it if it decreases the threshold for fees.

Shannon: I agree with that too. I think it does change things if it’s fees too.

Davis: So you all except for Emma would want to leave the threshold at 20%?

Wessal: Even if it does come to another election in the fall, I think that’s still more fair than raising fees in that event.

Ruth: Just so we all have a better understanding of what will happen. According to the Constitution we don’t have the power to move the timeline of the election. But the Constitution is written to allow you to have the entire process for elections Week 5. We do it Week 4 and we do it on purpose in case there’s anything we needed to do we could complete the process by Week 5. The other piece that I wanted to mention and I was not able to do more research on it. What happens if we do not happen to the voter threshold – reaffirmations, new fees, and candidates. Is there any sort of guidelines from UCOP about reaffirmations or fees or anything like that. As far as we can tell, there is nothing from UCOP that can help guide us from that direction. But there is something that says that if the voter threshold is not met, then CEC reaffirmations specifically may still pass.

Davis: So just to clarify, our petition to the chancellor won’t be happening?

Ruth: You should do a vote.

Diana: Someone needs to make a motion.

Andrew: I can vote no on my own motion right?

Davis: Yea.

**Motion in support of a petition to the chancellor to lower the threshold for candidates, fees, amendments, etc from 20% to 15% (REJECTED)**

*First/Second: Yan/Xing*

*Vote: 1-3 to APPROVE, no abstentions*

Davis: We could also let the ballot run if the threshold does not pass. We’ve done it in the past. Basically this would extend the election only if we do not make the threshold.

Wessal: I agree.

Shannon: I agree with Wessal. We could see how it will go the first couple of days and push it more.

Davis: Let’s throw out some dates, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday?

Emma: I think Wednesday will be good.

Wessal: Then we have two days to work things out.

Davis: Here’s the code. “General Elections shall be completed by the fifth (5th) week of the Spring quarter.” Article X, Section 2. So we will be fine as long as we complete the election by the end of Week 5.

Andrew: Just to clarify, is the initial end date Wednesday of Week 5 or is it still Thursday of Week 4?

Davis: Thursday of Week 4.

Davis: We need to briefly table this just to wait on a response from the attorney general.

Ruth: Yes, you should talk to the attorney general and maybe Alli too.

**B.2. Violations**

[redacted]

**B.3. Threshold Pt. II**

**Motion to amend March 27 minutes to strike last week’s motion that lowers voter threshold**

*First/Second: Hollingsworth/Esber*

*Vote: 4-0 to APPROVE, no abstentions*

Diana: One more thing to consider. Like for the special election, do you think it might be confusing if we have changing deadlines?

Davis: That’s an interesting perspective. Do you think it’s an issue if we don’t have a hard set deadline?

Andrew: I think it would be more confusing if we tell the candidates right now that they are campaigning for a whole extra week when no one has been planning for this. Just trying to think of it from their perspective too. I like the idea of only extending the election if it’s necessary.

Wessal: Yes, I like the option where the deadline is Thursday and if we don’t meet it we can just extend it.

Shannon: Honestly I feel like we should just extend it in the first place so everyone has a timeline.

**Motion to extend the election deadline from Thursday of Week 4 until Wednesday of Week 5 in the event that the 20% voter threshold is not met on Thursday of Week 4**

*First/Second: Esber/Xing*

*Vote: 3-1 to APPROVE, no abstentions*

Emma: So what happens if the threshold doesn’t get met on that Thursday? It just gets extended right?

Andrew: We provide continuous updates throughout the week on the Facebook page. Every day after 4pm we tell them how many people have voted. So in the case that the numbers are low from the beginning, they should be able to anticipate it.

Wessal: If we give them the numbers they should know that it’s coming.

Andrew: Yes.

Wessal: So the extension shouldn’t be a surprise to anyone in the event that the threshold isn’t met.

**MEETING ADJOURNED by Davis Quan at 11:52 AM**