Elections Review Committee (ERC) Recommendations to Council
Topics

• Social Media Policy
• Joke Candidates
• Fines and Penalties
• Reporting Keys
• Pre-Campaigning
• Executive/Council Election Timing and Timeline
• Endorsement
• External Media—Advertising
• Division of Bylaw 2000
• Campaigning on Election Days
• The Status of NOTA in STV
Social Media Policy

• Issue
  – Social Media is not defined by Bylaw 2000
  – “43. Use of Social Media and Public Internet Ventures
    The C.R.O. shall be kept privy to elections-related social media and public internet ventures undertaken by candidates, and reserves the right to penalize candidates for any violation of this bylaw or related regulations.”

• Recommendation
  – ERC will work on clarifying what Bylaw 2000 means by Social Media
Joke Candidates

• **Issue**
  - Increased publicity
  - But what happens when a joke candidate wins?
  - Bylaw 2000 under §61
    “(30)Where a joke candidate is declared victorious, the seat to which that joke candidate has been elected shall be considered vacant.”

• **Recommendation**
  - CRO to add indication the ballot to voters the effect of electing a joke Candidate
Fines and Penalties

• Issue
  – Should bylaw 2000 make fines and penalties explicit?
    • Standard fines regarding expense forms and Candidate Meetings
  – Should CRO declare fines and penalties?
  – Decisions made by CRO can be appealed to DIE Board

• Recommendation
  – ERC to draft changes
Reporting Keys

• Issue
  – Meant to remove advantage of having storage space on campus
  – Those who live on campus or have a car also have an advantage
  – Executives must already take a leave of absence

• Recommendation
  – Remove Reporting Keys requirement
Pre-Campaigning

• Issue
  - Time to organize campaign
  - Opportunity to catch up on planning or studies

• Recommendation
  - Keep the status quo of no campaigning during pre-campaigning period.
Executive/Council Election Timeline

• Issue
  – Students do not understand difference between executive and council election.
  – Both at the same time is a greater strain on CRO office
  – Status quo allows unsuccessful candidates in the executive election to run for council

• Recommendation
  – Keep the status quo of executive/council election timing
Endorsement

• Issue
  - Candidate slates cease to exist
  - Candidates allowed to endorse other candidates, including within own race

• Die Board interpretation
  - Candidates cannot form “slate-like” campaigns to the extent that such activity would result in profiting from one another’s resources

• Recommendation
  - None
**External Media Advertising**

- **Issue**
  - Candidates are not allowed to advertise through external media
  - Is this rule needed? No one has tried to advertise through external media in recent history.

- **Recommendation**
  - Keep status quo.
Division of Bylaw 2000

• Issue
  – Bylaw 2000 given to candidates
  – Length can be overwhelming
  – Not all content is pertinent to candidates

• Recommendation
  – Drafting a split of the bylaws
    • Candidates
    • Ballots
    • Responsibilities and Duties of the CRO
Campaigning on Election Days

• Issue
  - Reoccurring topic
  - Increases competition during Election Days resulting in higher voter turnout
  - Not just up to the CRO to promote Election Days

• Recommendation
  - Allow campaigning on election days.
  - Restrictions that no candidate can campaign within 20 meters of polling stations.
Status of NOTA in STV

• Issue

• Recommendation
Questions?