

**MOTION TO AMEND THE LSA BYLAWS REGARDING ELECTION CAMPAIGN
RULES**

WHEREAS LSA Council amended its bylaws in March of 2013 to enlarge permitted online campaigning in LSA elections.

AND WHEREAS there is near-consensus among students who expressed concerns and among the candidates of the only election to take place under these new rules that they had a detrimental effect on the campaign process in comparison with the rules previously in force,

AND WHEREAS the LSA Executive has expressed an intention to convene a committee to study the LSA election process in time for the spring 2014 LSA elections,

BE IT RESOLVED that Council adopt the following amendments to the LSA Bylaws, in time for Fall 2013 elections, understood to be pending further recommendations,

78. Campaign Rules:

a. campaigning will not begin before the close of nominations. The campaign period will last for three days. Campaigning will cease at 23h00 of the day before voting begins. At this time, all posters, notices and signs pertaining to the campaign must be removed from the Faculty;

b. candidates will conduct a fair campaign that respects their opponents. This includes, but is not limited to, refraining from interfering with the distribution of campaign material and engaging in slanderous campaigning;

c. campaigning will only be carried out by the members of the LSA;

d. candidates will be deemed responsible for the actions of all supporters;

e. candidates are limited to a maximum of five (5) posters in campaigning. The placing of these notices and signs must conform to the general rules of McGill University concerning the placing of such materials on Faculty premises;

f. the Chief Returning Officer has the authority to remove all campaign materials where the Chief Returning Officer believes the materials to be inappropriate;

g. the Chief Returning Officer has the discretion to disqualify, publicly censure, or otherwise sanction a candidate for serious infractions of the electoral By-Laws. Before a candidate is sanctioned the Chief Returning Officer must warn that candidate to cease the infraction. Disqualification of a candidate is a last resort and must only occur after all other measures have been exhausted;

h. disciplinary decisions of the Chief Returning Officer may be appealed to the Judicial Board as per section 58 of the LSA Constitution. The Chief Returning Officer must make this known at the information meeting for the candidates described in section 77.1 of these By-Laws. The appeal must be filed within 48 hours of the decision as per section 81. 3 of these By-Laws;

i. Subject to subsection (j), candidates may not use the Internet or any other electronic means for the purposes of campaigning;

~~i. online and electronic campaigning is permissible but must be visible to the Chief Returning Officer. The Chief Returning Officer shall actively monitor Facebook, Twitter, and other online platforms utilized by the candidates through his or her own personal account or an alternate account set up exclusively for that purpose.~~

j. Notwithstanding subsection (i), the Chief Returning Officer shall create and administer one or more publicly accessible online group(s), on the platform or platforms of the Chief Returning Officer's choice, that will serve as a public forum for election in which the candidates may participate;

k. candidates may not form slates but may endorse one another. Similarly, candidates are prohibited from promoting one another on their posters as described in 78.e;

l. candidates may make class announcements to promote their candidacy, for a maximum of two minutes with the authorization of the class instructor;

m. candidates shall not show videos to promote their candidacy; and

n. forms of campaigning other than those expressly permitted in section 78 of these By-Laws are prohibited unless they are explicitly approved by the Chief Returning Officer.