

# Student Government Election Guidelines

1. Campaigning shall be defined as attempting to persuade the electorate's vote through the use of signs or messages on University property. This shall include, but not be limited to: yard signs, posters, sidewalk chalk/paint, flyers and leaflets.
2. Campaigning shall be restricted to recognized student organizations and those candidates that have been officially nominated. All campaign materials must be sponsored, in writing, by a recognized student organization or an official candidate.
3. Campaigning shall be prohibited within the building of any designated polling place and within 50 feet of the building of a designated polling place.
4. The Executive Director of the University Student Government Association shall designate election officials and shall personally instruct those officials in these guidelines and appropriate conduct at the polls. No person either holding or pursuing elective office in University Student Government may act as an election official. Members of the Internal/External Affairs Council who are not pursuing elective office shall be considered election officials.
5. Election Officials may not encourage students to vote or offer any advice or encouragement on any candidate.
6. Election Officials shall be responsible for all ballots, both used and unused, and must maintain a written log of any lost or stolen ballots. If a ballot is believed by two election officials to be removed from the building of the designated polling place, it shall be considered lost or stolen and subsequently voided.
7. Election Officials must afford the right to privacy to all voters.
8. If a voter requests assistance in the physical act of voting, one election official must provide assistance and follow the instructions of the voter EXACTLY so long as those instructions do not violate these guidelines. If assistance is provided, the election official must maintain the confidentiality of the voter's ballot even if the voter should waive that right in any way.
9. Election officials shall consider a voter to be any and every current UW -Superior student who presents a state or university issued photo ID that represents a true likeness of that person.
10. When a voter has presented their photo ID, their name shall be matched with the list of students provided at the polls and their name shall be crossed from the list. If the voter's name does not appear on the list, they must show a valid UW -Superior ID and declare their voting department. Their name shall be written in a list at the front of the list provided.
11. Voters shall receive one ballot that corresponds to their voting department. Voting departments are described in the SGA Rules of Procedure.

12. Grievances to any election may be submitted anonymously to the ballot box on Election Day(s) or dropped off at the Yellowjacket Union Desk. Grievances shall be accepted no later than noon on the Monday directly following the election. The Executive Director shall inform the Internal External Affairs Council via email of any election grievances within twenty-four (24) hours of their receipt. Investigation of and action on grievances shall be at the discretion of the Executive Director unless (s) he should be directed to investigate a grievance by a majority of the Internal/External Affairs Council in a scheduled meeting prior to the election results.

13. The Internal/External Affairs Council shall validate Elections at the first regular meeting following the election or at a special meeting called for that purpose. Special meetings shall not be called for the purpose of validating elections on the Tuesday following the election.

### **Posting Information On Campus**

Please review the below campus policies about posting on campus, so we can maintain the quality of our buildings

**NOTE: IF YOU DO NOT FOLLOW THESE POLICIES, YOUR SIGNS MAY BE TAKEN DOWN BY CUSTODIANS OR OTHER STAFF.**

#### **In general:**

1. Banners may only be hung for two weeks.
2. Do not tape or post posters on glass/mirrored, on wooden, or on painted surfaces. ONLY post on Bulletin Boards or other designated places.
3. If posting on a bulletin board, DO NOT post over other posters. YOU can REARRANGE the bulletin board and take down out dated information to make room for your posters.
4. Do not post in bathrooms or in bathroom stalls.
5. If using SIDEWALK CHALK, only write on sidewalks that are OPEN TO THE SKY so the weather can get to them.
6. All promotional materials MUST say "Sponsored by (insert organization name)" on them, or they will be taken down (especially if posted on University Information Only bulletin boards).
7. In the Yellowjacket Union, flyers may only be posted on designated bulletin tri-boards throughout the building.

#### **In the Residence Halls:**

1. Any individual wanting to post signs/posters in the halls MUST SPEAK with the Director of Residence Life or respective Hall Directors for approval.
2. When the promo is approved, Res Life may prefer to give the RA Staff the posters to post so they get posted on the appropriate bulletin boards.
3. Residents can post any banners/notices on their doors as long as material are not offensive. They do not need permission from anyone for this. If the Resident Assistant (RA) feels that any material posted on the doors are offensive or if any of the residents complaint that the material is offensive, the RA would request the respective resident to remove the material.
4. The main notice boards on each floor are reserved for the use of the RA's for programming. The RA's use these notice boards to inform the residents about safety issues, happenings on campus, people on the floor, new activities on campus, etc.
5. There is one spot on each floor for posting notices, and any person who wishes to use these spots must take permission from the Hall Director of the respective Residence Hall or Director of Residence Life.

## Fair Campaign Practices Pledge

There are basic principles of decency, honesty, and fair play which every candidate for office at UW -Superior has an obligation to observe and uphold. In order to be held accountable for my actions I agree to the following:

1. I shall conduct my campaign openly and publicly, discussing the issues as I see them, presenting my record and policies with sincerity and frankness, and criticizing the record and policies of my opponent which merit such criticism.
2. I shall not use or permit any appeal to prejudice based upon race, sex, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, physical health status, or age.
3. I shall not use or permit any dishonest or unethical practice which tends to corrupt or undermine our American system of free elections, or which hampers or prevents the full and free expression of the will of the voters, including acts intended to hinder or prevent any eligible person from voting.
4. I shall not use my power of authority to coerce election help or campaign contributions for myself or any other candidate from anyone under my supervision.
5. I shall repudiate support deriving from any individual or group which resorts, on behalf of my candidacy, or in opposition to that of my opponent, to the methods and tactics which I condemn.
6. I shall accept my responsibility to report anyone who violates any provision of this code or the laws governing elections.
7. I shall defend and uphold the rights of every UW-Superior Student voter to full and equal participation in the electoral process.
8. I shall be primarily concerned with the overall ability of all the candidates to perform the task of the office in a competent and effective fashion. I shall not make any statements concerning personal character or traits of opposing candidates which have no bearing upon the candidates' ability to perform the position being sought.
9. I shall follow all guidelines regarding campaigning in the resident halls, Yellowjacket Union (YU) and all buildings on the UW-Superior campus.
10. I agree to have all election disputes settled by the Internal/External Affairs Council within five business days of reporting the alleged violation to Caleb Nicholson, the Executive Director of the Student Government Association. I agree to file any grievance within 48 hours of my knowledge of the alleged violation.

I, the undersigned, hereby voluntarily endorse, subscribe to, and solemnly pledge myself to conduct my campaign in accordance with the above principles and practices. I agree that any members of the Internal/External Affairs Council who are involved in any way in the processing of a complaint regarding my campaign shall not be held liable for the outcome of my campaign. Nor shall those members be harassed in any means for performing their duties.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2011

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_