

Complaint Form  
IUSG Election Commission

Date Complaint Submitted: Wednesday, March 11, 2020

Complaint Submitted By: Madeline Garcia

Complaint Submitted Against: Ruhan Syed and Rachel Aranyi

Date & Time of Violation: Approximately 9:30 pm on Monday, March 9, 2020

**Description of Violation:**

Violation of Section 503: Improper Use of IUSG Office

*No ticket or non-affiliated candidate is to use the IUSG office for campaign purposes of any kind. Also, any resources generated exclusively for and by the use of IUSG may not be used for campaigning unless the resource is publicly available or distributed to all tickets.*

Violation of Section 510: Campaigning Outside of Designated Time Period

*Any public promotion of a particular candidate or ticket before the beginning of the official campaign period as defined in Section 109 shall constitute a violation of this Code.*

The proposed IUSG executive ticket Madeline Garcia and Arianna Hoye received testimonials from two IUSG Congressional members regarding a violation of the Procedural Election Code. These two members reported that upon adjournment of the Congress Mini-Retreat on Monday, March 9 at approximately 9:30pm, two members sitting on the Congressional Steering Committee, Ruhan Syed and Rachel Aranyi, invited all present members to sign their petition for eligibility in the context that they were running for the IUSG executive election. They passed around the room two identical papers that members were invited to sign as signatures for their petition to run for the IUSG executive election.

According to the word received, Syed openly called for signatures and campaign support, and Aranyi agreed with the statement. In the words of one Congressional member, "Ruhan said something along the lines of 'We aren't officially allowed to call ourselves a presidential campaign yet' but they were speaking about it in front of everyone and basically said if anyone was interested in being a part of it to come talk to them.'" (Photos 2 and 3)

The concerns were brought to the attention of Madeline Garcia through text, phone, and verbal communication with the Congress members suggesting that what they witnessed was a violation.

Although the Procedural Election Code may have narrowly focused on the office space found on the third floor of the IMU Student Activities Tower when describing violation of Section 503, the consistent location of Congressional meetings on Monday nights from 7:30-8:30pm (Photo 1)

has become an undeclared extension of IUSG Office space where organizational matters are resolved and transpire. We acknowledge that the meeting on March 9 was held in SPEA A223 of the O'Neill School for the Congress' mini-retreat. The room reservation, nonetheless, was made with affiliation to an IUSG Congress meeting. Members were in the space for the purpose of workshopping bills and practicing resolution writing for their role in IUSG Congress. **In violation of Code 503, the petitioning ticket utilized a Congressional meeting space on Monday night to discuss campaign logistics and a petition for support.**

To continue, one of the members who notified the complaint submitting ticket of Syed's statement concerning 'not being an outwardly facing campaign' did follow Procedural Election Code. **Yet after Congressional adjournment, lingering members were entered into a campaign support meeting without individual invitation, acceptance and consent.**

Both violations of Section 503 and 510 display misuse of IUSG reserved meeting space and nonconsensual campaign engagement in large group settings. This engagement was also done outside the official campaign period, which is set to begin on March 25, at 11:59 pm. Additionally, by combining both a group setting of encouragement in an IUSG normalized space to sign an eligibility petition, **an abuse of power and position may have resulted in social pressure to give consent through signature.**

Attachments:

Congressional members requested anonymity in this complaint form to protect their current position in IUSG, but if necessary, Madeline Garcia will speak to them and the Election Commission about the release of their identity.

Photos 1, 2, and 3 on further pages:

Photo 1:

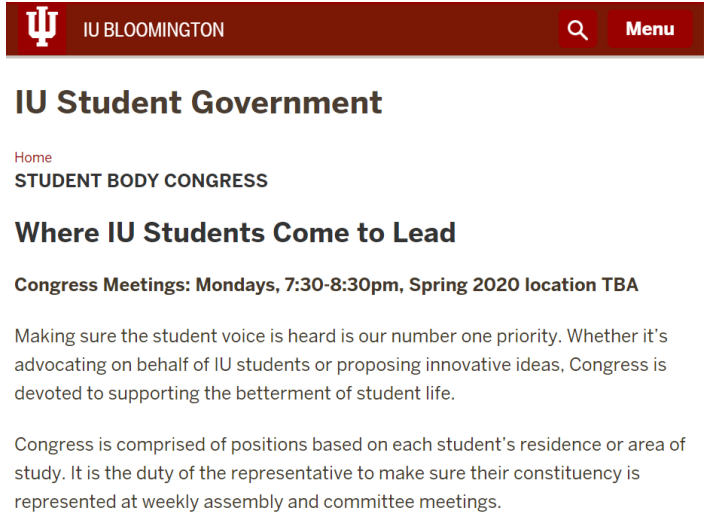


Photo 2:

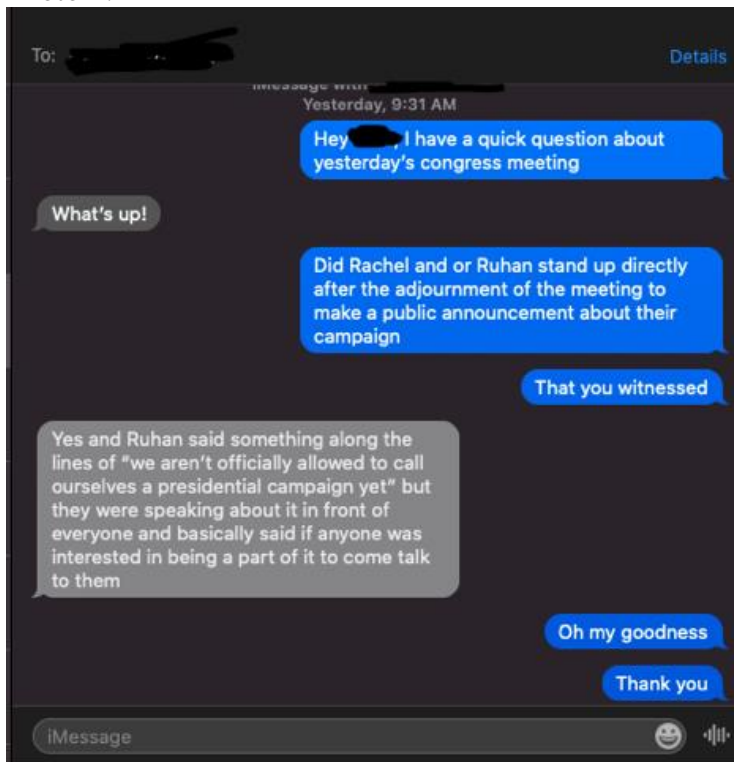
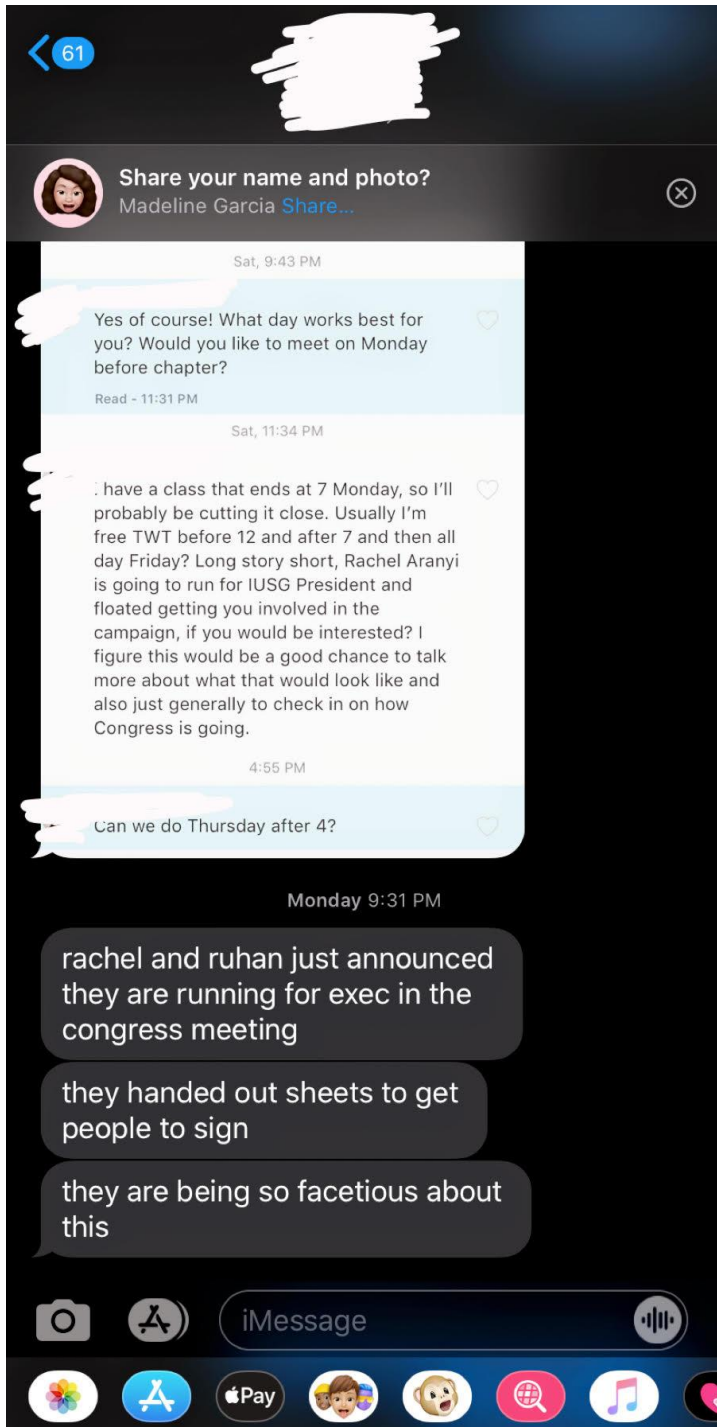


Photo 3:



(Only relevant information is conveyed in three bottom grey texts on Image 3)