

WSUSU Elections Tribunal Report

Date: October 7, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Online

Tribunal Members:

- Jacob Carswell-Doherty (Chair) (WSU Alum and Senior Law partner)
- REDACTED (PG Student Member)
- REDACTED (UG Student Member)

Attendees:

- Paul Clayton – Returning Officer
- Richard Martino – Manager, Student Community

1. Background

The WSUSU Elections Tribunal was convened to consider a complaint submitted by Gurkaranpreet Singh in relation to the 2025 WSUSU Elections. The complaint alleged that the successful SRC President-elect, Bailey Anderson, breached election regulations during campaigning.

Specific concerns included:

1. Door-to-door campaigning at student accommodation, alleged to be intimidating or inappropriate.
2. Campaigning in restricted areas, specifically the Parramatta South Campus Library, supported by alleged video evidence.
3. Breaches of the WSUSU draft Constitution and Election Regulations.

The Returning Officer (RO), Paul Clayton, had previously reviewed the complaint and dismissed it, finding no breach of regulations. The complainant appealed that decision to the Elections Tribunal.

2. Context and Summary of Discussion

The Tribunal opened with introductions and a review of the meeting purpose and process. The Returning Officer provided an overview of the complaint, the evidence considered, and the reasoning behind his decision.

Key Points from the RO's Report:

- The complaint was lodged at 4:00 AM following the Provisional Declaration of Poll.
- The door-knocking at student accommodation was confirmed, but no evidence indicated harassment, coercion, or voting interference.

- Campaigning in student accommodation is not prohibited under current election regulations.
- The video allegedly showing campaigning in a library was confirmed to be recorded in an open student space, not a library.
- Bailey Anderson stated he was assisting another student with an assignment extension, not campaigning.
- Other constitutional references cited by the complainant were irrelevant.

The Returning Officer left the meeting following his verbal report.

Tribunal Discussion:

- Members reviewed the evidence, the RO's decision, and relevant sections of the draft WSUSU Regulations.
- All members agreed there was no clear evidence of a breach.
- Door-to-door campaigning in student residences was viewed as legitimate and not in breach of the rules.
- Video evidence was reviewed, and the Tribunal agreed that the video did not show campaigning in the library, and the screen did not appear to be showing the Big Pulse voting, but rather other university systems.

3. Findings

1. No evidence to substantiate the allegation of campaigning in a prohibited area.
2. No evidence of harassment, coercion, or intimidation of voters.
3. No breach of the WSUSU Draft Regulations or Constitution.
4. The Returning Officer acted appropriately and within the scope of his role as defined within the WSUSU Regulations.

4. Decision

The Tribunal upholds the decision of the Returning Officer. The complaint against Bailey Anderson (SRC President-elect) is dismissed, and the election result stands as valid and final

Meeting closed: 10:28AM