

# IUSG Elections Info Session



Thursday, March 5th,  
2020

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# Who are we?

We work to administer fair and equal student government elections.

- Election Commission fairly and uniformly enacts the Election Code in an unbiased manner
- Interpret and revise the Election Code
- Plan and market events for the election
- Coordinate with SILC on the ballot
- Work with all-leaders of IUSG to reform the Constitution
- Consists of about 11 members who go through an application and interview process



# What we do

## FALL

- Congressional Elections
- Examine complaints and issue advisory opinions during election season
- Revise and reform election code
- Recruit new members and conduct interviews



## SPRING

- Executive Elections
- Examine complaints and issue advisory opinions during election season
- Decide how tickets will be penalized
- Advertise and plan the debate & town hall
- Promote voting in the election

# What student government has done in the past?

## Past & Current Initiatives:

- Mentored 20 freshman through IUSG internship program
- Formed a Sustainability Department which worked to create a bikeshare plan
- Built connections with the City of Bloomington to have a deeper conversation about homelessness around campus
- Green Bandana Project
- Lifeline Law
- Providing access to TurboVote to help students register to vote
- Working with IU's CFO to show tuition and fee breakdown for IU students
- Adding safety numbers on the back of Crimson cards
- Improving safety communications between the University and students during emergencies
- Bat House Building
- Mental Health Week
- Hate Crime Law initiatives

# Executive Candidate Eligibility

- Must have a minimum 2.5 GPA
- Cannot hold an elected position in the legislative or judicial branch at the same time if elected
- Cannot be found guilty of a sexual misconduct or violent crime by either the University or any legal jurisdiction
- 150 Signatures of Support
  - Electronic or physical
  - Due with application for candidacy
- Ticket Name can be any combination of candidate names
  - Ex: Smith-Hart or Jill-Stanely
- Passionate about student government :)



# Resources-all found on our website!

- Application-due March 25th by 11:59 pm
  - Both the President and Vice President will need to complete it
  - Very short, will not take long to complete
- IUSG Constitution
- IUSG Bylaws
- IU Procedural Election Code
- Financial Statement Form
- Space Reservations Form
- Complaint Form



# Public Funding!

- \$8,000 divided by the total number of tickets, with a maximum of \$2,000 per ticket
- Apply purchase to Election Commission via emailed template
- 24-hour turn around for approval
- Purchase Orders versus Procurement Card
- Get quotes ahead of time
  - Must be through an IU-approved vendor
  - Must be brand-compliant



# Public Funding!

- May apply for purchases over weekends, but will not receive items until weekday
- Try to do bulk orders when making procurement card purchases
- No expense under \$50 will be eligible for reimbursement
- Reimbursement filed with the Election Commission
- See website for full proposal
  - Details may be subject to change based on real-time needs or constraints





# Important Parts of the Code

- Section 209: Space Reservations

- Must reserve SILC space through us except for the days of the election will be distributed based on a random lottery system to candidates

## Title IV: Section 402 Campaign Spending

- Template to be used is posted on the website - include all information on the template
  - If you cannot find some of the information indicate why in the box
- Report fair market value of items purchased/donated
- Mark if funds were public or private
- Intermediate Financial statements due: Sunday, April 5
- Spending limits: \$500 individual for candidates, \$100 not on ballot, \$2,000 total limit
  - \$2,000 includes public funding money
- Final statement is due no later than 8:00 pm Friday after the election

# Important Parts of the Code Continued

- Title V outlines general campaign violations
- Big ones to note:
  - Don't use the IUSG office for any campaign activities
  - Don't campaign in bars
  - Be wary of RPS rules-need permission to hang up flyers
  - You can't campaign in classrooms (which includes Canvas) without express permission from the Professor
  - Link distribution to BeInvolved is totally fine even when it's associated with campaigning
  - Interference with other campaign's materials
- The Election Code and the Complaint process will be explained further in depth at the all-candidate meeting.

# Advisory Opinions

- **Election Commission is here to HELP you!**
- Fill out the advisory opinion form if you have a question pertaining to the Election Code!
- Please cite the specific number of the code that you have a question about.
- Candidates will be notified when a new advisory opinion is posted on the website.
- All Advisory Opinions are public to other candidates including what your original question was when submitted to us.



# Complaints

- Complaints are for when you have **reasonable belief** that another candidate has broken one of the Election Code rules & the result could **impact the outcome** of the election.
- Complaints must now be submitted within 48 hours of when the violation occurred.
- Extraordinary discoveries of evidence discovered after the deadline can be petitioned to the Supreme Court to be included if it is before the election is certified (Section 709).
- The Election Commission has the discretion to investigate complaints for further information as needed.
- Form is on the website.

# Campaigning Ideas

Get permission from teacher to make an announcement in class or email through Canvas page

Look up rules about your specific academic building and get permission to hang up flyers in that building

Text in Group Me that you are a part of!

Make flyers and place them in approved spaces.

Be Aware about avoiding invading academic space or campaigning in academic space (can't go walk around library)

Residential: Get permission to hang flyers in your dorm

Be Aware of RPS Rules:

<https://www.rps.indiana.edu/resources/policies/index.html>

Fill out space reservations to table during the week of the election.

Word of mouth spreads fast!



# Preparing for the Town Hall & Debate

Identify issues and initiatives that are important to your ticket

Discuss ways that your ticket would solve issues important to students

Spread the word about both events to people in your classes, residential hall, and friends! The Election Commission will provide candidates with a flyer that can be passed out.

Practice giving your opening and closing or “elevator pitch” prior to the event

Format and logistics will be explained at the upcoming All-Candidate meeting



# Election Timeline

**Executive Application Closes:** Wednesday, March 25  
(11:59pm)

**Public Campaigning:** Wednesday, March 25, 11:59 pm.

**All-Candidate Meeting:** Friday, April 3, 6:00-700pm,  
Psychology 109  
(mandatory for candidates unless excused)

**Town Hall:** Wednesday, April 8, 7:00-8:00pm, Radio and  
TV 251.

**Debate:** Tuesday, April 14, 7:00-8:00pm,  
Whittenberger Auditorium



**Executive Election: Wednesday, April 15 -Thursday,  
April 16; ballot closes at 10:00 pm**

**Final Financial Statement:** Friday, April 17  
due at 8:00 pm

**Deadline to submit complaints:** Saturday, April 18  
by 11:59 pm

**Deadline to final reply briefs:** Sunday, April 19  
by 5:00 pm. EC meets to publicize final decision & submit  
all documents to the Supreme Court.

**Deadline to submit appeal of an EC decision:** Monday,  
April 20 by 11:59 pm. SC determines whether to accept  
appeal. If no appeals, SC certifies election.

**Deadline for petitioner to submit reply brief (if there  
is an appeal):** Wednesday, April 22

# Contact Information

Like “IUSG” and “IUSG Election Commission on **Facebook** or follow us on **Twitter** for updates!

**Email:** [iusgelco@indiana.edu](mailto:iusgelco@indiana.edu)

