



Policy on Political Campaigning in the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee Student Union

Purpose: In the past, political campaigning for student government positions has created lopsided use of Student Union resources by candidates utilizing several Registered Student Organizations (hereafter RSOs) and reserving a majority of available Student Union resources.

This practice has caused problems for student organizations not affiliated with political campaigning that attempt to publicize themselves or their events. The intent of this policy is to keep resources available for use by non-political student organizations while guaranteeing resources available for political organizations. It also creates a fair balance between all candidates officially registered with the Student Association (hereafter SA) Independent Elections Commission (hereafter IEC).

The following policies are established and must be adhered to by all SA Election Candidates and individuals and/or RSOs acting on their behalf, SA officials, RSOs, the Student Association Professional Staff (hereafter SAPS) and the IEC.

Polling Locations: For all SA elections the IEC Voting Booths for designated voting days will be established in accordance with the IEC Bylaws and Campaign Rules and Regulations. Stations will be set up by the Student Union staff to establish lines for voters.

The IEC will be responsible for establishing any campaign area borders with non-permanent markings as determined in the IEC Bylaws and Campaign Rules and Regulations.

Usable Resources: Only those candidates registered with the IEC and individuals and/or RSOs acting on their behalf may use booths, banners, bulletin boards, posters and flyer Student Union resources. Only one RSO or individual may act on behalf of a candidate to reserve resources.

Student Union Reservation and Event Planning Services (hereafter REPS) will allow reservations of booths and event spaces for SA elections purposes only to the IEC, SAPS, and candidates registered with the IEC and individuals and/or RSOs acting on their behalf, excluding spaces 9 and 10 in the North enclosure, during the campaign period established in the IEC Bylaws and Campaign Rules and Regulations.

Any SA elections campaign materials must be used or distributed in accordance with current Union Policy Board (hereafter UPB) policies and the IEC Bylaws and Campaign Rules and Regulations.

Electronic Devices: The use of electronic devices in any fashion by candidates and individuals and/or RSOs acting on their behalf to solicit votes will not be permitted in the Student Union as established in the IEC Bylaws and Campaign Rules and Regulations.

Spaights Plaza: The Plaza can not be reserved by any candidate or individuals and/or RSOs acting on their behalf for SA election purposes.

Concourse: The Student Union Concourse can only be reserved for SA election purposes by SAPS and the IEC during the established campaign period in the IEC Bylaws and Campaign Rules and Regulations. Concourse Campaign times will be established by SAPS and the IEC that will be open to all candidates registered with the IEC. Distribution of space at these designated times will be at the discretion of the IEC.

SAPS and IEC Sponsored Campaign Times: Similar to the Concourse, sponsored campaign times will be established by SAPS and the IEC that will be open to all candidates registered with the IEC. Distribution of space at these designated times will be at the discretion of the IEC. The reservation of space is the responsibility of SAPS and/or the IEC.

Space booked by IEC registered candidates and individuals and/or RSOs acting on their behalf for SA Election campaigning purposes can not be transferred and the space must be released if no longer needed.

Costs Incurred: Any costs incurred to candidates and individuals and/or RSOs acting on their behalf must be paid in advance, to REPS.

If a dispute over resources were to occur, the UPB Chair and IEC Chair shall have the final decision.

If additional resources are deemed necessary by sheer volume of registered candidates, the UPB Chair and IEC Chair shall determine the amount of additional resources required.

Additional Stipulations: Any references to UPB officials shall not include those running in the SA election, and the next ranking UPB official will take their place.

Any RSO or individual acting on behalf of a registered candidate will be subject to the same IEC Bylaws and Campaign Rules and Regulations as individual registered candidates according to this policy and the UPB.