

Formal Complaint No. 2

Date Filed: February 26th/19

Nature of Complaint: Campaign Material Posted in Violation of UVSS Electoral Policy

The complaint alleges that a slate has multiple posters across campus with no attribution to an individual candidate, and two banners have no attributions to an individual candidate. The complainant alleges that this is a contravention of Section 5.4 (n) of the Electoral Policy which states that all posted material must be attributed to a particular candidate, and that this section means that banners and posted need to be promoting a candidate on a slate, rather than branding a slate.

In the Electoral Policy campaign material is defined as any paper, electronic, social media, chalking, advertising or other material produced by or on behalf of a candidate or proponent/opponent to promote that candidate. There is precedent that slates use electronic, social media and handbill materials which are not visually attributed to a particular candidate. The Electoral Office has taken the position that Section 5.4 (n) of the Policy refers to the financial/campaign spending attribution of posted material to a particular candidate. Subject to adherence to the campaign spending limits set out in the Electoral Policy, candidates in a slate can pool together their additional allotted funding and create campaign materials as a team. The number of posters and banners attributed to a candidate can be divided so that some may visually attribute to a particular candidate and some may visually attribute to the slate, similar to their social media and electronic materials.

Accordingly, the complaint is dismissed without further action being taken.