ASMSU Judicial Council Ruling: 2017-JC-007

Topic: Elections

Record Number: 2017-JC-007

Ruling Date: April 6, 2017

Contested Articles:
-Election Policy Reference: Article II, Section 2, Subsection G

In a unanimous vote (3-0) taken on April 6, 2017 in the case of 2017-JC-007, the Judicial Council for the Associated Students of Montana State University finds there to be no substantiated violation of the Elections Policy Article II, Section 2, Subsection G by Presidential and Vice Presidential Candidates Derek Hetherington and John Walker.

Be it here established and declared, the Judicial Council did not find a substantiated violation of the Elections Policy. No sanctions will be assessed.

The allegations of campaigning in a classroom against Derek Hetherington and John Walker were not confirmed by other sources. Though the Chief Justice contacted the professor Dr. Belasco via email, he did not reply to confirm that Brant Marsh campaigned for the candidate John Walker. Brant and Caleb Bowie, the two candidates running for the College of Agriculture seat, presented together during class. Because both candidates were present and informing their fellow students about the upcoming elections, no unfair advantage was gained and no violation of the spirit of campaigning occurred. The Bylaws require the Judicial Council to make a ruling within 48 hours of an allegation and thus it cannot wait for a reply from Dr. Belasco to make their ruling.

Minutes for the meeting held on April 6, 2017 can be found on the Judicial Council webpage.

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