

The Elections Bylaws

The Associated Students of Lewis & Clark

Amended: March 1st, 2015

Amended: October 29th, 2015

Article I - Purpose and Scope

1. These bylaws establish the regulations, procedures, and structures of elections for the Director of Elections and their Office, along with ASLC and the student body at-large
 - a. The oversight of the aforementioned shall be the duty of the Director of Elections and the responsibility of the Chief Justice and/or Chief of Staff, as is appropriate
 - b. These bylaws cannot be construed to contain any implied rules, powers, or abilities not explicitly stated
 - c. The Office of the Director of Elections will be referred to here-within as ODE

Article II - Senate Elections

1. Senate elections shall be held in each year, at the beginning of the Fall Semester
2. Candidate eligibility and declaration of candidacy materials (hereafter: election packets) shall be made available starting in the fourth (4th) week of Fall Semester
 - a. Upon distribution of election packets, students shall have ten (10) days to return and submit all necessary documents to the ODE
 - b. Elections will open within twenty-four (24) hours of the deadline set for the submission of eligibility and declaration of candidacy materials
 - c. Eligible elections packets for Senators must include the signatures of twenty-five (25) students within the academic year of the respective candidate
3. Elections shall be open for seven (7) days
 - a. The dissemination of voter information pamphlets shall coincide with the announcement of open elections
4. In the event that a Senate seat should remain vacant at the conclusion of a special election, or in the event that there are fewer than three vacant Senate seats, a special cohort selection process shall be initiated immediately
 - a. The ODE shall circulate election packets as per the standard Senate Elections procedure
 - i. The signature requirement in the election packets for cohort selection shall be waived
 - b. Each cohort with vacant seats must assist the ODE in circulating applications and publicizing the open-application period
 - c. All applications shall be submitted to the ODE
 - d. After one week, the ODE shall distribute all received elections packets to the candidates(?) respective cohort, with whom the final decision of nomination shall rest
 - i. Admission of an applicant as a nominee requires a simple majority (>1/2) of all cohort members, and in the event of a tie, the ASLC Vice President shall serve as the tie-breaker
 - e. Once selected by the cohort, a nominee shall be confirmed to the Senate by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Senate

Article III - Cabinet Elections

1. Cabinet elections shall be held each year during the Spring Semester in the month of March
2. Candidate eligibility and declaration of candidacy materials (hereafter: election packets) shall be made available starting in the eighth (8th) week of Spring Semester
 - f. Upon distribution of election packets, students shall have ten (10) days to return and submit all necessary documents to the ODE
 - g. Elections will open within twenty-four (24) hours of the deadline set for the submission of eligibility and declaration of candidacy materials
 - h. Eligible elections packets for Executive positions must include a specified number of signatures from the enrolled student body of College of Arts and Sciences, to be set as follows:
 - i. Candidates for President must have one hundred (100) signatures
 - ii. Candidates for Vice President must have one hundred (100) signatures
 - iii. Candidates for Chief Justice must have one hundred (100) signatures
 - iv. Candidates for all other Executive positions must have fifty (50) signatures
3. Elections shall be open for seven (7) days
 - a. The dissemination of voter information pamphlets shall coincide with the announcement of open elections

Article IV - Election Rules and Regulations

1. No candidate shall:
 - a. Convey false information pertaining to the election, other candidates, or themselves
 - b. Coerce, intimidate, harass, or threaten other candidates or voters
 - c. Actively campaign within twenty-five (25) feet of a designated polling station
2. Candidates' campaign expenditures may not exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00 USD)
 - a. Candidates may be subject to audit by the ODE in which proof of purchase is required to demonstrate said candidate is within the fifty dollar (\$50.00 USD) limit
 - b. Literature, media, and all other printed promotional materials shall not be limited by this expenditure cap
3. Candidates may use literature and media to campaign, subject to the following regulations
4. All literature and media must abide by the Student Code of Conduct
 - a. Campaign literature and media cannot be within ten (10) feet of a designated polling station
 - b. The destruction, defacement, covering or removal by one candidate of another candidate's literature and/or media is expressly prohibited
5. All candidates shall be granted equal access to any and all election forums and events hosted or organized by the ODE
 - a. Within the designated week of voting, the ODE must oversee the organization of a candidates' debate with open attendance to any and all members of the College of Arts and Sciences, and held at a time of great convenience
 - b. The ODE shall make public the time, date, and location of the aforementioned debate within the election packet
6. Violations of these rules are subject to review and enforcement by the ODE
 - a. Enforcement powers include, but are not limited to:
 - i. The removal of campaign literature and media in violation of the Elections Bylaws
 - ii. The issuance of warnings to candidates for any violations

1. Upon the third (3rd) warning, the offending candidate shall be immediately and automatically recommended for disqualification
 - iii. A recommendation for disqualification
 - b. Any complaints about a violation of elections rules may be submitted to the ODE
 - c. The ODE must follow-up on any and all filed complaints with due diligence
 - d. The ODE must respond to the complainants with a written or verbal affirmation of investigation and a report of the investigation's results upon its conclusion
7. The disqualification of a candidate from any election requires the unanimous approval of the Director of Elections, the Chief Justice, and the Chief of Staff
 - a. In the event the ODE feels an offense warrants disqualification the Director of Elections shall, within twelve (12) hours of the investigation's conclusion, submit a recommendation for disqualification and a report of their investigation to the Chief Justice and the Chief of Staff

Article V - Office of the Director of Elections

1. The Office of the Director of Elections shall see to the execution of all enumerated elections requirements within Article VII of the ASLC Constitution and within the Elections Bylaws
2. The Director of Elections shall act as Chief Executive of the ODE
 - a. The Director of Elections may delegate responsibilities to Assistant Directors of Elections of the ODE as they see fit
 - b. The Director of Elections is ultimately accountable for the fulfillment of all elections requirements and the enforcement of all regulations
3. The Director of Elections shall be responsible for initiating and overseeing applications for assistants to the office
 - a. Applications shall be made available prior to April 20th

Article VI - Special Elections

1. Special elections are to be held as prescribed by the ASLC Constitution
2. All special elections shall follow the standard elections rules and regulations as stipulated within the ASLC Constitution and within these bylaws

Article VII – Recalls

1. A recall is the active removal of an elected ASLC official from their seat, reopening said seat for contestation
2. Recalls are to be initiated as prescribes by the ASLC Constitution, but further conditioned such that:
 - a. It will be the responsibility of the Constitutional Affairs Committee to determine whether or not an officer is eligible for recall
 - b. In any petition to initiate a recall against an officer of ASLC, each page of the petition must display the name of the officer in question, their position within the ASLC, and a rationale for the initiation of the recall
 - c. To recall the ASLC President there must be a:
 - i. Petition of four hundred (400) signatures from the student body
 - d. To recall the ASLC Vice President there must be a:
 - i. Petition of four hundred (400) signatures from the student body
 - e. To recall any other elected officer of the Cabinet, who is defined as such within the Constitution, there must be a:

