

The Election Campaign Practices Committee (ECPC) is being renamed the Care and Responsibility for Elections (CARE) Committee. Pending General Assembly approval of the changes, the renamed and expanded CARE committee will continue to fulfill the charge of the ECPC as defined in Rule G-9.13.10, with additional oversight responsibilities as outlined below.

Proposed charge:

The duties of the Care and Responsibility for Elections Committee shall be:

(1) To ground our democratic process in our values of anti-racism, anti-oppression, and multi-cultural justice.

(2) To strive to ensure that upcoming openings in elective positions are widely and well publicized in advance, and that the paths to the various positions are clearly explained and accessible to all.

(3) To assist potential candidates in understanding the roles and requirements of the positions, and in their discernment in seeking nomination or petitioning for them.

(4) To distribute the campaign practices guidelines and financial disclosure rules to candidates for at-large elective positions not later than thirty days after nomination by the nominating committee or receipt of petition.

(5) To support candidates throughout the entire process of discernment, nomination or petition, during the election process, and immediately after election, including those who lose the election.

(6) To advise and assist nominated candidates and those who run by petition for any position in creating a mutual covenant of right relationship and responsible conduct for the campaign, and to make that covenant publicly known.

(7) To hold all candidates, whether nominated via committee or running by petition, accountable for adhering to that covenant and to the guidelines and rules for campaigns, to monitor adherence, and to help resolve any disagreements about their implementation.

(a) In cases where a disagreement cannot be voluntarily resolved among the candidates to receive and consider written complaints of alleged violations of such guidelines or rules. If the committee finds probable cause to establish that a violation exists, to notify a candidate or a number of candidates how they may voluntarily comply with guidelines or rules and how long they have to do so; to attempt to mediate disputes arising from such complaints; and, if no satisfactory resolution of a complaint is achieved, to adjudicate the dispute and report the adjudication in writing to the candidates affected.

(b) To hold such hearings as may, at the Committee's discretion, be necessary or desirable to carry out the intent of subsection 2 above; and

(c) If compliance to an adjudicated decision is not implemented by the stated deadline, the Committee is authorized to block or remove Association-subsidized privileges from the candidate's campaign.

Candidates adjudicated to be in serious violation of Rule G-9.13.6(c) may have their names removed from the ballot. Any such action pursuant to rule G-9.13.10(c) shall be reported to the Board and to the General Assembly. Such adjudication by the CARE Committee would be subject to automatic review by the Board Executive Committee according to the provisions of Rule G-9.13.10(d).

(d) Any candidate aggrieved by the Committee's adjudication may, within ten days of the mailing of the adjudication, appeal in writing to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, which shall have exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine such an appeal. The Executive Committee shall report its decision on the appeal in writing to the affected candidates as expeditiously as feasible. The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees is authorized to issue any order or ruling it deems appropriate in connection with such a decision.

(e) Any member of the Board of Trustees who is a candidate for UUA elective office shall not participate in any manner in the determination of any appeal from an adjudication of the Election Campaign Practices Committee.

(8) To report on its activities and any recommendations it may have to the Board of Trustees at its October meeting following the elections.

Proposed Rewritten Bylaws Section 9.9. Supervision of Elections.

The Secretary, in consultation with the Care and Responsibility for Elections (CARE) Committee, shall supervise all elections for elective positions at large. The Secretary may appoint a committee of tellers to count ballots and perform other routine duties. While the Secretary supervises all elections, candidates can petition any member of the Board of Trustees concerning:

- (a) the interpretation of any provision of these Bylaws or of Rules made hereunder relating to election procedures;
- (b) any procedural problem relating to the election which is not covered by these Bylaws or by the Rules; or
- (c) the interpretation of the intent of a voter in marking the ballot.

The Secretary shall remain neutral in the election and shall not engage in electioneering, except for advocacy of their own candidacy for offices for which they are nominated.

Rule G-9.13.10 Care and Responsibility for Elections Committee

(a) A Care and Responsibility for Elections Committee (hereafter CARE) Committee is hereby established and shall consist of five persons to be appointed by the Board of Trustees for a term of three years each, and the Secretary, ex-officio, without vote. The Board shall designate one of the appointed members to chair the Committee. The appointed members' terms shall begin by July 1 of alternating years to ensure that terms overlap. The Board may appoint an individual to fill a vacancy in membership of the Committee; persons appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve the balance of the vacating member's term. Persons appointed to the Committee shall remain neutral in elections held while they are serving and shall not engage in electioneering. Persons who seek nomination pursuant to Bylaw Sections 9.4, 9.5, or 9.6 are ineligible to serve on the Committee once they begin seeking nomination, and shall be deemed to have resigned from the Committee effective upon seeking nomination if they are then serving.

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