



Undergraduate Student Government--Kent Campus

Sponsor: President Zeinali

Co-Sponsors: Director Kierstead, Senator Milam

GA/B/F2019-003

A Bill to provide for the 2020 USG Election

Wednesday, January 22nd, 2020

To provide for the Undergraduate Student Government elections for the 2020-2021 school term pursuant to paragraph (G) (1) of the Undergraduate Student Government Charter.

BE IT ENACTED by the Undergraduate Student Senate of the Kent Campus of Kent State University:

Section 1. Establishing an Election Commission

The election commission shall be established in accordance with the Code of Bylaws, the Code of Standing Rules, this Act, and GA/B/S2018-003 Standing Election Commission Bill. Any power exercisable by the Election Commission under this Act may be delegated to the Chairman of the Election Commission, except the power to penalize candidates under paragraph (f) of Section 3 of this Act.

Section 2. Candidate Application Process

Candidate applications are available online at kentstateusg.com. Candidates must apply online. Petitions for persons wishing to run for Undergraduate Student Government shall be available in room 122A of the Undergraduate Student Government Office or at the Center for Student Involvement beginning Tuesday, January 21st, 2020 at 5:00 pm. To be included on the official Undergraduate Student Government ballot, all petitioners must be registered in accordance with University Policy on participation in activities, meet all qualifications within the Undergraduate Student Government Charter and the Code of Bylaws, use the standard petition form, collect the required printed names, valid handwritten signatures, of one (1) percent of the Kent Campus undergraduate students registered for Spring Semester 2020. The deadlines for returning completed petition

forms to the Undergraduate Student Government office, 122A Kent Student Center is Thursday, February 13th, 2020 at 5:00 pm.

a) Candidate List:

_____The election commission will post the unofficial list of candidates for the 2020-2021 election on Monday, February 17th, 2020 outside of the Undergraduate Student Government office, room 122A, Kent Student Center by 5:00 pm.

b) Appealing the Unofficial Candidate List

_____Appeals to the unofficial candidate list must be in written form, addressed to the Election Commission, and submitted to the Undergraduate Student Government, 122A, Kent Student Center. All appeals must be submitted by 5:00 PM Wednesday, February 19, 2020. Appeals must be based on procedural error, or may be a request to be a candidate for a different position. Requests to be a candidate for a different position may or may not be granted, entirely at the discretion of the Election Commission.

Section 3. Campaign and Election

The Election Commission will post the Official Candidate list following the hearing of all appeals. Candidates listed as official, *Official List of Candidates for the 2020-2021 Undergraduate Student Government Election*, registered Write-In Candidates, may participate in Undergraduate Student Government Election Commission sponsored events in which allocated Undergraduate Student Government funds are utilized.

a) Beginning of Campaign

_____Campaigning will begin at 5:00 pm on Monday, February 17th, 2020. No campaigning may be done prior to this time.

b) Election Day

_____The 2020 elections will be held on Tuesday, March 10th, 2020 and Wednesday, March 11th, 2020 with the polls opening at 7:00 AM and closing at 5:00 PM on both days of voting. Only Kent State University--Kent Campus officially registered undergraduate students for Spring Semester 2019 are eligible to vote in the election.

c) Election Tie

_____In the event of a tie, the tie shall be broken according to the method utilized by the State of Ohio, a coin toss.

d) Posting of Unofficial Results

_____Unofficial results of the election will be posted, at such location to be determined by the Election Commission, following tabulation. Tabulation will be done through the Office of Administrative Computing Services at Kent State University. Tabulation will be completed and verified immediately following the close of the polls at 5:00 PM on March 11th, 2020.

e) Candidacy Agreement

_____ All candidates and their campaigners must abide by the rules specified in the Candidacy Agreement required by the Election Commission. The Election Commission may change these rules and the Agreement at any time, but all candidates must be notified of any change in the rules before they come into force.

f) Penalties and Procedure

_____ Violation of the election rules shall be punishable by disqualification as a candidate or by deduction of votes. Neither of these penalties may be imposed except as a result of a hearing before the Election Commission. The candidate concerned must be notified of the date, time, and location by e-mail not less than 24 hours in advance, and neither of these penalties may be imposed except by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote by the Election Commissioners voting at the hearing. The procedure of the hearing shall be determined by the Election Commission, but should be consistent with the spirit of the rules concerning disciplinary trials and procedures contained within the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 4. Appealing Election Results

Appeals to the 2020-2021 Undergraduate Student Government Election must be based on procedural error. All appeals must be in written form addressed to the Election Commission and submitted to the Undergraduate student Government, 122A Kent Student Center by 12:00 noon on Friday, March 13th, 2020. The Election Commission will rule on all appeal within five (5) Kent State University scheduled academic days.

Section 5. Reporting Results to the USG

The official results of the 2020-2021 Undergraduate Student Government Election will be announced and certified at the first formal Undergraduate Student Government Senate meeting, on or after March 23rd, 2020, following the official posting of the election results. A written review of the election process will be submitted to the Undergraduate Student Government Senate at that meeting. This review will include election results, review of appeals, and any recommendations for future elections.

Section 6. Inauguration and New Government Team

The inauguration of the 2020-2021 Undergraduate Student Government will be held on or before Tuesday, April 14th, 2020. The date, time, and location of the official inauguration shall be determined by the Senate or President of the USG. The newly elected government will assume their government responsibilities at the next public meeting.