

IUSA ELECTION CODE
Adopted 2/2/10

Preamble: This Election Code is enacted for the purpose of providing fair and equal opportunities for all IUSA members to hold and run for office and to provide fair and equal opportunities for all IUSA members to participate in the electoral process.

TITLE I: The Election Commission and Election Timeline

Section 101: Election Commission Mandate.

Each IUSA Election shall be planned and administered by an Election Commission in accordance with the rules and procedures outlined in this Code. Members of the Election Commission shall be free from conflicts of interest that could reasonably be said to cause bias in favor of one candidate or group of candidates.

Section 102: Composition of the Election Commission.

The Election Commission shall consist of five (5) individuals, one of whom will also serve as the Election Coordinator. The Election Commission shall include:

- one (1) member from the Indiana University Union Board,
- three (3) members currently sitting on an IU-Bloomington Judicial Board or Ethics Board,
- and one at-large (1) member who may or may not also be a member of the aforementioned organizations.

No individual currently holding any position within IUSA may serve on the Election Commission. For the purpose of this Section, a member of the Indiana University Union Board is defined as any Board member who served during the Fall semester preceding the IUSA Election or any Board member who is serving during the Spring semester in which the IUSA Election is being held.

Section 103: Responsibilities of the Election Commission.

The Election Commission shall:

1. Organize, plan, and publicize all IUSA Elections and referendums, by following the time line in Section 110;
2. Begin publicity of all events stated in the election timeline no later than two (2) weeks prior to the event;
3. Act to enforce all rules and regulations contained within this Code;
4. Communicate reviewed cases of alleged violations by candidates of this Code to the Supreme Court;
5. Act as the overseeing body of all referendum procedures;
6. Issue advisory opinions to any individual or body requesting interpretation of this Code;
7. Verify that all candidates meet the requirements for candidacy, and notify each candidate in writing of his or her candidacy status within three (3) class days after receipt of the application;
8. Request from the IUSA Supreme Court certification of the IUSA Election Results;
9. Hear all properly filed complaints according to the guidelines set forth in Title VIII.

Section 104: Responsibilities of the Election Coordinator.

The Election Coordinator shall:

1. Oversee the annual election of all IUSA elected positions;
2. Coordinate the election related activities of the individual Election Commissioners and supervise their conduct;
3. Execute the decisions of the Election Commission;
4. Report to Congress and Executives as appropriate and on a regular basis;
5. Make a sample ballot available for review by all candidates, and notify all candidates that the sample ballot is available for review no later than one (1) week prior to the election;
6. Personally direct the tabulation of all ballots, and preserve the results of the tabulation until the new IUSA officers are sworn into office;

7. Address all claims of voter fraud and software malfunction before releasing final vote counts;
8. Serve as official liaison with UITS in the management of the online voting system;
9. Act as a voting member and the Chair of the Elections Commission.

Section 105: Appointment of the Election Coordinator.

The Student Body President shall nominate the Election Coordinator and present his or her nomination to the Congress for approval by a majority vote no later than February 1 of the election year.

Section 106: Appointment of Election Commissioners.

The IUSA Election Coordinator shall nominate the other four (4) members of the Election Commission in accordance with the composition requirements for the Election Commission. These nominees shall be approved by a majority vote of the IUSA Congress no later than February 14 of the election year.

Section 107: Terms of Office.

Once confirmed, The Election Coordinator and Election Commissioners shall serve until certification of the IUSA Election results or until properly removed from office. The Election Commission shall disband following the IUSA Supreme Court certification of election results.

Section 108: Removal of the Election Coordinator or an Election Commissioner.

1. Any member of the IUSA Student Body Congress shall have the ability to petition Congress for the removal of the Election Coordinator or any Election Commissioner. Once this petition has been submitted, Congress shall have the authority to remove the Election Coordinator or Commissioner with the assent of two-thirds (2/3) of the Congress members present and voting. Additionally, the Student Body President, at his or her discretion, shall have the authority to suspend the Elections Coordinator or a Commissioner from the point that the petition is submitted until the point that the Congress determines whether or not removal is appropriate.
2. It shall be grounds for dismissal from the Election Commission if the Election Coordinator or a Commissioner works, speaks, or performs publicly or privately for or against any candidate or referendum. It shall further be grounds for dismissal if the Elections Coordinator or a Commissioner fails to perform the responsibilities stated in Section 103 or 104.
3. Once appointed to the Elections Commission, the Elections Coordinator and Elections Commissioners shall not be eligible to run for an IUSA elected office for the election cycle for which they have been appointed.

Section 109: Filling a Vacancy on the Elections Commission.

If the Election Coordinator or any Election Commissioner leaves office for any reason, the Student Body President shall appoint a replacement, with approval of the majority of Congress present and voting. This appointment shall be made at the next regularly scheduled Congress meeting. If no Congress meeting is scheduled within one week of an Elections Commission vacancy, the President shall call an emergency Congress meeting to appoint a replacement.

Section 110: Election Timeline.

Each of the following events must occur in each election cycle. Unless otherwise noted, the Election Commission shall publicize each event at least two weeks before its occurrence:

1. **Call-Out.** There shall be one campus-wide call-out for the IUSA Election to occur no later than February 14 of the election year. This call-out shall serve as a general introduction to the IUSA Election, including a timeline of events for the IUSA Election. It shall also give all who are interested in becoming candidates an opportunity to ask questions about the IUSA Election.
2. **Applications.** Applications shall be made available to the Student Body no later than one (1) week after the call-out meeting.
3. **All-Candidate meeting.** There shall be at least one All-Candidate meeting, and the first shall be held the

week after the applications are due. Attendance at the first All-Candidate meeting is mandatory. The Election Commission has the authority to excuse an absence only if the candidate has given the Election Commission notice prior to the All-Candidate meeting that he or she cannot attend the meeting. A proxy, as appointed by the absent candidate(s), may attend the meeting in place of the candidate(s) whose absence is excused. One person can serve as a proxy for more than one candidate. If a candidate has not received an excused absence from the Election Commission and does not attend the All-Candidate meeting, that candidate shall be disqualified as a candidate. Attendance for all other All-Candidate meetings shall be optional.

4. **Debate.** A debate shall occur during the campaign period. All groups of executive candidates shall be given the opportunity to and shall be required to participate in the debate. The Election Commission will have full authority over the planning, rules, and procedures of this debate.
5. **Proof of residency and proof of academic eligibility.** Candidates will be requested to provide proof of residency or proof of academic eligibility in accordance with Sections 204 and 205 to the Election Commission no later than five (5) calendar days prior to the IUSA election.
6. **Withdrawal of name from ballot.** Any candidates wishing to withdraw his or her name from the ballot must provide a written request for a withdrawal from the election to the Election Commission by 4:00 p.m. seven (7) calendar days before the IUSA Election begins.
7. **Review of ballot.** Each candidate shall have the opportunity to review the official ballot no later than five (5) calendar days prior to the beginning of the IUSA Election and shall have no less than twenty four (24) hours to approve of his or her name on the ballot. Unless otherwise directed by the Election Commission, no other ballot review requests may be honored.
8. **Testing the Election System.** The Election Commission shall verify that the online voting system works by testing the system at least 24 hours in advance of the polls opening.
9. **IUSA Election.** The IUSA Election shall be held in the Spring semester, on a Tuesday and Wednesday at least two weeks after the first All-Candidate Meeting. The Student Body President shall select and publicly announce the election dates at least four (4) weeks in advance.

Title II: Candidate Eligibility

Section 201: General Eligibility.

Any member of the Indiana University Student Association as defined by the IUSA Constitution (IUSA Constitution Article I) shall have the option of being a candidate for any elected IUSA position provided that such a member meets the other eligibility requirements in this Code. All candidates must be IUSA members, and if elected, must remain IUSA members for the duration of their term in office.

Section 202: Filing for Candidacy.

To properly file for candidacy, a candidate must submit to the Student Activities Office and the IUSA Election Commission a signed application listing the IUSA office the candidate is seeking. This application must be submitted prior to the deadline set by the Election Commission. Applications for candidacy shall be accepted if the candidate meets all other eligibility requirements in this Code. The candidate will be listed on the ballot by his or her first and last name. If the candidate wishes to be listed by any other name, he or she must request the use of a particular name on this application, subject to the approval of the Elections Commission.

Section 203: Receipt of Application.

When an application is filed, the candidate shall be given a receipt that notes the date and time that the application was received. Any application received after the deadline shall not be accepted.

Section 204: Residency Eligibility.

Candidates for Student Senator seats must live in the district for which they are running during the fall and spring semesters immediately following the election. A Candidate will be required to provide proof that they will meet the residency requirement to the Elections Commission no later than five (5) calendar days prior to the IUSA elections. Candidates who cannot or choose not to provide this proof or a written statement affirming their eligibility shall be

disqualified and their names shall be removed from the ballot.

Section 205: School Membership Eligibility.

Candidates for Student Representative seats must be a member of the school whose students they will represent during the fall and spring semesters immediately following the election. A Candidate will be requested to provide proof that they will meet the school membership eligibility requirement to the Elections Commission no later than five (5) calendar days prior to the IUSA elections. Candidates who cannot or chose not to provide this proof or a written statement affirming their eligibility shall be disqualified and their names shall be removed from the ballot.

Section 206: Congressional Seats.

Congressional seats shall be allocated on a yearly basis as directed by the IUSA Constitution and by-laws. The Election Coordinator shall verify the composition of the Congress for the academic year following the IUSA election with the sitting IUSA administration and make publicly available a full list of these Congress seats.

Section 207: Academic Requirement.

No candidate may be on academic probation or on university suspension and be a candidate for an IUSA office. All candidates must possess a college grade point average above 2.5 on a four (4) point scale.

Section 208: Candidacy for more than one office.

No person shall simultaneously be a candidate for more than one elected position in IUSA. No elected members of Congress shall simultaneously hold appointed positions in the IUSA executive branch or judicial branch.

Section 209: Running mates.

A candidate for any one of the four elected executive offices of President, Vice President, Vice President for Congress, or Treasurer must be a running mate with a candidate for each of the other three elected Executive offices, forming an executive slate. These candidates shall run as a group and state an affiliation with a candidate for each of the other three executive offices. No individual may run for an IUSA executive position without the aforementioned running mates. Executive Groups must also run as a ticket (see Section 210).

Section 210: Tickets defined.

An executive ticket shall be defined as any group of executive running mates plus a minimum of one (1) Congressional candidate that has stated an affiliation with the executive group. No group of executive candidates shall be recognized other than those that meet this requirement. Congressional candidates may state an affiliation with a ticket or run individually.

TITLE III: Voting and Voters

Section 301: Voter Eligibility.

Only IUSA members shall be eligible to vote in the IUSA Election. Each voter shall cast one and only one vote, and that vote shall only be on his or her behalf. Each voter shall have the option to cast a vote for one executive slate, for as many Senators as there are vacancies in the district where the voter resides at the time of the IUSA Election, and for as many Representatives as there are vacancies in the school where the voter is registered at the time of the IUSA Election. Residency and school registration shall be defined as what the Office of the Registrar has on record for the semester in which the IUSA elections take place. No qualified elector may vote unless the elector can verify eligibility to vote as a student through an electronic method of voter verification.

Section 302: On-line Voting.

Voting shall be open from 10:00 a.m. on the first day of the IUSA Election to 10:00 p.m. on the second day of the

IUSA Election. On-line voting will be the primary medium used for casting valid votes (see Section 308 for qualifications for the casting of a provisional ballot). Links from any ticket's or individual candidate's website to the voting website provided by UITS are allowed. Residual advertising from a website providing a link to the IUSA homepage (including but not limited to ticket name or individual candidate name) shall not be visible on any part of the computer screen that has accessed the on-line ballot. In order to cast an on-line vote, a voter shall be minimally required to use his or her username and network ID password.

Section 303: Polling Locations.

The Election Commission shall coordinate with the Student Activities Office to reserve a number of highly trafficked areas on campus to serve as polling locations during the two days of the IUSA Election.

1. The number and placement of these polling locations shall be approved by the Congress at least four (4) weeks before the IUSA Election.
2. Each ticket and Congressional candidate with no ticket affiliation shall be entitled have a presence at each polling location, but no more than two (2) persons associated with each ticket and non-affiliated Congressional candidate may be present at each polling location.
3. Each ticket and non-affiliated Congressional candidate must confine campaign materials at each polling location to fit on one (1) standard-sized table that is self-provided, and no ticket or non-affiliated Congressional candidate may provide more than three (3) electronic devices on which interested students may record votes.
4. The Election Commission may limit further the number of individuals that each ticket and non-affiliated candidate may have present at a given polling location and/or the materials that they may provide at a given polling location should the number of tickets and non-affiliated candidates make finding equal space at these locations a problem. Such restrictions must be applied equally to all tickets and non-affiliated candidates.
5. No ticket or non-affiliated candidate shall be penalized for another ticket or non-affiliated candidate's inability to fully staff or provide the maximum number of permissible materials at each polling location.

Section 304: Election Day Campaigning.

Only informational material may be distributed by a candidate or ticket on the days of the election. Distribution of goods on the days of the election will constitute a violation under Section 601 and may serve as grounds for disqualification.

Section 305: Plausible Student Mandate for Executive Candidates.

Executive Candidates shall be elected by a simple plurality vote. In the case of a tie, the Student Body President shall call for an emergency Congress meeting within five (5) days of the public release of the election results. Congress shall designate procedures to select a winner to be enacted by the Elections Commission within five (5) calendar days following the public release of the results.

Section 306: Plurality Vote Required for Congressional Candidates.

Candidates for Congressional seats shall be elected by a simple plurality vote. In the case of a tie, the Student Body President shall call for an emergency Congress meeting within five (5) days of the public release of the election results. Congress shall select the winning candidate by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present and voting within five (5) calendar days following the public release of the results.

Section 307: Ballots.

The ballot for the IUSA Election shall include executive candidates and Congressional candidates. The ballot shall not favor any one candidate over any other candidate. Each candidate shall be listed on the ballot by his or her first and last name only, unless the Elections Commission has approved the use of a nickname. Each Congressional candidate shall have the option to place his or her ticket affiliation next to his or her name. Executive candidates must designate ticket affiliation.

Section 308: Provisional Voting.

Any member of IUSA may choose to cancel their ballot and submit a provisional vote via e-mail to the Election Commission. The IUSA office will make publicly known the appropriate e-mail address for provisional voting no less than two (2) weeks before the IUSA election. Provisional ballots will be accepted from two (2) weeks before the IUSA elections through the designated time in which polls close. The Election Commission will certify the eligibility of the voter and that no previous vote has been submitted for this voter. Once approved by the Elections Commission, provisional votes will be counted in the general election vote total.

Section 309: Alternative Voting Processes.

No voting process shall be allowed that is contrary to the provisions provided in this Code.

Title IV: Campaign Spending

Section 401: Campaign Expenditures Defined.

Any purchase or donation which is used for promoting any candidate or ticket shall be considered a campaign expenditure. In determining the value of an expenditure, individual candidates or tickets shall be assessed the fair market value of the goods or services used to campaign. For the purposes of this section, fair market value shall be defined as the ability of interested parties to secure the same goods or services in question. No single candidate or ticket shall be penalized for a vendor's inability to supply every or any candidate or ticket with goods or services used for campaigning. The Election Commission shall have the authority to determine whether any purchase is a campaign expenditure and what the fair market value of the expenditure is as defined in this section. Any candidate may request from the Election Commission an advisory opinion as to whether a particular purchase would constitute a campaign expenditure and what value it would be assessed. Advisory opinion requests must be answered and returned within five (5) calendar days.

Section 402: Contributions for IUSA Elections.

Candidates for IUSA Office appearing on the election ballot may contribute up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) of their own funds to their campaign or ticket with which they are affiliated. Any individual or organization not appearing on the ballot may contribute up to two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) in any one IUSA election. Any AID funding board candidate is precluded from contributing more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) in any one IUSA Election for his or her own campaigning expenditures. Total campaign expenditures may not exceed total campaign contributions. Additionally, campaign expenditures may not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000), regardless of total campaign contributions.

Section 403: Financial Statements.

A financial statement is defined as an itemized list of all campaign expenditures, including receipts and appropriate documentation for each campaign expenditure listed, and an itemized list of all contributions. Documentation of expenditures must include the fair market value of the expenditure, appropriate venter contact information (a minimum of venter name, telephone number and physical address), a purchase date, and a description of the item. Documentation of contributions must include an itemized list of all contributions and the signature of each contributor, date of contribution, and the contributor's association with the candidate or ticket. Each financial statement must be signed by the President or Treasurer candidate for statements from tickets and by the individual candidate for non-affiliated Congressional candidates.

Section 404: Submissions of Intermediate Financial Statement to the Elections Commissions.

Each individual candidate or ticket must submit unified intermediate financial statements, along with appropriate receipts to the Election Commission no later than 4:00 p.m. on every other Friday after applications are due, beginning the week applications are due and up to and including the last Friday before the IUSA Election. These financial statements must be cumulative and shall state all expenditures and contributions made to date. The Election

Commission may grant an extension, not to exceed four (4) hours in length, provided the request for the extension is made prior to the deadline. All financial disclosure affidavits and financial statements will be made public the following Monday and can be viewed and duplicated during normal IUSA office hours (available by contacting IUSA at 812-855-IUSA).

Section 405: Submission of Final Financial Statement to the Elections Commission.

Each individual candidate, executive group, or campaign ticket shall submit a unified final financial statement, along with appropriate receipts, to the Election Commission, no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day after the IUSA Election. A financial statement must be submitted, even if the statement reflects that no expenditures were made. This final financial statement must be cumulative and shall state all expenditures and contributions made or given during the course of the IUSA Election. The Election Commission may grant an extension, not to exceed four (4) hours in length, provided the request for the extension is made prior to the deadline.

Section 406: Disclosure of Financial Statements.

All financial statements of individual candidates or tickets shall be public information, and shall be stored for no less than five years in the IUSA office.

Title V: General Campaign Violations

Section 501: Distribution of Campaign Materials on Campus.

Flyers and other written materials posted on wooden kiosks or posting boards shall not exceed four (4) in number on any individual kiosk per individual candidate (if the candidate is running independently) or campaign ticket. Candidates may chalk sidewalks, however, no campaign materials shall be taped to the sidewalk.

Section 502: Improper Use of E-mail.

Any email sent to multiple voters soliciting votes that does not have all email addresses in the blind carbon copy (Bcc) line shall constitute a violation of this Code.

Section 503: Damage to Property.

Stealing, removing, destroying, damaging, or defacing University or private property shall constitute a violation of this Code.

Section 504: Affirmative, Deliberate Act to Cause Another's Violation.

No candidate, ticket, or anyone acting on their behalf shall deliberately cause any candidate, executive group, or campaign ticket to be in violation of this Code.

Section 505: Interference with Campaign Materials.

No candidate, ticket, or anyone acting on their behalf shall deface, destroy, remove, alter, or otherwise change any candidate's campaign materials.

Section 506: Campaigning in the Residence Halls.

No candidate, ticket, nor any person acting on behalf of any candidate or ticket, shall campaign in any area of a university dormitory not open to the unescorted public. For the purposes of this section, the term "campaign" does not include emailing, posting material, or wearing campaign clothing. For the purposes of this section, campaigning is meant to include "door-to-door" soliciting, "cold-calling" dorm rooms, or any other activity that is reasonably disruptive to students.

Section 507: Additional Residence Hall Restrictions.

Any candidate, ticket, or any person acting on behalf of any candidate or ticket found in violation of policies or guidelines established by Residential Programs and Services (RPS) and/or the Residence Halls Association (RHA) regarding conduct within a dorm, shall constitute a violation of this Code. Candidates should be aware that these policies may vary for each dorm.

Section 508: Campaigning in Study Areas.

With the exception of students at approved IUSA Election Commission Polling Locations on the election days, campaigning within fifty (50) feet of any university library or computer lab at any time shall constitute a violation of this Code. For the purposes of this section, the term “campaign” is not meant to include emailing, posting material, or wearing campaign clothing. It is meant to include any activity that is disruptive to students, such as person-to-person solicitation or distribution of materials.

Section 509: Financial Disclosures.

Any candidate or ticket failing to meet the requirements for financial disclosure laid out in Sections 402, 403, 404 and 405 shall constitute a violation of this Code.

Section 510: Campaigning in Polling Locations.

Campaigning within fifty (50) feet of any IUSA polling location on the days of the election by more than the allowable number of individuals to be present within a polling location is prohibited (Section 303). For the purposes of this Section, the term “campaigning” is not meant to include individuals who may be reasonably passing through a polling location to go to class or another part of campus, or to replace another individual at a polling location, even if such individuals are wearing campaign clothing. The term “campaigning” is meant to include any activity that engages or disrupts students, or that unreasonably extends the amount of time it may take one individual to replace another individual staffing a polling location.

Section 511: Additional Polling Location Prohibitions.

Any ticket, candidate, or any person acting on behalf of any ticket or candidate that exceeds the limitations for campaign materials or number of devices that may be provided for the purpose of recording votes within a polling location on the days of the election shall be in violation of this Code (Section 303).

Section 512: Violations of University Policies.

Any ticket, candidate, or any person acting on behalf of any ticket or candidate found to have violated a publicly disseminated university policy, including the policies of the Student Activities Office, University Information Technology Services (UITs), and those found in the *Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct*, for the purpose of promoting a candidate or ticket shall constitute a violation of this Code.

Section 513: Voting at Bars.

Any ticket, candidate, or any person acting on behalf of any ticket or candidate providing a means for students to vote within 50 feet of an establishment that requires patrons to be 21 years or older to enter shall constitute a violation of this Code.

Title VI: Campaign Violations Eligible for Disqualification

Section 601: Voter Fraud.

Voter fraud shall be defined as, but not limited to, any act that prevents a voter from casting a vote in any IUSA election, any act that attempts to remove a voter’s right to cast a vote for himself or herself, any act that attempts to purchase the ability to vote for a voter, or any act in which anyone attempts to cast a vote for another voter. Examples of voter fraud include, but are not limited to, the following: creating lists of student information that gives

the ability to vote for that voter; intimidating a voter; offering a voter money, goods, or services in exchange for casting a ballot in a certain way; preventing a voter from casting a vote; preventing a voter from casting a vote for the candidate he or she desires; changing a vote once it has been cast; and using false information to cast a vote. Violations of this section by any candidate, ticket, or anyone acting on their behalf will be eligible for disqualification.

Section 602: Excessive Campaign Contributions.

Any candidate, ticket, or any person acting on their behalf found in violation of campaign contribution limits as defined Section 402 shall be in violation of this Code and eligible for disqualification.

Section 603: Excessive Campaign Expenditures.

Any candidate or ticket that spends more than the total funds that they have received in contributions at any given time during the election, or any candidate or ticket that spends more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), regardless of the amount of campaign contributions received, shall be in violation of this Code and eligible for disqualification.

Section 604: Candidate Cooperation.

Any intentional attempt of a candidate or ticket to deceive or mislead the Election Commission, or an inquiry or investigation thereof, shall constitute a violation of this code. Candidate honesty is of the utmost importance in conducting a fair election, resolving election disputes, and serving IU students as elected members of IUSA. Actions contrary to Section 604 may provide sufficient grounds for disqualification.

Section 605: Material Violations.

Any candidate or ticket found to have committed at least three (3) expressed violations may qualify for a material violation of this Code. The Election Commission, after determining initial violations, shall decide if the violations were materially contributory to the outcome of the election. If the Elections Commission finds the violations to be materially contributory to the outcome of the election, the individual candidate or ticket may be disqualified.

Title VII: Penalties for Violations

Section 701: Penalties Explained.

1. The Election Commission shall determine that a violation has occurred once a meeting of the Election Commission has been called, all members are present, and a majority of those present and voting agree that a violation has occurred.
2. Violations of this code shall be classified as general violations or violations eligible for disqualification.
3. Any general violation shall be subject to financial penalties at the sole discretion of the Elections Commission. The Election Commission may determine financial penalties concurrent with each separate incident of violation. The maximum of all assessed penalties may not surpass 75% of the final financial expenditures reported by the candidate or ticket in question. Failure to pay any fine will prevent indebted candidates from being allowed to serve in any IUSA position. All monetary fines shall be allocated by a majority vote of Congress by the members present and voting at the next regularly scheduled Congress meeting.
4. If students are running as part of a campaign ticket, the Election Commission shall have the authority to determine whether penalties will be imposed upon an entire ticket or upon only one or more individual candidates. The Election Commission shall base such a determination on its judgment of whether the evidence presented indicates that a ticket conspired to commit a violation, or conversely that a single candidate, or small group of candidates, failed to adhere to this Code without the knowledge of the ticket's leadership.
5. If a violation makes a candidate or ticket eligible for disqualification, the Election Commission will follow the procedures for disqualification in Section 702. If a candidate is disqualified, he or she will be ineligible for election to IUSA office during the election cycle in which he or she was disqualified. If a ticket is disqualified, all ticket members are ineligible for election to IUSA office during the election cycle in which

he or she was disqualified. If a winning candidate or ticket is disqualified after the election, the disqualified candidate(s) shall be ineligible to take office. Candidates disqualified during one election cycle run as candidates in future election cycles provided that they fulfill all other eligibility requirements. A single candidate for an executive office cannot be individually disqualified. If any executive candidate is penalized with disqualification, the entire executive slate shall be disqualified. In such cases, the Election Commission may still allow Congressional candidates running with a disqualified executive slate to remain eligible for election.

Section 702: Procedures for Disqualification.

Any candidate or ticket found in violation of any section of Title VI shall be eligible for disqualification.

1. The Election Commission shall determine that a violation has occurred once a meeting of the Election Commission has been called, all members are present, and a majority of members present and voting agree that a violation has occurred.
2. The Election Commission may then proceed to sanction the candidate or ticket as it would for a general violation or disqualify the candidate or ticket. A decision to disqualify a candidate or ticket will require a four-fifths (4/5) vote.
3. In the case of an Election Commission disqualification, the Student Body President shall call for an emergency Congress session to be held within five (5) calendar days of the Election Commission's decision.
4. Congress must establish a two-thirds (2/3) quorum to hear a case of disqualification. In the event Congress does not establish a two-thirds (2/3) quorum, the commission's decision shall be automatically upheld.
5. Once such a quorum is reached, the Congress may vacate the Election Commission disqualification decision with a two-thirds (2/3) vote.
6. Decisions of the Election Commission, and/or the subsequent reversal or upholding by Congress, may be appealed to the Student Body Supreme Court, per Article IV, Section 2 of the IUSA Constitution.

Title VIII: Election Complaints and Appellate Procedures

Section 801: Properly Filed Complaints to the Election Commission.

The Election Commission must hear all properly filed complaints and will have discretion as to whether or not to hear improperly filed complaints. A complaint has been properly filed when the following requirements have been met:

1. **Technical Requirements:** Each complaint must be typewritten, double spaced, with one-inch margins. Twelve (12) point, Times New Roman font must be used. No complaint can exceed ten (10) one-sided pages in length, excluding accompanying pieces of evidence or exhibits. All complaints must be signed by the complainant(s).
2. **Substantive Requirements:** Each complaint must include specific allegations, the names of those allegedly involved, the dates the alleged violations occurred, citations to the specific portion of this code that the complainant(s) believes was violated, and a specific request for relief. The complainant(s) may attach exhibits to the complaint that serve as documentation necessary to support the allegations stated in the complaints. However, these exhibits cannot contain new allegations or arguments to support the allegations not articulated previously.
3. **Deadline:** A complaint may be submitted to the IUSA Elections Commission in the IUSA Office at any time during the election until 4:00 PM on the day following the IUSA Election. The complainant(s) must provide five (5) copies of the complaint, along with one copy in digital form (floppy disk, email attachment, or any other form approved by the Elections Coordinator) and all supporting documentation to the Elections Commission, who shall keep one copy and then distribute one copy to each of the following individuals: the Supreme Court, the Assistant Dean of Students, and the Director of Student Activities. The remaining copy shall be posted for public view on the bulletin board outside the IUSA Office.

Section 802: Procedure for Complaints after Acceptance by the Elections Commission.

The following procedure shall apply to all complaints accepted by the Elections Commission:

1. The Election Commission shall provide copies of the complaints to all candidates affected by the complaints immediately after acceptance. Also, a copy of the complaint shall be posted for public view on the bulletin board outside the IUSA Office.
2. Anyone wishing to submit a reply brief must do so by 4:00 PM of the first day of class following receipt of the copy of the complaint. In order to be properly filed, reply briefs must satisfy the technical requirements stated in Section 801.
3. The Election Commission shall set and advertise a date, time, and location for the complaint hearing. This complaint hearing must occur within one (1) class days of the deadline for submission of reply briefs. The complaint hearing shall be open to the public.
4. At the hearing, each person who filed a complaint or a reply brief shall have the opportunity to make an initial statement to the Election Commission. Then, the Election Commission shall have the opportunity to ask questions of the speaker(s). After the question and answer period, each person who made an initial statement shall have the opportunity to make a closing statement.
5. The Election Commission shall issue a written decision within twenty four (24) hours of the end of the hearing, providing a copy of the written decision to the President, the Supreme Court, the complainant(s), and all those whose reply briefs were accepted. Also, a copy of the decision shall be posted for public view on the bulletin board outside the IUSA Office.

Section 803: Appeals of Decisions of the Elections Commission.

All decisions of the Election Commission and Student Body Congress may be appealed to the Supreme Court. Following any decision or action of the Election Commission, any party involved in the decision or action may petition the Supreme Court for a *writ of certiorari*:

1. **Technical Requirements:** Each appeal must be typewritten, double spaced, with one-inch margins. Twelve (12) point, Times New Roman font must be used. No appeal may exceed ten (10) one-sided pages in length. All appeals must be signed by the appellant(s).
2. **Substantive Requirements:** Each appeal must contain a statement of the specific decision made by the Election Commission, reasons for why the decision should be overturned, and a specific request for relief. The appellant(s) may attach exhibits to the appeal that serve as documentation necessary to support the allegations stated in the appeal. However, these exhibits cannot independently contain arguments.
3. **Deadline:** The appellant(s) must submit the appeal no later than 4:00 p.m. on the first day of class following the day when the Elections Commission posts its decision for public review. The appellant(s) must provide five (5) copies of the appeal, along with an additional copy in digital form (floppy disk, email attachment, or any other form approved by the Chief Justice), to the Supreme Court. The Court shall keep one hard copy and the digital copy and then distribute one copy to each of the following individuals: the Election Coordinator, the Assistant Dean of Students, and the Director of Student Activities. The remaining copy shall be posted for public view on the bulletin board outside the IUSA Office.

Section 804: Acceptance of Appeals.

The Supreme Court shall set its own guidelines for determining whether to accept an appeal, regardless of whether the appeal is filed properly or improperly. If the Supreme Court chooses not to hear an appeal, the decision of the Elections Commission shall stand.

Section 805: Procedure for Appeals after Acceptance by the Supreme Court.

The following procedure shall apply to all appeals accepted by the Supreme Court. In hearing appeals, the Supreme Court shall be confined to the evidence presented in front of the Elections Commission when it made its determination, the petition submitted by the appellant(s), the reply briefs, and the statements made during the appeal hearing:

1. The Supreme Court shall provide copies of the appeal to the Election Coordinator within one class day of granting a *writ of certiorari*. Also, a copy of the appeal shall be posted for public view on the bulletin board outside the IUSA Office.

2. Anyone wishing to submit a reply brief must do so by 4:00 p.m. of the first class day following receipt of the copy of the complaint. In order to be properly filed, reply briefs must satisfy the technical requirements stated in Section 902 and must be submitted in digital form.
3. The Supreme Court shall set, and then advertise, a date, time, and location for the appeal hearing. This appeal hearing must occur within four (4) class days of the deadline for submission of reply briefs. The appeal hearing shall be open to the public and conducted as governed by the internal rules of the Supreme Court.
4. The Supreme Court shall issue a written decision within forty-eight (48) hours of the end of the hearing and provide a copy of the written decision to the President, the Elections Coordinator, and all other parties to the dispute. Also, a copy of the decision shall be posted for public view on the bulletin board outside the IUSA Office.

Section 806: Procedure for Appeals of a Disqualification.

In the event that the Election Commission disqualifies an individual candidate or ticket, an appeal to the Student Body Supreme Court may be filed, consistent with the guidelines established in Section 803. If the appeal is accepted, the Student Body Supreme Court shall follow guidelines under Section 805 for procedures in hearing disqualification appeals. The decision of the Student Body Supreme Court will be final.

Title IX: Responsibilities of the Supreme

Court Section 901: General Authority.

No IUSA Election shall be considered valid until the Supreme Court certifies the results of the IUSA Election. The Supreme Court shall have the final authority over all properly appealed IUSA Election and referendum disputes.

Section 902: Authority to Reverse Decisions of the Election Commission.

The Supreme Court shall have the full and final authority over all accepted appeals of Election Commission decisions and any subsequent action by the Congress.

Section 903: Certification of the IUSA Election.

The Election Coordinator shall publicly post the unofficial vote totals of the election once he or she is reasonably certain of the accuracy of the count. The Elections Commission shall submit to the Supreme Court, once all financial statements have been verified, the results of the IUSA Election. The Supreme Court shall then certify the results of the IUSA Election. If the results of the Election Commission's decisions, hearings, etc. are properly appealed to the Supreme Court, the Supreme Court shall certify the results of the IUSA Election only after these complaints and appeals have been heard and resolved. Certification of the results shall not occur until at least 24 hours (24) have passed following the final deadline for properly filed complaints (Sections 801 and 803).

Section 904: Installation of new IUSA Officers.

The Supreme Court shall install new IUSA officers as set forth in the IUSA Constitution and bylaws.

Section 905: New Elections.

The Supreme Court shall have the authority to invalidate an entire IUSA Election, or a portion thereof, and order a new election of what has been invalidated. This shall occur only after the Supreme Court has reviewed a complaint, on appeal from the Elections Commission, which requests an entirely new IUSA Election, or a portion thereof, and the petitioner has demonstrated that either a serious violation of this Code has occurred, or that other rules and regulations grossly influenced the outcome of the results he or she is contesting.

Title X: Responsibilities of Congress

Section 1001: General Authority.

Congress shall have the authority to amend this Code consistent with the dictates of the IUSA Constitution and bylaws. Congress shall have the authority to make additional rules and regulations consistent with this Code in order to preserve the legitimacy of all IUSA Elections subject to jurisdictional restrictions over the hearing of election disputes as outlined in Article IV, Section 2 of the IUSA Constitution. Congress shall not have the authority to restrict any voter's right to endorse or assist any candidate, except for those voters who sit on the Elections Commission, the Supreme Court, or any individuals involved in conducting electoral procedures.

Section 1002: Procedures for New Elections.

Upon a determination by the Supreme Court that a new election will be held, Congress shall hold an emergency Congress meeting to establish new election procedures. The provisions of this Code shall apply for the new election, with the exception that any provision that states a deadline shall be superseded by the procedures established by Congress.

Section 1003: Tie-Breaking Procedures.

Congress shall have the authority to determine procedures for breaking ties among candidates consistent with Title III of this Code.

Section 1004: Annual Congressional Evaluation of Election Code.

The IUSA Congress shall evaluate this Election Code on an annual basis no later than February 1 in order to address any inconsistencies, confusion, or undesirable effects caused by the Election Code in the previous IUSA Election. As a part of the IUSA Bylaws, adopting changes to the Election Code shall require a 2/3 vote of the IUSA Congress.