

Submissions to Student Court Relating Election Committee Report Released To Public

11 August 2016

1. Prior to the complaints of Mr Neil du Toit and Rochelle Ella Jacobs and Marc Johan Rudolph, the election convenor received a number of complaints regarding the contravening of election rules by the 8 Respondents. Mr Links, in an emergency meeting on July 29, 2016 where he informed the candidates present that a number of complaints were sent in by students and candidates. It was agreed that the 8 Respondents would be informed of the complaints and if they do contravene the rules again stringent measures would follow in line with the Student Constitution.
2. The complaint referred to by the Election Convenor(EC) in the report which occurred July 21, 2016 with regards to the contravening of campaign rule by the 8 respondents was not communicated in a transparent manner to candidates. However, considering the number of complaints that the EC received, it is disingenuous for the EC to stipulate in 3.6 of the EC report that internal remedies were not followed and exhausted.
3. It is my understanding that when candidates have violated the University Constitution, Student Representative Council Regulations and mandatory rules as stipulated by EC, then punitive action must follow to ensure a fair election process. After the EC instructed the Respondents to remove the posters by 17h00 2 August 2016 which were in violation of campaign rules, the Respondents did not adhere and evidence was submitted to the EC relating to this matter. This is indicative of the refusal to abide by the rules which are in the interests of the student body ensuring fairness and consistency. It must be noted that this was in non-compliance of the interim court order released by Student Court.
4. The remedy of the EC report, does not consider the other candidates that have complied with the rules and SC. The interim court order released by the Student Court has suspended the entire election process allowing an investigation to take place by EC, this has already disadvantaged other candidates whose posters were removed in the Neelsie and various other places considering the expiring date of the SRC stamp. The campaigning process involved costs for candidates and if the remedy is to be granted, reimbursement must be considered.
5. A fair remedy would be to suspend the 8 Respondents as they are in clear violation of the rules stipulated in the Student Constitution and thereafter open the applications for 10 working days as stipulated by the SC Schedule 1 8(1).

Student Representative Candidate: Mischka Lewis

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