



Referendums Schedule

SRE1 Referendum Rules

- SRE1.1 The Students' Association shall have referendum rules in place to ensure that its referendums are conducted in a free, fair and democratic manner.
- SRE1.2 The Students' Association's referendum rules shall include:
- Rules around the conduct of campaigners, including rules around both the conduct of online campaigning and physical campaigning.
 - Rules around campaigner expenses, including spending limits for both campaigning and inter-campus travel.
 - Rules around the submission and handling of referendum complaints and appeals.
 - Rules around the conduct of referendum counts.
- SRE1.3 The Student's Association's referendum rules shall also include rules around the conduct of Cross-Campus Officers and Local Officers, as well as Students' Association Career Staff members and Students' Association Student Staff members, during Students' Association referendums.
- SRE1.4 All campaigners are expected and required to conduct their all of their campaigning activities within the Students' Association's referendum rules.
- SRE1.5 The Students' Association's referendum rules shall be reviewed and approved each academic year by the Students' Association's Senior Management Team (SMT) and Board of Trustees.
- SRE1.6 The Students' Association's referendum rules shall be published on the Students' Association's website once approved.
- SRE1.7 The Students' Association's referendum rules shall be interpreted and enforced by the Students' Association's Referenda Returning Officer (RRO) and Deputy Referenda Returning Officers (DRROs).

SRE2 Referenda Returning Officer (RRO)

- SRE2.1 The Board of Trustees shall annually appoint an individual or organisation to act as the Students' Association's Referenda Returning Officer (RRO).
- SRE2.2 The Students' Association's Referenda Returning Officer (RRO) shall have lead responsibility for ensuring that the Student's Association's referendums are conducted fairly and within the provisions of HISA's Articles of Association, Referendums Schedule, and referendums rules.
- SRE2.3 The Referenda Returning Officer (RRO) shall be responsible for dealing with appeals against rulings and warnings issued by the Students' Association's Deputy Referenda Returning Officers (DRROs).
- SRE2.4 The Referenda Returning Officer (RRO) shall also be responsible for certifying the results of Students' Association referendums.
- SRE2.5 The Referenda Returning Officer (RRO) shall reserve the right to declare the result of any Students' Association referendum null and void where reasonable doubt exists to whether the referendum was conducted fairly and within the provisions of HISA's Articles of Association, Referendums Schedule, and Referendum Rules.
- SRE2.6 The Students' Association's Referenda Returning Officer (RRO) shall not be:
- A member or associate member of the Students' Association.
 - A HISA Career Staff member.
 - An employee of UHI or one of UHI's academic partners.
 - A member of UHI's or one of UHI's academic partner's governing body.



SEL3 Deputy Referenda Returning Officers (DRROs)

- SRE3.1 The Students' Association Chief Executive Officer shall appoint one or more suitable HISA Career Staff members to act as Deputy Referenda Returning Officers (DRROs) for the Students' Association.
- SRE3.2 The Students' Association's Deputy Referenda Returning Officers (DRROs) shall have responsibility for ensuring that Students' Association referendums are conducted fairly and within the provisions of HISA's Articles of Association, Referendums Schedule, and elections rules.
- SRE3.3 The Students' Association's Deputy Referenda Returning Officers (DRROs) shall be responsible, in consultation with the Referenda Returning Officer, for setting of dates and deadlines, as well as the wording of the referendum question.
- SRE3.4 The Students' Association's Deputy Referenda Returning Officers (DRROs) shall also be responsible for the day-to-day running of the Students' Association's referendums, including but not limited to:
- The marketing and promotion of voting and the voting period.
 - The investigation of complaints.
 - The issuing of clarifications or interpretations of the referendum rules.
 - The issuing of rulings and warnings.
 - The supervision of referendum counts.
- SRE3.5 The Students' Association's Deputy Referenda Returning Officers (DRROs) shall be subject to any decisions and/ or rulings made by the Referenda Returning Officer (RRO).

SRE4 Referendum Motions

- SRE4.1 The wording of referendum motions around amendments to the Students' Association's Articles of Association and/ or Schedules must be formulated as a neutral, non-leading question answerable by a 'FOR' or "AGAINST" response.
- SRE4.2 The wording of referendum motions around Students' Association policy positions must be formulated as a neutral, non-leading question answerable by a 'YES' or "NO" response.
- SRE4.3 The wording of motions of no confidence must be formulated as a neutral, non-leading question answerable by a 'FOR' or "AGAINST" response.
- SRE4.4 The Deputy Referenda Returning Officers (DRROs) shall consult students on the wording of referendum motions, including but not limited to:
- Executive Committee members.
 - The individual(s) who proposed the All Student Meeting motion/ the secure petition calling for the referendum.
- SRE4.5 The Deputy Referenda Returning Officers (DRROs) shall also consult Trustee Board members on the wording of referendum motions around amendments to the Students' Association's Articles of Association and/ or Schedules.
- SRE4.6 Referendum motions shall be published on the Students' Association website no later than four (4) weeks before voting opens.

SRE5 Campaigners

- SRE5.1 Any Student Member or Student Associate Member wishing to campaign 'FOR' a referendum motion or 'YES' to a referendum motion must register as a 'FOR'/'YES' Campaigner for that referendum motion with the Deputy Referenda Returning Officers (DRROs).
- SRE5.2 Any Student Member or Student Associate Member wishing to campaign 'AGAINST' a referendum motion or 'NO' to a referendum motion must register as a 'AGAINST'/'NO' Campaigner for that referendum motion with the Deputy Referenda Returning Officers (DRROs).
- SRE5.3 No Student Member or Student Associate Member shall be permitted to register as both a 'FOR'/'YES' Campaigner and 'AGAINST'/'NO' Campaigner for the same referendum motion.



SRE6 Lead Campaigners

- SRE6.1 For each referendum motion the Students' Association shall recognise, for the purposes of providing campaign expenses and travel expenses, one 'FOR'/ 'YES' Campaigner as being a Lead Campaigner for the FOR'/ 'YES' Campaign, and one 'AGAINST'/ 'NO' Campaigner as being a Lead Campaigner for the 'AGAINST'/ 'NO' Campaign.
- SRE6.2 In situations where more than one Campaigner expresses an interest in becoming the Lead Campaigner, the Deputy Referenda Returning Officers (DRROs) shall determine, in consultation with those who have expressed an interest, who shall be recognised as the Lead Campaigner.
- SRE6.3 Once determined, the details of Lead Campaigners shall be published on the Students' Association website.
- SRE6.4 The Lead Campaigner for a 'FOR'/ 'YES' Campaign shall be given the opportunity to contact all registered a 'FOR'/ 'YES' Campaigners and the Lead Campaigner for a 'AGAINST'/ 'NO' Campaign shall be given the opportunity to contact all registered 'AGAINST'/ 'NO' Campaigners.
- SRE6.5 Lead Campaigners shall be given the opportunity to submit a statement on the Students' Association website that outlines their campaign's case to voters.

SRE7 Voting

- SRE7.1 Voting in Students' Association referendums shall be conducted by secret ballot.
- SRE7.2 There shall be an option to abstain in all Students' Association referendums.
- SRE7.3 All votes shall count towards the quoracy, including abstentions.
- SRE7.4 Proxy voting shall not be allowed in Students' Association referendums.
- SRE7.5 In the event of a tied vote, the status quo shall be maintained.
- SRE7.6 The location and operating hours of HISA Polling Stations during Students' Association referendums shall be at the discretion of the Students' Association's Deputy Referenda Returning Officers (DRROs).
- SRE7.7 The location and operating hours of HISA Polling Stations during a Students' Association referendum shall be advertised no later than one week before voting opens.