

## 9. Elections

### 9.1. INITIATION OF ELECTIONS

- 9.1.1. An election shall be held for offices in the Executive if;
  - 9.1.1.1. An AGM is in session; or
  - 9.1.1.2. An office in the Executive becomes vacant.
- 9.1.2. The Executive must appoint a Returning Officer, who;
  - 9.1.2.1. Will be responsible for overseeing the conduct and fairness of the election; and
  - 9.1.2.2. Has the final say on the results of the election overseen; and
  - 9.1.2.3. Must not be a candidate for the election.
- 9.1.3. The Secretary must send a notice to all Members at least fourteen (14) days in advance of an election, specifying;
  - 9.1.3.1. What position is being contested for; and
  - 9.1.3.2. When the election will take place; and
  - 9.1.3.3. Who the Returning Officer for that election will be.

### 9.2. ELECTION OF THE NZISA PRESIDENT

- 9.2.1. Any Member can nominate any Full Member or Associate Member as a candidate for the Presidency, with the consent of that candidate.
- 9.2.2. Presidential candidate nominations must be accompanied by a letter of recommendation from a student association from a tertiary institution listed in Appendix I of this Constitution.
- 9.2.3. All nominations for Presidential candidates must be sent to the Returning Officer within seven (7) days following the announcement of elections.
- 9.2.4. A Presidential candidate must win a supermajority vote to be declared the President-Elect.
- 9.2.5. The Presidential election shall be conducted using the 'Alternative Vote' system, in accordance with the rules listed in Appendix II of this Constitution.

### 9.3. ELECTION OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

- 9.3.1. All elections for positions within the Executive, excluding the Presidency, shall be an Executive election.
- 9.3.2. Any Member can nominate any Full Member, Associate Member, or Honorary Member as a candidate for the Executive, with the consent of that candidate.
- 9.3.3. All nominations for Executive candidates must be sent to the Returning Officer within seven (7) days following the announcement of elections.
- 9.3.4. An Executive member candidate must win a simple majority vote against a 'vote of no confidence' to be declared an Executive-Elect.
- 9.3.5. The Executive elections shall be conducted using the 'First-Past-the-Post' system, in accordance with the rules listed in Appendix III of this Constitution.

- 9.3.6. In an Executive election forming an Executive-in-Waiting, the President-Elect shall appoint any two (2) Executive-elects to be the Secretary and the Treasurer respectively.
- 9.3.7. The President-Elect may appoint the remaining Executive-elects into other positions deemed necessary for the operation of the NZISA.

## **APPENDIX I**

The NZISA Council of Representatives shall have a representative from each of the following tertiary districts;

- NORTHLAND
  - Northland Polytechnic
  
- AUCKLAND
  - Auckland College of Education
  - Auckland University of Technology
  - Manukau Institute of Technology
  - Tai Poutini Polytechnic
  - Unitec New Zealand
  - University of Auckland
  
- WAIKATO
  - The University of Waikato
  - Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology (Taupo)
  - Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology (Tokoroa)
  - Waikato Institute of Technology
  
- BAY OF PLENTY
  - Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology (Eastern Bay)
  - Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology (Rotorua)
  - Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology (Tauranga)
  
- HAWKE'S BAY
  - Eastern Institute of Technology
  
- TARANAKI
  - Western Institute of Technology at Taranaki
  
- WANGANUI
  - Massey University (Palmerston North)

- WELLINGTON
  - Massey University (Wellington)
  - The Open Polytechnic of New Zealand
  - Universal College of Learning
  - Victoria University of Wellington
  - Wellington College of Education
  - Wellington Institute of Technology
  - Whitireia Community Polytechnic
  
- NELSON
  - Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology
  
- CANTERBURY
  - Ara Institute of Canterbury
  - Christchurch College of Education
  - Lincoln University
  - University of Canterbury
  
- OTAGO
  - Dunedin College of Education
  - Otago Polytechnic
  - University of Otago (Dunedin)
  
- SOUTHLAND
  - Southern Institute of Technology
  - University of Otago (Invercargill)

## **APPENDIX II**

Procedure for the 'Alternative Vote' electoral method.

1. The ballot paper shall list all running candidates.
2. Voters will list their preference of candidates in decreasing order of support (with the most desired candidate labelled as "1", the next desired candidate as "2", etc.).
3. At the First Count,
  - a. All votes will be sorted according to the candidate labelled as "1".
  - b. The candidate winning a supermajority shall automatically be declared elected.
4. If no candidate wins a supermajority vote at the First Count, the Returning Officer will call for a Second Count, wherein
  - a. The candidate with the least votes will be eliminated.
  - b. The votes casted for the candidate with the least votes will be sorted according to their next choices.
  - c. The candidate winning a supermajority after this redistribution shall automatically be declared elected.
5. If no candidate wins a supermajority at the Second Count, the Returning Officer will call for a Third Count, in accordance to steps 4a. To 4c.
6. This will repeat until a candidate wins a supermajority vote, at which the Returning Officer shall declare that candidate elected.
7. If two (2) candidates remain but the candidate with more votes does not win a supermajority vote, the Returning Officer must call for a Second Ballot, wherein;
  - a. Voters chose only one of the two candidates; and
  - b. The candidate winning a supermajority vote shall be declared elected; and
  - c. If neither candidate wins a supermajority vote, the Returning Officer shall reopen the election in accordance to steps 1. to 6.
8. If only one (1) candidate contends for the election, that candidate must win a simple majority vote against a 'vote of no confidence' to be declared elected, failing which the Returning Officer shall reopen the election in accordance to steps 1. to 6.

*Sample Ballot Paper (Alternative Vote)*

**BALLOT PAPER**

List the candidates in order of preference, with '1' as the most preferred candidate.

Candidate ONE        3  

Candidate TWO        5  

Candidate THREE      1  

Candidate FOUR       2  

Candidate FIVE       4

## **APPENDIX III**

Procedure for the 'First-Past-the-Post' electoral method.

1. The ballot paper shall list all running candidates.
2. For each candidate, voters must decide if they support that candidate or a 'vote of no confidence' against that candidate.
3. A ballot paper must have a decision on each and all candidates in order to be valid and counted.
4. Candidates that win a simple majority of votes shall be declared as elected.

*Sample Ballot Paper (First-Past-the-Post)*

	YES	NO
Candidate ONE	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>
Candidate TWO	<u>      </u>	<u>  X  </u>
Candidate THREE	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>
Candidate FOUR	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>