Vote the Change, Be the Difference

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTION 2016
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# Elections Commission 2016

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Email</th>
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Kayleigh Campbell  
KDC1@mailbox.sc.edu  
Student Government Graduate Assistant
Dear Candidates,

Welcome to the 2016 Election Season! We are so excited to have you all be a part of this year’s election season. I hope you all are equally as excited. As we begin this process, I hope you remember the Elections Commission is more than willing to assist you with anything you or your campaign staff may need. Please DO NOT hesitate to contact us if you have questions or concerns—we want this to be the best possible experience for everyone involved.

There are a number of important dates we would like you to be aware of, as well as their corresponding pages in this packet:
• Platform statements due via email: January 26th at 10:00p.m.
• Mandatory Candidate Meetings: Tuesday, January 26th at 7:00p.m. for Senatorial candidates and 8:00p.m. for Executive candidates in the Russell House Room 303
• Executive Debate: Tuesday, February 9th – 7:00p.m.-9:00p.m.
• Election Dates: Tuesday and Wednesday, February 16th and 17th
  o Results will be announced in the Leadership and Service Center
• Runoff Election Dates (if needed): Tuesday and Wednesday, February 23rd and 24th
  o Results will be announced in the Leadership and Service Center
• Inauguration: Wednesday, March 16th

Besides the apportionment of Senate seats there are no changes in the Election Codes for this year from last. Please be aware that no campaigning, including distribution of candidate platforms or materials, may occur prior to the Mandatory Candidate Meeting tonight, including via email, Facebook, Twitter, or any other social media. This also includes any direct contact with student organizations. You are permitted to contact organizations for the sole purpose of setting up meeting times, but for no other reason until the conclusion of our meeting this evening.

Additionally, all University offices and departments cannot assist in the production of promotional materials of any campaign. Furthermore, any materials or equipment from the Department of Student Life are considered off-limits to candidates and campaign staff. No campaigning may take place in the Leadership and Service Center—please respect the work that Student Government will be continuing to do through campaign season.

As you go about campaigning, please take the ideals of the Carolinian Creed to heart and conduct your campaign in a manner we would all be proud of. We are thrilled to have each of your passions and talents contributing to this election, and we hope that this election will lead to a fantastic crop of Student Government members.

Please feel free to contact any of the Commission members at any time—we are here to help you. Best of luck!

Thank you,
Alexandra Badgett
Elections Commissioner 2015-2016
Student Government, University of South Carolina
Important Information

Mandatory Candidates Meeting

You MUST attend your respective candidates’ meeting on Tuesday, January 26th in order to be eligible for candidacy in the Student Body Elections. Senatorial candidates will meet at 7:00 p.m. and Executive candidates will meet at 8:00 p.m. Each meeting will be held in the Russell House 303. If unable to attend, the candidate must file a written excuse prior to the meeting with the Elections Commission pursuant to Elections Code 4-2-70(C) and schedule a make-up meeting with the Commission within two business days following the mandatory meeting. Any potential candidate who misses the meeting without prior approval will be disqualified.

Filing Fees and Executive Candidate Refunds

Pursuant to Election Code 4-2-60, all filing fees will be deposited into the Student Government university account until refunds are issued. Only Executive candidates are eligible for a partial refund after all of their campaign materials have been removed. When refunding filing fees the university will first apply the funds to any outstanding balance (library fees, parking tickets, etc.) an Executive candidate may personally have at USC. Please be aware that if you owe the university any amount of money you will not be refunded this portion of the filing fee. In addition, processing refunds will take time. Please expect any refund several weeks after the election.

Senate Districts & Apportionment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>Number of Seats Available</th>
<th>District Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRSM</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journalism</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Pharmacy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Seats:</strong></td>
<td><strong>50</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Qualifications According to Constitution of Student Government

ARTICLE III THE LEGISLATURE
Section 2 COMPOSITION
B. Representation
   1. Senate apportionment shall take place before the spring of each year. The most current official enrollment statistics for a complete semester shall be used as the basis of reapportionment. As stipulated in the codes, the Powers and Responsibilities Committee of the Senate shall propose apportionment each year to be confirmed by the Senate body by a 2/3 majority.
   2. All students shall be represented from their colleges, regardless of residence status or class. Potential Senators may only run for office in the college in which he or she is enrolled according to his or her major. If a vacancy occurs during the Senate term, the Powers and Responsibilities Committee shall have a period of one (1) month to fill the seat with a student who is enrolled in the district according to the student’s minor.

ARTICLE V ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS
Section 1 QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE
A. The President of Student Government must be at least a junior in class standing at the time of inauguration and must have earned at least thirty (30) hours at the University of South Carolina-Columbia Campus.
B. The Vice President of Student Government must have earned at least forty-five (45) credit hours at the time of inauguration and must have earned at least thirty (30) hours at the University of South Carolina-Columbia Campus.
C. The Treasurer of Student Government must be at least a sophomore in class standing at the time of inauguration with at least fifteen (15) hours earned at the University of South Carolina-Columbia Campus.
D. Where class standing is a requirement for office, class standing shall be defined as follows:
   1. Junior Standing - 60 hours.
   2. Sophomore Standing - 30 hours.
E. Any student who is considered full time by University policy may be a candidate for any office provided the other specific requirements for the particular office are satisfied. (Amended by SBL(91)007 dated 2/6/91.)
F. No Senator may simultaneously be a member of the Executive Branch or serve on the Constitutional Council.
G. No member of the Executive Branch may simultaneously serve in the Legislative Branch or serve on the Constitutional Council.
H. No member of the Constitutional Council may simultaneously serve in the Legislative or Executive Branch of Student Government.
I. All elected or appointed Student Government officials must maintain the cumulative GPR requirement for graduation and remain in good standing in their respective college and shall cease to serve at any time these standards are not maintained.
OTHER EXPECTATIONS

The President shall:
1. Uphold the Constitution and Constitutional Codes of the Student Government and administer all regulations established in the Senate Statutes.
2. Have the power to veto or sign acts of the Senate in their entirety or veto individual clauses within acts, excluding finance bills, provided that he/she exercises such power within six (6) school days or ten (10) calendar days of passage, whichever comes first. A veto of Senate Statutes may be over-ridden by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate. If the President takes no action within the stated time period, the act is considered approved.
3. Call special sessions of the Senate.
4. Make recommendations for legislation to the Senate.
5. Address the Senate at the beginning of each semester and at other times upon invitation of the Senate.
6. Appoint cabinet members and Judicial Council members as specified herein, with the concurrence of a majority of the Senate.
7. Remove any cabinet member from an appointed executive position.
8. Appoint such officials that he or she deems necessary for the expeditious conduct of Student Government business.
9. Act as the official representative of the Student Government and as an official representative of the University upon request of the President of the University.
10. With the assistance of the Treasurer, provide for the preparation and presentation of the Student Government budget.
11. Receive a stipend, as provided for in the Constitutional Codes, which shall not be increased or diminished during his or her term of office.

The Vice President shall:
1. Serve in lieu of the President in his or her absence or disability and succeed to that office should it become permanently vacated.
2. Serve as presiding officer of the Senate and vote only in the event of a tie.
3. Appoint the members of Student Government Senate Committees.
4. Appoint such officials as the Senate shall deem necessary for the expeditious conduct of Senate business.
5. Communicate all acts and resolutions of the Senate to the President of Student Government.
6. Appoint the Clerk of the Senate with the consent of the Senate.
7. Make recommendations to fill vacant Senate seats to the Powers and Responsibilities committee. Recommendations shall be made from the district in which the vacancy exists. Students who are minoring in the district that is different from their major district will become eligible to fill the seat of the minor district if an attempt has been made by the Powers and Responsibilities to fill the seat, and the seat has been vacant for a period of one month.
8. Receive a stipend, not to exceed that of the President, which shall not be increased or diminished during his or her term of office.
9. Appoint chairpersons to Senate Committees with the concurrence of a majority of the Senate.

The Treasurer shall:
1. Have access to all financial records of any student organization or body which receives monies from Student Activities Fees, and be empowered to enforce
University and Student Government regulations pertaining to these funds and to enforce any agreements between the Organization(s) and the Senate Finance Committee.

2. Serve as a non-voting member on the Senate Finance Committee.

3. Record all receipts, expenditures, and appropriations of monies from Student Government. These records shall be made public and subject to audit as the Senate may provide.

4. With the assistance of the President, be responsible for the preparation and presentation, of the Student Government Budget.

5. Participate with the Secretary in planning and coordinating an informational workshop for student organizations as established in the Constitutional Codes.

6. Receive a stipend, not to exceed that of the President, as provided for in the Constitutional Codes, which shall not be increased or diminished during his or her term of office.

The Senate shall:

1. Enact, by a majority vote, Constitutional Codes to this Constitution as provided in Article VI.

2. Have the power to enact Student Government Statutes governing the non-academic conduct of the Student Body subject to approval by the President of the University. These Statutes to be known as "SBL"s, meaning Student Body Legislation, may not conflict with, or supersede, the Constitution or Constitutional Codes except as provided for in Article VI.

3. Propose by two-thirds (2/3) vote amendments to this Constitution.

4. Ratify all appointments made to the Cabinet and Judicial Branch by the President of the Student Body by a majority vote.

5. Establish its own meeting time and rules of procedure.

6. Elect, as the first order of business of each newly elected Senate, a President Pro Tempore from its membership. He or she shall be a voting member of the Senate. He or she shall act in lieu of the Vice President of the Student Government in his or her absence or disability and shall succeed to that office should it become permanently vacated. The appointment of the Clerk of the Senate shall be ratified within one week of the appointment.

7. Hear the President of Student Government as directed in Article II, Section 3, subsection A.5, or by Senate rules.

8. Allow no proxies, substitutes, or alternates to act in place of a Senator.

9. Conduct all Student Senate Meetings in accordance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

10. Allow non-members to address the Senate upon invitation of a majority of that body.

11. Have sole power to declare vacancies in its membership for reasons to be determined by its statutes.

12. Provide for the holding of a referendum on pertinent issues to the student body, given a two-thirds (2/3) approval by the Senate.

13. Have the power to subpoena any officer of Student Government or the Senate by a majority vote.

14. Have the power to pass resolutions by a majority vote which will not be subject to presidential veto.
15. Subject to the approval of the President of the Student Government and the President of the University, provide for the allocation of Student Activity Fee Funds and recommend changes in the Student Activity Fee.

16. Have the sole power of impeachment of elected or appointed officials of the Student Government of the University of South Carolina. Impeachment shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate.

Candidate Webpage & Platform Statements

All candidates (both Executive and Senatorial) should have taken a picture at the time of filing. These pictures will be used on the election ballot next to your name. If you choose to send in a different picture to be used on the ballot candidates should email them to saec@mailbox.sc.edu no later than 10:00pm on January 26th.

Platform statements should also be emailed to saec@mailbox.sc.edu no later than 10:00p.m. on January 26th. Senatorial platform statements may be no more than 75 words. Executive candidate platform statements should be no more than 100 words. Please remember that candidates who do not submit a platform statement, or submit a late platform statement, will not have this information posted on the election ballot.

It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that the platform statement arrives on time and in a usable format (i.e. Microsoft Word attachment, PDF or in the body of the email). If you have any questions, please contact the Elections Commissioner, Alexandra Badgett.

2015 Executive Candidate Debate

All candidates for the offices of Student Body President, Vice President, and Treasurer will participate in a debate to be held in the Russell House Ballroom on the evening of Tuesday, February 9th, 2016.

More information, including the specific format of the debate, will be shared via email as it becomes available.
Violations Process

Any student, staff, or faculty member of the Carolina community may file alleged violations. Once the campaign period has begun, all complaints must be filed by 2:00 p.m. to assure that candidates be notified by 3:00 p.m. Once the complaint is filed, the Commission will have two business days to deliberate and announce its decision. The Commission will meet Monday through Friday in the Office of Student Government as needed to discuss violations. The process outlined below will be used by the Commission to review and assess all complaints received.

Posting Violations

Campaign materials may be placed on University posting locations and other places specifically designated for announcements and public notices. Dormitory doors (and doorknobs) are considered private property, and campaign materials cannot be placed on them without the consent of the owner. No campaign materials may be placed in any official polling location which will be announced on the student government website when the information is finalized.

- Complaints of a poster or banner, which is in violation of the posting violations, will be kept on file in the Student Government office.
- Although candidates will be contacted by 3:00 p.m., candidates are responsible for checking this file for any violations that apply to them.
- Candidates are strongly encouraged to keep track of any posters or banners that they post in order to make correcting any violations that may occur easier and more efficient.
- Once a complaint has been filed, the candidate against whom the complaint is directed must be notified by 3:00 p.m. (noon) the following day to correct the alleged violation.
- At the time a candidate incurs his/her third (3) infraction, s/he will be asked to meet with the Elections Commission in order to ascertain that the candidate is aware of the number of infractions s/he has received.
- If repeated violations are witnessed and reported, yet fixed by noon the next day, the Elections Commission may suspend the candidate’s privilege to correct the violation. Instead of warnings, infractions may be issued. This system is designed to be as fair as possible to every candidate, but if it is abused, the Commission will take further action.

All Other Violations

On the day the complaint is filed, the Commission will notify the candidate of the complaint and when a hearing will be held to discuss the violation filed. At this hearing the candidate will then have the opportunity to defend himself or herself and explain the alleged violation.

The Commission will meet to discuss the alleged violation to determine whether a warning or an infraction will be issued. The Commission will notify both the complainant and candidate of the result. The complainant and candidate will be given two business days to submit an appeal.

***A notebook containing all complaints filed will be kept in the Office of Student Government for the candidates’ and public examination. Although candidates will be contacted by 3:00 p.m. if a complaint has been filed against them, the Commission strongly recommends candidates check the notebook every day to remain aware of complaints filed against them. This way, the candidate will have more time to check on the complaint. ***
2016 Posting Regulations

**Barnwell** – No Posting

**Blatt P.E. Center** – You must report to the front desk (Campus Recreation Office) and consult, the Director, Herbert Camp at 777-4602 about where to post.

**Business Administration** – You may post on the bulletin boards located in the Basement of the building. However, you may **NOT** post on the bulletin boards labeled MISC, STUDENT ADS, STUDENT INFO, and CAMPUS ACTIVITIES. Only one poster is allowed per bulletin board. Also, posters can only be posted on the bulletin boards in the classrooms, BUT NOT ON THE CORKSTRIPS ABOVE THE CHALKBOARDS. ALSO, DO NOT POST ON STAIRWELLS OR DOORS.

**Darla Moore School of Business:** – Send an email to Laney Grubbs at graph1@moore.sc.edu to send in an electronic poster to place on their TVs. Otherwise, **NO POSTING** is allowed.

**Byrnes Center** – You may post on bulletin boards ONLY (in the office and in the lobby across from the elevator). Do not post on any other surface.

**Calcott Social Sciences Center** – You may post on all bulletin boards EXCEPT the undergraduate and graduate designated boards on the first floor.

**Carolina Coliseum** - You may post on bulletin boards ONLY AFTER you have obtained permission from the Hospitality Retail and Management School. **Do not post on painted surfaces.**

**Coker Life Sciences** -- You may post in the snack room (only 2 posters per candidate placed on separate walls) and on glass windows of snack room (only 1 poster per candidate on window), on Student Activities Board between elevators, in the entrance foyer between the two sets of glass doors, and in the foyer between the Coker Life and Earth Water Science buildings. **DO NOT POST ON WALLS.** Be especially aware of murals on first floor and any wallpapered surfaces. You may post on the bulletin board across CLS 005.

**Currell College** – Take postings to the Dean’s office to be approved and they will post it for you (777-7097).

**Davis College** – You may post on bulletin boards, but NOT on any doors or windows.

**Earth Water Science** -- You may post on bulletin boards near elevators ONLY. You must use scotch tape. Do not post on any other surface.

**Gambrell Hall** – You may post on bulletin boards on the first floor by exits, also boards on 3rd and 4th floors. If large poster, limit 1-2 per bulletin board to conserve space for others. **DO NOT PUT TAPE ON WALLS OR DOORS.**

**Hamilton** – You may post on bulletin boards in the halls. Do not post on any other surface. **NOTHING TAPED TO WALLS.** When elections are over, take down all posters.
**Harper College** – Bulletin boards outside office on 2nd floor, and bulletin boards in the stairwells.

**Humanities** – All bulletin boards in hallways available for posting.

**Law Center** -- You may post on bulletin boards ONLY. Fliers/posters must be checked by Student Affairs in Law School (Rm. 137). **NO POSTERS ALLOWED ON WALLS OR WALLPAPER.**

**LeConte College** -- You may post on bulletin boards ONLY. Do not post on any other surface.

**Longstreet Theatre** -- You may post in the elevators ONLY. Do not post on any other surface.

**McKissick Museum** -- You may post in the canteen on the bulletin board above the sink ONLY.

**Music School** – You may post on a basement level, general announcement bulletin boards, and on windows in the canteen area. Posted elsewhere **will be torn down. ABSOLUTELY NO TAPE IS ALLOWED AND DO NOT POST ON WALLS.**

**Medical School** - You must contact Dr. Kinney in the office before posting. Bulletin boards outside the office. Bring items to be posted to the office of VA campus and they will gladly post it for you (3-3200).

**Nursing** -- You must have approval by the Academic and Student Affairs Office, Room 140, before posting. **NO TAPING ON WALLS;** only push pins are allowed. Bulletin boards on all 5 floors and in student lounges.

**Physical Sciences Building** -- Bulletin boards in Graduate Studies Building

**Residence Halls** - There is to be **NO** door to door solicitation/campaigning. You **CANNOT** slide fliers under residence hall doors. To hang posters in the residence halls contact Andy Fink at 777-4129.

**Russell House** -- **ONLY executive candidates may post inside the Russell House.** The limit is four (4) posters/fliers. You MUST take posters/fliers to the Information Center desk located on the 2nd floor at least 24 hours in advance. If approved, the Russell House Staff will distribute them to the bulletin boards. Do not post on any other surface. **Banners on Greene Street Wall and Outside Patio** - Senatorial and executive candidates may post banners on the brick wall in front of the Russell House on Greene Street, beginning at the corner of the Woodrow Residence Hall to the end of the wall on the east end by Melton Observatory. You **MUST** have banner(s) for Greene St. and the outside patio approved by the Russell House Information Desk.

**School of Public Health** -- You may bring in three (3) posters to the Dean’s office and they will post. Contact Karen for posting in the Speech Pathology department (7-4813). Contact Renee for posting in the Exercise Science department (7-5267).
**Sloan College** -- You may post inside the building on the 2nd floor bulletin board at the top of the stairs.

**Sumwalt** -- You may post only on the bulletin boards in the stairwells. Do not post on any other surface.

**Swearingen** -- You may post on the regular bulletin boards only. **DO NOT POST ON ANY WALL OR OTHER TYPE OF BOARD.**

**Thomas Cooper Library** -- You may post on the main floor bulletin board left of entrance only.

**Wardlaw** -- You may post on the second floor lounge on the Peabody side (left) only. **CHECK WITH THE DEAN’S OFFICE BEFORE POSTING ANYTHING.**

**Parking Garages** -- **POSTING IS PROHIBITED IN THE PARKING GARAGES**

- Candidates are responsible for removing **ALL** improperly posted material, regardless of who posted the fliers. Candidates and their staff should respect University property when posting material. Action will be taken against candidates when necessary.
- If issued a warning or an infraction by the Commission, material must be removed by noon the following day or further action will be taken by the Commission.
- Only ONE poster is allowed per bulletin board per candidate in accordance with the above regulations. Candidates will not be allowed to place their poster over another candidate’s poster. Each classroom is allowed to have only 2 posters per candidate. Each poster must be on a separate wall in accordance with the above regulations.
- Size Limit for flyers/poster: **11” X 17”** This applies for all fliers/posters in all locations. Two posters connected together will still be counted as two posters, not one. **Size Limit for Banner on Greene Street: 8 ft. long X height of the wall.**

**Clean Sweep Posting Regulations**

In an effort to keep the campus clean and orderly, all elections related material must be removed campus-wide within 48 hours of the general Student Body Elections. Candidates who continue onto a runoff election have until 48 hours after the final runoff election.
Policies for Solicitation
(Adapted from the Carolina Community – Please note these are University Policies)

PURPOSE
The University of South Carolina has the duty and responsibility to maintain a safe and healthy environment conducive to its principal mission of education. At the same time, the University recognizes and respects the constitutional protection of free speech as well as the individual student’s right to privacy. Accordingly, the University hereby adopts this solicitation policy for the purpose of establishing reasonable time, place and manner restrictions on campus solicitation.

DEFINITION OF SOLICITATION
Solicitation is defined as contact for the purpose of:
• Soliciting funds or sales or demonstrations that result in sales
• Distributing advertising or other materials
• Compiling data for surveys, programs, or other programs
• Recruitment of members or support for an organization or cause
  (NOTE: spontaneous gatherings of individuals for a singular purpose are considered solicitation.)
• Providing educational information or sessions
  (Exclusive of formal University of South Carolina academic classes)
• Solicitation activities may not substantially disrupt or materially (or significantly) interfere with the educational, administrative, or operational activities of the University. Commercial speech which is false, fraudulent, or misrepresentative is not permitted. Events which are in violation of local, state, or federal law, Board of Trustees policy, or rules, regulations, and guidelines of the University are prohibited.
• An event that places an undue burden on campus facilities; interferes with the use of campus facilities by other persons; disrupts normal operations; infringes on the protected rights of others; has as a principle goal to incite a riot or to disrupt other activities, may be denied the privilege to use University facilities (or grounds) for solicitation.

DESIGNATED AREAS
Solicitation activities are permitted in the following designated areas:
• Specific areas of the Russell House University Union including the front and back patios,
• Ballroom, meeting rooms, and main lobby may be used for campaigning purposes. To make reservations and find out about special stipulations (i.e. use of RH equipment etc.), contact Ryan Gross, RH 218 at 777-2827.
• Greene Street (between the gates ONLY and at specified times)

Contact Jerry Brewer, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Academic Support, at 777-5782 for additional information about designated locations.
DIRECT MAIL SOLICITATION

The University of South Carolina postal office is responsible for providing services for USC faculty, staff, and students for official University business only. Mail determined to be of personal nature (such as checks, bank statements, utility bills, personal packages) will be returned to the sender. The only exception to the policy is mail service to on-campus resident students whose mail is delivered to their residence.

University Intra-campus Mail Service cannot be used by faculty, staff, students, or outside businesses or organizations for campaign notices, advertising, solicitation, or for any purpose that is not determined official University business. No USC mailing list will be available for use other than for official University of South Carolina business. (Student organizations may be contacted through the Office of Student Government & Student Organizations.)

CONTACTING STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

A candidate may contact registered student organizations to speak at an organizational meeting. A notebook with current student organizations and contact information will be kept in the Office of Student Government. The information contained in the notebook may only be used for Elections purposes. While information may be transferred to personal records, the notebook cannot be removed from the Office of Student Government & Student Organizations. It is the responsibility of the individual to ensure that the notebook is returned and that the sign out sheet is updated. Individuals listed in the Student Organization Contact Notebook should only be contacted between the hours of 10:00a.m. and 10:00p.m. Student organizations reserve the right to grant meeting access at their convenience.

DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE

Distribution of literature by University or non-University individuals or organizations is subject to solicitation policy to prevent harassment of students and to maintain the campus environment. The person-to-person distribution of literature by University or non-University individuals or organizations is restricted to the areas available for solicitation and must be registered and reserved in advance through the Office of Student Life. The distribution of a publicity material(s) shall be consistent with the orderly conduct of the University's affairs, the maintenance of University property, and the free flow of traffic and persons. Efforts must be made to avoid litter. Distribution by means of accosting individuals, hawking, or shouting is strictly prohibited.

The posting of literature by University or non-University individuals or organizations is restricted to appropriate reserved areas of bulletin boards in University buildings or on the Carolina Information Boards located at various outdoor points around campus. Some bulletin board space is designated for University activities only. The posting or attachment of fliers, posters, advertisements, or announcements of any type on the external/internal sides of buildings, trees, sidewalks, light posts, parked cars, or other similar structures is prohibited.

POSTING PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL (INCLUDING BANNERS)

Groups or individuals that post materials on non-designated structures will be fined and/or billed for clean-up and damages. Violations of this policy constitute violations of University policy and will be addressed through appropriate disciplinary channels.

Publicity material(s) shall be posted only on bulletin boards or other approved areas designated in this policy. Under no circumstances shall any publicity material be
placed, written, or painted upon any surface (interior or exterior) including, but not limited to, trees or shrubs, poles, signs, doors, windows, walls, sidewalks or other campus structures.

Posting material on buildings, walls, doorways, light posts and other structures defaces the property of the University, causes permanent damage and costs thousands of dollars each year in clean-up and repair expenses. Individuals caught defacing property will face prosecution. Questions or comments should be directed to Jerry Brewer, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, at 777-5782.

Only ONE poster is allowed per bulletin board per candidate IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CURRENT POSTING REGULATIONS. Candidates will not be allowed to place their poster over another candidate’s poster. Each classroom is allowed to have two (2) posters per candidate. Each poster must be on a separate wall IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CURRENT POSTING REGULATIONS.

NOTE:
• Candidates wishing to display banners on the wall on Greene Street must reserve a space through the Elections Commission. Banners are subject to approval of the Elections Commission and Russell House Administration.
• Candidates will draw numbers for banner space during the mandatory candidate meeting, January 26th, 2016
• Banners/posters may be hung up to a week before the event (Regarding elections, banners may be hung when campaigning begins, which is directly after the Mandatory Candidate Meeting on January 26th, 2016). The Elections Commission, Office of Student Government & Student Organizations, and Department of Student Affairs assume no responsibility for security of banners/posters at any time during display. Candidates are encouraged to secure banners with locks or remove them at night.
• Any candidate is eligible for immediate removal from their race if they or a member of their campaign staff are found to have tampered with, destroyed, or stolen another candidate’s banner.
• Candidates are responsible for removal of banners, including all debris (tape, paper, etc.) from wall and surrounding area, immediately after the advertised event is over.
• All banners must have the official approval sticker that is provided by the Office of Student Government. This sticker must be visible on the top, left corner of the banner.

Greene Street Tables
Pursuant to Election Code 4-3-30(A): Executive Candidates will be allowed to have tables on Greene Street on the days of elections (and run-offs if necessary) and on one day during the week prior to the election as determined by the Elections Commission. Candidates are not allowed to reserve tables on Greene Street on any other days. Notify the commission of the day and time you wish to reserve a table by 10:00am on February 10th.

Please reference the Elections Codes when campaigning at tables and be mindful of all restrictions on person-to-person distribution of campaign materials.
Reminders

Ethics
The eyes of the Carolina Community, including faculty, staff, and student body, are upon you. As a student leader at Carolina, you have an obligation to uphold the principles of the Carolinian Creed and conduct yourself and your campaign in an appropriate manner.

Posting/Campaigning
• You must abide by all posting regulations and make sure your campaign staff members are fully aware of these policies. You will be held completely responsible for all of their actions.
• You are responsible for the removal of any residue from your campaign materials after the election (see Clean Sweep information).
• **Stick-on decals may be used for campaign material. They must be non-residue and must be approved by the Elections Commissioner before distribution.**
• No wooden stakes are permitted in the ground anywhere on campus.
• Don’t forget about the environment. Use recyclable materials whenever possible.
• Person-to-person distribution of literature is permitted ONLY on election days and ONLY outside specified polling locations. Keep in mind that you must remain outside any official polling location (this includes but is not limited to: residence hall computer labs, 2nd floor lobby of the Russell House, library, any other campus computer lab).
• Candidates may not use UofSC CSD (such as listserv or blanket mailout) to contact potential voters, as this constitutes direct mail solicitation. Candidates may develop their own homepage; however, it cannot be linked to any UofSC websites, including Student Government and VIP.
• You should have already turned in a COMPLETE list of your campaign staff. This complete list should be turned in to the Elections Commissioner and Campaigning CANNOT begin until such a list is received. Candidates are advised to update this list if the campaign staff changes.

When in doubt, ask. It is better to take time to get a clarification on a code or regulation from an Elections Official than to be the subject of violation complaints. Always follow the Election Codes. The Candidate Handbook and Election Codes are the official source of information for Elections and is what the Elections Commission will use to guide their operations and decisions.

The Office of Student Government maintains itself as neutral throughout Student Body Elections. No campaign materials (including stickers & t-shirts) should be visible when inside the Office of Student Government. Additionally, no equipment in the office may be used for campaigning purposes.
CHAPTER 4 – ELECTIONS COMMISSION AND ELECTIONS

ARTICLE I. ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Section 4-1-10. Authority.

(A) The Elections Commission shall exist as a service to the student body, conducting the student body elections and inauguration.

(B) Authority shall be derived from and regulated by the Student Government Constitution and Codes. Any changes made to Chapter 4 of these codes after January 1st shall not go into effect until after the upcoming election has concluded.

(C) The Elections Commission shall act as an independent body, advised by the Student Government coordinator.

Section 4-1-20. Funding.

(A) Funding shall be derived from student activity fees on the same basis as other Student Government bodies.

(B) All expenditures by the Elections Commission shall be approved by the elections commissioner and the Student Government coordinator.

(C) The Student Government advisor shall be authorized to disburse funds necessary to conduct elections in accordance with the Student Government Constitution and Codes.

Section 4-1-30. Composition.

The Elections Commission shall be composed of the elections commissioner, the deputy elections commissioner, and seven (7) to nine (9) assistant elections commissioners, as follows:

(A) The publicity chair;

(B) The marketing and outreach chair;

(C) The candidate relations chair;

(D) The posting regulations chair;

(E) The debate chair;

(F) The violations chair;

(G) The inauguration chair;

(H) And, optionally, two other chairs, whose titles shall be determined by the elections commissioner.
Section 4-1-40. Nomination and confirmation.

(A) The student body president shall nominate the elections commissioner for consideration by the Student Senate within two (2) weeks of his or her inauguration.

(B) The elections commissioner shall nominate the deputy elections commissioner for consideration by the Student Senate by the conclusion of the spring academic semester.

(C) The elections commissioner shall nominate all assistant elections commissioners for consideration by the Student Senate by October 1st.

(D) No member of the Elections Commission may take office without being nominated, being interviewed by either the Student Senate Powers and Responsibilities or Judiciary Committee (or both committees in the case of the elections commissioner and deputy elections commissioner), being confirmed by the Student Senate, and taking the Student Government oath of office.

(E) In the event that the office of elections commissioner becomes vacant, the student body president shall nominate a replacement within two (2) weeks of the initial vacancy.

(F) In the event that the office of deputy elections commissioner becomes vacant, the elections commissioner shall nominate a replacement within two (2) weeks of the initial vacancy.

(G) In the event that an assistant elections commissioner position becomes vacant and the total number of assistant elections commissioners falls below seven (7) as a result, the elections commissioner shall nominate a replacement within two (2) weeks of the initial vacancy.

(H) The attorney general may, if requested by the Student Government coordinator, direct the postponement of the election if the minimum staff is not appointed and approved within the time limits stated herein.

Section 4-1-50. Duties of the elections commissioner.

Duties of the elections commissioner shall include, but may not be limited to:

(A) Implementing, in good faith, Chapter 4 of these Student Government Codes;

(B) Reviewing the Student Government Codes with all members of the Elections Commission and ensuring awareness of these codes;

(C) Providing a copy of Chapter 4 of these Student Government codes, along with the official candidates’ packet, to all student organization presidents no earlier than January 1st;

(D) Procuring all materials necessary to conduct student body elections;

(E) Nominating and training the deputy elections commissioner and assistant elections commissioners;
(F) Selecting and training any poll workers deemed necessary;

(G) Overseeing the publicity and marketing surrounding all student body elections;

(H) Overseeing the planning and holding of the candidate interest meetings, the official candidates’ meeting, the candidates’ debate, any violation hearings, and the announcement of election results;

(I) And overseeing the tabulation of results of all student body elections;

Section 4-1-60. Duties of the Elections Commission.

Duties of the Elections Commission shall include, but may not be limited to:

(A) Meeting regularly with the Student Government coordinator, beginning four weeks prior to the student body election;

(B) Publicizing student body elections to ensure that students are aware of the dates and times for candidate interest meetings, the official candidates’ meeting, the candidates’ debate, and voting;

(C) Communicating effectively and consistently with candidates prior to and during the campaign period to ensure that the candidates are aware of all rules, regulations, procedures, and relevant actions by the Elections Commission;

(D) Establishing and maintaining posting regulations and the official candidates’ packet, and providing this information to candidates during the official candidates’ meeting;

(E) Planning and holding candidate interest meetings and the official candidates’ meeting;

(F) Planning and holding a debate for candidates for executive office at least one (1) week prior to the regular student body elections;

(G) Establishing a process for hearing and considering complaints of election violations and fraud, and making decisions on such complaints following those hearings;

(H) Monitoring all write-in procedures and reporting any irregularities or violations to the elections commissioner;

(I) Assuring the security of all ballots and other election records for a period of thirty (30) days after the student body election. If the election is contested, records must be retained until a settlement is reached;

(J) Tabulating the results of all elections and certifying those results;

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(K) Planning and holding an event to announce the results of all regular and other elections;
(L) And planning and holding an inauguration for elected candidates on the Wednesday following spring break.

**ARTICLE II. STUDENT BODY ELECTIONS**

**Section 4-2-10. Date and time.**

(A) So long as class is in session, the regular student body election shall be held on the Tuesday and Wednesday three weeks prior the University’s spring break.

(B) So long as class is in season, any runoff student body election shall be held on the Tuesday and Wednesday during the week following the regular student body election.

(C) All elections shall last for a period of two (2) consecutive days, beginning at 9:00 AM on the first day and lasting until 5:00 PM on the second day.

(D) If an election is determined to be null and void, a new election shall take place at a time to be determined by the Elections Commission, with the approval of the Office of Student Affairs.

**Section 4-2-20. Offices elected.**

The following elected offices shall be filled in the designated spring elections: student body president, student body vice president, student body treasurer, and student senators.

**Section 4-2-30. Election procedures.**

(A) In elections for executive offices, a winner shall be determined at such time that one candidate gains a majority of the votes cast, which shall be defined as fifty (50) percent of all votes cast, plus one vote.

(B) In elections for executive offices, a run-off election shall be held if no candidate receives a majority of votes cast for a particular office. The two persons receiving the highest number of votes cast shall be eligible for the run-off election.

(C) In elections for Student Senate, a winner or winners shall be determined as stated in the Student Government Constitution.

(D) In elections for Student Senate, a run-off election shall be held in the event of a tie for one or more seats.

(E) In the general election, but not in any run-off election, a candidate may be elected to an executive office or to the Student Senate by write-in ballots. All write-in candidates winning their election shall be notified by the Elections Commissioner after it is determined that this person is eligible to serve.

(F) For a referendum to appear on the ballot it must be published in The Daily Gamecock at least one (1) week prior to the vote of the student body pursuant to the Student
Government Constitution. If necessary, a referendum may appear on the ballot in an abbreviated form, as determined by the Elections Commission.

Section 4-2-40. Student Senate districts.

(A) The electoral districts of the Student Senate and the apportionment of the fifty (50) Student Senate seats shall be as follows:

1. District 1 (College of Arts and Sciences) – twelve (12) seats;
2. District 2 (College of Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management) – four (4) seats;
3. District 3 (College of Social Work) – two (2) seats;
4. District 4 (Darla Moore School of Business) – ten (10) seats;
5. District 5 (College of Education) – two (2) seats;
6. District 6 (College of Engineering and Computing) – three (3) seats;
7. District 7 (College of Mass Communications and Information Studies) – four (4) seats;
8. District 8 (School of Law) – two (2) seats;
9. District 9 (College of Nursing) – two (2) seats;
10. District 10 (South Carolina College of Pharmacy) – two (2) seats;
11. District 11 (South Carolina College of Pharmacy – Pre-Pharmacy) – two (2) seats;
12. District 12 (Arnold School of Public Health) – three (3) seats;
13. And District 13 (School of Music) – two (2) seats.

(B) Any school or college having more than one hundred (100) full-time students (as defined by the University Registrar) shall have a corresponding Student Senate district, and each district shall have at least one (1) seat.

Section 4-2-50. Student Senate reapportionment.

(A) Each fall, the Elections Commission shall review the enrollment figures for each academic college and school at the University for the purpose of reapportionment of Student Senate districts.

(B) The apportionment of Student Senate seats shall occur as follows:

1. Each district shall be assigned one (1) seat.

2. The additional seats assigned to each district shall be derived by dividing the number of full-time students (FTS) enrolled in that particular college or school by the number of FTS
enrolled in the University, and then multiplying the result by the number of seats remaining after all districts have been assigned one (1) seat. This formula shall be as follows:

Additional seats per district = \[\frac{\text{(FTS enrolled in the college or school)} \times \text{(Remaining seats)}}{\text{(FTS enrolled at the University)}}\]

(3) All number of remaining seats per district shall be properly apportioned by the whole number, excluding the decimal.

(4) If a district receives no whole additional seats through this process, assign one of any remaining seats to each district bringing them to two (2) seats. If not possible, award the seats based on the decimal value in descending order. By receiving this additional seat, these districts are excluded from the remaining apportionment process.

(5) If seats still remain, they shall be allocated to the districts based upon which districts' had the highest decimal value. In descending order, the remainder of additional seats per district shall be apportioned based upon the above formula. (For instance, a district with 2.6 additional seats per district shall be awarded a remaining seat over a district with 1.3 or 3.3 additional seats per district).

(C) Once the apportionment of seats is calculated, the elections commissioner shall transmit the calculations and a recommendation for reapportionment (if necessary) to the student body vice president, who shall refer them to the chair of the Student Senate Powers and Responsibilities Committee.

Section 4-2-60. Candidate filing and fees.

(A) The Elections Commission shall plan and hold a period during which any candidates wishing to be placed on the ballot for a particular office must file for election in the Student Government office. Filing shall start at 9:00 AM on the Monday seven (7) weeks before the University’s spring break and continue through 5:00 PM on that Tuesday. If that Monday is a holiday, filing shall start at 9:00 AM on the Tuesday seven (7) weeks before the University's spring break and continue through 4:00 PM on that Wednesday.

(B) During the filing period, each candidate shall submit a filing form certifying that he or she meets the requirements for the office, has read the appropriate rules, and grants the Student Government advisor permission to certify his or her academic eligibility. In accordance with university policy, no student can be approved for candidacy if he or she is currently on academic probation or is otherwise not in good standing with the University.

(C) During the filing period, each candidate must provide to the elections commissioner a list of his or her campaign staff, and must update this list if the membership of his or her campaign staff changes. A person who operates on the behalf of a particular candidate shall be judged a member of that candidate’s campaign staff if it is determined that this person received explicit or implicit encouragement to campaign on that candidate’s behalf. If it is determined that this person is a member of that candidate’s campaign staff, he or she may
be given consideration for the purposes of assessing elections fraud or elections violations against that candidate.

(D) The filing fee to run for Student Senate shall be a non-refundable amount of five (5) dollars.

(E) The filing fee to run for executive office shall be fifty (50) dollars, of which forty-five (45) dollars is refundable, provided that all of the candidate’s campaign materials are removed within forty-eight (48) hours of the last election to the satisfaction of the Elections Commissioner. If not, the money is forfeited to the Elections Commission.

(F) A receipt for fees paid shall be issued to each candidate by a Student Government office staff employee upon the candidate’s filing.

(G) The student body treasurer shall keep on file for one year a copy of each receipt issued. These shall constitute a public record.

(H) All collected monies shall be deposited to the Student Government elections account, as prescribed by University policy.

(I) Candidates filing to run for Student Senate may only do so in a district according to their academic certification pursuant to the Student Government Constitution.

(J) A candidate running for an executive position may simultaneously file for a seat in the Student Senate. In the case of the candidate winning both the executive election and Student Senate election, that candidate will be moved to the executive office, and the vacated Student Senate seat will be given to the next candidate with the highest votes.

(K) Candidates must file for office using their names as listed in University records. The candidate’s name as it is to appear on the ballot shall be subject to approval by the Elections Commission.

(L) If a student seeking a Student Senate seat is a member of the South Carolina Honors College, that student shall seek the seat that represents the college the he or she is enrolled in for his or her major.

(M) After the filing deadline has passed, the elections commissioner shall give the names of the applicants to the Student Government advisor for verification of eligibility.

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Section 4-2-70. Candidates’ meeting.

(A) The Elections Commission shall plan and hold an official candidates meeting that shall be mandatory for all candidates.

(B) The date of this meeting shall be determined during the fall semester, and candidates shall be informed of the meeting and its date and time when they complete the filing process.

(C) If a candidate is unable to attend the mandatory meeting, the candidate, to be eligible to
run for office, must:

(1) Submit a written excuse to the Elections Commission prior to the mandatory meeting;

(2) And meet with the Elections Commission within two (2) business days after the mandatory meeting.

(D) At this meeting, the Elections Commission shall provide a copy of the official candidates’ packet for all candidates, which must contain Chapter 4 of these Student Government Codes, the posting regulations, a copy of the University Solicitation Policy, a copy of the Carolinian Creed, contact information for members of the Elections Commission, and any other information deemed necessary.

(E) At this meeting, all candidates must sign an agreement affirming that they have read the documents mentioned above and fully understand all of their meanings and implications. It is the responsibility of the Elections Commission to explain any ambiguities or answer any questions that the candidates may have.

Section 4-2-80. Campaign period.

(A) The period in which candidates may campaign shall begin immediately following the official candidates’ meeting and shall end upon the conclusion of the final voting period for that candidate’s particular race.

(B) There shall be two distinct periods of campaigning: Soft Campaigning and Hard Campaigning.

(1) Soft Campaigning may consist of all campaign methods not including:

(a) Those in violation of these Student Government Codes;

(b) The distribution of campaign promotional items such as cups, t-shirts, food, beverages, and items related to the exchange of food, beverages, or consumer products;

(c) Or the holding of campaign rallies or special events.

(2) Hard Campaigning may consist of all campaign methods not including those in violation of these Student Government Codes.

(C) The period of Soft Campaigning shall begin with the conclusion of the official candidates’ meeting and shall end at the conclusion of the Wednesday four (4) weeks before the University’s spring break.

(D) The period of Hard Campaigning shall start at the conclusion of Soft Campaigning and shall end at the conclusion of the final voting period for each race.

(E) The distribution of campaign promotional items to campaign members, as named at the official candidates’ meeting, shall not be prohibited at any point during the campaign period.
Section 4-2-90. Polling locations.

(A) Students may vote from any computer with access to the designated online voting system.

(B) The Elections Commission may designate other polling locations where voting may be encouraged and facilitated by the Commission.

(C) The Elections Commission shall determine whether an area constitutes a polling location for the purpose of complaints of election violations or fraud.

(D) Every person eligible to vote in the student body elections shall receive an email from the University reminding them to vote. This email must contain a link to online voting system, instructions for voting, and candidate information or a link to candidate information. This email shall be sent out the day of elections to students’ official University email accounts. In case of a runoff, new, or special election, the same requirements apply.

Section 4-2-100. Voting procedures.

(A) The Student Government advisor, in coordination with University Technology Services, shall be responsible for the implementation and preparedness of all ballot information for the elections.

(B) Voting shall occur through the designated online voting system and all ballots shall be automatically tallied by the system.

(C) Voters shall access the election site through the website of the designated online voting system.

(D) All students registered at the University of South Carolina-Columbia campus will be provided electronic ballots for regular and other elections. The ballot shall be appropriate based on their college or school of enrollment.

(E) Each student will be allowed to access the electronic ballot to vote one time. Additional attempts to access the site shall not be allowed.

(F) If not possible through electronic randomization, the order of candidates’ names on the ballot shall be determined through a random drawing to be conducted by the Elections Commission during the mandatory candidates’ meeting only for contested races. Candidates’ names in uncontested races will appear in alphabetical order.

(G) Each candidate’s name on the ballot must contain no more than twenty-five characters or letters. Each candidate is responsible for viewing the ballot on the online voting system and verifying the correct spelling of their name on the ballot with the Student Government advisor no later than four (4) days prior to the election. Any requests for a change of ballot information must be submitted in writing four (4) business days prior to the election and must be issued a receipt by the Student Government advisor.
(H) The online voting system must be accessible for at least seventy-five (75) percent of the allotted election time available during any election. If it is not, that election may be considered null and void at the discretion of the Elections Commission.

(I) Students wishing to submit a write-in ballot during the general election must do so through the electronic voting system. If unavailable, students may submit a write-in ballot at the Student Government office polling location by the following process:

1. The student shall present to the poll worker a picture identification.
2. The student shall log onto the online voting system and submit a blank ballot.
3. The student shall be provided a paper ballot by the designated member of the Elections Commission monitoring the write-in location. This paper ballot must contain the names of all executive candidates and senatorial candidates for the student’s college or school of enrollment, spaces for the student to write-in votes for each office, and an envelope.
4. The student shall indicate his or her selections on the ballot, seal the ballot in the envelope, and place it in the designated ballot box.

(J) The Elections Commission shall be responsible for providing the following items at the write-in polling station located in the Student Government office:

1. One large, lockable ballot box; 2. Write-in ballots and envelops; 3. Instructions for any poll workers; 4. And materials to designate the polling location;

Section 4-2-110. Tabulation and notification.

(A) A member of the Elections Commission must be present to close the write-in polling location at 5:00 PM on the final day of the regular student body election and to transport the ballots to the counting location. Candidates for executive office may have one observer present from the time the poll closes until the tabulation of the write-in ballots is complete.

(B) The attorney general must be present as an observer at the time the write-in ballot box is opened and until the tabulation is complete. The attorney general shall be responsible for the security of the area where counting is taking place. If the attorney general is not present, the chief justice of the Constitutional Council or an individual designated by the Student Affairs shall substitute.

(C) The tabulation of the write-in ballots is the responsibility of the Elections Commission. The Elections Commission shall count the write-in ballots under the direct supervision of the elections commissioner.

(D) Upon completion of the tabulation of write-in ballots and their addition to the total vote count, the elections commissioner shall certify the results prior to publishing the results.

(E) The Elections Commission shall announce the results of the elections on the evening of
their certification, barring any pending complaints of election violations or fraud.

(F) The elections commissioner shall post a copy of the results within twenty-four (24) hours of their certification, at which time the official results shall constitute a public record. The record on file in the Student Government office shall include the total number of ballots cast and the total votes cast for each candidate.

(G) Anyone wishing to contest an election must do so within twenty-four (24) hours after the posting of the official vote tabulation results by the Elections Commissioner. Contests must be filed during normal business hours.

ARTICLE III. ELECTION VIOLATIONS

Section 4-3-10. Definition.

An election violation shall be defined as any willful act, deed, or conspiracy that violates the provisions of these codes. An election violation may occur on any date during or before the campaign period.

Section 4-3-20. General rules and regulations.

(A) In all instances, candidates and members of a candidate’s campaign shall, in addition to these codes, observe and abide by:

1. The University Solicitation Policy;

2. And the posting regulations as provided in the official Candidates’ Packet.

(B) Prior to the campaign period, a candidate may communicate with others for the purpose of enlisting campaign members, but shall not campaign for the explicit purpose of acquiring votes.

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Section 4-3-30. Electronic communication. (A) Phone calls or text messaging may only be directed at individuals who have a pre-existing relationship with the candidate or the campaign member performing the contact. (B) No candidate may campaign through any listserv or webpage operated by the University.

Section 4-3-40. Oral communication.

(A) Candidates wishing to reserve tables for their campaign shall do so through the Elections Commission. Tables may only be reserved on the days of the election, and on one day during the week prior to the election, to be determined by the Elections Commission.

(B) Candidates or members of a candidate’s campaign may not solicit organizations to set up speaking times until that candidate has filed for office.

(C) Candidates or members of a candidate’s campaign are prohibited from soliciting on off-campus residences, which include private homes, condominiums, or apartment complexes, unless they have signed written permission by the owner or complex manager and submit a copy of that written permission to the Elections Commission.
Section 4-3-50. Materials-based communication.

(A) All fliers, banners, promotional items, and other forms of materials-based communication to be posted or distributed must be approved by the Elections Commission in advance.

(B) Candidates wishing to reserve space for banners for their campaign shall do so through the Elections Commission. Banners may be displayed as soon as campaigning begins.

(C) Campaign materials:

(1) May not be distributed before the official candidates’ meeting;

(2) May be distributed following the official candidates’ meeting, but in a person-to-person manner only during student organization meetings or at times designated by the Elections Commission for oral and materials-based communication;

(3) May only be placed in University posting locations and other places specifically designated for announcements and public notices;

(4) May not be placed on dormitory doors without the consent of the resident; (5) May not be placed in any official polling location (e.g. a computer lab);

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(6) May not employ any officially trademarked or copyrighted materials (e.g. the University logo, seal, etc.);

(7) And may include stick-on decals, as long as the decals are of the type that do not leave a residue upon removal.

ARTICLE IV. ELECTION FRAUD

Section 4-4-10. Definition.

(A) Election fraud shall be defined as any willful act, deed, or conspiracy that violates the integrity of the electoral process during the voting period.

(B) Elections fraud shall include the following acts, committed by the candidate or members of his or her campaign:

(1) Attempting to vote or voting in place of another;

(2) Attempting to procure or procuring – by the payment, delivery, or promise of money or other article of value – another to vote for or against any particular candidate or ballot measure;

(3) Attempting to procure or procuring – by the use of threats or intimidation – another to vote for or against any particular candidate or ballot measure;

(4) Attempting to make disparaging assertions with the intent to defame by slander, libel, or other injurious process against other candidates or campaigns;
(5) Attempting to influence or influencing a voter who is in the process of voting; (6) Or attempting to monitor or monitoring a voter who is in the process of voting.

ARTICLE V. COMPLAINTS AND HEARINGS

Section 4-5-10. Filing.

(A) Any student, faculty member, or staff member can file a complaint of an alleged election violation or election fraud.

(B) Any complaint of an alleged election violation must be may be filed with the Elections Commission at any time up until two (2) business days following the conclusion of the final voting period for the particular race in question.

(C) Any complaint of alleged election fraud must be filed with the Elections Commission during normal business hours and within two (2) business days of the incident in question.

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(D) The person filing the complaint:

(1) Must state in that complaint who was involved, what was done, where the act occurred, and any other known, relevant information;

(2) Must be informed that he or she may be asked to testify before the Elections Commission or at any other level of the appeals process;

(3) And must be informed that his or her name could be made publicly available in accordance with governmental regulations at the time of filing the complaint.

Section 4-5-20. Response.

(A) The Elections Commission shall, in a timely manner, inform the person filing a complaint of an alleged election violation or election fraud that the report has been received;

(B) The Elections Commission must send an email to all candidates by 3:00 PM each business during which campaigning is allowed, detailing any complaints received and the time at which the Elections Commission will convene to consider the complaint.

Section 4-5-30. Hearing.

(A) The Elections Commission shall convene to consider a complaint at a time no earlier than 6:00 PM on the day that the complaint is filed and no later than two (2) business days after the complaint is filed.

(B) During the hearing of a complaint, the candidate against whom the complaint was filed has the right to be present at all times during which the complaint is being considered and to witness all documentation against him or herself, with the exception of any period reserved solely for deliberation by the Elections Commission, Constitutional Council, or Office of Student Affairs, which shall not include any candidates or campaign members.
Section 4-5-40. Decision.

(A) The Elections Commission shall announce its decision in response to a complaint immediately following the hearing of the complaint.

(B) The Elections Commission may, with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of its total membership, disqualify any candidate, including write-in candidates, who do not comply with the rules and regulations set forth in these codes. Written notifications of disqualification must be filed with the attorney general as they are forwarded to the candidates.

(C) The Elections Commission shall refer violations of University policy concerning general student conduct to the Office of Student Judicial Programs. In the event that a person found to have committed an election violation or election fraud is not a member of a campaign, he or she will be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Programs.

(D) The Elections Commission shall not impose a penalty exceeding the amount of the filing fee or the disqualification of a candidate.

(E) The Elections Commission shall conduct a new election for each race significantly affected if it is determined that election fraud has occurred and has had a significant impact upon the result of the election.

Section 4-5-50. Appeal.

(A) A candidate may appeal any decision of the Elections Commission, but must do so within one business day of the Elections Commission's decision.

(B) Any appeal of a decision by the Elections Commission, if determined to have sufficient merit to warrant consideration, shall be heard by the Constitutional Council.

(C) The Elections Commission may, by a majority vote of its total membership, forward responsibility to rule on any decision directly to the Constitutional Council without making an initial ruling.

(D) A candidate may appeal any decision of the Constitutional Council, but must do so within one (1) business day of the Constitutional Council's decision.

(E) Any appeal of a decision by the Constitutional Council, if determined to have sufficient merit to warrant consideration, shall be heard by the Office of Student Affairs.

(F) The attorney general shall represent the decision of the Elections Commission during all levels of appeal.

(G) The outcome of any decision by the Elections Commission or Constitutional Council shall be postponed until the appeals process is complete.
ARTICLE VI. INAUGURATION

Section 4-6-10. Date.

The inauguration of new Student Government officers shall be held no earlier than one (1) week and no later than (3) weeks following elections. Section 4-6-20. Accommodations. (A) Efforts shall be made to accommodate the University President.

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(B) A reception shall be planned for the event, as well as advertising and the purchase of any other materials needed to conduct the event in a traditional manner.

(C) All costs associated with inauguration shall be charged to the Student Government Elections Commission budget.

Section 4-6-30. Oath of office.

(A) The Student Government oath of office shall be as follows:

I, [name], do solemnly pledge to faithfully execute the office of [name of office], to abide by the Student Government Constitution, to uphold the Carolinian Creed, and to represent my constituents to the best of my ability.

(B) The chief justice of the Constitutional Council shall administer the oath of office to the incoming officers. If the chief justice is unavailable, an associate justice of the Constitutional Council or the outgoing president pro tempore of the Student Senate may administer the oath.

(C) All elected Student Government officials (the student body president, the student body vice president, the student body treasurer, and student senators) must take the oath of office upon their inauguration.

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Copy of the Candidate Filing Form
Student Body Elections 2016
Due by Wednesday, January 20th at 4:00p.m.

This form must be filed in person in the Leadership and Service Center on January 19th or 20th 2016 between 9:00a.m. and 4:00p.m.

**Note:** Filing Fee MUST accompany this filing form: Senatorial candidates $5.00, Executive candidates $50.00

**Note:** The Student Senate meets every Wednesday at 5:30p.m. in the Russell House Senate Chambers. If you are unable to make these meetings, please consider not applying.

**Print Full Legal Name:**

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**Local Address:**

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<th>State</th>
<th>Zip Code</th>
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**Local Telephone Number:** (___) ____________

**Email Address:** ___________________________ **VIP ID:** ____________________________

*Please list an email you check regularly; this will be our primary means of communication throughout the campaign season*

**Permanent Address:**

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**Permanent Telephone:** (___) ____________

**Major:** ___________________________ **College of Enrollment:** ___________________________

**Name as you would like for it to appear on ballot:** (25 characters or less):

*Must be the name that is on university records *

________________________________________________________________________________

**Office applying for:** ___________________________

**For Senatorial Candidates:** District # (see page 5): ______

**For Executive Candidates:** Campaign Manager’s Name: ___________________________

**Cell Phone #:** (___) ____________ **Email Address:** ___________________________
I certify that I understand that the Elections Codes, Posting Regulations and Candidates’ Packet will be available online at the Elections Commission page of the Student Government Website (http://www.sa.sc.edu/sg/electioninformation) and a hard copy is available in the Leadership and Service Center. I further certify that I have read the Election Codes pertaining to filing for office and the qualifications of the office for which I am running and that I am qualified for that office under all stated guidelines. I understand that if I am not in good academic or disciplinary standing, I am ineligible to run for office or serve in any capacity.

By filing this application and signing this form, I am authorizing the Student Government Advisor, or his/her assistants, on my behalf pursuant to election code 4-2-60(B), to obtain information from the Registrar’s Office and the Office of Student Judicial Programs. The information to be shared with the Student Government Advisor may include: my college of enrollment, grade point average, cumulative hours carried, and disciplinary records. I further understand the Student Government Advisor will inform the Elections Commission of my eligibility.

Signature: ________________________________ Date: ________________
Copy of the Carolinian Creed

**Note:** This form must be submitted to the Elections Commission at the Mandatory Candidate Meeting on January 27th.

The ideals that are embodied in the Carolinian Creed are essential to having a successful Student Body Election. Therefore, we would like each candidate to read and sign below as an agreement to conduct his/her campaign in accordance with the ideals of the Carolinian Creed:

*As a Carolinian . . .*

I will practice personal and academic integrity;

I will respect the dignity of all persons;

I will respect the rights and property of others;

I will discourage bigotry, while striving to learn from differences in people, ideas, and opinions;

I will demonstrate concern for others, their feelings, and their need for conditions which support their work and development;

Allegiance to these ideals requires each Carolinian to refrain from and discourage behaviors which threatens the freedom and respect every individual deserves.

________________________________________
Candidate Name

________________________________________
Candidate Signature

Date
**Campaign Staff List**

*Note:* Pursuant to Election Code 4-2-60(C), campaign staff list is due at filing & needs to be finalized to the Elections Commission at the Mandatory Candidate Meeting on January 27th.

Candidate: ___________________________ Office: ___________________________

Campaign Manager: ______________________ Email: __________________________

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I certify the above information to be correct and will inform the Elections Commission immediately of any changes, additions, or removal of information of this list.

**Signature:** ___________________________  **Date:** ___________________________