

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINE, INTERPRETATION,  
AND ENFORCEMENT BOARD

**REQUEST FOR INTERPRETATION**

**DATE:**

Thursday October 30, 2003

**D.I.E. BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Christopher Samuel, Chair

Ben Aberant

TJ Adhietty

Kyle Kawanami

Michelle Kelly

**INTERPRETATION SOUGHT BY:**

Christopher Jones

**ISSUE:**

The situation concerning appointments to Students' Council is governed by three major bodies of legislation: the Universities Act, a piece of provincial law governing how universities and associated bodies act; the Students' Union's Constitution; and the Students' Union's Bylaws. Students' Union's Bylaws are subsidiary to the Students' Union's Constitution, which is subsidiary to the Universities Act.

The Universities Act (Section 56 1, 2, and 3) specifies that the affairs of the student organization will be managed by a body to be known as the council of the student organization (Students' Council), the members of which will be elected by and from the members of the student organization as provided in its bylaws. Article XIV of the Constitution governs how vacancies in Students' Council will be filled, namely by appointment by Council itself or by election. Bylaw 100 states that Students' Council will also include: the General Manager, the Speaker, the Recording Secretary, a Representative from the Residence Halls Association, and a Representative from the Executive Members of the University Athletics Board.

It is Jones' contention that Article XIV Section 2 of the Constitution and Bylaw 100 Sections 3, 5c, 5d, and 8 violate Section 56 2 of the Universities Act, and must therefore be struck.

**DECISION:**

Since the substance of Jones' contention centers on the Universities Act and since the Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement (D.I.E.) Board's mandate is restricted to interpreting and enforcing the Students' Union's Constitution, Bylaws, and Policies (pursuant to Constitutional Article VI Section 2c and to Bylaw 1200 Section 3a), the D.I.E. Board refuses to hear Jones' case because it involves matters beyond the authority, mandate and scope of the Board.

The Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement (D.I.E.) Board functions as the judicial branch of the Students' Union, and is responsible for interpreting and enforcing all Students' Union legislation. If anyone has any questions regarding the D.I.E. Board, feel free to contact the Chair, Chris Samuel, at [dieboard@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:dieboard@su.ualberta.ca)