

### **Ruling #4**

March 2020 Executive Committee and BOG Representative General Election  
Pre-Campaigning – Eric Einarson, Candidate for Vice President Academic

### **Parties to the Ruling**

- Eric Einarson, Candidate for Vice President Academic
- Aulden Maj-Pfleger, Complainant
- Muneeb Ahsan, Chief Returning Officer

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

1. Bylaw 2200 §21 (Prohibition on Pre-campaigning)
  - “No side manager, volunteer, or candidate shall engage in campaign activities between the nomination deadline or Students’ Council initiation of a plebiscite/ referenda and the commencement of the campaign”

### **Facts**

1. The Complainant, Aulden Maj-Pfleger, filed a complaint at 12:45 on February 24, 2020.
2. Eric Einarson, Candidate for Vice President Academic, is alleged to have promoted his campaign on Facebook at 20:31 on February 14, before the commencement of the campaign period at 09:00 on February 24, 2020.
3. Eric Einarson, Candidate for Vice President Academic, shared a Gateway article on Facebook which outlined his candidacy, stating “peep the article for more info ;)”. The post was subsequently edited to remove the preceding statement.
4. The Complainant provided evidence corroborating the allegation, and evidence of a conversation with the Chief Returning Officer, confirming that merely sharing the Gateway article in question on social media is not considered campaigning.
5. Muneeb Ahsan, Chief Returning Officer, investigated the matter noting a potential reach of 1040 (150 estimated).

### **Ruling**

- Eric Einarson, Candidate for Vice President Academic, did contravene Bylaw 2200 §21.

### **Penalty**

1. Eric Einarson, Candidate for Vice President Academic, will be assessed a fine of \$15.00 under the Schedule of Fines & Penalties.

Decided: February 24, 2020 at 14:22

Time Limit for appeal: February 25, 2020 at 14:22

Please direct any inquiries to:

Muneeb Ahsan  
Chief Returning Officer  
University of Alberta Students’ Union