

Mid-Term Elections
Students' Senate 2016-17

As per the Article 3.04 of Students' Gymkhana Constitution, Election Council presents the pre-conduction report of Mid-Term Elections for Students' Senate.

By-Elections are going to be conducted along with Mid-Term Elections (acc. to Art. 3.05 Students' Gymkhana Constitution) for the vacated posts.

Election Schedule

Date	Time	Event	Venue
14 th August	0000 hrs.	Call for nominations Code of Conduct begins	
14 th August	1500-2000 hrs.	Nomination filing	Senate Room, SAC
15 th August	1200 hrs.	Deadline for Withdrawal of Nomination	Via Mail
15 th August	1300 hrs.	Call for Re-Nominations	
15 th August	1730-2100 hrs.	Re-Nominations filing	Senate Room, SAC
15 th August	1500-1700 hrs.	Manifesto Submission	
15 th August	1800 hrs.	Manifesto Ratification Campaigners' List (Executive)	Senate Room, SAC
15 th August	1800 hrs.*	Campaigning Begins (Executive)	
16 th August	1730-1930 hrs.	Manifesto Ratification (Senators) Campaigners' List (Senators)	Senate Room, SAC
16 th August	After 1930 hrs.	Campaigning Begins (Senators)	
17 th August	0600-2300 hrs.	Campaigning Allowed	
17 th August	1400-2000 hrs.	Envelope Voting	Senate Room, SAC
18 th August	0600-2300 hrs.	Campaigning Allowed	
19 th August	0000 hrs.	Silence Period Begins	
20 th August	0900-1700 hrs.	Polling	
20 th August	2359 hrs.	Results Declaration	
21 st August	2359 hrs.	Code of Conduct Ends	

*Campaigning Ends at 2300 hrs.

(NOTE: 14th August to 19th August at 2300 hrs. there will be an EC meeting, which will be mandatory for all the contestants to attend.)

Election Procedure

- Elections are to be conducted for the following posts:

Executive:

Position	Seat	Electorate
General Secretary, Cultural	1	All registered IITK Students

Senators:

Position	Seats	Electorate
Senator BT/BS-MT/MS/MBA Y12	2	Registered Students of the Same Batch
Senator BT/BS Y13	3	-do-
Senator BT/BS Y14	1	-do-
Senator BT/BS Y16	6	-do-
Senator MTech (2-year) Y15	2	-do-
Senator MTech (2-year) Y16	2	-do-
Senator MSc (2-year) Y15	1	-do-
Senator MSc (2-year) Y16	2	-do-
Senator MBA, MDes and other 2-year programmes Y16	1	-do-
Senator PhD	6	-do-

- Promotions

- Instead of SOP Box for the post of Executive, Video Manifesto will be circulated.
- Posters to be put up in all halls regarding functioning of Senate
- Posters encouraging voting may be put up in all halls.

- Budget

- Areas of Expenditure:
 - Stationary
 - Posters
 - Refreshments etc.
- Complete finance report will be submitted with the post-conduction report.

- Rules and Regulations

The rules and procedures detailed below shall be followed

Code of Conduct

- Candidates must strictly adhere to the time limits of campaigning. Canvassing support before and after the notified time is detrimental to their candidature.
- All candidates shall be prohibited from indulging or abetting all activities which are considered to be “corrupt practices” and offences, such as bribing of voters, intimidation of voters, canvassing

and/or use of propaganda within 100 meters of polling stations and transport and conveyance of voters to and from the polling stations.

- Candidates as well as general body members are advised to abstain from any proscribed activity in the halls, especially consumption of alcohol, when the electoral process is underway.
- The manifesto finally approved by the Chief Election Officer (CEO) (or any CEO authorized EC member) should be strictly adhered to while campaigning. Deviations are not allowed in the posters or during verbal canvassing.
- Anti-campaigning in any form is strictly prohibited.
- Candidates must not be found in any sort of discussion with any other candidate or his campaigners during the electoral process.
- No public gathering should be called / organized during the electoral process. Written permission from the CEO should be obtained for any exception to the rule.
- A candidate should not be seen outside his/her hostel premises during the time when campaigning is not permitted (as per schedule of the election).
- All Gymkhana/Hall activities will remain suspended during the electoral process. For any exception to this rule explicit permission from the CEO must be obtained.
- Cloth banners, etc. are not allowed. No banner/poster should be found at the entrance of any hostel.
- Candidates are not allowed to do canvassing in public places like the Mess, Hall Canteens, Reading Rooms, Hall CC, TV Rooms, etc.
- No person who is not a student of IIT Kanpur shall be allowed to take part in the election in any capacity.
- No candidate shall indulge in, nor shall abate any activity, which may aggravate existing differences or create mutual hatred or cause tension between different castes and communities, religious or linguistic, or between any group(s) of students.
- There shall be no appeal to caste or communal feelings for securing votes. Places of worship, within or without the campus shall not be used for election propaganda.
- No candidate shall be permitted to carry out processions, or public meetings, or in any way canvass or distribute propaganda outside the campus.

Nomination Procedure

- Candidates will be nominated by submitting the duly filled nominations to the CEO along with a nomination fees of Rs.500/- and a security deposit of Rs.1000/- (for Executives) and nomination fees of Rs.100/- and a security deposit of Rs.200/- (for Senators)
- Every candidate for the post of executive will have to be proposed by two registered student and seconded by five registered students on the nomination form.
- Every candidate for the post of senator will have to be proposed by one registered student and seconded by two registered students on the nomination form. Only a person belonging to the corresponding electorate can propose or second the candidate.
- Proposers and Seconders must follow the General Eligibility Criteria.
- Eligibility for applying for the posts is provided in Appendix VI of the Students' Gymkhana Constitution.

- A student cannot propose or second more than one candidate.
- A candidate cannot propose or second himself or any other candidate contesting the elections for any post.
- No member of the Election Council (EC) can propose or second any candidate.
- No member of the EC can contest elections for any post.
- The EC will scrutinize the nominations and announce the list of candidates. Withdrawals, if any, could then be made by the candidates by writing a letter to the CEO. The CEO will then announce the final list of candidates.

Campaigning/Voting Guidelines

- The EC may avail the services of as many student volunteers as required.
- The EC will specify the modes of campaigning, which must be strictly adhered to (Appendix 1A).
- A list of voters will be available with the CEO.
- Envelope voting will be permitted according to the timings announced by the CEO.
- Voters who are present on the campus on the date of voting can cast their votes at the polling station during the prescribed hours. Instructions to the voters, if any, will be pasted at the polling station.
- A member of the EC will be present at the polling station as the polling officer. During the polling operations, when necessary, he or she will take the procedural decision. These will be applied uniformly and shall be final and abiding by all.
- Excepting the voters, no one without a valid pass from the EC shall enter the polling booths. Once voters have voted, they are not allowed to be present within 10 meters around the polling booth.
- After the polling, the voting system will be placed in locked containers in the custody of the CEO.
- Votes will be counted by the members of the EC. The CEO will invite one representative of the candidate as observers. The Grievances Redressal Committee shall be invited to supervise the counting.
- The CEO will then declare the results after the counting is over.
- For the purpose of declaration of the result, the decision of the CEO on the validity or invalidity of the vote shall be final.
- All the complaints should be given as soon as possible, in writing to CEO. No complaints regarding the campaigning will be entertained after 24 hours of the end of campaigning. No complaints related to the polling will be entertained twenty-four hours after the completion of polling. Decision to the complaints will be taken by the CEO.
- In case a candidate contesting for a Senator receives less than 130 points, his/her security deposit will be forfeited.
- The EC will take a decision in case of any dispute connected with the elections. The decisions can rules would result in very strict Redressal Committee (GRC) action against the candidate as specified in Appendix 1C. The EC may also under extreme circumstances, force harsher measures like disqualification from contesting the elections with forfeiture of security deposit, etc.

- Candidates are advised to take the election in the right spirit and refrain from activities, which vitiate the atmosphere of the election process.
- Any form of campaigning other than mentioned above is not permitted.
- Results will be declared in accordance with the Constitutional provisions. The CEO is accountable to the senate in this regard.
- If a person is absent from the campus on the polling day, he / she can cast their vote via envelope on the scheduled date. (APPENDIX 1B)

Re-nominations

Re-nominations would be called only if the numbers of nominations submitted for a post are less than the number of corresponding vacant posts.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1A: Rules for Campaigning

- Each candidate will be allowed to put up only one poster (largest permitted size A1 i.e., approximately 594*841 mm) in each hall and SBRA. This may be changed later, only at the discretion of the Election Council.
- Candidates may utilize hand-made or digital posters for the purpose of canvassing, provided that such posters are procured within the expenditure limit set out herein above.
- Candidates may only utilize hand-made or digital posters at certain places in the campus, which shall be notified in advance by the Election Council.
- Candidates must take prior permission from hall authorities regarding the location of posters, banners, etc. An application clearly demarcating this will have to be submitted by the candidates to the Election Council, duly signed by the respective hall president.
- Candidates must not use gum/adhesive to stick their posters. The poster should be fixed using adhesive tapes OR board pins.
- The posters must be removed completely at the end of campaigning. This deadline will be specified by the Election Council.
- The academic area is to be kept free from any kind of campaigning.
- Institute facilities (like e-mails etc.) and hall properties (like hall CC) should not be used for campaigning.
- Candidates are also advised to conform to the unwritten code of conduct that has governed Gymkhana Elections in the past. General body members can file complaints in writing with the CEO against any candidate(s) not conforming to the norms of the election process.
- Candidates can only commence their campaigning after the time given for withdrawal ends.
- Election Council must be fully informed of the means of campaigning used by a candidate. This includes any publicly distributed material e.g. manifesto, brochures, pamphlets etc. Samples of these must be given to the CEO and consent taken before any such material can be distributed. Any document used for campaigning must be duly stamped by the Election council before distribution.
- All candidates are required to submit a list of campaigners (duly signed by all the campaigners) to the Election Council.

- No campaigner will be allowed to campaign for more than one candidate.
- Any attempts to hide a campaigner may be looked at very suspiciously by the Election Council.
- The use of loudspeakers, vehicles and animals for the purpose of canvassing is prohibited.

APPENDIX 1B: Rules for Envelope Voting

- Envelope voting is only for the electorate who cannot vote on the scheduled day.
- No member of the electorate who casts envelope vote should be found present near the polling booths on the day of regular polling.
- Direct votes can be cast during the scheduled period of envelope voting.
- The photo-copy of the institute identity cards of all the candidates who cast envelope votes will be submitted along with their preferences to the chief election officer without which vote will be considered as invalid.
- If any voter is unable to cast his/her vote during regular voting, he may give his/her choice in a sealed envelope accompanied with his/her I-card and a copy of leave certificate from the appropriate authority, directed to the Chief Election Officer bearing the following in mind:
 - Voters must write their preference for Candidates on a blank sheet of paper.
 - Only one individual's vote has to be put in one envelope.
 - Voters must mention the post(s) for which he has given the preference, on the top of the envelope.
 - Voter must hand over such votes directly to the Chief Election Officer before the deadline as announced in the schedule.

APPENDIX 1C: Violation of Rules

- The election council may take independent decisions in case of any dispute related to the election. This decision is final and can be challenged only by filing an appeal with the Grievances Redressal Committee.
- If any of the students are involved in the violation of the above rules then the following action may be taken against them in general:
 - General Body Members:
 1. 1st Warning: Rs.500/-
 2. 2nd Warning: Rs.1000/-
 3. 3rd Warning: Case forwarded to SSAC
 - Candidates:
 1. 1st Warning: Rs.1000/-
 2. 2nd Warning: Rs.2000/-
 3. 3rd Warning: Cancellation of Nomination + Case forwarded to SSAC
 - General Secretaries and Election Council Members:
 1. 1st Warning: Rs.1500/-
 2. 2nd Warning: Rs.2000/-
 3. 3rd Warning: Case forwarded to SSAC
- The reason for imposing fine will be disclosed only to the floor of the Senate, if solicited and to the Grievances Redressal Committee, if solicited.

- It must be noted that under special circumstances these guidelines may be changed at the discretion of the Chief Election Officer.

APPENDIX 2: Relevant Extracts from the Student Governance Report

- Every student is expected and encouraged to participate in co and extra-curricular activities.
- Every student is expected to cooperate and participate in furthering the objectives of the student bodies and Institute Committees. However, it should be understood that the primary goal of students in the Institute is his/her studies and pursuit of academic achievements. Participation in student bodies and in the Institute Committees should be viewed as complementary to the academics and not as its substitute. It is believed that in general the quality of participation would be better if a student is comfortable with his/her academic performance. It is feared that participation by academically deficient students may bring deviations from the long cherished traditions and distinct characteristics of the Students Gymkhana of this Institute.
- Article 3.09 of the Students' Gymkhana Constitution stipulates the conditions of eligibility for the candidates contesting the Gymkhana Elections in terms of the guarantee of stay for the period of stay and academic performance. Keeping the spirit of the Constitution of the Students Gymkhana and observations made by the Senate in its meeting held on 01.01.1996, the Committee recommends that the students registered in the semester and residing on the campus and who satisfy the guarantee of stay requirements, are eligible for election and nomination except:
 - The students who are academically deficient (listed under the categories Warning, AP, AP*) in the semester when the elections are to take place or the nominations are to be made.
 - The students who are debarred from participation in students activities by election and/or nomination on disciplinary grounds.
 - The students whose CPI is less than 6.5 (in case of UG) or less than 7.5 (in case of PG).
 - The students who from the date of their initial registration have already completed the normal duration of the programme or shall be completing the normal duration during the tenure of the post. The normal duration of various programmes are (Ord. 6); B. Tech. = 8 semesters, M.Sc. (Int.) = 10 semesters, M.Sc. (2 Yrs) = 4 semesters, DIIT = 3 semesters, M.Tech. = 3 semesters, Ph.D. = 8 Semesters, Dual B.Tech./M.Tech. = 10 Semesters and Dual M.Sc./PhD. = 10 Semesters.
 - M.Tech. students admitted in the II semester of an academic year will not be eligible for contesting for Gymkhana Executive posts. They shall, however, be eligible for nominations on committees and will be treated for such purposes like final year B.Tech./M.Sc. (Intg.) students.
- A PG student in the advanced stage of research should seek the approval of the thesis supervisor before filing the nominations.
- In view of the above, a student interested in accepting a post should make a conscious decision about the time management for his/her studies and the responsibilities expected of the post. It has been noticed that sometimes students are not aware about the duties and responsibilities of the post. Further, it has been observed that some candidates indulge sometimes in making statements, which are redundant, false and derogatory to individuals and the Institute. In order to circumvent the above, it is recommended that:

- At the time of announcement of elections, the chief election officer will bring out the salient details about the duties and responsibilities of various office bearers for the information of the general body.
- The Chief Counselor, after the finalization of the list of candidates by the election committee, will call a meeting of candidates to apprise about their role and responsibilities.
- The incumbent office bearer will prepare the interim report of their respective offices stating their achievements, plans under consideration, etc. and will display on the notice boards of Halls for the information of students.
- Each interested student filing the nomination for a post will be given a copy of the updated Students Gymkhana Constitution.
- The act of making baseless and false statements will be viewed as an act of indiscipline and will be dealt, seriously. In addition of the above, it is emphasized that the handing over the charge to the newly elected body should be carried out within the stipulated period without any delay.

Grievances Redressal Committee

1. Dr. A. R. Harish, DOSA
2. Dr. Braj Bhushan, Chairman SAEC
3. Mr. Sagar Rastogi (13600)
4. Ms. Richa Agrawal (13566)

Vigilance Committee

1. Dr. A. R. Harish, DOSA
2. Dr. J. Ramkumar, ADSA
3. Dr. K. Balani, ADHA
4. Dr. Braj Bhushan, Chairman, SAEC
5. Mr. Sandeep Shivhare, Security Officer