

2024 GSA General Election

CRO Decision in the Matter of Benjamin Kucher and Gary Godinho
Friday, February 23rd, 2024

A formal complaint was filed by Benjamin Kucher, a candidate for the position of Vice-President Student Life in the GSA General Election (hereafter “the Complainant”), against Gary Godinho, a candidate for the position of Vice-President External (hereafter “the Respondent”), on Thursday, February 22nd, 2024.

Complaint: The Complainant noticed that the Respondent uploaded an Instagram post saying “GSA Vice-President External” in the corner.

Response: The Respondent immediately rectified the situation and removed the post.

Relevant Bylaw and Policy:

I.POL.6.1 “The fundamental principle underlying GSA elections is that they are to be fair, respect the wishes of voters, and conducted in a manner that reflects the excellent, positive reputation of the GSA” (GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section I.BYL.1.1).

Consultation with the Elections and Referenda Committee (ERC): The CRO dismissed the complaint as it was unfounded and therefore did not consult ERC regarding this matter.

Decision: The complaint is dismissed as the candidate immediately rectified the situation, and the post does not blatantly violate the bylaw but rather could be interpreted as a misrepresentation of facts.

Appeals: As per GSA Bylaw and Policy, “decisions of the CRO are subject to appeal to the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (GSA ACB)” (Section I.POL.11.6) and “candidate(s) or referendum campaign member(s) have twenty-four (24) hours from the time the CRO’s decision is deemed delivered to submit an Appeal (Section H.POL.15.2.b). “Deemed Delivered” is defined such that an email is deemed to have been delivered twenty-four (24) hours from the time it was sent (GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section H: Definitions).