



ELECTIONS BOARD AGENDA

Associated Students

4/5/21, 3:00 PM

Zoom

CALL TO ORDER by Andrew Yan at 3:00 PM

A. ROLL CALL

Name	Note:	Name	Note:
Andrew Yan <i>Chair</i>	Present	Ruth Garcia Guevara <i>Advisor</i>	Present
Wessal Esber <i>Vice Chair</i>	Present	Diana Collins Puente <i>Advisor</i>	
Shannon Hollingsworth	Present	Dylan Martinez <i>Senate Liaison</i>	Absent
Austin Foreman	Present		
Lauren Sullivan	Present		
Daniel Ong	Absent (Excused)		

Icebreaker:

B. DISCUSSION ITEMS

B.1. Spring Election

Andrew: The election needs to reach a 20% voter threshold for it to be valid. We are calling it the voter turnout requirement this year, but it means the same thing.

Ruth: Under the Constitution, I believe, the election has to conclude week 5. Right now we run and we conclude our election by week 4. We have an additional week if needed to extend, so that is already written in. My question is what happens if we do not meet the voter threshold. The 20% won't matter if the vote is yes or no. If we don't let hit the 20% what happens.

Wessal: Ruth, when we get 20%, there's still only 2 or 3 people running for on-campus. It sounds like we're going to be in-person in the fall. What happens to the seats if there's no one, are they appointed?

Ruth: If we had a valid election and the seats are valid, the way it works now, there's an IVP and an ad hoc committee to fill those positions. We are done.

Wessal: Back to your question though, we should have a contingency plan but I think we will be able to get to 20.

Wessal: We could also consider writing to the chancellor to change the 20% threshold.

Andrew: Wouldn't that affect the fees too? We aren't helping any of the fees pass.

Wessal: This isn't the first election we've run this year in COVID. The first one we met threshold. In the fall we got 9 or 10%.

Andrew: 8%.

Wessal: 8% for one position. Last quarter we had one position, the President.

Andrew: I think it was 5 or 6 in winter.

Wessal: Thinking about it, we have a full election happening like last spring. I would assume we are able to reach threshold based on that. We've been fine 3 elections in a row. I don't want us to lower the threshold because we don't think it's going to fail. I'm confident that we are able to do it but we should have a contingency plan.

Andrew: Why don't we just extend it only if it doesn't hit the threshold by Thursday. It's the same contingency plan as every year.

Austin: What if we extend it and even then it doesn't pass after the extension. In that case, we can just tell him, Chancellor Yang, our election has concluded within the legal parameters. We only have 18.99% of the student body, would you consider doing XYZ to allow the election to pass. We shouldn't just go to them saying we expect it to fail. We don't expect it to fail anyways. If we have to extend it at that point we can start drafting it for the chancellor.

Andrew: Yea, there's no reason to send that beforehand.

Shannon: Yes, I do think we can get to 20%.

Lauren: I'm confused why we would tell the chancellor, can we lower the threshold?

Wessal: For the election that you've seen, we've had the opportunity to choose the threshold when it's a special election. When it's the spring election it's in the constitution that it has to be 20%. The reason we can't change it is because of that. It's in the constitution that we have to reach 20% because of the fees.

Austin: It's UCOP as well.

Wessal: What we're trying to do is come up with a contingency plan if we don't reach the 20%.

Andrew: What if we extend it if it doesn't reach 20% and we cross the chancellor bridge if we get there. Like Wessal said, we'll probably know by the first 1-2 days if we are on track to hit 20%.

Everyone will get the voter turnout numbers. It'll be posted on the Elections Board facebook page.

Austin: Yes.

Andrew: Sean mentioned something about our residency question "where would you be currently residing if the campus was operating at full in-person capacity?"

Austin: I know that we can't ask the question where do you live now?

Wessal: We also can't ask where did you live in Fall? I think the question makes sense but maybe coming up with an example to the question would be useful.

Ruth: We have also vetted the question to UCOP

Andrew: Why can't we do that though? We could have had everyone who is not graduating say where they are living next year, and everyone who is graduating (seniors) say where they are living now.

Wessal: I had the same exact idea at the beginning and we talked about that. We can't ask two different questions. It would create so many stipulations for different individuals. It would also change the constituency of those are voting for.

Andrew: I like Sean's idea better, but the other thing is we have already told the candidates. One of the candidate forums questions mentions the existing wording.

Ruth: Yes, and if we're going to do something else it has to go right back to UCOP.

Austin: I think we could clarify it. An example would be good. I think that one question that's already been vetted is the way to go.

Andrew: Are we all good on emailing Sean about this?

Lauren: I'm good from going from there.

Shannon: Sounds good.

Ruth: You can also tell Sean that it's been to UCOP.

Andrew: Also, we got an email about a write-in candidacy. It's a bit new for us because we haven't seen a write-in for at least 4 years now.

Wessal: If there's more write-ins that's awesome, it would mean there are more people running.

Andrew: The board needs to decide: do we allow them to submit the statement, candidate forums, and the workshop. I think the candidate forums are out since the videos are already in processing. I think they should have to do the workshop. Legal Code says they should get to submit the statement if they want to.

Ruth: I think you're right Andrew.

Austin: I think that's a great idea.

Motion to have write-in candidates attend/watch the candidate workshop, to have the option to send in a statement which will appear on the ballot via link to write-in candidate statements and for the write in candidates to not participate in the public forum videos as the technical element deadline has passed.

First/Second: Esber/Foreman

Vote: 4-0 to APPROVE, no abstentions

MEETING ADJOURNED by Andrew Yan at 4:00 PM