

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINE, INTERPRETATION,
AND ENFORCEMENT BOARD

REQUEST FOR INTERPRETATION

DATE:

January 12, 2004

D.I.E. BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Christopher Samuel, Chair

Ben Aberant

Stephen Congly

Kyle Kawanami

Michelle Kelly

INTERPRETATION SOUGHT BY:

Christopher Jones

ISSUE:

The bylaws of the Students' Union are governed by the constitution of the Students' Union, which supercedes all bylaws, political policies, operating policies, and standing orders. Article VI of the constitution stipulates that a bylaw will come into effect once it receives the support of two thirds of Students' Council at two Students' Council meetings that are held no less than one week apart.

Mr. Jones requested clarification in regards to the legality of adopting a standing order specifying that certain bylaws require three readings (given that the constitution specifies that bylaws only require two readings).

DECISION:

Again, the Students' Union's constitution supercedes all bylaws, political policies, operating policies, and standing orders. Article VI Section 4 of the constitution states that only two readings, no less than one week apart, with two thirds in favour of a proposed bylaw are required to render any bylaw effective. Since the wording does not allow for more or less than two readings, implementing a standing order requiring three readings is out of order.

RECOMMENDATION:

If Students' Council wishes to change the number of readings required to approve a bylaw, the Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement (D.I.E.) Board recommends that Students' Council amend the constitution (specifically Article VI Section 4).

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