

**UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

2nd WUSA Council Meeting
Wednesday January 30th 2008
Room – Building 1.G05

Present:

Chris Pettett (President)
Brendan Cook (Secretary)
Adam Rozadilla (Treasurer)
Patrick Kennedy Bates (Education Campaigns Coordinator)
Erin Fitzpatrick (Events Coordinator)
Kate Mullany (Environment Representative)
Tim Rouen (External Students Representative)
Chris Monnox (Global Solidarity Officer)
Bec Nash (Queer Representative)
Allison Jeffares (Tertangala Editor)
Adam Knoble (General Representative)
Nikki Low (General Representative)
Luke McGregor (General Representative)
Hailey Sutton (General Representative)
Mark Putvinas (General Representative)
Brodie Galloway (General Representative)
Toby Kell (General Representative)

Observers

Clinton Mead, Catherine Garner

Meeting opened at 12:48

08/CM02/01

PROCEDURAL MOTION

B. Cook/C. Monnox

It was moved that Council reconvene to Building 1, Room G05 following a 30 minute recess.

CARRIED unanimously

1. Apologies

08/CM02/02

N. Low/A. Knobel

That Council accepts apologies from the following people:

Jun Lin Koh (International Students Representative), Jessica Di Blasio (Welfare Officer), Carla Morgan (General Representative), Geoffrey Pidcock (General Representative), Anthony Strik (General Representative), Michael Dicker (General Representative), Ben Moffitt (General Representative)

CARRIED unanimously

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

08/CM02/03

B. Cook/H. Sutton

Minutes from Meeting 1 2008.

CARRIED
For: 15
Against: none
Abstentions: 2

(T. Kell)

3. Business Arising

Chris Pettett noted that motions seeking to release WUSA expenditure must include a budget line from which intended funding is to come.

4. Correspondence

Nil.

5. President's Report

08/CM02/04

Report is included as Attachment A.

B. Cook/A. Knoble

CARRIED unanimously

6. Representative's Reports

Nil.

7. General Business

08/CM02/05

That WUSA council release up to \$300 for a replacement server back-up hard drive as requested by IT.

H. Sutton/A. Knoble

Budget line: Strategic assets and spending purchases.

CARRIED
For: 16
Against: none
Abstentions: 1
(T. Kell)

08/CM02/06

That WUSA council release up to \$70 to carry out urgent repairs for the BBQ's. This costing includes \$20 for a new set of wheels, \$15 for a new burner, and \$32 for 2 new sets of knobs.

H. Sutton/A. Knoble

Budget line: Sundry expenses

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM02/07

WUSA approves Attachment B as a compulsory application to be completed alongside any request for funding of more than \$300.

B. Cook/A. Rozadilla

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM02/08 PROCEDURAL MOTION

It was put that Council move into General Discussion regarding motion 08/CM02/18.

C. Monnox/P. Kennedy Bates

CARRIED unanimously

Kate Mullany left at 14:04

Brendan Cook summarised the intent of each proposed change to the Election Regulations. He also noted that the amendments were suggested in line with recommendations made by the independent Returning Officer following the 2007 WUSA election.

Erin Fitzpatrick asked whether the suggested timeframes for elections were appropriate.

Tim Rouen asked about restrictions on candidates photographs.

Toby Kell said he agreed with the above-the-line voting system, but that a more appropriate reform would be to reduce the number of people on WUSA Council.

Patrick Kennedy Bates said that the 2008 Council had not been widely consulted.

Hailey Sutton suggested that the above-the-line voting system might be difficult for candidates and voters to understand.

Chris Pettet said that the Election Regulations Working Group should reconvene to ensure that newer members of Council are able to contribute.

08/CM02/09 PROCEDURAL MOTION

T. Rouen/T. Kell

WUSA invites Clinton Mead to speak to the meeting.

CARRIED
For: 9
Against: 7
Abstention: None

Clinton Mead discussed potential affects of an above-the-line voting system upon independent candidates.

08/CM02/10 PROCEDURAL MOTION

N. Low/B. Nash

WUSA invites Catherine Garner to speak to the meeting at the end of General Business, regarding motion 08/CM02/18.

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM02/11 PROCEDURAL MOTION

A. Knobel/H. Sutton

It was put that Council move out of General Discussion.

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM02/12 PROCEDURAL MOTION

A. Knobel/A. Jeffares

It was moved that Council hear motion 08/CM02/18 as the last item in General Business.

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM02/13 PROCEDURAL MOTION

B. Nash/N. Low

It was moved that Council hear Emergency Motions 08/CM02/14, 08/CM02/15, 08/CM02/16, and 08/CM02/17.

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM02/14 EMERGENCY MOTION

B. Nash/N. Low

That WUSA release up to \$80 for a 'lube-slide' to be used in O-Week.

Plastic - \$20
Lube 5 Ltr. x 2 - \$60

Budget Line: Collectives, Clubs and Societies (Unallocated Grants)

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM02/15 EMERGENCY MOTION

B. Cook/H. Sutton

That WUSA Standard Membership fee for 2008 be \$0, and that the Supporter's Membership Fee be set at \$25.

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM02/16 EMERGENCY MOTION

H. Sutton/A. Jeffares

That WUSA release an amount of up to \$450 to cover the cost of Hailey and Allison's transportation to the NEWS media conference in Melbourne.

Budget Line: Tertangala

CARRIED unanimously

08/CM02/17 EMERGENCY MOTION

B. Cook/A. Knoble

That WUSA releases up to \$3000 for purchase of WUSA t-shirts. The design of these t-shirts and the quantity ordered will be at the discretion of the WUSA Executive in consultation with Council.

Budget Line: Collectives, Clubs and Societies (Unallocated Grants)

CARRIED unanimously

Catherine Garner spoke to Council regarding motion 08/CM02/18 and noted that an above-the-line voting system would simplify the process for students and encourage wider, more democratic participation in WUSA.

08/CM02/18

B. Cook/C. Monnox

WUSA approves Attachment C as an amendment to the WUSA Election Regulations.

TABLED

Meeting Adjourned 15:50

Attachment A

President's Report 2nd WUSA Council Meeting:

O'Week:

First off, I'd like to thank all those people who've committed their time and their energy to getting WUSA prepared for O-week. I don't want to single any particular person out for praise for fearing that I'd leave someone out who had deserved it. Organising WUSA's O-Week strategy is an event that one should not do all by themselves. This needs the whole Council behind this. We are preparing rosters for the Week, particularly to speak to people about joining WUSA and also when we hold BBQs. We need people to be committed and barbeque those bangers.

There was an Executive Meeting the day before this Council meeting that outlined a list of what needs to be done for O-week. Coupled with this is what WUSA can offer financial memberships. When talking to people, sell the financial membership. Jacq and I will also be staying behind after this Council meeting to brief people about how best to tell people what WUSA offers. It is a quick summary of the Student Association that will help in gaining momentum for O-week.

T-shirt: A motion will be brought up in the Council Meeting concerning the printing of more T-shirts as we've run out of the red ones printed last year.

If anyone needs to know what is on this list, which has been compiled for the executive not only to fulfil but also for Council to know what the executive is doing; then please come into the President's office and read it.

BookBank:

I've had a meeting with the guys who prepared the Univariate report for the BookBank. They explained it to me and it sounds very promising. The ideas they developed are very intelligent and have gone a long way to help organise the schematics of the BookBank. Unfortunately, the President's laptop has decided to play fiddle sticks on Friday night. So I have been unable to write out a document that would make their theory easy to understand. I will endeavour to write it and present it at the next WUSA Executive meeting, where it will be tabled.

(Incidentally, if you are religious in anyway, then please pray for my computer. It is thanks to some handy thinking by our IT support person that I've been able to write this report up on it. The computer does need healing.)

NUS President's Summit:

This was an invaluable opportunity for myself as President of WUSA to network with other Student Association Presidents around the country. It really broadened the perspective that this Student Association is really, very much in dire straights concerning many things.

To put it frankly, the Association seems to be neglected by the University in comparison with other student associations and VSU has simply made circumstances worse. Students have a very limited say in what should be occurring in the life of UOW, particularly when it concerns the Student Experience; which WUSA is very good at supporting and providing.

Again, thanks to my lack of computer for a long weekend; I've been unable to write a detailed report on the summit. There will be one submitted soon. And again, it was invaluable for this

President to think about strategies that would better campaign and allocate services interests for WUSA's longevity, which I believe is what we're all committed to do.

WUSA Funding Negotiations:

As of yet, David Christie and Damien Israel have not replied to WUSA's funding proposal. One can only assume that their because they have been this silent about the matter they must be considering it long and hard and are possibly in favour of it. However, WUSA should not keep its hopes up.

The President will email Mr Israel and Mr Christie concerning the meeting after the President has written this report.

Negotiation of Space for the '09 WUSA Council and Beyond:

At the moment WUSA and WUPA have been working together on this document. However, this report wishes to say no more on the matter, in terms of what is written, as negotiations are at a delicate stage and this is a public document.

If any Council member would like to be briefed on what is occurring, then I'd be more than happy to let those Council members know the details on what is occurring. There will also be an update on this as circumstances arise. The executive will also be briefed about what is occurring.

Informing Council Members:

I'd like to let members know that this President has an open door policy. If anyone wishes to talk to me about anything then don't be shy. Also remember that I'm as human as the rest of you and I'll not be able to answer all your questions.

It is important that all Council members be informed about what is going on. As I understand it, there seemed to be a culture secrecy and gossip in the past. In any organisation this is hard to avoid. However, for such a dynamic range of people, I'd encourage that people not feel tied to their political niche or their social identity and remember that all members are working for the best interests of the Council.

If anyone feels that they might be unable to express themselves in this organisation, then I hope that will quickly be proved otherwise. Every member is a valuable member. I believe this Association works best when it is built on honest and trust, not bickering or backstabbing.

There will be particular issues that might be too delicate to discuss in its entirety; such as the negotiation of space. I hope that all members can understand that such examples are delicate and are in the best interests of WUSA.

Please remember that your opinions are just as valid as the next person's. And many heads together are better than one head thinking it is right. Hence my open door policy.

**Chris Pettett
President, WUSA**

Attachment B

Strategic Planning for Projects Undertaken by WUSA

All requests for more than \$300 of finance from WUSA will need to be accompanied with a completed copy of the following template, an itemisation of projected expenditure, and must have the intention of enhancing WUSA or the student community.

Aims

- What is the desired outcome of the project?
- What are the expected benefits to WUSA or the student community?
- Who is responsible for coordinating the project?

Actions

- What resources will be needed, and which ones can be obtained for free?
- What will be the financial cost?
- Have relevant WUSA staff members been briefed regarding the project?
- How can the project best utilise human resources – this might include WUSA Representatives, members, students, staff, and activists.
- What is the intended duration of the project, and when can the outcome be determined?
- What strategies can be implemented to ensure that the maximum number of students are involved in and aware of the project?

Outcomes

- Has the project produced a direct or indirect benefit to WUSA or the student community?
- What was the final financial cost to WUSA (if any)?
- Did the benefits outweigh the costs?
- Did the project meet its initial aims?
- What improvements might be made on similar projects in the future?

Attachment C

REGULATIONS GOVERNING ELECTIONS

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1. NAME AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

1.1. Name

1.1.1. By virtue of Section 7 of the Constitution of the University of Wollongong Undergraduate Students' Association, these Regulations shall be known as the 'Regulations Governing Elections' and all elections conducted by a Returning Officer acting on behalf of the Association shall be in accordance with the Constitution and these Regulations.

1.2. Terms of Reference

1.2.1. These Regulations should be read in conjunction with the Constitution. Elections shall be conducted as prescribed by Sections 4.5 and 4.6 of the Constitution of the Association.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1. In addition to the definitions contained in Section 1.2 of the Constitution, the following definitions shall be used in this Regulation.

2.1.1. 'Academic Day' shall refer to a day in session excluding weekends and public holidays.

2.1.2. 'Trustees' shall refer to the Trustees of the Association as determined under Section 6.3.5 of the Constitution.

3. PRE-ELECTION RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1. Appointment of a Returning Officer (RO)

3.1.1. The Secretary of the University Council shall appoint a RO in consultation with the WUSA Council.

3.1.2. The RO shall not be a member of the Association.

3.1.3. The name of the appointed RO shall be advertised for five (5) academic days on Association Notice Boards. Students wishing to object to the proposed appointment may submit their concerns in writing to the Secretary of the University Council.

3.1.3.1. Upon receipt of any objection at least ten (10) academic days before the nomination period, the Secretary of the University Council will advise the WUSA Council in writing of the nature of the objection and adjudicate on the proposed appointment of said person in consultation with the WUSA Council.

3.2. Council Responsibilities

3.2.1 Elections shall take place at the earliest time after August 31st each year which conforms with Section 9.1 of these regulations, unless an alternative timetable is approved by a two-thirds majority of the WUSA Council.

3.2.1.1 If an alternative timetable is approved, it must be determined at least one (1) calendar month prior to the general elections.

3.2.2. The Council shall be responsible for advertising nominations for casual vacancy elections.

3.2.3. The Council shall be responsible for notifying voters of:

- (a) When the election is to be held,
- (b) The name of the Returning Officer,
- (c) The name of the Deputy Returning Officers (DRO) for General elections,
- (d) Where to find relevant Association documents including Position descriptions, the Constitution, these Regulations and Regulations governing Code of Conduct.

3.2.4. This information will be distributed via SOLS mail and publicised on at least one notice board in each University Faculty on 'A3' paper.

3.2.5 The President will liaise with the Director of the University's Buildings and Grounds Division regarding the conduct of campaigning on campus. This will occur at least two (2) weeks before a General Election.

3.2.6 The President will liaise with the University Council or any other body or individual responsible for administering the online election to ensure that appropriately designed software is employed.

3.3. Returning Officer Responsibilities

3.3.1. The RO shall be employed by and responsible to, the Secretary of the University Council for the conduct of the elections for which they are appointed and shall submit a written report to both the Council and the Secretary of the University Council upon declaration of the election results. This report will detail significant decisions made, problems encountered as well as the declaration of election results.

3.3.2. The RO shall be responsible for the management of the DROs and polling clerks.

3.3.3. The RO shall adhere to the University's Code of Conduct.

3.3.4. The RO shall be responsible for ensuring DROs and Polling clerks receive copies of the Constitution, Regulations Governing Elections and Regulations governing Code of Conduct.

3.3.5. The RO may interpret these Regulations in consultation with the interpreters defined in Section 1.3 of the Constitution.

3.3.6. The RO shall be responsible for advertising nominations for general elections.

3.4. Notice for nominations

3.4.1. Notices for nominations shall specify:

(a) The qualifications of each representative position,

(b) How, when and where nominations can be made,

(c) The dates, times and manner by which polling will take place,

(d) Restriction on nominations as described in Section 4.6.6 of the Constitution.

4. NOMINATIONS

4.1. Nomination Period

4.1.1. The nomination period shall be open on at least ten (10) academic days.

4.1.2. The nomination period shall not open any earlier than twenty (20) academic days prior to polling.

4.1.3. The nomination period for general elections shall close at least seven (7) days prior to polling.

4.1.4. The nomination period for casual vacancies shall close at least two (2) days prior to polling.

4.2. The nomination form

4.2.1. A valid nomination form shall contain the name, address, student number and signature of the nominee.

4.2.2. A valid nomination form shall contain the name, student number and signature of both the nominating member and the seconding member.

4.2.3. Each nomination form shall be lodged by the nominee to the RO or a DRO.

4.2.4. Nomination forms shall not be withdrawn later than two (2) academic days after the close of nominations. This withdrawal needs to be in writing, signed by the Nominee and lodged with the RO or a DRO.

4.2.5. Nominees must sign a declaration, stating that they have received, read and understood the Constitution, these Regulations, relevant position descriptions and the Regulations Governing Code of Conduct.

4.3. Valid Nominations

4.3.1. Nominations will only be accepted from all undergraduates of the University of Wollongong at the time of nomination closing. This includes the nominee, the nominating member and the seconding member. On election of the nominee, the nominee becomes a member of the Association.

4.3.2. The RO shall issue a receipt of each valid nomination to the nominee. At this point the nominee becomes a candidate.

4.3.3. On the first academic day after nominations close, the RO shall affix to the Associations notice boards a list of contested positions and the valid nominees for each position.

4.4. WUSA Council groups and NUS groups

4.4.1. Nominees may choose to nominate in one group only.

4.4.2. The person who organises that group shall register with the RO or DRO before the close of nominations;

(a) The group's name,

(b) One (1) statement of the names and signatures of affiliated nominees, which verifies that those nominees are part of that specific group.

(c) That person's status as the group's authorised Campaign Organiser

4.4.3 Non-receipt of a group nomination form is sufficient indication that the candidate identifies as being non-affiliated for the purposes of the election.

4.4.4 The group organiser will at the time of nomination register the internal order of preferences for the group's nominees.

4.4.4.1 This does not affect preference distributions between groups or unaffiliated nominees, only the order in which nominees of a particular group will be elected.

4.4.4.2 Non-receipt of a group's intended preference arrangements by the RO will result in the group's internal preferences being distributed alphabetically according to the surnames of nominees.

4.4.5 NUS groups are separate from WUSA Council groups, and membership of a group in one category does not preclude or affect membership of a group in the other category.

4.4.6 Registration of a group requires at least two (2) participating nominees.

4.4.7 Both WUSA Council groups and NUS groups are entitled to have the designated name of their group displayed alongside the name of each nominee on the electronic ballot during the election.

4.5. Extreme circumstances

4.5.1. If a candidate dies or becomes legally incapacitated between the end of nominations and the start of polling, the positions that the candidate nominated for, will be declared as casual vacancies and filled accordingly.

4.6. Ballot order

4.6.1. The Order by which candidates' names appear on the ballot will be determined by lot and conducted by the RO.

4.6.2. Candidates may be present during this ballot draw.

5. CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS

5.1. Voting

5.1.1. Elections shall be by means of secret ballot.

5.1.2. Proportional preferential voting shall be used.

5.1.2.1. That all undergraduate students of the University of Wollongong are eligible to vote.

5.1.3. The voter shall indicate an order of preference for one (1), some or all candidates by placing the number one (1) against the candidate of highest preference and consecutive higher numbers against candidates of lower preference.

5.1.4. No voter shall be entitled to cast their vote more than once.

5.1.5. No proxy or postal voting shall be allowed.

5.1.6. Votes are to be kept secure and confidential with responsibility resting with the RO.

5.1.7 Above-the-line voting

5.1.7.1 For the election of General Representatives and NUS Delegates, voters shall be able to vote either above-the-line or below-the-line

5.1.7.1.1 Above-the-line voting shall allow voters to indicate preferences for groups and unaffiliated nominees, but not for individual nominees who are members of a group

5.1.7.1.2 Below-the-line voting shall allow voters to indicate a preference for individual nominees only

5.1.7.2 Voting for all elected positions other than General Representatives and NUS Delegates shall be below-the-line only

5.2. Election Campaigning

5.2.1. Candidate Statements and Photographs

5.2.2. Nominees may provide candidate statements for publication.

5.2.3. Additionally, the organiser of a group nomination may submit a group statement on behalf of the group.

5.2.4. Statements

5.2.4.1. Statements are subject to a strict manual word count of 200 words with words in excess of this limit removed without consultation.

5.2.4.2. Statements shall be provided in an electronic format.

5.2.4.3. Statements shall be published exactly as they are submitted including any spelling mistakes, punctuation errors, grammatical errors, and capitalisations.

5.2.4.3.1. All statements shall be published in clear formatting in the same twelve (12) point font.

5.2.4.4. Statements which, in the RO's opinion, is homophobic, racist, sexist, defamatory, misleading or deceptive shall not be published.

5.2.4.5. Statements are to be lodged with the RO or a DRO by the end of the nomination period. Statements received after the nomination period shall not be published.

5.2.4.6. Statements may not be amended after the nomination period.

5.2.4.7. The non-receipt of a statement does not in any way invalidate the nomination.

5.2.5. Nominees may provide a current colour photograph of themselves for publication.

5.2.5.1. Photographs shall not be altered digitally or otherwise.

5.2.5.1.1. All photographs shall be published at a consistent size.

5.2.5.2. Photographs are to be lodged with the RO or a DRO by the end of the nomination period. Photographs received after the nomination period shall not be published.

5.2.5.3. The non-receipt of a candidate's photograph does not in any way invalidate the nomination.

5.3. Authorised Campaigning

5.3.1. All campaign material shall be authorised by either a Campaign organiser or the relevant candidate if non-affiliated and must be authorised by the RO before issue.

5.3.2. Campaign material bearing the name of an organisation, shall not be authorised unless the organisation has officially confirmed in writing its consent to the use of its name on such material.

5.3.3. Upon authorisation of campaign material, the RO shall retain a signed copy of the material.

5.3.4. The authorised Campaign Organiser of a group may be the only person to submit material to the RO for authorisation on behalf of that group. No other authorised person may submit material for authorisation to the RO.

5.3.5. Authorisation of campaign material by the RO does not reflect the Association's approval of this material and the Association shall not protect the nominee from any legal or other action, which may result from the issue of the material.

5.3.6 All campaigning shall be limited to University grounds and official notice boards of UOW residential colleges if permission is granted by the college administration.

5.3.7 All material distributed or viewable over the internet must be approved or moderated by the RO.

5.4. Unauthorised Campaigning

5.4.1. Campaign material which has been proven to be factually untrue or which is designed to be prejudicial to the interests or objects of the Association shall not be authorised.

5.4.2. Chalking shall not be permitted

5.4.3. Campaigning by those other than UOW Undergraduates shall not be permitted.

6. BEHAVIOUR AND REMEDIES

6.1. Unacceptable Behaviour

6.1.1. General behaviour

6.1.1.1. The removal or defacing of other candidates campaign material shall result in disciplinary action.

6.1.1.2. Tampering or attempting to tamper with any official equipment of the election shall result in disciplinary action.

6.1.1.3. Coercing, intimidating, harassing or bribing members for any reason during the election campaign period shall result in disciplinary action.

6.1.1.4. The use of WUSA resources for the purpose of an election campaign shall result in disciplinary action.

6.1.2. Behaviour during paper based elections

6.1.2.1. Campaigning in the polling area shall result in disciplinary action.

6.1.2.1.1. Authorised how-to-vote cards may be carried into the voting area by the voter.

6.1.2.1.2. Nominees shall not enter the polling area except to cast their own vote in the election. They may not campaign whilst voting.

6.1.2.2. Ballot papers shall not be removed from the polling area under any circumstance.

6.1.3. Behaviour during online elections

6.1.3.1. Campaigning in computer labs shall result in disciplinary action.

6.2. Potential Remedies

6.2.1. If any candidate acts or encourages others to act contrary to the Constitution or these Regulations upon the satisfaction of either the RO or an Appeal Panel, the RO or Appeal panel may:

(a) Declare that any person who was declared elected not duly elected,

(b) Declare any candidate duly elected who was not declared elected,

(c) Disqualify any candidate from the election,

(d) Declare the entire election, or parts thereof, void.

(e) Officially warn the candidate

7. COUNTING OF VOTES

7.1. General requirements

7.1.1. No member may be elected for more than one (1) representative position.

7.1.1.1. Members may be elected as a representative of the Association and as an NUS delegate.

7.1.2. Votes shall be counted after the close of voting by the RO, the DRO and polling clerks.

7.1.3. Candidates shall not be present while the votes are counted.

7.1.3.1. Each individual candidate may appoint one (1) scrutineer to monitor the vote count.

7.1.4. The RO, the DRO, polling clerks and scrutineers, shall not directly or indirectly disclose the manner by which any member has voted in any election.

7.2. The method of counting votes

7.2.1. Each ballot shall first be given the transfer value of one.

7.2.2. The following procedures shall be followed in order until the number of positions available, are filled.

7.2.2.1. The transfer value of each ballot shall be allocated to the candidate against whose name appears the lowest number on the ballot among those candidates not elected or eliminated.

7.2.2.2. A ballot which does not show a valid preference shall not be allocated further.

7.2.2.3. Each stage of counting shall be when all ballot have been allocated to candidates not yet elected or eliminated.

7.2.2.4. A quota shall be calculated at each stage of counting by dividing the total value of ballots allocated to continuing candidates by one (1) more than the

number of positions remaining to be filled and rounding up the number so as to obtain the sixth (6th) decimal place.

7.2.2.4.1. If at that stage of counting any candidate is allocated a value in excess of the quota, the candidate shall be declared elected and each ballot allocated to that candidate shall be assigned a new transfer value obtained by multiplying its current transfer value by the candidates value.

7.2.2.4.1.1. The candidates value shall be obtained by subtracting the candidates total number of votes from the quota and dividing the result by the total number of the candidates votes.

7.2.2.4.2. If at that stage of counting no candidate is allocated a value in excess of the quota, the candidate with the lowest value shall be eliminated.

7.2.2.4.2.1. If there are two or more candidates with an equal value, the candidate with the lowest primary vote shall be eliminated. If two or more candidates remain tied, the RO shall determine which of these candidates shall be eliminated by lot.

7.2.3 Method of election for above-the-line votes

7.2.3.1 Groups will be considered as single candidates for the purpose of vote distribution

7.2.3.1.1 Where any group acquires more than a single quota, preferences will be distributed within the group according to its registered preference arrangements.

7.2.3.2 When the preferences of a group become exhausted, they will then be directed to other groups or independents as indicated by the voter.

7.2.3.3 The method of election shall otherwise be the same as for Section 7.2 of these regulations.

8. DECLARATION OF ELECTION

8.1. Result release

8.1.1. Within two (2) academic days of the conclusion of polling, the RO shall release the election results to the Candidates.

8.1.2. Appeals

8.1.2.1. Any member may appeal the election by lodging a written objection to the RO within five (5) academic days after the result release.

8.1.2.2. The objection shall state in writing the grounds for the objection relied on to invalidate the election, and shall ask for some specific remedy to secure justice and equity.

8.1.2.3. The appeals committee shall convene within three (3) weeks of the appeal being lodged with the RO with the committee's findings being released within one (1) week after its first date of scheduled sitting.

8.1.2.4. The appeals panel shall consist of the following persons to consider appeals against the outcome of the General Election:

(a) Any one (1) person authorised to do so by the Secretary of the University Council,

(b) Any one (1) person authorised to do so by the Trustees of the Association,

(c) Any one (1) person authorised to do so by the Honorary Solicitor of the Association,

8.1.2.4.1. None of these persons shall be members of the Association.

8.1.2.4.2. These persons shall adhere to the University's Code of Conduct.

8.1.2.4.3. This panel shall remedy each appeal.

8.1.2.4.3.1. The decisions of this panel shall be final.

8.1.2.4.3.2. The decisions of this panel shall be published on the Association's website before the end of the financial year.

8.1.2.5. After all appeals are remedied the Appeals Panel shall release a report on appeals and include the declared election results.

8.1.3. If after five (5) academic days there are no appeals the election results shall be declared by the RO.

8.1.4. The election results shall be published in the issue of the Tertangala immediately after the election declaration.

8.2 All candidates declared elected shall assume their positions as of the first day of December in the year in which the election took place.

9. MATTERS SPECIFIC TO GENERAL ELECTIONS

9.1. General requirements

9.1.1. General elections shall be conducted as prescribed by Section 4.6 of the Constitution of the Association.

9.1.2. General elections shall be held over a four (4) consecutive academic day period.

9.1.3 Campaigning shall be conducted from 10am until 3pm, unless otherwise specified in accordance with Section 3.2.1 of these regulations.

9.2. Deputy Returning Officers

9.2.1. The Secretary of the University shall appoint an equal number of DROs from the Association and the University Secretariat to support the RO in their responsibilities.

9.2.2. At least one (1) DRO shall be appointed from the Association employees.

9.2.3. At least one (1) DRO shall be appointed from the University Secretariat.

9.2.4. No DRO shall be a member of the Association.

9.2.5. DROs shall adhere to the University's Code of Conduct.

9.2.6. In the RO's absence, the DROs shall act in the full capacity of the RO as delegated by the RO.

9.3. Polling Clerks

9.3.1. The RO may appoint polling clerks to assist in the operation of the election.

9.3.2. Polling clerks may be remunerated at an award rate, at the RO's discretion.

9.3.3. Polling clerks shall adhere to the University's Code of Conduct.

9.3.4. If a candidate objects to the appointment of a specific polling clerk the RO may, at their discretion, remove that polling clerk.

9.3.5. No polling clerk shall be a member of the Association or a member of the Wollongong University Postgraduate Association (WUPA).

10. MATTERS SPECIFIC TO CASUAL VACANCY ELECTIONS

10.1. General requirements

10.1.1. Casual vacancy elections shall be conducted as prescribed by Section 4.5 of the Constitution of the Association.

10.1.2. Casual vacancies shall be filled by the Council at Council meetings.

10.1.2.1. Tied votes shall be resolved by a further ballot,

10.1.2.2. Candidates may make a five (5) minute election speech to the Council.

11. ASSOCIATION DISCLAIMERS

11.1. Expenses incurred

11.1.1. The Association shall not incur any expenditure on behalf of any candidate or group of candidates.

11.1.2. The Association shall not accept responsibility for damage or loss caused by candidates in the election.

11.1.3. No election can be challenged due to a procedural irregularity that could not have affected the outcome of the election as determined by the RO.

12. ALTERATIONS

12.1. Alterations must be carried out in accordance with clause 7.3 of the Constitution.