Section 1: Purpose. This Elections Code is enacted for the purpose of providing fair and equal opportunities for all Undergraduate Students to hold and run for office and to provide fair and equal opportunities for all Undergraduate Students to participate in the electoral process.

Section 2: Effective Date and Authority. This Elections Code shall become effective once passed by the Elections Committee and the USG Senate. This Elections Code shall remain in effect until repealed or superseded by further legislation. This Elections Code shall be the final regulatory authority for any and all elections or campaigning activities within the jurisdiction of USG and shall supersede any and all previously enacted legislation aside from the most current version of the USG Constitution.

TITLE I: The Elections Committee

Section 101: The Election Chairperson and Members (as per the USG Constitution XA4)

Elections Committee (EC) shall be comprised of the President of the USG, a board of Senators and other voluntary Undergraduate students from outside USG. The Committee shall be chaired by a designated Senator and the Chair shall have an equal vote in all matters. All members of this committee are excluded from running for offices elected during the General Election. No new members may join the Committee after the first General Candidate Meeting takes place until the end of that election year. If the President wishes to seek another term and is therefore declared ineligible as liaison, the Vice President shall fill the liaison’s role. If the Vice President is ineligible, the Secretary of the USG will fill this position. Should no member of the Executive Board be eligible, a member will be chosen from the Senate by a majority vote of the Senate to serve as liaison.

Section 102: Terms of Office. The Election Chairperson and Election Committee Members shall serve once appointed until two (2) weeks after ratification of the USG Election results or until properly removed or resigned from office.

Section 103: Responsibilities of the Election Chairperson. The Election Chairperson shall:

1. Oversee the annual election of the USG Executive Officers, School Council Executive Officers, Representatives, and Senators as per the USG Constitution.
2. Coordinate the election related activities of the individual Election Committee Members and supervise their conduct;
3. Execute the decisions of the Election Committee;
4. Report to the Senate at each of its meetings;
5. Make a sample ballot available for review by all candidates, and notify all candidates that the sample ballot is available for review;
6. Personally direct the tabulation of all ballots, and preserve the results of the tabulation until the new USG officers are sworn into office;
7. Act as a voting member and the Chair of the Elections Committee;
8. Communicate reviewed cases of alleged violations by candidates of this Code to the Supreme Court;

Section 104: Responsibilities of the Elections Committee. The Elections Committee shall:

1. Organize, plan, and publicize all USG Elections and referendums, by following the time line in Section 201;
2. Begin publicity of all events stated in the time line in Section 201 no later than two (2) weeks prior to the event;
3. Act to enforce all rules and regulations contained within this Code;
4. Act as the overseeing body of all referendum procedures;
5. Issue advisory opinions to any individual or body requesting interpretation of this Code;
6. Verify that all candidates meet the requirements for candidacy, and notify each candidate in writing of his or her candidacy status within five (5) business days after receipt of the application;
7. Request certification of the USG Election from the USG Senate;
8. Hear all properly filed complaints;

Section 105: Removal of the Elections Chairperson or an Elections Committee Member.

1. Any Senate member shall have the ability to petition the Senate for removal of the Elections Chairperson or any Elections Committee Member. Once this petition has been submitted, the Senate shall have the authority to remove the Elections Chairperson or Committee Member with two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting. Further, the President, in his or her discretion, shall have the authority to suspend the Elections Chairperson or a Committee Member from the point that the petition is submitted until the point that the Senate determines whether or not the removal is appropriate.
2. It shall be grounds for dismissal from the Elections Committee if the Elections Chairperson or a Committee Member works, speaks, or performs publicly or privately for or against any candidate or referendum. It shall further be grounds for dismissal if the Elections Chairperson or a Committee Member fails to perform the responsibilities stated in Section 103 or 104.
3. Once appointed to the Elections Committee, the Elections Chairperson and Elections Committee Members shall not be eligible to run for elected office for the election cycle for which they have been appointed unless they choose to resign from the Elections Committee.

Section 106: Filling a vacancy on the Elections Committee. If the Elections Chairperson leaves office for any reason, the Committee shall appoint a replacement, with approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the Committee present and voting. If there is a general lack of members on the Elections Committee, the President Pro-tempore shall assign Senators to the Committee to maintain a minimum of three members.

Title II: Candidate Time Line

Section 201: Candidate Time Line. Each of the events in the following time line must occur in each election cycle. The events of the time line are subject to change at the discretion of the Elections Committee.

1. Call-Out. There shall be at least one campus-wide call-out meeting for the USG Election to occur sometime during the second month of the spring semester. This call-out meeting shall serve as a general introduction to the USG Election, including a time line of events for the USG Election. It shall also give all who are interested in becoming candidates an opportunity to ask questions about the USG Elections.
2. Applications. Applications shall be made available to the Student Body no later than one (1) week after the call-out and shall be submitted to the Elections Committee no later than two (2) weeks after the applications are made available.
3. Proof of academic eligibility. Candidates shall provide proof of academic eligibility in accordance with Section 303 to the Elections Committee no later than the date on which the candidate applications are due.
4. All-Candidate meeting. There shall be at least one All-Candidate meeting, and the first shall be held on the Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday of the week after the applications are due. Attendance at the first All-Candidate meeting is mandatory, but the Elections Committee has the authority to excuse an absence only if the candidate has given the Elections Committee notice of the absence prior to the All-Candidate meeting. A proxy, as appointed by the absent candidate(s), must 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 Elections Committee 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.
5. Debate. A debate shall occur during the campaigning period. All groups of executive candidates shall be given the opportunity to participate in the debate.
6. Withdrawal of name from ballot. Candidates wishing to withdraw their names from the ballot must request a withdrawal, in writing, from the Elections Committee by 5:00 p.m. seven (7) calendar days before the USG 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 USG Elections, and shall have no less than twenty-four (24) hours to approve of his or her name on the ballot.
8. **USG Elections.** The USG Election shall be held in the Spring Semester, on a Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at least two weeks after the All-Candidate Meeting.

9. **USG Transition Weekend.** The USG out-going officers and Newly Elected officers shall hold a joint transition session prior to May 14th.

**Title III: Candidate Eligibility Requirements**

**Section 301: General Eligibility.** All candidates must submit a signed application which lists the USG office sought to the Student Government Office, prior to the deadline set by the Elections Committee. 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. The Elections Committee shall have the authority to accept or reject the candidate's request.

**Section 302: Receipt of Application.** Once the application is properly filed, the candidate shall be given a receipt that notes the date and time that the application was filed. Once the application has been received and processed, the approved candidate may begin campaigning. Any application filed after the deadline shall not be accepted.

**Section 303: Academic Eligibility.** Candidates for School Council Senate seats must be a member of the school whose students they shall represent during the fall and spring semesters immediately following the election. A Candidate must provide proof that they will meet the academic eligibility requirement and affirm in writing that they will meet the requirement no later than the date which candidate applications are due. Candidates who do not provide this proof or written statement shall be disqualified and their names shall be removed from the ballot. A modification of the ballot for this reason shall not serve as justification for an additional review of the ballot by all candidates. No candidate may be on academic probation and run for any USG office.

**Section 304: Senate Seats.** The Senate seats shall be allocated as directed in the USG Constitution and by-laws.

**Section 305: Enrollment Requirements.** All candidates must be Undergraduate Students, and if elected, must remain Undergraduate Students for the duration of their term in office. Undergraduate Students are defined as all students who are enrolled in Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis as Undergraduates.

**Section 306: Candidacy for more than one USG Executive office.** No person shall simultaneously be a candidate for more than one elected Executive position in USG.

**Section 307: Running Mates.** The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be running mates when a candidate for one of the above offices has stated an affiliation with a candidate for any other executive offices. Running Mates shall not be required for candidacy.

**Section 308: Tickets defined.** The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be a ticket when each candidate for the above executive offices has stated an affiliation with a candidate for each of the other three executive offices. Tickets shall not be required for candidacy.

**TITLE IV: Voting and Voters**

**Section 401: Voter Eligibility.** Only Undergraduate Students shall be eligible to vote in the USG Election. Undergraduate Students are defined as all Undergraduate Students who are enrolled in Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. Each voter shall cast 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 officer per seat, and for two Senators in the school where the voter is registered at the time of the USG Election. School registration shall be defined as what the Office of the Registrar has on record at the time of the USG Election.

**Section 402: On-line Voting.** 402 shall state: “Voting shall be open from 12:00a.m. on the first day of the USG Elections to 11:59 p.m. on the third day of the USG Elections. Online voting will be the only medium used for casting valid votes, unless there is due reason for a different means of voting. Furthermore, residual advertising from the website providing the link (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 passphrase or to swipe his or her JagTag.”

**Section 403: Plurality Vote Required for Executive Candidates.** Candidates for Executive Office shall be elected by a simple plurality vote. In case of a tie, a paper ballot will be distributed to the USG senators who will be responsible for the final decision. This vote will be held immediately after original election results. Quorum
must be reached for the result to be valid. In the case of a tie there shall be a runoff election between the two executive candidates with the most votes cast within ten (10) class days after the regular USG Election.

**Section 404: Plurality Vote Required for Senate Candidates.** Candidates for Senate seats shall be elected by a simple plurality vote. The organization or school that the Senator(s) will be representing is responsible for holding the simple plurality vote. In the case of a tie, the organization or school is responsible for coming to a decision on who will be the Senator(s) in whatever manner they deem appropriate. The USG Senate and Elections Committee have no direct role in the election of senators.

**Section 405: Ballots.** The ballot for the USG Election, which shall be available on a secure website, shall include Executive Candidates and Senate Candidates. The ballot shall not favor any one candidate over any other candidates. Each candidate shall be placed on the ballot as determined by the lottery conducted at the All-Candidate Meeting. Each candidate shall be listed on the ballot by his or her first and last name only, unless the Elections Committee has approved the use of a nickname. Each candidate shall have the option to place his or her ticket affiliation next to his or her name. Ballots may or may not have a place for voters to cast write-in votes.

**Title V: Campaign Violations**

**Section 501: Distribution and Removal of Campaign Materials on Campus.** All campaigning materials must abide by the Office of Student Involvement policy on publicity and marketing. No campaign materials shall be taped to the sidewalk. All publicly posted campaign materials shall be removed within forty-eight (48) hours after the USG Election. Violations of this section shall result in the imposition of no less than one (1), but no more than eight (8) sanction points.

**Section 502: Voter Fraud.** Voter fraud shall be defined as, but not limited to, any act that prevents a voter from casting a vote in any USG 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. Violation of this section shall result in eight (8) sanction points.

**Section 503: Improper Use of E-mail.** Any email sent to multiple voters that does not have all but one email address in the blind carbon copy line shall be in violation of this code. Violation of this section shall result in no less than one (1), but no more than three (3), sanction points. Each group of fifty addresses not in the blind carbon copy line shall constitute a separate violation.

**Section 504: Damage to Property.** Destroying, damaging, or defacing University or private property shall result in no less than three (3), but no more than six (6), sanction points.

**Section 505: Deliberate Act to Cause Another Candidate’s Violation.** It shall be a violation of this Code to deliberately cause any candidate, executive group, or campaign ticket to be in violation of this Code and shall result in no less than five (5) sanction points.

**Section 506: Interference with Campaign Materials.** No candidate, executive group, campaign ticket, or anyone acting on their behalf shall deface, destroy, alter, or otherwise change any other candidate’s campaign materials. Violation of this section shall result in no less than four (4) sanction points.

**Section 507: Campaigning in the Dorms and Apartments.** All campaigning methods must abide by the Housing and Residence Life policies on publicity and marketing. No candidate, nor any person acting on behalf of any candidate, shall campaign in any university housing facility during designated quiet hours during the week of the election or the campaigning weeks prior to election week. Violation of this section shall result in the imposition of no less than four (4) sanction points and, if the Elections Committee finds that the violation has significantly affected the outcome of the election, eight (8) sanction points shall be imposed. 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 “door-to-door” soliciting, “cold-calling” living quarters, or any other activity that is disruptive to students.

**Section 508: Campaigning in Study Areas.** Campaigning within fifty (50) feet of University Library, any IUPUI computer lab or any designated polling site shall result in no less than one (1), but no more than three (3), sanction points. For the purposes of this section, the term “campaigning” is not meant to include emailing, posting material, or wearing campaign clothing. It is meant to include any activity that is disruptive to students.
Section 509: Production of Campaign Materials. Candidates may use the Multimedia Production Center (MPC) to produce campaign materials. However, MPC staff cannot be utilized to design campaign materials. Violations of this section shall result in the imposition of no less than one (1), but no more than eight (8) sanction points.

Title VI: Campaign Spending

Section 601: Campaign Expenditures Defined. Any purchase or donation made for the purpose of, or which is ultimately used for, promoting any candidate or referendum issue, shall be considered campaign expenditure. In determining the value of an expenditure, individual candidates, executive groups, or campaign tickets shall be assessed the greater of the fair market value or the actual amount spent for the goods and services used to campaign. The Elections Committee shall have the authority to determine whether any purchase is campaign expenditure and what the greater value of the expenditure is. Any candidate may request from the Elections Committee an advisory opinion as to whether a particular purchase or donation would constitute campaign expenditure and what its value will be assessed.

Section 602: Spending limits for USG Elections and Re-elections. Any group of executive candidates including anyone acting on behalf of the group of executive candidates is precluded from spending more than one thousand dollars ($1,000.00) in any one USG Election. Senate candidates are precluded from spending more than fifty dollars ($50.00) in any one USG Election or Re-election. Any spending that is in excess of the spending limit by up to ten (10) percent shall result in two (2) sanction points. Any spending that is in excess of the spending limit by more than ten (10) percent shall result in eight (8) sanction points.

Section 604: Financial Statements. A financial statement consists of an itemized list of all campaign expenditures, including receipts and appropriate documentation for each campaign expenditure listed. Intentionally falsifying financial statements shall result in eight (8) sanction points.

Section 605: Submissions of Intermediate Financial Statement to the Elections Committee. Each individual candidate, executive group, or campaign ticket must submit a unified intermediate financial statement, along with appropriate receipts to the Elections Committee Chair no later than 5:00 p.m. on each Friday after applications are due up to and including the last Friday during the week of the USG Election. These financial statements must be cumulative and shall state all expenditures made to date. The Elections Committee may grant an extension provided the request for the extension is made prior to the deadline. If an extension is granted, no penalty will be imposed on the candidate if the financial statement is turned in by 12:00 p.m. (noon) of the Monday following the deadline. If the party does not receive an extension from the Elections Committee, submitting the financial statement late but before 12:00 p.m. (noon) one business day after the deadline shall result in one (1) sanction point. Failure to submit a statement by the due date of the next consecutive financial statement shall result in eight (8) sanction points. Penalties incurred for failing to submit the final financial statement are up to the discretion of the USG Elections Committee.

Section 606: Submission of Final Financial Statement to the Elections Committee. Each individual candidate, executive group, or campaign ticket shall submit a unified final financial statement, along with appropriate receipts, to the USG Executive Secretary, no later than 5:00 p.m. on each Friday after applications are due up to and including the last Friday during the week of the USG 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 made during the course of the USG Election. The Elections Committee may grant an extension, not to exceed four (4) hours in length, provided the request for the extension is made prior to the deadline. Submitting this statement late, but before 5:00 p.m. one business day after the deadline shall result in two (2) sanction points. Failure to submit this statement, or submitting it after 5:00 p.m. one business day following the deadline, shall result in eight (8) sanction points.

Title VII: Penalties for Violations

Section 701: Penalties Explained.

1. The Elections Committee shall determine that a violation has occurred once a meeting of the Elections Committee has been called, quorum is present, and a majority of those present and voting agree that a violation has occurred.

2. A warning may be given out to the violator before sanction points are imposed on an offense of that nature. No more than one warning may be given to each candidate. If a similar violation is committed a second time by the same offender, the second violation must result in a sanction point. It is possible for the Elections Committee to assign a warning to a candidate’s second violation even if the first violation resulted in a sanction point, as long as the second offense is of a different nature. However, as stated above, this is not an option if the candidate has already received a warning. Each candidate offense is to be considered separate of the other offenses. All designations of violations and sanction points are subject to the discretion of the Elections Committee.
3. Violations of this code shall result in sanction points. No more than eight (8) sanction points shall be imposed. Upon the accumulation of any points up to and including three (3) shall result in a fine of fifty (50) dollars or five (5) service hours per point as deemed appropriate by the Elections Committee. After accumulating three (3) points, the fine shall be seventy-five (75) dollars or seven and-a-half (7.5) hours per point thereafter as deemed appropriate by the Elections Committee. Fines will not be counted as part of the spending limits. All monetary fines must be donated to the IUPUI Scholarship Office.

4. If students are running as part of a campaign ticket, the Elections Committee shall have the authority to determine whether sanction points will be imposed upon an entire ticket, or instead upon only one or more individual candidates. The Elections Committee 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 sanction points are incurred prior to the week before elections they must be paid by the Friday before elections week. If sanction points are incurred during the week before elections or during elections week then they must be paid by the Friday after the last financial statement is due. All sanction points must be paid by the candidate(s) prior to taking USG office. Failure to pay any fine mentioned above will prevent indebted candidate(s) from being allowed to serve in any USG position in any term.

Title VIII: Appellate Procedures

Section 801: Properly Filed Complaints. The Elections Committee 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 fonts must be used. No complaint can exceed eight (8) one-sided pages in length, excluding accompanying pieces of evidence or exhibits. All complaints must be signed by the complainant(s). The complaint must be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to USG Elections Committee.

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 provide accompanying exhibits to the complaint that serves as documentation necessary to support the allegations stated in the complaints. However, these exhibits cannot independently contain allegations or arguments to support the allegations.

3. **Deadline:** A complaint may be submitted to the USG Elections Committee in the USG Office up to 48 hours after the USG Election. The complainant(s) must provide one (1) copy of the complaint, along with one copy in digital form (floppy disk, email attachment, or any other form approved by the Elections Chairperson), and all supporting documentation to the Elections Committee, who shall keep one copy and then distribute one copy to each of the following individuals: the Supreme Court, the Director of Office of Student Involvement, and the Assistant Director of Leadership Development. The remaining copy shall be posted for public view on the bulletin board outside the USG Office. Costs associated with submitting complaints shall not be counted toward any applicable spending limit.

Section 802: Acceptance of Complaints and Appeals. The Elections Committee shall determine whether a complaint has been properly filed. Once the Elections Committee determines that the complaint was properly filed, the complaint is accepted and shall be heard. If the Elections Committee determines that the complaint was not properly filed, the Elections Committee shall have the discretion to determine whether or not to accept the complaint. 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 Committee shall stand.

Section 803: Procedure for Complaints after Acceptance by the Elections Committee. The following procedure shall apply to all complaints accepted by the Elections Committee:

1. The Elections Committee shall provide copies of the complaints to all candidates affected by the complaints within twenty-four (24) hours of acceptance. Also, a copy of the complaint shall be posted for public view on the bulletin board outside the USG Office.

2. Anyone wishing to submit a reply brief must do so by 5:00 PM of the first business 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 801.
3. The Elections Committee shall set, and then advertise, a date, time, and location for the complaint hearing. This complaint hearing must occur within three (3) business 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 Elections Committee. Then, the Elections Committee 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 Elections Committee 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 Chief Justice of 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 USG Office.

Section 804: Appeal of Decisions of the Elections Committee. All decisions of the Elections Committee can be appealed to the Supreme Court. Following any decision or action of the Elections Committee, any party involved in the decision or action may petition the Supreme Court.

1. Technical Requirements: Each appeal must be typewritten, double spaced, with one-inch margins. Twelve (12) point fonts must be used. No appeal can exceed eight (8) 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 Elections Committee, 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 5:00 p.m. The day business following the day when the Elections Committee 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, who shall keep one hard copy and the digital copy, and then distribute one copy to each of the following individuals: the Elections Chairperson, the Director of Office of Student Involvement, and the Assistant Director of Leadership Development. The remaining copy shall be posted for public view on the bulletin board outside the USG Office. Costs associated with submitting appeals shall not be counted toward any applicable spending limit.

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 Committee 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 Elections Chairperson within one business day of accepting the appeal. Also, a copy of the appeal shall be posted for public view on the bulletin board outside the USG Office.

2. Anyone wishing to submit a reply brief must do so by 5:00 p.m. of the first business 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 802 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 seven 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 Chairperson, 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 USG Office.

Section 806: Required Path of Redress. Each person aggrieved must first exhaust his or her administrative remedies through the Elections Committee before seeking relief in an original cause of action in front of the Supreme Court.

Title IX: Responsibilities of the Supreme Court

Section 901: The Supreme Court shall have the final authority over all properly appealed USG Election and referendum disputes.
Section 902: Authority to Reject Appeals. The Supreme Court shall have the authority to reject any appeal.

Section 903: Re-elections. The Supreme Court shall have the authority to invalidate an entire USG Election, or a portion thereof, and order a Re-election of what has been invalidated. This shall occur only after the Supreme Court has reviewed a complaint, or appeal from the Elections Committee, which requests an entirely new USG Election, or a portion thereof, and the petitioner has demonstrated that either a violation of this Code has occurred, or that other rules and regulations unfairly influenced the outcome of the results he or she is contesting.

Title X: Responsibilities of the Senate

Section 1001: General Authority. No USG Election shall be considered valid until the Senate certifies the results of the USG Election and all appeals have been heard and resolved, or rejected.

Section 1002: Procedures for Re-elections. Upon a determination by the Supreme Court that a Re-election will be held, the Senate shall hold an emergency Senate meeting to establish Re-election procedures. The provisions of this Code shall apply for the Re-election, with the exception that any provision which states a deadline shall be superseded by the procedures established by the Senate at the emergency meeting.

Section 1003: Certification of the USG Election. The Elections Chairperson shall publicly post the unofficial vote totals of the election totals once he or she is reasonably certain of the accuracy of the count. Once all financial statements have been verified, the Elections Committee shall submit the results of the USG Election to the Senate. The Senate shall then certify the results of the USG Election. If the results of the Election Committee’s decisions, hearings, etc. are properly appealed to the Supreme Court, the Senate shall certify the results of the USG Election only after these complaints and appeals have been heard and resolved.

Section 1004: Installation of new USG Officers. The Senate shall install new USG officers as per the USG Constitution.

Title XI: School Elections

Section 1101: Candidate Policies for School Council Elections. Each candidate running for a school council office must follow their council’s policies for elections. If the school council chooses to follow USG procedures, the school council candidates are exempt from submitting financial statements and will not incur penalties on behalf of the Elections Committee that would exempt them from holding office. The final discretion concerning application procedures and selecting candidates lies with the individual student council.

Title XII: General Authority

Section 1201: Revision Authority. The Senate shall have the authority to amend this Code to be consistent with the dictates of the USG Constitution. The Senate shall have the authority to make additional rules and regulations consistent with this Code in order to preserve the legitimacy of all USG Elections. The Senate 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 Committee, the Supreme Court or who choose to volunteer to assist the Elections Committee in the campus wide elections.