Election Administrator's Decision

Decision #2023/10

The attached complaint was received as timely and met requirements for an official complaint under the CSU regulations.

The complainant makes two specific allegations, which I deal with in turn below:

1. Posters placed over top of other posters

The complainant has provided pictures of campaign posters that have been placed over top of other posters on CSU bulletin boards. This is a violation of the rules that were communicated to candidates at the candidate orientation and in the candidate handbook.

The following candidates have broken the rules:

PARTEEK SINGH MANMEET SINGH GAGANDEEP SINGH RAI

I hereby warn these candidates that similar violations in future election campaigns will be met with stronger sanctions, possibly including prohibition on the use of posters and disqualification.

Slating

The second allegation is that 4 candidates were slating (i.e. running together as a group). The complainant submitted a number of screenshots of social media posts that include the names of candidates for various CSU offices. The posts in questions were not from the candidates themselves but from electors who are, according to the complainant, friends of the candidates. I contacted the complainant and she was not able to provide any further evidence to support the allegation of slating.

Since there is no evidence that the posts were created, shared, or endorsed by the candidates, they do not, on their own, amount to evidence of slating. Accordingly, the complaint about slating is dismissed.

The complainant has 48 hours from the time they receive this decision to submit an appeal in the manner set forth in CSU Regulation BD-06.1.

David Ennis

CSU Election Administrator

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ANNEX 1 – Official complaint CSU Election Complaint Template

Submitted:

March 18, 2023 · 13:00

Your full name:

Niko Williamson

Capilano University email address:

nikowilliamson@capilanou.ca

What is the nature of your complaint?

I have an official election complaint

Candidate Complaint

This area may be blank if not applicable.

When did you learn about the issue you are complaining about?

Mar 18, 2023

Are you a candidate, student, or other?

Candidate

Name of the person(s) you are complaining about.

Manmeet Singh, Parteek, Gagandeep, Amar Gill

Names and contact details (email address and/or telephone number) of any witness who can verify your complaint:

A lot of this was brought to me anonymously, I am trying to convince people to come forward. The poster issue I saw myself. The witnesses are afraid to be connected to the complaint because of threats. I can be a proxy if necessary and if it's procedurally appropriate.

Description of the issue in question:

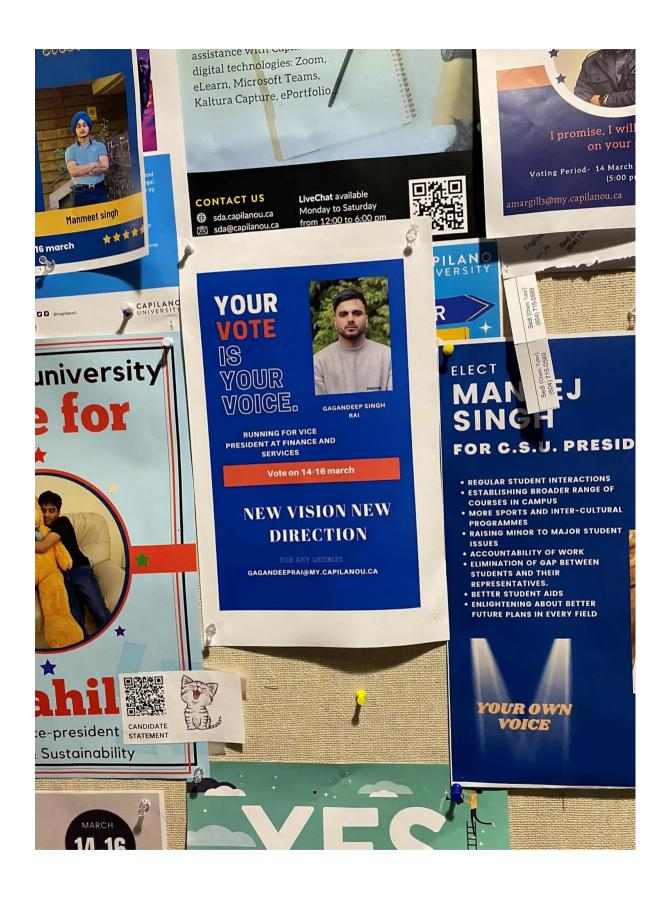
- 1) poster issue all of the candidates I named put their posters on top of university posters
- 2) Voter intimidation the incident described was that Manmeet and his friend took and checked phones of multiple people seeing if they have voted for him or not and only left after they had voted for him. The student who said this changed their vote after they left. I am trying to convince this student to come forward, but they are afraid to come forward because of the threats.
- 3) I've heard very concerning allegations of bullying and threatening of other candidates
- 4) slating these 4 candidates got their friends to post their election posters on their instagram stories. They were also tagging the CSU instagram in these posts. I know we aren't allowed to use the CSU logo or slogan but I'm not sure about the instagram but I thought I should include that just in case. I've also heard they were referring to themselves as a group.

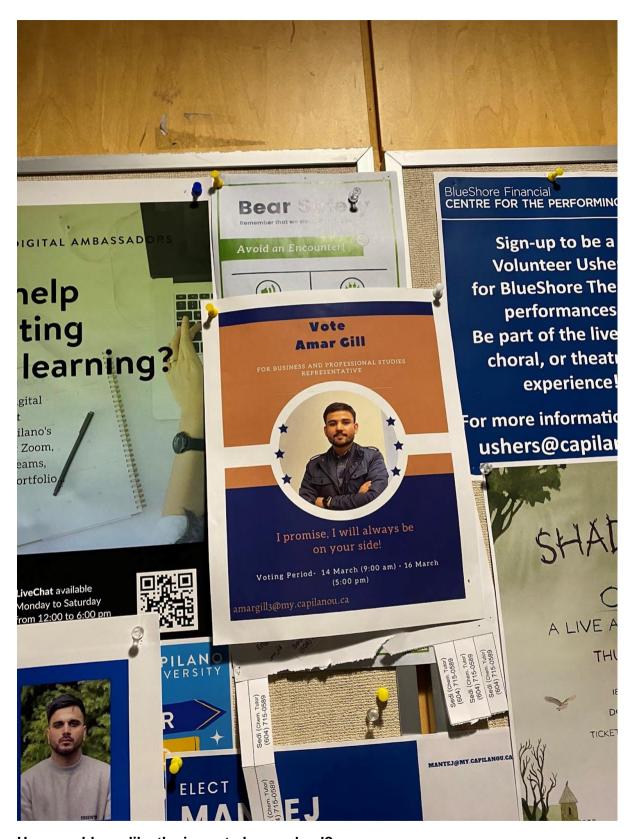
I will email additional evidence because I cannot attach it all here

Upload any evidence you may have here:









How would you like the issue to be resolved?

Voter intimidation and threatening other candidates is so wrong and unethical. I've heard that a lot of students were afraid because of these threats and intimidation. If candidates who do these kinds of things win, it shows that it is ok to bully and threaten people to get what you want. I also believe that people who do these kinds of things do not have the best interest of the organization in mind. This behaviour undermines the credibility of the CSU. I

believe they should be disqualified for not following the rules, and threatening other candidates and intimidating voters. Students are afraid for their safety and of social repercussions because of these candidates threatening and intimidating behaviour.

Do you wish to remain anonymous?:

No, I understand that my identity will be published with my complaint