POLICY ON USE OF UK COMMUNICATION RESOURCES (E.G., A LISTSERV) TO ADVOCATE FOR CANDIDATES IN A TRUSTEE ELECTION

Senate Rules and Elections Committee

Effective: April 2, 2022

The Senate Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) considers the use of one's own UK email address to express individual opinions about the qualifications of candidates to be part of the academic freedom of our University community.

However, use of other UK communication resources (e.g., a listserv) to advocate on behalf of trustee candidates is strongly discouraged.

In relation to faculty trustee elections, the Senate Rules and Elections Committee obtained the endorsement of the University's Office of Legal Counsel for the following election policy:

ORIGINAL STATEMENT FROM OFFICE

OF LEGAL COUNSEL (APRIL 6, 2017) The use of official University email lists, such as a listserv, to advocate on behalf of Trustee Candidates is strongly discouraged. Please refrain from the use of existing University listservs, unit distribution lists, and similar University resources to advocate for or against any candidate(s). If any university lists, such as a listserv, are used to advocate for any candidate, all candidates in that election must then be allowed equal access to that specific list.



NEW STATEMENT

FROM OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL (APRIL 2, 2022) The use of official University email lists, such as a listserv, or time in meetings convened for institutional business purposes such as regular departmental faculty meetings to advocate on behalf of Trustee Candidates is strongly discouraged. Please refrain from the use of these and similar University resources to advocate for or against any candidate(s). If any university lists, such as a listserv, or meetings convened for institutional business purposes, are used to advocate for any candidate, all candidates in that election must then be allowed equal access to that specific opportunity.

Legal questions about the use of such University communication resources should be directed to the University's Office of Legal Counsel. The Elections Subcommittee will provide each candidate their own listserv to use during the final round of voting.