DIE Board Hearing Application 2020

Submission Date

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Name

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This application is for a:

DIE Board Hearing

Reason

Violation of Student Union Legislature by the Students' Union Council by conducting a vote in an in-camera session. Additionally, not using preferential ballot either as required by bylaw.

Bylaw 100:

Definition. e. "Legislation" means

- I. Students' Union bylaws,
- II. Students' Union political policies,
- III. Students' Council standing orders, and
- IV. general orders of Students' Council;

Section 6.5. The appointment will be made with respect to a vote by Council using a preferential ballot.

Student Council Standing Order:

Section 2. j. Closed Session.

- Closed session will only be held if items have been submitted to the speaker for discussion in closed session.
- a. The only items that may be submitted to the closed session are discussion or information items.

Student Union Standing orders are considered as legislatures as per bylaw 100 definitions of the legislature. The standing orders clearly state that closed session is only for discussion or information items. Even with Robertson Rule of Order and any parliamentary form of democracy a council never votes or makes a decision in-camera or closed session. This has been a standard for SU council also in the past and their standing order reflects the same.

However, on Jan 25, the Students' Union Council moved to go in-camera for interviewing and discussing Board of Governors Undergrad Candidates, and after a long in-camera session, the council came back, and the speaker directly announced the result of a vote.

It is unknown if Bylaw 100, section 6.5 was also violated or not, but it's highly likely that a normal ballot was used rather than a preferential ballot. The bylaw clearly states that a preferential ballot has to be used. I ask the Speaker to provide clarification on if the preferential ballot was used, and what was the voter turnout along with votes cast for each candidate.

However, The Students' Council has violated in all cases its own legislature, in this case Standing Orders, by voting in-camera and not publicly. This is a violation of SU Legislatures and I ask the DIE board to strike down the decision and issue a warning to the Students Council about the legislature violation. Students' Council will be well within its rights to vote publically again in the next council meeting on this item and make the appointment.

I am filing this case, as an undergraduate student, who went to the Students' Council, to hear the candidates' speeches and councillor questions, so I could better know the individual who would be representing 32,000+ undergraduate students at the University's top decision-making body. However, the Students Council went in-camera, conducted interviews in-camera, and ultimately voted (if preferential unknown, as required by bylaw) also in-camera by violating its own legislatures.

All I am asking is that the Students' Union Council stop acting in secrecy (which is mostly) and start making decisions publically especially when they impact all students.

Proposed Respondent

Student Union Council Members

Anticipated Witness

Harrun Ali (A candidate contesting for BoG Position and undergraduate student present in the meeting)

Signature

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Bylaw Violation .pdf