

B F2020.22

An Amendment to the Election Code seeking to Codify the Assistant Election Director Position

A bill for the consideration of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government

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Whereas, the mission of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government (hereafter LSA SG) is to “actively seek the voices of LSA students and advocate their interests to improve academic and non-academic life”;¹ and,

Whereas, minor amendments to the Bylaws can be made through a vote of acclamation at a General Assembly meeting; and,

Whereas, it is a widely recognized belief that there are many elements of the Election Code that need to be amended; and,

Whereas, one of the goals of Election Code Review and Amendment Formation Task Force (commonly known as ECRAFTF) is to simplify and increase the clarity of the Election Code and the election process; and,

Whereas, LSA SG utilizes its Bylaws to structure and facilitate official business, and recognizes the need for amendments to the Bylaws to improve its function; and,

Whereas, prior to previous LSA Student Government elections a “Deputy Election Director” was chosen to aid in the managing the election process;² and,

Whereas, no such role with the purpose of aiding the Election Director in their duties is currently codified in the LSA SG Election Code.³

Be it therefore and finally resolved, that the Election Code shall be amended as illustrated in Appendix A.

¹The Constitution of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government. Article II

²<https://www.michigandaily.com/sites/default/files/Amicus%20Curiae%20Brief%20in%20re%20Schuler%20v.%20Ziel.pdf>

³University of Michigan College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government Election Code

University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student
Government

Election Code

Election Director

2.01.00 **Election Director.** LSA SG shall hire an external Election Director, ~~in accordance with section 1.02.00~~ at least 35 days before the date of the election. The Election Director must be an unbiased person. Once hired, the Election Director will be disqualified from receiving a seat in that election. ~~For an external Election Director, compensation will be dispensed according to Section 1.02 of the Bylaws.~~ The Election Director shall have the general operating authority over the election, subject to the approval of the LSA SG.

2.01.01 **Contract and Review.** After being approved in accordance with the hiring process ~~outlined in 1.02.00~~, the Election Director shall have the terms of their employment written out on an official contract drafted by the LSA SG Executive Board that shall be signed by the Election Director, the President, the Vice President, and Treasurer of LSA SG. After the elections, the Executive Board under which the Election Director was hired will review the contract of the Election Director and their performance to determine if there were any violations and any penalties that may result in a reduction in payment (refer to Section 2.02.00).

~~2.01.02 Assistant Election Director(s). The Election Director may hire one or more Assistant Directors with the consent of the Steering Committee. The Election Director may terminate an Assistant Election Director with the consent of the Steering Committee or by a majority vote of the Government.~~

2.01.023 **Duties.** The *Election Director, with the aid of the Assistant Election Director, shall:*

- (a) Thoroughly understand the Election Code and in conjunction with the Counsel, advise candidates on questions pertaining to the Election Code when necessary
- (b) Confirm the receipt of applications with candidates via email within 24 hours of receipt, as in Section 2.02.04
- (c) Schedule, preside at, and announce the Candidates Meeting at least 48 hours prior to its commencement, as in Section 2.03.03
- (d) Schedule, organize, and advertise for the Candidates Forum, as in Section 2.03.05
- (e) Schedule, organize, and advertise for the computer polling stations in the LSA SG Office on the days of the Election
- (f) ~~Shall~~ Set up and be responsible for managing the online voting system, as in Section 2.04.00
- (g) Tabulate and verify with the LSA SG Counsel the Election Results, as in Section

2.04.04-2.04.09

- (h) Review complaints and issue demerits for violations, as in Section 1.08
- (i) Defend the actions of themselves and LSA SG, with the aid of the Counsel, if a violation decision or any other issue with election is brought to CSJ, except for a suit by LSA SG against the Election Director
- (j) ~~Shall~~ Formulate and distribute an orientation packet to the newly elected representatives
- (k) Formulate a report of the Election Cycle and submit this to the LSA SG Executive Board for review.

2.01.04 Payment. The payment of the External Election Director and Assistant Election Director shall be \$150.00. Upon the Executive Board's receipt of the Elections Cycle Report, which shall be made available to the general body after the removal of any sensitive information, they shall deliberate and propose a performance-based bonus to each election official to be voted on by the General voting body. The bonus payment shall pass by majority vote and not exceed \$250.00, with total compensation not exceeding \$400.00.

2.01.035 Backup Election Director Line of Succession. In the case where the Election Director is terminated prior to the completion of the Elections Process, the ~~President~~ ***Assistant Election Director*** shall assume the role of Election Director until the end of the Elections Process. ***If there is no active Assistant Election Director, the President shall assume the role of the Election Director until the end of the Elections Process.*** If the President is a candidate in the elections, the role of Election Director shall go to the next person in the Executive Board following the order listed in "Moving the Chair" in Section 2.00.11, who is not a candidate. If all of the members of the Executive Board are candidates in the elections, then an emergency session of Steering shall be called to decide who will be the next Election Director by a majority vote of all members of Steering not running in the election.

Appendix B

Chapter 19

Employees and Hiring Procedures

19.00.00 **Purpose.** All hiring and, as specified, termination of LSA SG employees must be made pursuant to this chapter.

19.00.01 **Definition of Employee.** An employee is an individual who receives monetary compensation from the Government for performance of a Government-related duty. An employee is not considered an officer or member of the Government.

19.00.02 **Financial Procedure.** Specific payroll documents must be filled out and will be processed through SOAS and the University of Michigan Payroll Department.

19.00.03 **Eligibility.** No member of the Government may simultaneously be an employee of the Government.

19.00.04 **Prohibited Acts.** No member of the Government may ask an employee of the Government to do any work outside of their subscribed tasks under any circumstances.

Permanent and Temporary Staff

19.01.00 **Hiring.** The Steering Committee shall solicit and accept applications, and schedule and conduct interviews of all applicants for permanent and temporary staff positions. The Steering Committee may hire the most qualified applicant, subject to the approval of the Government.

19.01.01 **Duties and Compensation.** The Steering Committee shall describe the duties of any staff member as it so chooses. The Steering Committee shall review and evaluate the performance of all staff members every semester. The Steering Committee and Treasurer shall compensate the staff member as they see fit.

19.01.02 **Termination.** The employment of any staff member may be terminated by a two-thirds vote of the Government.

Elections Staff

19.02.00 **External Election Director.** An External Election Director shall be an employee of the Government (refer to Chapter 19.00.02).

(a) **Hiring.** The LSA SG Executive Board shall identify and propose a nominee to the general voting body for review at least 35 days before the commencement of the external election voting period. Once confirmed through a simple majority vote by the voting body of LSA SG, the nominee will then be eligible to complete the contract drafted by the LSA SG Executive Board. Upon signing the contract, the individual is then finalized as the External Election Director.

(b) **Termination.** The employment of the External Election Director may be terminated by a two-thirds vote of the Government. The External Election Director shall serve through the duration of election period of the Government.

(c) **Duties.** The External Election Director shall carry out her or his duties as established in the LSA SG Election Code or elsewhere in the Bylaws.

19.02.01 Assistant Election Director. *An Assistant Election Director shall be an employee of the Government (refer to Chapter 19.00.02).*

(a) **Hiring.** *The LSA SG Executive Board shall identify and propose a nominee to the general*

voting body for review at least 21 days before the commencement of the external election voting period. Once confirmed through a simple majority vote by the voting body of LSA SG, the nominee will then be eligible to complete the contract drafted by the LSA SG Executive Board. Upon signing the contract, the individual is then finalized as the Assistant Election Director.

(b) Termination. The employment of the Assistant Election Director may be terminated by a two-thirds vote of the Government. The Assistant Election Director shall serve through the duration of election period of the Government.

(c) Duties. The Assistant Election Director shall carry out her or his duties as established in the LSA SG Election Code.

19.02.02 Payment. The payment of the External Election Director **and Assistant Election Director** shall be \$150.00. Upon the Executive Board's receipt of the Elections Cycle Report, which shall be made available to the general body after the removal of any sensitive information, they shall deliberate and propose a performance-based bonus **to each election official** to be voted on by the General voting body. The bonus payment shall pass by majority vote and not exceed \$250.00, with total compensation not exceeding \$400.00.

~~*19.02.01 Assistant Director(s). The Election Director may hire one or more Assistant Directors with the consent of the Steering Committee. The Election Director may terminate an Assistant Election Director with the consent of the Steering Committee, or by a majority vote of the Government.*~~

~~**19.02.032 Temporary Election Staff.** The Election Director may hire temporary employees to carry out election functions, with the consent of the Steering Committee. The Election Director may terminate temporary election staff with the consent of the Steering Committee, or by a majority vote of the Government.~~

~~**19.02.043 Impartiality.** All election staff must be impartial towards candidates and issues. Allegations of partiality may be brought before and decided by the Central Student Judiciary.~~