

# AGD: Elections Bye-Laws Tidy Up

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## Ensuring Bye-Elections take place

1. This year there have been 5 vacant Part-Time Officer positions: Arts Officer (due to resignation), Sports Officer, Disabled Students' Officer, Mature Students' Officer and Officer for Students with Caring Responsibilities following the Spring elections.
2. It is hugely important to have officer positions in place to ensure they receive an adequate induction and training to prepare for the Welcome Period. In particular, this is crucial for Arts and Sports Officers who establish relationships with new Presidents and Treasurers in the June training.
3. The Bye-Laws currently state that a bye-election will be held in the next set of elections, unless deemed feasible by Union Council to bring that Bye-Election forward.

*Union Council resolves:*

1. To amend the Bye-Laws to stipulate that a Bye-Election is triggered before the end of Term 3 for any vacant part-time officer positions.

## Reducing Mandatory campaigning period before voting

1. The Bye-Laws currently state that the elections schedule must include 3 working days of campaigning before the voting period opens.
2. In creating the elections schedule, we should allow more flexibility and reduce the 3 working days to a minimum of one working day.
3. Union Council approves each Elections schedule and so can choose to increase the number of days of campaigning during each election. However, reducing the minimum gives flexibility, particularly in the Autumn elections where time is constrained.

*Union Council resolves:*

1. To amend the Bye-Laws to reflect the minimum time period of campaigning before voting opens to be one working day.

## RO Disciplinary Action

1. The Elections Disciplinary procedure currently states that the Elections Disciplinary panel can issue a combination of penalties for a complaint.

*Union Council resolves:*

1. To add Bye-Laws 11.13.e.xii to 11.13.d- allowing the Returning Officer to issue a combination of penalties.