

### **Ruling #3**

March 2019 Executive Committee and BOG Representative General Election  
Poster Violation – Akanksha Bhatnagar, Candidate for President

### **Parties to the Ruling**

- Akanksha Bhatnagar, Candidate for President
- Suzanah Buchanan, Complainant
- Ilyas Gora, Chief Returning Officer

### **Applicable Bylaws, Rules, Regulations**

1. Nomination Package §3.4 (Posters and Banners)
  - *“Several buildings have more restrictive regulations regarding poster approval and placement. Posters that are placed in violation of building rules will be removed without compensation, and a fine may also be imposed.”*
2. University of Alberta Students' Union Elections Office Elections Update #4
  - *“Posting/banner placement is allowed in any building—subject to the rules in UASU Bylaw 2200; Nomination Package; University of Alberta Posting Announcements, Notices and Banners Procedures (attached); and University of Alberta Posting Announcements, Notices and Banners Procedure Appendix A: Posters, Notices and Banner Guidelines (attached)”*

### **Facts**

1. The Complainant, Suzanah Buchanan, filed a complaint with the Elections Office at 14:00 on February 27, 2019
2. Akanksha Bhatnagar, Candidate for President, is alleged to have two (2) posters in the Computing Science Building in contravention of Undergraduate Association of Computing Science (UACS) guidelines
3. The Complainant provided photographic evidence corroborating the allegation
4. Ilyas Gora, Chief Returning Officer, investigated the matter

### **Ruling**

- Akanksha Bhatnagar, Candidate for President, did not contravene any bylaws, rules, or regulations.

**Reasons**

1. The University of Alberta Posting Announcements, Notices and Banners Procedure provides that student elections are exempt from posting procedures/guidelines provided that candidates comply with regulations identified by the Elections Office
2. This general provision supplants all other posting and banner policies during the Campaign Period
3. This was communicated to candidates/campaigns in our Elections Update emails
4. To ensure a harmonious relationship with our campus community, the Elections Office honours requests from student groups, building operators, and University Services to notify candidates of alternative posting policies set by that group
5. At the time of receipt of the complaint, the Elections Office had not received such a request from UACS to inform candidates about specific posting requirements
6. Until such time as the Elections Office receives a request from UACS about posting policies, the general University of Alberta Posting Announcements, Notices and Banners Procedure will apply in the Computing Science Building

Decided: February 28, 2019 at 15:30

Time Limit for appeal: March 1, 2019 at 15:30

Please direct any inquiries to:

Ilyas Gora  
Chief Returning Officer  
University of Alberta Students' Union