Spring 2018 SGA Election Code Meeting
The University of North Texas - Student Government Association

Tehute Habte
(TehuteHabte@my.unt.edu)
2017-18 Election Commissioner
Interpret the Election Code
   Fairness, Equitability, and Efficiency

Office Hours
   Tuesday: 3 - 4pm
   Wednesday: 11- 2pm
   Thursday: 3 - 4pm

Candidates and Referenda parties may contact me via UNT email for the purpose of consultation pertaining to the election (will respond within one business day)

TehuteHabte@my.unt.edu
2017-2018 Election Board

Ally Zarate

Daniel Landry III

Emily Vasquez

Josh Reynolds

Tommy Hughes

Matthew Hare

Shall have the power to rule on matters pertaining to Elections, including but not limited to: interpretations and violations of the Election Code, questions of candidate eligibility, candidate and Referendum Party complaints and concerns, questions of referendum eligibility, filing dates and deadlines, and the certification of any election results.
Rules on Candidacy

As per UNT Policy 18.4.2, in order to be eligible to serve, a student must:

- During Fall and Spring semesters, be currently enrolled at UNT and pay student service fees for a minimum of six semester credit hours as an undergraduate student
- Maintain a minimum UNT cumulative GPA of 2.5 during the student’s term in office* SGA requirement
- Be in good disciplinary standing, as defined by the Code of Student Conduct

*If a person believes that they have extenuating circumstances that have contributed to ineligibility, they may submit an appeal in the form of an email to Melissa.McGuire@unt.edu
Any candidate may withdraw from the ballot any time prior to 5 p.m. on the business day before the election by submitting written notification to the Election Commissioner (Tehute Habte).

You will be notified by email with a confirmation if you have been approved for eligibility to run prior to campaign week.
Election Calendar Important Dates

Tues., March 27th
  Election Code Meeting @ 12:30PM
Wed., March 28th
  Election Code Meeting @ 9AM
Thurs., March 29th
  Election Code Meeting @ 4PM

Mon., April 2nd
  Campaigning Begins @ 8AM
  Senatorial Meet and Greet
    (Union 333)
Thurs., April 5th
  Vice Presidential Debate
  Presidential Debate @ 7PM
    (LIFE A117)
Mon., April 9th
  General Voting Opens @ 8AM
Thur., April 12th
  General Election Voting closes @ 5PM
Fri., April 13th
  Final (General) Election Report due @ 5PM
Senatorial Meet & Greet

For Presidential and Vice Presidential Candidates, be ready to give introductions and discuss your platform at the beginning of the event.

For Senators, the setup of the event will be like Mean Green Fling where you will have a designated table based on the college you are running for.

We highly suggest you have some sort of visuals so that students can walk by and know your platform. You may bring any campaign materials you would otherwise have at tabling events (flyers, buttons, etc.). Students will have the ability to ask questions and engage with you. We recommend using a standard tri fold board (28x40 or smaller) as your visual aid. You will be asked that your table including your board be up to code by following the Election Code, University Policy, SGA’s Bylaws and Constitution to avoid a complaint and violation.

RSVP is required for the event by Thursday, March 29, 2018 at 5 PM.
Campaigning
General Election Campaign Rules

Candidates and Referendum Parties are responsible to ensure that every individual campaigning on behalf or volunteering for the candidate/referendum party is aware of campaigning regulations and guidelines. The Election Board has the right to solicit a list of names of members of parties at anytime.

C/RP may only begin publicizing their campaigns after the Election Code meetings have been held and on the date set forth on the Election Calendar (8AM on Mon., April 2nd)

Shall abide by all University policy (policy.unt.edu)
(No chalking on sidewalks, no posting on lamp poles, etc.)

Shall not damage any University property
General Election Campaign Rules

Shall not unduly disrupt the normal activities on the University

No University, State, or public funds may be used by C/RP. This includes the utilization of employee work time; no C/RP may solicit campaign assistance from an employee during the employee’s work hours.

All signs and posters must be placed in accordance with University policy and may not exceed 18 x 24 inches.
General Election Campaign Rules

No more than 20 ground signs may be placed on campus, but other promotional items are not limited in quantity.

Each C/RP shall be responsible for the removal of their campaign materials from public areas and buildings by Monday following the final election report (April 16th)

You shall assume responsibility for accuracy and truthfulness of campaign materials.
General Election Campaign Rules

**NO** Ticket “block” Option

Work with knowledge, not numbers

It causes the campaign to become less about the individual and the issues they’re trying to cover and more about their social clout and popularity. Senator positions, specifically, are not a team format and should be judged upon innovative ideas and critical thinking.

Takes away some of the unnecessary tension between candidates before it occurs.

Unfair advantage for returning candidate
Presidential vs Senatorial Campaigns

P/VP candidate teams may spend up to $1000 dollars on their campaign
An additional $300 dollars may be spent in the event of a run-off election
A typed expense report must be filed with the Election Board at the close of polling. These reports include itemized receipts of all purchases made pertaining to the candidate team’s campaign.

Senatorial Candidates may spend up to $300 dollars on their campaign
An additional $100 dollars may be spent in the event of a run-off election
Official Restricted Campaigning Zones

No campaigning within fifty (50) feet of:
   ALL campus libraries
   ALL computer labs
define
   Union 4th Floor

No campaigning inside of:
   SGA Office
   Campus Housing

*Campaigning inside of residence halls can only be granted with the expressed written consent by the Director of Housing & Residence Life, Gina Vanacore. (Gina.Vanacore@unt.edu)
*Contact Greek Life for information about campaigning inside fraternity and sorority houses (GreekLife@unt.edu)
Rules on Oversight

Any C/RP in an SGA election wishing for clarification may request a ruling on any part of the Election Code by submitting a request in writing to the Election Commissioner – (TehuteHabte@my.unt.edu)

The EC shall honor all requests within one business day and post rulings on the SGA web page and distribute them to all candidates by e-mail

The EC’s ruling shall be considered binding until overturned by the SGA Supreme Court
Failure to comply with the regulations of the Election Code may result in punitive action being taken by the Election Board. Any alleged Election Code violation is subject to a hearing by the Election Board. Furthermore, if the Election Code violation is also a University policy violation, this may result in disciplinary action taken by the DoS office. All complaints regarding violations of election regulations shall be submitted in writing to the Election Board (TehuteHabte@my.unt.edu) within 24 hours of the close of polling (by 5PM Fri., April 13). Complaints shall include details of the presumed violation, such as date, time, and name(s) of involved individuals.
University Union & Tabling

Tabling rules and Expectations
- Organizations desiring to have only a table outside should submit an Application for Solicitation to Event Planning and Scheduling Services (Union 418).
- Candidates may campaign at other organizations tabling events during campaign week, but they must have authorization from the person in charge of the tabling event. They also must be present throughout the entire time of the tabling event.
Questions

Refer to SGA Bylaws and University Policy
Email TehuteHabte@my.unt.edu if you have questions
Please check the SGA website for updated information on questions and dates.