



## CUSU-GU ELECTION RULES (EASTER TERM 2017)

### PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT

All candidates must adhere to the following principles of conduct:

- Do only what other candidates have an equal opportunity to do
- Treat all students, candidates and staff members with respect
- If in doubt, ask the Elections Committee first

### ENFORCEMENT OF THE RULES

Contravening the election rules may result in penalties or disqualification. The Elections Committee shall strictly enforce penalties, and all candidates are strongly advised to consult the Committee if they are unsure of any aspect of the rules.

#### 1. CAMPAIGNING

1.1 Campaigning is any action that is used for the purpose of promoting your candidacy in a CUSU-GU election.

1.2 This includes: flyers, posters, badges, campaign clothing, props, banners, face to face communication, events (e.g. hustings), use of social media, websites etc.

#### 2. WHO CAN CAMPAIGN?

2.1 Members of CUSU and GU staff are not allowed to campaign or show preference to any candidates in any elections. Full-time elected Officers may not campaign for any candidate.

2.2 Full time elected Officers who wish to re-stand must take annual leave to campaign for their re-election. They must also liaise with their line manager and Elections Committee with regards to dealing with union business during the election period.

2.3 Students can campaign for and endorse a candidate as an individual, however they cannot endorse them from a position of status e.g. as Christ's College JCR President or the Rugby Club Events Officer etc.

2.4 Candidates' campaigners do not have to be registered with CUSU or the GU. However, anyone who the Elections Committee believes to be campaigning to the advantage of a candidate will be held to these election rules.

2.5 Clubs and Societies may endorse a candidate if they democratically decide to do so in accordance with their own constitutional requirements. Evidence of the way in which the decision was taken should be sent to the Elections Committee. JCRs, MCRs and the Autonomous Campaigns may not endorse candidates.

#### 3. HOW CAN I CAMPAIGN?

3.1 Candidates are encouraged to think creatively about how they campaign to students; candidates can campaign with physical materials, talking to students face to face and using online facilities such as social media and websites.

3.2 Fly-posting, graffiti and other forms of defacement are all illegal in Cambridge and cannot be used.						
3.3 Use of pre-existing email lists, social media pages or groups for the purpose of promoting your candidacy is not permitted. When sending electronic messages of any sort (text, email, WhatsApp etc.) for this purpose, they must only be sent to friends and your campaigners. The only exception to this rule is if a Society has decided to endorse a candidate; they may then use their own mailing lists etc. to announce this.						
3.4 Slates (groups of candidates supporting one another) are not permitted. Candidates cannot campaign for candidates in a different election, and cannot endorse any other candidates. Campaigners can support multiple candidates, but they cannot campaign for multiple candidates at the same time.						
3.5 If you or your campaign team comment on or discuss another candidate's campaign, this can only be to refer to a policy platform – no personal or derogative comments or questions are acceptable.						
<b>3.6 Hate speech, including any language or action which is deemed racist, sexist, homophobic or transphobic, is banned in all contexts.</b>						
<b>4. WHEN CAN I CAMPAIGN?</b>						
4.1 Candidates may campaign only during the campaigning and voting period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Campaigning opens - 09:00 Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May</li> <li>• Voting closes – 17:00 Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May</li> </ul>						
4.2 Candidates <b>may not</b> publicly announce their candidacy until the campaigning period opens.						
<b>5. CAMPAIGN SPENDING</b>						
5.1 All candidates in a CUSU-GU election will have access to a campaigns budget provided by CUSU and the GU. The amount will depend on the position you are standing for. To ensure that no student is disadvantaged due to financial circumstances, the Elections Committee can order materials on your behalf, reimburse you throughout the election or reimburse students at the end of the election period. Students are also encouraged to use the CUSU-GU Print Service where the cost of printing will be deducted from your spending cost.						
5.2 <table border="0" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Position</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Money you can spend</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Sabbatical Role</td> <td>£100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Part-time role</td> <td>£70</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Position	Money you can spend	Sabbatical Role	£100	Part-time role	£70
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5.3 If using materials you already own, you must declare these to the Elections Committee, who will attribute a cost to be taken out of your campaigning budget. When using freebies, these must all be readily available to all candidates.						
5.4 The Elections Committee must receive receipts to log candidates' spending no later than noon on the day that voting closes.						
<b>6. QUERIES, CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS</b>						
6.1 If at any point a candidate, campaigner or student has concerns about the election or its process, the Elections Committee should be contacted immediately: <a href="mailto:elections@cusu.cam.ac.uk">elections@cusu.cam.ac.uk</a>						
6.2 The Elections Committee may be approached informally at any time for guidance, clarification of the rules or a ruling, without submitting an official complaint.						
6.3 Complaints must be received by the Elections Committee within 72 hours of the occurrence of the incident in question <i>and</i> not later than 24 hours after the determination of the election.						
6.4 The Elections Committee will acknowledge all complaints within 24 hours of receipt.						

## APPROVAL DETAILS

Each year CUSU review the elections rules to ensure they are reflective of good democratic practices.

Reviewed by:	Membership Team	Date	15/02/2017
Approved by:	Elections Committee	Date	17/02/2017
Approved by:	GU Elections Committee	Date	17/02/2017
Announced to:	CUSU Council	Date	20/02/2017
Implementation date:	18/02/2017		
Review date:	01/06/2017		