ASMSU Judicial Council Ruling 2018- JC-003

Topic: Elections

Record Number: 2018-JC-003

Ruling Date: 26 March 2018

Main Articles:
Election Policy Article II Section 2-F

On March 23rd, 2018, the Judicial Council unanimously found in favor of the Johnson Heinrich campaign cited in submission 2018-JC-003.

Majority Opinion: On a 5-0 vote, we, the Judicial Council for the Associated Students of Montana State University, find the Johnson/Heinrich in compliance with Election Policy Section 2-F.

This ruling is intended to clarify the application of Section 2-F regarding campaigning in classrooms. We found that campaigning in classrooms which are occupied by clubs or student organizations does not violate section 2-F. The rule will only be applied if candidates are campaigning in a classroom which is being used for a university sanctioned class taught by faculty, graduate assistants, or teaching assistants. We determined it is in the best interest of the spirit of the campaign to allow candidates to campaign in classrooms during club times as most clubs and organizations choose to meet in a classroom. However, leaving campaign marketing materials (i.e. posters, small handouts, social media handles on whiteboards) in the classroom could result in sanctions.

The exception to the rule of campaigning in classrooms during club time is not to be confused with campaigning in the Strand Union Building, which is still strictly prohibited.

Policy Reference: Elections Policy Article II Section 2-F “Campaigning is strictly prohibited in classrooms.”

Minutes for the meeting held 26 March 2018 can be found on the Judicial Page of the ASMSU Website.

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