Special Elections Guidelines for YCC Representatives

Sunday September 7, 7pm: Mandatory Information Meeting in LC101
Wednesday, September 10, 5pm: Deadline to Register at yalestation.yale.edu/ycc/elections
Thursday, September 11: Campaigning Starts
Wednesday, September 17, 9am: Polls Open at yalestation.yale.edu/ycc/elections
Thursday, September 18, 9pm: Polls Close

1. Candidates
   a. Eligibility: Any undergraduate who will be enrolled at Yale College and in New Haven for the next two semesters is eligible to run for office.
   b. Registration: Each prospective candidate must register online at http://yalestation.yale.edu/ycc/elections by submitting a candidacy statement and agreeing to follow the Officer Election Guidelines.
   c. Statements: Candidacy statements must be no more than 250 words (text only) and will be available to voters during polling.
   d. Availability: Candidates must make themselves available to the Vice President at all times.

2. Campaign Period
   a. Start: Public campaigning (beyond organizing during the pre-campaign period) will begin on Thursday, September 10th, 2014. No public campaigning is allowed before this time. Any question of what determines public campaigning should be directed to the Vice President.
   b. Approval: All campaigning and publicity must be in accordance with the Undergraduate Regulations
   c. Spending:
      i. Each candidate for the YCC Representative is allowed $50 to spend on his or her campaign. This $50 encompasses both traditional and innovative (i.e. anything other than posters, table tents, business cards, etc.) publicity techniques. Candidates should retain receipts for proof of purchase should there be allegations of exceeding the spending limit.
      ii. Rule of Access: In general, a “rule of access” determining whether other candidates have access to the same form of publicity will be applied.
iii. Non-purchased Items: Items used in campaigning that are not purchased because they are previously owned by candidates, or are given or loaned from another individual or organization, must be counted toward the $50 spending limit. The approximate value of all non-purchased campaign items must be reported to the Vice President at the outset of the campaign, or as soon as they are obtained.

iv. Donated Funds and Goods: Individuals or undergraduate organizations may donate funds to or spend money on behalf of any candidate or candidates, up to, but not in addition to, the $50 spending limit.

d. Paper: When possible, all posters and publicity must be on recyclable paper (colored or white paper).

e. Unacceptable Publicity:

   i. No campaigning publicity, verbal or otherwise, may occur in any of the computer clusters across campus

   ii. Neither a candidate nor a member of the candidate’s campaign team may inappropriately harass or detain a student, either for purposes of campaigning or to get them to vote directly

   iii. No notice of candidacy may be written with chalk

   iv. Any publicity that is deemed fraudulent, or deemed primarily to intimidate or derogate another candidate, is not permitted

   v. Candidates are NOT allowed to enter suites and bedrooms while residents are not present.

   vi. No faculty of staff may be included in campaign videos or posters.

f. Size: No posters may be adjoined together to make a poster larger than the aforementioned sizes.

g. Postering Regulations: All posters must be hung in a way that is consistent with the postering regulations of Yale College and of the specific residential college in which they are hung. Any posters in violation of regulations will be removed and may not be replaced. You can find the regulations here (under section H):

   http://yalecollege.yale.edu/content/regulations-student-activities-and-extracurricular-activities
h. Friends: Individuals aiding candidates must follow these guidelines. Any violation committed by an individual aiding a candidate may be considered as committed under the auspices of the candidate. Candidates will be held accountable for any infractions of these guidelines by friends campaigning for them.

i. Tampering: Damaging, removing, or defacing other candidates’ publicity is strictly prohibited.
   i. Candidates and individuals working on the candidate’s behalf may not email panlists to which they do not belong.
   ii. Mass emails (emails sent to more than 20 recipients at a time) are strictly prohibited.
   iii. All campaign emails (from the candidate or otherwise) sent during the campaign period must include the following disclaimer:  *This is a disclaimer. No emails sent by a candidate or on a candidate’s behalf may be sent to any panlist that the sender is not on. No emails may be sent to the entire campus, entire class years, entire residential colleges, or entire class years within residential colleges. Candidates are urged to act with restraint in the use of all electronic messaging systems. If you feel that this or any candidate is abusing the email system, please contact the Vice President at maia.eliscovichsigal@yale.edu*

iv. The YCC Vice President will not tolerate abuses of the Yale College email system for the purposes of campaigning. Candidates are urged to act with restraint in the use of all electronic messaging systems, and are advised that the Council Elections Commission will address complaints about abusive email practices on an ad hoc basis. The Commission will exercise its discretion in individual cases to define unethical emailing practices, issuing one preliminary warning to offending candidates before taking disciplinary action, including the possible disqualification of any candidate who repeatedly abuses the email systems of Yale College.
3. The Election

a. Voting Times: Voting will take place at
   
   [http://yalestation.yale.edu/ycc/elections](http://yalestation.yale.edu/ycc/elections) from 9 AM on Wednesday, September 17, 2014 to Thursday, September 18, 2014 at 9 PM.

b. Vote: Each voter may choose one candidate for each office, given there is only one open spot in each college.

c. Ballots: The electronic ballots will present each candidate’s full name as it appeared on the petition along with the candidate’s college and year. The order in which the candidates’ names appear on the ballot is chosen at random by the vote program.

d. Statements: The candidacy statement referred to in Part III Section C of these Guidelines will be available online as students vote.

e. Absentee Ballots: No absentee ballots will be accepted.

f. Access: The Vice President and the administrator of the vote program will have sole authority over access to the voting system

g. Students not enrolled in Yale College are unable to vote.

4. Determination of Winners

A. Tabulation: All ballots will be collected and tabulated on the YaleStation voting system. Results will not be announced until all voting is completed.

B. A candidate shall be declared the winner of his or her election if he or she:

a. Receives more than 50% of votes cast for his or her office

b. Receives at least 40% of votes cast for his or her office and at least 5% more votes than the nearest candidate.

c. Receives less than 40% of the number of votes and at least 10% more votes than the nearest candidate.

d. If a race is uncontested, the sole candidate shall be declared the winner.

e. Run-Off: If no candidate is declared the winner as detailed in Subsection B, then a run-off election between the two top vote-getters for that office will take place on the date specified above in the elections timeline.

5. Penalties
a. The Vice President shall have the power to review infringements on these guidelines and have the discretion to penalize candidates, depending on the severity of the infringement. Potential penalties include decreasing the $50 spending limit, revoking campaign emailing privileges, forcing removal of portions of campaign posters and table tents, publicizing a candidate's infractions, and/or removal of a candidate's place on the ballot.