

FOLLOWING INTERNAL REVIEW ON BEHALF
OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE CONSTITUTION

Koryn Isa, *Judicial Council President*
Hunter Brooke, *Student Union Parliamentarian*

AN ORDER TO AMEND ARTICLE XII OF THE CONSTITUTION

Whereas, informed, healthy elections are both the essence and the beating heart of a democratic and transparent Student Union;

Whereas, the Election Committee and any hearings conducted by the same are a crucial part of our electoral process and the means through which candidates, members of the public, members of the Student Union, and the Judicial Council endeavor to establish a clear, ethical, and level playing field for all candidates;

Whereas, Article XII, Section 4(f) of the Constitution currently fixes an acutely tight timeline to the convening of the Election Committee for purposes of an electoral hearing; namely, that any hearing must occur no later than 24 hours following the submission of an allegation of electoral misconduct;

Whereas, in practice, this strict timeline mandates that the Election Committee be called to convene on short notice and that hearings be held exceedingly late in the day, not infrequently as late as 11:00 or 12:00 at night;

Whereas, the final work needed to formally complete these hearings and inform candidates and campus media of results may not end until 3:00 or 4:00 in the morning, ensuring a sleepless and harrowing night for all involved;

Whereas, operating so late into the night, as is current practice per Constitutional mandate, is undoubtedly detrimental to the mental, pedagogical, and physical health of all relevant members of the Judicial Council and Election Committee;

Whereas, operating so late into the night is undoubtedly detrimental to the mental, pedagogical, and physical health of any relevant candidate(s) or any other involved parties;

Whereas, operating so late into the night makes it increasingly difficult to convene the Election Committee, and to consistently hit quorum;

Whereas, changing the strict 24-hour mandate to a relaxed but nonetheless still compressed 36-hour window shall allow the Judicial Council to hold Election Committee hearings at normal and healthy times during the day, which is better for the overall fitness of the candidates, the Judicial Council, the Election Committee, and other relevant parties;

Order SO 2324-07

4 October 2023

Whereas, this change will likely have minimal effect on the election, but shall have an outsized positive effect on the parties mentioned; therefore, be it

Ordered by the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac,

That Article XII Section 4(f) of The Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body is hereby amended to read as follows:

(f) The Election Committee must convene within 36 hours of the submission of the allegation to the Vice-President of Elections.

Further Ordered by the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac,

That Article XII Section 4(g) of The Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body is hereby amended to read as follows:

(g) In the event that the full Election Committee has not yet been assembled at the time of an allegation, or if the Election Committee cannot reach quorum within the 36 hours of the submission of the allegation, the Judicial Council President and Vice-President of Elections shall issue a decision and appropriate sanctions based on their judgment of the facts of the allegation.

It is so ordered.



Daniel Jung
Student Body President