

**ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE STUDENTS' UNION**

**BYLAW NO. 4: ELECTIONS POLICY**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D Schmidt', is centered on the page.

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**Dean Schmidt, Chairperson of the STMSU Annual General Meeting  
(Confirmed the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March 2011)**

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**ARTICLE 1  
ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**

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- A. Will be comprised of four Students-At-Large, one of whom will be appointed to be the Chief Returning Officer.
- B. Conduct all annual elections, bi-elections, and referenda of the STMSU.
- C. Have the power to make final decisions on electoral procedure.
- D. Prepare a ballot for the STMSU Executive Committee elections listing the candidates for each position in alphabetical order.
- E. Will ensure a copy of the campaign policy is posted the day that nominations open, and ensure the policy is being followed during the election period.
- F. Investigate all complaints of election irregularity
- G. Will refer to the STMSU Election bylaws as a guide.
- H. Determine times polling station(s) will be open, and the location of the polling station(s).

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**ARTICLE 2  
CHIEF RETURNING OFFICE**

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- A. Chief Returning office will hereafter be referred to at CRO.
- B. Will chair the Elections Committee.
- C. Will organize the Elections Committee to supervise polling station(s).
- D. Arrange for poll clerks to work with the Election Committee members to manage polling stations during voting.
- E. Inform candidates of election results as soon as the initial count is completed, and post all election results within 24 hours of the initial counting.
- F. Submit a written report regarding ballot count and the results of the elections to the Elections Committee and the Executive Committee.
- G. Keep all ballots for one week after the initial counting, after which the ballots must be destroyed.

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**ARTICLE 3  
TIME AND PROCEDURES FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS**

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- A. The Presidential Election will begin the first Monday of March with the opening of nominations. Nominations will close two days later on the following Wednesday at 17:00 hrs. Voting will occur eight days after the closing of nominations, on the Thursday and Friday. Campaigning and a forum will take place during the seven-day period.
- B. Any person seeking the office of President must submit a signed nomination form with 10 signatures of STMSU members.
- C. Counting of ballots shall take place immediately after the polls close on the final day of voting.
- D. The Elections Committee, scrutinizers for each candidate, and one member of Campus Ministry or the Deans Office will do the counting of ballots.
- E. Make an application for a recount in writing to the CRO within one week of the initial counting.
- F. Any bi-election for president will be held 2 weeks prior to the bi-election of any other Executive Committee position.

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**ARTICLE 4**  
**TIME AND PROCEDURES FOR ALL OTHER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE POSITIONS**

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- A. All other Executive Committee Positions Elections will begin the third Monday of March with the opening of nominations. Nominations will close two days later on the following Wednesday at 17:00 hrs. Voting will occur eight days after the closing of nominations, on the Thursday and Friday. Campaigning and a forum will take place during the seven-day period.
- B. Any person seeking any other Executive Committee Position must submit a signed nomination form with 5 signatures of STMSU members.
- C. Counting of ballots shall take place immediately after the polls close on the final day of voting.
- D. The Elections Committee, scrutinizers for each candidate, and one member of Campus Ministry or the Deans Office will do the counting of ballots.
- E. Make an application for a recount in writing to the CRO within one week of the initial counting.

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**ARTICLE 5**  
**CAMPAIGN PROCEDURES FOR ALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS**

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- A. Each Candidate can put up a maximum of 10 posters. Posters will not exceed the size of 11" by 17", and are only allowed to be put up in STM.
- B. The campaign period shall be no less than 7 days.
- C. At least one forum must be held the day prior to voting to allow each candidate to address the STMSU. Notice of the forum must be given to the STMSU one-week in advance.
- D. No campaigning is allowed outside of STM.
- E. No candidate shall interfere with another candidate's campaign in any way.
- F. Candidates are permitted to put up campaign posters at 00:00 hrs the day after nominations close. Candidates are responsible for the removal of campaign posters by 00:00 hrs of the first day of voting.
- G. No campaigning is allowed in the vicinity of a polling station(s).
- H. Members of the Elections Committee cannot be involved in the campaign of a candidate seeking office.
- I. There shall be no other campaign materials used by candidates other than posters. Unless the Elections Committee approves them and all other candidates are given the opportunity to use the same material.
- J. Candidates shall be elected by a plurality of STMSU members who voted in the election.