

Decision CSU 2022 #5 Re: Harassment, Duress & Poster Violation

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

The complaint states that Jashan violated the CSU election poster policy by leaving posters on tables, rather than just on the bulletin boards allotted for campaign posters.

CSU Procedure BD-06.1 states:

Posters (up to tabloid size), with a limit of one poster per bulletin board, and subject to any Capilano Students' Union or university poster rules; any unconventional materials affixed to a bulletin board will be considered to be the one permitted "poster" per board;

While the allegation does include a photo of a campaign poster of Jashan laying on a table, this could be present for any number of reasons and is, as Jashan noted in his response, just a single piece of paper laying on the table.

Even if this was the intended placement for this poster, I would deem this to be a minor offence that would not have affected the outcome of the election.

Given this, I've dismissed this portion of the complaint.

The complaint further points to serious violations of the CSU election regulations, but does not speak to a specific incident at all, but does provide attachments that were obviously from an article in the Capilano Courier. Only after the complaint was submitted did Terrence add on that the incidents he was referring to were those included in an article in the Capilano Courier.<sup>1</sup>

CSU Procedure BD-06.1 states:

The following forms of campaigning are prohibited: ... (d) Applying pressure, encouragement, or a requirement for a voter to cast an electronic vote in the presence of a candidate, or passing around devices upon which a voter is pressured, encouraged, or required to vote;

The allegations in the update of March 18 at 6:46 pm are extremely serious. It states "two first-year science students ... were approached by CBPS VP candidate Jashan Brar on Wed, March 16 in the cafeteria. Brar asked the students to scan a QR code which took them to the CSU voting page, and asked the students to vote for him. When they told him they couldn't, he grabbed their phones away, and gave them back once he "voted for his friends running [for] different positions" on behalf of the students.

---

<sup>1</sup> See: <http://www.capilanocourier.com/2022/03/17/csu-executive-candidates-slate-like-behaviour/> Last accessed March 24, 2022

Shortly after the complaint was filed, I received communication from what seems to be the two members alluded to in the Capilano Courier story update of March 18 at 6:46 pm. They stated:

My friend and I (who are both in the sciences program) were sitting in the cafeteria on Wednesday and one of the candidates came to us to ask us to vote for him. We were used to this so we cooperated. He asked us to scan this QR code which took us to the voting page. He told us his name and position and asked us if we'd vote for him. We didn't have any prior candidates in mind for his position so we agreed. We realized we couldn't vote for him because he was running for a business related position and we are in the sciences program. He asked my friend if he could see for himself. My friend started to show him and he grabbed their phone and was scrolling to check up and down. When he handed my friends phone back we were surprised to see he had voted on behalf of them. He had voted for his friends running on different positions. We were obviously upset because we wanted to support the candidates we believed in."

The individual provided me the receipt of their vote (Annex #1), which shows that a few votes were cast for candidates the members did not intend to vote for. The timestamp on the voting receipt is consistent with the information provided by the members.

After speaking to one of these members on the phone, I have found them to be credible and remain consistent between each other. Furthermore, I reached out to campus security to see if they could verify the general events described at this time and they were able to verify that someone fitting Jashan's description was approaching various groups of students in the cafeteria at that time and handling other people's phones.

These alleged incidents breach some of the most fundamental elements of an election process. The secrecy of the vote is a primary foundation of any election. As well, the ability to cast ones vote individually and without duress is critical, never mind the alleged outright theft of an individual's vote.

The campaigning at hand was clearly a violation of these fundamental elements of an election.

Given the above-described harassment, intimidation and duress during the voting process, I have determined that serious violations that erode the trust of the CSU membership took place. Given this, Jashan Brar is disqualified from this election.

I note that Jashan Brar 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron Laufer", is written over a horizontal line.

Ron Laufer  
CSU Election Administrator

## **Voting receipt - CSU General Election 2022**

Receipt code: [REDACTED]

Time of vote: **2022-03-15 10:27:48**

**America/Vancouver**

IP address: [REDACTED]

President:   **(1) Singh, Karandeep**  
                  **(2) Lomelino, Maia**  
                  **(3) Kular, Devon C.**

Vice-President External:   **(1) Goyal, Lohit**

Vice-President Equity & Sustainability:  
                  **Loveleen**

Vice-President Finance & Services:  
                  **Kaur, Manpreet**

Vice-President Student Affairs:   **Kaur, Simranjit**

Students of Colour Liaison:   **Abstain**

Mature & Parents Students Liaison:   **Abstain**

Women Students Liaison:   **Abstain**

Time of vote: **2022-03-15 10:27:48**

**America/Vancouver**

IP address: 

President:   **(1) Singh, Karandeep**  
                  **(2) Lomelino, Maia**  
                  **(3) Kular, Devon C.**

Vice-President External:   **(1) Goyal, Lohit**

Vice-President Equity & Sustainability:  
                  **Loveleen**

Vice-President Finance & Services:  
                  **Kaur, Manpreet**

Vice-President Student Affairs:   **Kaur, Simranjit**

Students of Colour Liaison:   **Abstain**

Mature & Parents Students Liaison:   **Abstain**

Women Students Liaison:   **Abstain**

Arts & Science Representative:   **Abstain**

At-Large Representative:   **Abstain**

At-Large Representative:   **Abstain**

At-Large Representative:   **Abstain**

At-Large Representative:   **Abstain**

## **Official Complaint and most pertinent other unofficial complaints**

Complaint Date: 3/19/2022 1:57:09

Complainant: Terence Alanis

When issue occurred: 3/17/2022

Candidate Jashan Brar

Complaint: "Violation of Section 3, Subsection 5.1.d: Applying pressure, encouragement, or a requirement for a voter to cast an electronic vote in the presence of a candidate, or passing around devices upon which a voter is pressured, encouraged, or required to vote;

Violation of Section 3, Subsection 4.2.a: a limit of one poster per bulletin board, and subject to any Capilano Students' Union or university postering rules.

Resolution requested: Disqualify candidate.



Brar's posters were also spotted on tables in the Library as well as in the Bosa building — something generally prohibited by CSU election procedures. Section 3, Subsection 4.2.a of CSU procedure [BD-06.1 Elections](#) states that there is “a limit of one poster per bulletin board, and [posters are] subject to any Capilano Students' Union or university postering rules.”







*Update on March 18 at 6:46pm: The Courier received an Instagram message from two first-year science students who were approached by CBPS VP Candidate Jashan Brar on Wed, March 16 in the cafeteria. Brar asked the students to scan a QR code which took them to the CSU voting page, and asked the students to vote for him. When they told him they couldn't, he grabbed their phones away, and gave them back once he "voted for his friends running [for] different positions" on behalf of the students.*

*This is a direct violation of Section 3, Subsection 5.1.d of CSU procedure [BD-06.1 Elections](#), which states that "Applying pressure, encouragement, or a requirement for a voter to cast an electronic vote in the presence of a candidate, or passing around devices upon which a voter is pressured, encouraged, or required to vote" is prohibited behaviour.*

## RESPONSE FROM JASHAN BRAR

**Jashan Preet Singh Brar**

Mon, Mar 21,  
10:40 PM

to me

Hi Ron,

I hope you are doing well.

The complainant has stated two violations stated by an independent news source since 1968 popularly known as Capilano Courier. I respect all independent sources, but it would be unfair and biased to lodge a complaint based on an article posted by an independent source. I am still more than happy to provide them with answers to the complaints.

*Violation of Section 3, Subsection 4.2.a: a limit of one poster per bulletin board, and subject to any Capilano Students' Union or university posting rules.* The complainant shared a screenshot from the article published by Capilano Courier. I would like to quote a statement from the article itself *'Brar's posters were spotted on tables in the library as well as in the Bosa building'*.

The article states two buildings (Library & BOSA), however a picture from only one building has been published. Also, if you look closely at the picture # 2 (Zoomed in), it can be clearly seen that it is a 'single' poster on the table.

I was in the Bosa building distributing my campaign poster to students and there is a high probability that some student I handed out my poster left it on the table in the Bosa building.







The other violation that the complainant stated from the external source states I encouraged students to cast a vote for me. The articles ['MULTIPLE CSU EXECUTIVE CANDIDATES SUSPECTED OF "SLATE-LIKE BEHAVIOUR" CAMPUS LIFE, FEATURES, NEWS BY ALISHA SAMNANIMARCH 17, 2022](#)

[ALLEGATIONS MADE DURING 2022 CSU ELECTIONS — NOW WHAT? CAMPUS LIFE, NEWS BY ALISHA SAMNANIMARCH 20, 2022](#)

titles itself states that as of March 17 or March 20, 2022, I am just a suspect and 'slate like behaviour' is observed, no convincing evidence or real time proof has been gathered or published by any independent news article till date. I would not like to comment on something that is still just an allegation by an external source.

I would have highly appreciated to have received the complaint with enough evidence from the complainant themselves than highlighting the information from an external independent source and lodging a complaint.

Thank you

Jashan Brar

to me

I have been actively campaigning throughout campus and I am confident that I have not put pressure, force or encouraged anyone to cast a vote just for me. I have been proactively approaching students introducing myself, educating them about the upcoming CSU elections, what my mission, vision and pedagogy is for the position I am running for. Yes, I was carrying a QR code with me and the reason to do so was purely because of the feedback I got from students regarding failure to have received the election link. Even when CSU resent link, some students still faced issues with the same. I did not encourage or force any student to scan that QR code, cast their vote in my presence or cast their vote for me. If any student did scan the QR code, I clearly communicated to the student to take their time to cast their vote and made sure to leave the spot immediately thereby following the election guidelines. The allegations of me grabbing students' phones or casting a vote for myself are false. I was not campaigning alone during election week. The campaigners have been very kind to provide statements of my campaign practices. I am confident that my campaigning practices were fair and polite and that I have always obeyed CSU elections bylaws.

Statements by campaigners are attached below with their respective Capilano emails:

1. Sahej Brar- [sahejbrar@my.capilanou.ca](mailto:sahejbrar@my.capilanou.ca)
2. Arushi Chopra- [arushichopra@my.capilanou.ca](mailto:arushichopra@my.capilanou.ca)



Sahej Brar

To You

1:23 AM



I sahej brar student of capilano would like to inform that I was campaigning for the Vice President candidate jashan brar and I was every time with him whenever we were in the school for campaigning and he had never took someone's phone for voting for himself he always used to tell people what his agenda is why should people vote for him and he is a genuine person who would never do such a thing of grabbing someone's else phone and we campaigned very peacefully in a manner that abided all the rules and regulations

Sahej brar

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)



**Arushi Chopra**  
To You

2:44 AM



I state that Jashan was fair while campaigning for elections as I was with him all the time. He didn't cast votes for himself or any other candidate. He was using that QR code as some of the students were not able to find it as well as some find it as easy way rather than finding the link in thier emails. He didn't cast for himself or anyone by taking someone's phone. He only explained his position to students and benefits, students would receive if he gets elected. He did everything under the laws of CSU nothing against them.