Williams College Council 2014-2015

Resolution: A Resolution to Reevaluate Election Procedures
Introduced on March 4, 2015
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Co-Sponsors:

A Resolution to Conduct the Spring 2015 Special Elections
and Reevaluate Election Supervisory Procedures

WHEREAS The Elections Supervisory Committee consists only of the outgoing members of the College Council Executive Committee, and does not include any students at large;

WHEREAS The annulment of the Spring 2015 Presidential Election has brought to light a variety of concerns from the Student Body and Council members about the procedure by which elections are run and violations of campaigning rules are adjudicated;

WHEREAS An overwhelming number of Student Body members who attended an emergency meeting of Council on Tuesday, March 3 expressed a strong desire to reevaluate these processes;

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Williams College Council:

1. Shall establish a body of students to administer the Spring 2015 Special Elections and to review and evaluate the Election Supervisory Procedures. This body shall be composed of:
   a. 2 students from each class, randomly selected from a pool of students who nominate themselves to serve. These representatives will have voting power. These members may not be members of the Fall 2014 or Spring 2015 College Council
      i. There must be at least 4 students who were never members of College Council.
      ii. One of these individuals shall chair the committee and be a non-voting member. In the event of a tie, the chair will break the tie.
   b. 2 outgoing randomly selected Class Representatives from the Fall 2014 Council. The role of these members of the committee will be to help the committee interpret the current Bylaws and College Council Constitution. These members will not have voting power.

2. The Spring 2015 Special Elections shall be conducted according to the following timeline:
a. Self-nominations for Presidential tickets will be due Friday, March 13. An elections package will be distributed on Friday evening. Campaigning shall begin immediately upon distribution of the elections package.

b. In the event that members of the Spring 2015 College Council step down from their positions to run for a presidential ticket, self-nominations for vacant positions will be due on Sunday, March 15. An additional campaign package would be distributed on Sunday evening, and campaigning shall begin immediately upon distribution of the elections package.

c. The College Council/Record Debate will be held on Monday, March 16. The Debate shall be advertised at least 3 days in advance of the debate.

d. Polls shall open on Wednesday, March 18 at 4:00pm and close on Friday, March 20 at 8:00pm.

3. This body shall administer and serve as the Elections Supervisory Committee for the Special Election.

4. This body shall collect opinions and ideas regarding how the process could be changed from the Student Body.

5. This body shall propose changes to the College Council Bylaws regarding Election Supervisory Procedures to College Council. Amendments to the College Council Constitution may be proposed in accordance with Article VIII, Section B of the College Council Constitution. Pursuant to the bylaws, these changes shall not be made until after the conclusion of the Spring 2015 Special Elections.

6. Election Supervisory Procedures shall refer to the following procedures and structures currently described in the College Council Bylaws. These include:

   a. The composition, duties and powers of the Elections Supervisory Committee, as found in Article VIII, Sections 1-3 of the College Council Bylaws;

   b. Definitions and enforcement of campaigning rules, as found in Article VIII, Sections 5 and 6 of the College Council Bylaws

   c. The sanctions associated with violations of campaign rules or other misconduct related to election procedures, as found in Article VIII, Section 3 of the College Council Bylaws