

BYE-LAW 10 –Standing Orders for LUSU Hustings

- B10.1** A Hustings event must take place for every election held. Where there are an exceptionally high number of candidates, the Elections sub-committee may decide to have more than one Hustings event.
- B10.2** All candidates must attend unless they have given personal apologies to the Chief Returning Officer. Written apologies are unacceptable except in exceptional circumstances as determined by the CRO. Non attendance without accepted apologies will result in disqualification from the election. Any candidate who has had apologies accepted by the CRO may have a speech read out for them by the CRO.
- B10.3** Hustings will take place at an appropriate time and in an appropriate venue, determined by the Elections sub-committee.
- B10.4** The Chief Returning Officer will chair Hustings. The General Secretary may advise the Chair where necessary.
- B10.5** For all elections, the Chief Returning Officer shall decide the running order of positions.
- B10.6** In all cases, a draw shall take place for each position at Hustings to decide the order of candidates on the ballot paper and the order of speaking within the Hustings.
- B10.7** Each candidate will speak in the order decided for up to a maximum of 5 minutes. Questions will then be asked from the floor, firstly to all candidates and then to single candidates. Candidates may decline to speak, should they wish to do so, but shall answer questions put to them from the floor.
- B10.8** Should a question be of an obviously personal nature, refer to staffing matters, be unconstitutional in any way or refer to matters which are sub-judice, the Chief Returning Officer, with advice from the General Secretary, rule the question out. Questions of a frivolous nature may be ruled out by the CRO.
- B10.9** When the Chief Returning Officer rises to stand all other candidates and people on the floor shall be seated so that he/she can be heard clearly.
- B10.10** Only full and associate members of the Students' Union shall be admitted to the floor of Hustings subject to the provisions outlined below in points B10.16 to B10.16.5. Should the membership of any person be disputed, the member shall be asked to provide proof of their membership, which shall normally be a valid Library or NUS card. Students' Union staff may also attend as observers. Other observers may be permitted to attend in an area specifically designated by the CRO but shall not have speaking rights.
- B10.11** The Chief Returning Officer has the right to expel anyone who is causing extreme disruption. Should a person be expelled, they must immediately and not return.

- B10.12** Should grave disorder break out, the Chief Returning Officer has the right to close Hustings.
- B10.13** Candidates are also asked to refer to the relevant sections of the Union Constitution and Bye Laws for further guidance.
- B10.14** Any challenge to the interpretation of these standing orders may be raised to the Chair as a point of order.
- B10.15** The decision of the Chief Returning Officer on any matter is final during the course of the Hustings. Decisions may be appealed against according to the procedure outlined in Section 21 of the Union Constitution, after Hustings has closed.
- B10.16** Special provisions
- B10.16.1 Special provisions shall apply to the Hustings for the following:
- B10.16.1.1 Positions classified by the Union Constitution as a 'postgraduate students' only vote;
- B10.16.1.2 Positions classified by the Union Constitution as a 'women's only' vote.
- B10.16.2 For positions classified as a 'women's only' vote, should the Chief Returning Officer be male, he will hand over the chair to a female member of the Elections Sub-Committee. This person shall then assume all the rights and responsibilities of the Chair of Hustings during this period.
- B10.16.3 The Chief Returning Officer shall confer with the candidates to discover whether they wish men to be excluded from the Hustings and whether they wish to accept questions from men. Should any candidate wish that men should be excluded then all men shall leave the floor. Should all candidates agree that men should remain but any candidate does not wish to accept questions from men, then men will be permitted to remain but shall not ask questions. Should all candidates agree to men remaining and being allowed to ask questions then Hustings will proceed as normal.
- B10.16.4 For positions classified as 'postgraduate students' only' vote, should the Chief Returning Officer an undergraduate, he/she will hand over the chair to a postgraduate student who shall normally be a member of the Elections Sub-Committee. This person shall then assume all the rights and responsibilities of the Chair of Hustings during this period.
- B10.16.5 The Chief Returning Officer shall confer with the candidates to discover whether they wish undergraduates to be excluded from the Hustings and whether they wish to accept questions from undergraduates. Should any candidate wish that undergraduates should be excluded then all undergraduates shall leave the floor. Should all candidates agree that undergraduates should remain but any candidate does not wish to accept questions from undergraduates, then undergraduates will be permitted to remain but shall not ask questions. Should all candidates agree to undergraduates

remaining and being allowed to ask questions then Hustings will proceed as normal.

B10.16.6

Any decision made by the Acting Chief Returning Officer during this period shall be subject to appeal to the Chief Returning Officer and may be overturned by the Chief Returning Officer automatically.