



STUDENT GOVERNMENT

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

ELECTIONS: Spring 2018

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

Spencer Schiller	<i>Chair, SG President</i>
Kiya Khalil	<i>SG Speaker of the House</i>
Shelby Devine	<i>SG Secretary</i>
Parth Vaidya	<i>SG Chief of Staff</i>
To Be Determined	<i>SG Treasurer Replacement</i>
Jorge Fournier	<i>Student Trustee</i>
Matt Schlosser	<i>Judicial Co-Chair</i>
Asia Parker	<i>Judicial Co-Chair</i>
Sabin Sidney	<i>Judiciary Committee Co-Chair</i>
To Be Determined	<i>Judiciary Committee Co-Chair Replacement</i>

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, February 27th		• Elections Packet is released to public
Tuesday, March 13th	5:00PM	• Petitions and Pledges Due to SG Office, Benson 304
	8:00 PM	• Candidates' Meeting, Greene 145
Thursday, March 15th	7:00 PM	• Executive Positions Debate, Annenberg Auditorium
Tuesday, March 20th	12:00 AM	• Polls Open on WIN
	7:00 PM	• Campaign Budgets Due
	11:59 PM	• Polls Close Online
	Midnight	• Results Posted, Benson 304

Statement Regarding Elections

Student Government Elections are a sanctified process for the student body of Wake Forest University, and it is vital that they remain so. It is the goal of the Elections Committee that the following guidelines ensure that all elections are fair and equitable, independent of the candidate or office in question: the campaign environment, enforcement of all campaign rules, and treatment of candidates in informing, investigating, and punishing campaign violations.

CAMPAIGN REGULATIONS

General Rules

- 1 Each candidate is responsible for a **FAIR** and **HONEST** campaign. Violation of this principle shall be seen as a violation of the fair and honest campaign guidelines set forth in the Student Government Constitution, and may be punishable by disqualification.

- 2 Each candidate is responsible for all aspects of his/her campaign. This means that the candidate bears the ultimate responsibility for both his/her actions and the actions of campaign staff members working on behalf of his/her campaign, **who are subject to all regulations the candidate is.** *Campaigning* is defined as any use of oral or written communication to explicitly endorse the election of a candidate to an elected office. A *Campaign Staff Member* is defined as anyone who campaigns on behalf of any particular candidate with the candidate's knowledge. **All campaign staff members must sign the Campaign Staff Pledge saying that they will abide by all Elections Guidelines in order to be considered official staff members and to receive e-mail communication from the candidate.** In the event that a staff member is abroad, a digital signature will suffice. In the event that an acquaintance of the candidate who is not on his official campaign staff is campaigning for him to his knowledge, for the purposes of enforcing campaign violations that acquaintance is considered a member of the campaign staff. The one exception to this comes in the event that the candidate has explicitly told said acquaintance to desist his campaigning activity. No unofficial campaign staff member is eligible to receive e-mails from the candidate, even if recognized by the Election Committee as a de facto staff member.

- 3 A write-in candidate, if conducting a campaign, will be subject to the same regulations as the declared candidates. The Wake Forest community is encouraged to report campaign infractions on the part of write-in candidates and their de facto staff as they would any declared candidate. Write-in candidates will only have to answer for these alleged violations in the event that they receive enough votes to win or enter a runoff election, at which time the violations must be dealt with by the Elections Committee before the results of that race may be verified. Any winning write-in candidate will be expected to provide an estimated campaign budget. Ignorance on the part of a write-in candidate (or any other candidate) of the campaign regulations is not an excuse for violating the rules set forth by the Elections Committee.

- 4 Negative campaigning is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**. As defined in Statute 1, Section 3 of the Student Government Constitution: Negative campaigning will not be tolerated by the Election Committee and any negative campaigning will result in immediate and appropriate sanctions.

Negative campaigning is defined as any personal attack (in electronic format, speech, or writing) on a candidate—i.e., ad hominem attacks. A personal attack is defined as any libelous, slanderous, or otherwise defamatory claim made against a candidate’s character or person. Campaigning against a candidate’s platform or a given policy is NOT negative campaigning and is acceptable. All negative campaigning is prohibited. Negative campaigning includes, but is not limited to, addressing a candidate in a derogatory manner, making an attack on an opponent’s character, releasing confidential information regarding an opponent, or producing factual misrepresentations of a candidate.

- 5 The Golden Rule of Campaigning: Ask before you act!

REGULATIONS REGARDING ELECTRONIC MEDIA.

1. EMAIL. Campaigning via listservs or emails sent to multiple recipients (including CC and BCC) is strictly prohibited. Candidates may send emails regarding campaigns if and only if all recipients are members of the campaign or official endorsers of the candidate.
2. SMS AND OTHER TEXT MESSAGES. The creation of any new GroupMe, SMS, and/or other group-chats through text message-based platforms (including but not limited to WeChat, iMessage, etc.) after the conclusion of the candidates’ meeting (3/13/2018) used for the purpose of campaigning is prohibited. Group chats created to communicate with campaign staff are the sole exception to this rule.
3. FACEBOOK. Candidates may use their personal pages, campaign pages, campaign groups, and personal pages of the candidate’s campaign staff. Candidates may use the official “Class of” pages. Candidates may not send campaign-related Facebook messages to multiple non-staff recipients. Facebook advertising is permitted.
4. SNAPCHAT. Candidates may post campaign-related Snapchat stories. Candidates may not send campaign-related personal Snapchats or use the chat function for campaigning except for communicating with members of the campaign staff. Candidates may create Snapchat filters, subject to financial regulations.
5. TWITTER. Candidates may tweet from personal accounts, campaign staff members’ personal accounts, and campaign accounts. Candidates may not directly message multiple voters. Only campaign staff and the candidate may be tagged in tweets.
6. INSTAGRAM. Candidates may post photos from their personal accounts, campaign staff members’ personal accounts, or campaign accounts. Usage of the direct message function to multiple recipients is prohibited. Only campaign staff and the candidate may be tagged in photos.

REGULATIONS REGARDING BROADCAST MEDIA.

1. RADIO. Candidates may appear on Wake Radio programs. A Wake Radio host wishing to hold an on-air debate must include the Elections Committee in the planning of the event.
2. TV. Candidates may appear on Wake TV shows. The Elections Committee must be included in the planning of any televised debates.

REGULATIONS REGARDING PRINT MEDIA.

1. Candidates shall adhere to the University posting and sidewalk policy, available at: <http://rlh.wfu.edu/news/campus-posting-policy/>

REGULATIONS REGARDING ENDORSEMENTS AND STAFF.

1. An endorsement shall be defined as a written expression of support by an individual for the candidate published either by the candidate, campaign staff, or endorser on behalf of the campaign team. The endorser must notify, either in writing or electronic mail, the Elections Committee of his/her/their intent to endorse before the endorsement may be published. Endorsements may be sought no earlier than the first day of campaigning, and submitted no later than twenty-four hours before the polls open.
2. Any endorsement must include a disclaimer that is reasonably legible and in plain view of the endorsement stating the following: "The views and opinions expressed in this endorsement are those of the endorser and candidate alone and do not necessarily reflect the position or policy of any organization that either party is affiliated with or a member of."
3. Campaign staff offers may be made no earlier than one month before Election Day.

REGULATIONS REGARDING CAMPAIGN FINANCE.

1. MAXIMUMS.

- a. Executive offices: \$125. In a runoff, candidates may spend an additional \$30, plus what remains of the original budget.
- b. Senators (all classes): \$40. In a runoff, candidates may spend an additional \$10, plus what remains of the original budget.
- c. Campaign budgets MUST NOT exceed these limits.

2. ACCOUNTING.

- a. All gifts, donations and rented items, if used for campaign purposes, should be listed with an estimated dollar value if a receipt cannot be obtained. The Elections Committee reserves the right to question these estimates based on market values. Candidates are expected to notify the Elections Committee ahead of time if they will be accepting any gifts or donations, and may only use them if other candidates could reasonably be expected to be able to rent/borrow at a similar price (equal-access philosophy).
- b. Sales tax is considered an expenditure.
- c. Shipping is not considered an expenditure.
- d. All printing will be valued at a minimum of the Benson Copy Center same-day price. If an outside resource for printing is used, the candidate will use the higher of the two for budgeting purposes.
- e. Website domain purchasing fees are considered an expenditure.
- f. Extra bandwidth fees are not considered an expenditure.
- g. Unpaid human labor is not considered an expenditure; however, paid labor must be included in the budget.
- h. Failure to submit an accurate budget will be grounds for disqualification.

1. FUNDING ASSISTANCE.

- a. Student Government wants to ensure that all students have an equal ability to run for office in order to accurately represent the student body. If you would like to submit a request for funding assistance, please email the Student Government Faculty Advisor, Tim Wilkinson at wilkints@wfu.edu. Please keep in mind that these requests are confidential.

REGULATIONS REGARDING ELECTION DAY.

1. Candidates may not provide the computer on which voters vote.
2. Candidates and campaign staff must be 15 feet away from a student who is voting.
3. In the event of the construction of voting stations, candidates and campaign staff are required to maintain a distance of at least 15 feet.
4. All regulations regarding electronic and print media apply.

SANCTIONS

There shall be three classes of infractions for actions by candidates against the regulations and requirements in this packet.

Class 1 Offense: A fine of \$25, to be subtracted from the candidate's budget. Could possibly result in disqualification from the election pending approval by the faculty advisor, depending upon the severity of the infraction.

Class 2 Offense: A suspension of active campaign privileges for a set period of time of at least 6 hours and not exceeding 24.

Class 3 Offense: Subject to disqualification from the election pending approval by the faculty advisor. The Candidate may be required to attend an honor code hearing depending on the nature of the offense

The Elections Committee reserves the right to add on community service hours or substitute community service hours for a portion of or for the total of a fine for any sanction, to be considered on a case-by-case basis. The rate of substitution will be applied equally for all candidates.

Any candidate who fails to pay fines will be prohibited from taking office or running for a subsequent Student Government office.

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

1. The Elections Committee has the ultimate authority in all matters concerning elections procedures, violations, and sanctions.
2. The power to disqualify a candidate from the election rests solely with the Elections Committee.
3. Infractions may be reported to the Elections Committee by any member of the Wake Forest community. The person who witnesses the infraction must report it to the Elections Committee within twenty-four hours of witnessing the incident.

The following guidelines are used to verify election infraction complaints:

1. All complaints should be submitted to the Elections Committee within twenty-four hours of the offense; if the infraction is reported on Election Day it must be reported before midnight and must provide proof of clear and convincing evidence.
2. The person(s) that witness(es) the offence must be the only person(s) submitting the report of the campaign infraction.

3. Before the Elections Committee makes a final ruling on a campaign infraction, it will hear from the accused candidate and the person(s) submitting the complaint.
4. If someone on the Elections Committee witnesses a campaign infraction he/she/they must report it but abstain from voting on that particular infraction.”

******The Student Budget Advisory Committee (SBAC) will be selected through an appointment process conducted by the Treasurer for the 2018-2019 academic year. .******

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

Student Government Elections

Pledge to Abide by Campaign Regulations

NAME:

OFFICE YOU ARE SEEKING:

CLASS:

On my honor, I pledge to abide by all elections guidelines in the above document. I will adequately inform my campaign staff of the rules and regulations, and to the best of my ability ensure that they follow them as well. I will submit an accurate budget by 7PM on Election Day. I understand that if I fail to abide by these guidelines, personally or through a member of my campaign staff, I risk disqualification. I understand that ignorance of the contents of this document on my part or that of my campaign staff is not an excuse for violating the rules and regulations set forth within this packet.

Signature: _____

Please provide a list of your campaign staff below, accompanied by their signatures to agree with the following statement:

On my honor, I pledge to abide by all elections guidelines in the above document. I will ensure that all of my actions are permitted within the rules and regulations of the Elections Committee and will work to promote my candidate in a positive and lawful manner. I understand that if I fail to abide by these guidelines my actions could risk disqualification for my candidate. I understand that ignorance of the contents of this document is not an excuse for violating the rules and regulations set forth within this packet.

Name

Signature

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
Student Government Elections
Campaign Budget

Name: _____ Office Seeking: _____

- No Executive candidate shall spend more than \$125.
- No SBAC candidate shall spend more than \$60.
- No Senate candidate shall spend more than \$40.
- All gifts, donations, and other things received free of charge must be included in the budget with an estimated dollar value.
- All receipts should be attached to this document.
- The failure to submit an accurate budget by the deadline indicated below may result in disqualification from the election.

*All Campaign Budget documents are due in the Student Government office
(Benson 304) on Tuesday March 20th by 7 pm.*

ITEM (Please attach receipt)

COST

TOTAL EXPENDITURE: _____ \$

My signature below certifies that all statements made on this document are complete and accurate. I understand that any misleading or incorrect statements or omissions may render my candidacy void, and, if I am elected to the position, may be cause for immediate dismissal.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
Student Government Elections
Candidate Endorsement Form

Before a candidate may advertise an endorsement, he/she must receive a signature from the endorser, digitally present the signature to a member of the Elections Committee (by either email or text), and receive written confirmation from a member of the Elections Committee. As a reminder, a ny endorsement must include a disclaimer that is reasonably legible and in plain view of the endorsement stating the following: **"The views and opinions expressed in this endorsement are those of the endorser and candidate alone and do not necessarily reflect the position or policy of any organization that either party is affiliated with or a member of."**

This sheet is intended to provide an opportunity for a candidate to consolidate all endorsement names and signatures in one place for easy documentation. *However, any new endorsement must be approved by a member of the Elections Committee before advertisement of said endorsement.*

Candidate's Name: _____

Endorsement's Name

Endorsement's Signature



WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
Student Government Elections
Senator Petition

The Student Government Senate is the centerpiece of Student Government. It is directly responsible for representing the study body with regard to campus issues. The Senate consists of approximately 53 senators, one senator per 100 students in each class.

Please complete this form and the petition on the reverse side. *Please know that all signatures must be from your class within the student body.* Upon completion, return this form to the Student Government office, **Benson 304**, by **Tuesday, March 13th at 5pm**. All candidates are required to attend a **mandatory** Candidates' Meeting on **Tuesday, March 13th in Greene 145 at 8pm**. The election will be held on **Tuesday, March 20th**.

Absolutely no campaigning of any sort is allowed until after the candidates meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact a member of the Elections Committee.

Name

P.O. Box

Class

Telephone No.

Email

Campus Address

My signature below certifies that all statements made on this petition are correct and complete. I understand that any misleading or incorrect statements or omissions may render this petition void and, if I am elected to the position, may be cause for immediate dismissal.

Signature:

Date:

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
Student Government Elections
Senator Petition

Name: _____ Class: _____.

I wish to run for Student Government Senator. This petition merely places my name on the ballot, and you are in no way obligated to vote for me by signing it. I must obtain 30 signatures from students of my class.

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WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
Executive Office Petition
Spring 2018

Name: _____

Position Running For: _____

I wish to run for Student Government President, Speaker of the House, Treasurer, or Secretary. This petition merely places my name on the ballot, and you are in no way obligated to vote for me by signing it. I must obtain 100 signatures from students of Wake Forest University.

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