

Parties:

- Complainant - Ajibola Adigun (Jibs) - A candidate for the position of VP Student Life in the GSA General Election 2024
- Respondent - Benjamin Kucher - A candidate for the position of VP Student Life in the GSA General Election 2024
- CRO - Sophie Shi

Original CRO Decision:

The original complaint claims the complainants campaign materials said "University of Alberta GSA Vice-President Student Life". Additionally, in the original complaint the respondent provides screenshots of the complainants social media that contained a ballot as well as a statement instructing students to vote for him. When brought to the complainants attention, they *"took immediate steps to rectify them while registering my disagreement with the CRO's decision"*, which is what led to the CRO ultimately dismissing the original complaint.

Relevant Bylaw and Policy:

I.BYL.1.1 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.

Decision:

The complainant suggests the original CRO decision was not impartial and did not take into consideration all context and information. The complainant states that this *"negatively impacted my chances in the elections where I came second place with one vote in the provisional results announced"*.

As per the complainants appeal, they suggested that *"the omission of the preposition "for", the context of the images and the listing of candidates on the ballot that contained the other contestants was proof that the allegations were baseless. The CRO responded that she took this decision independent of the complainant's phrasing of the complaint. I would like to say that this position is false"*. The ACB believes that given your use of the preposition 'for' it made no difference to the context of the post. The ACB would like to further assert that the most accurate use of the preposition would be in the middle of the statement (ex:Ajibola Adigun (Jibs) for VP Student Life for GSA), in order to not inaccurately misrepresent your current affiliation with the GSA. Furthermore, no action was taken by the complainant to fix the posts or campaign materials and repost.

In conclusion, the evidence provided in the appeal is not sufficient to contravene the CRO's original decision, which was to dismiss the complaint. Therefore, no further action will be taken.

Signed,

Laura Manerus.

Laura Manerus
GSA ACB Hearing Committee Chair