

FRESHMAN AND TRANSFER ELECTION



ELECTION AND DISPUTES COMMISSION

Riley May, Co-Chairman

Chloe Shreve, Co-Chairman

Emily Daniel, Commissioner

Saber Chowdhury, Commissioner

Michael Essiaw, Commissioner

Christal Jackson, Commissioner

Roger Dean, Commissioner

FALL 2014 ELECTION REPORT

Election Procedures and Timeline

The front desk of the Office of Student Involvement distributed packets for candidacy. As potential candidates arrived, the front desk made sure to ask whether they were available for the Senate meetings on Thursdays. If they stated that they were available, the potential candidates were allowed to sign out a packet. This year's sign-out sheet included name, email address, and G-Number.

SEPTEMBER 2nd at 12pm Election packets became available in the Office of Student Involvement, located in The HUB, Suite 2300 and were due back on SEPTEMBER 12th at 12pm. After the completed candidate packets were turned in, the Student Government Advisor verified them. On September 17th, candidates were officially notified of their candidacy status. The following day, the Commission hosted a mandatory candidate meeting to explain the process, entertain any questions the candidates may have regarding campaigning at 3pm in the JC Meeting D. The campaigning period began on September 22nd at 12:01am. On September 30th at 12:00am Elections opened on getconnected.gmu.edu and then on October 1st at 11:59pm Elections closed on getconnected.gmu.edu. During the campaign period, Commissioners held publicly available office hours every day. Candidates utilized these office hours in order to ask questions and turn in election forms.

Voting took place on GetConnected between September 30th and October 1st. On October 2nd, the Commission publicly announced and certified the results. The candidates were then informed on whether they had been or elected, or were otherwise notified. Additionally, results were posted on a white board at the entrance of the Student Involvement office.

Election Grievances

On October 1, 2014 an election Election Grievance between G. Warren & L. Heger v. H. DeRensis was filed.

Hunter DeRensis was found guilty of the grievance and received two strikes for not abiding by the rules of the Election Code.

Advertising

The Commission strongly highlighted advertising during the freshman election period. In order to maintain a positive and competitive election of 30+ possible candidates, our social media presence was extensively used and improved upon through streamlining our efforts through the Student Government website with assistance from the Executive Secretary of Public Relations, Alexis Baker. We reserved a kiosk for the days of voting in order to increase voter turnout in hopes of breaking the record from last year. We also included an incentive to vote by introducing a larger prize in the form of over the ear headphones purchased

from Patriot Computers. The commissioners were also made available for any questions concerning the election by providing office hours that took place in the Student Involvement at the Election and Disputes Commission (EDC) cubicles.

Concerning the Future:

The Election and Disputes Commission plans to make changes they deem necessary to the Election Code, including clarifying the wording of at least two sections. The EDC found that kiosk and incentives given during the voting period to voters worked extremely well, despite problems encountered in the JC.