ELECTIONS GRIEVANCE FORM

This form is being provided in accordance with Section 2, clause VI of the AS Senate Election Code. You are strongly encouraged to try to resolve issues in a professional and calm manner before filing this form. The AS Elections Coordinator is available to offer options, additional information, support in contacting the other party, etc. Please contact the AS Elections Coordinator at as.elections@wwu.edu.

Complainant Name: Abdul Malik Ford

Phone number: (206)432-2916 Email: Fordaq@wwu.edu

Signature: Malik

Date: 5-1-2019

Grievance Filed Against (name): Anne Lee

Who is running for the position of: AS VP of Student Life

Specific Section of Code Violated: Section 3, IV: Endorsements, b

State the specific violation of the ASWWU Election Code. Give details of when and how the violation was discovered (may attach additional materials):

Anne Lee posted a Facebook status, Thursday night at 9:23 PM endorsing 4 candidates: Lani Deriesta (President), Grace Dressel (Gov), Trever Mullins (Sustainability), (VP for Diversity): Eugene Batsenberg.

Anne Lee also shared the statement titled 'A Call Out built from Love', written by Daysha McMillan, on Facebook. In this statement, there is false info. about me, and it also states that "I am not equipped nor qualified to be AS President!"

Received by Election Board Chair: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________ Time: ____________________________
6. In addition to Dayjha's (A current AS Senator of Fairhaven College) personal endorsement of Lani Defiesta, other current AS Executives and AS employees publicly shared this post: Millka Solomon (The Current AS President), Anne Lee (The Current VP for Student Life) Levi Eckman (The Current VP for Academic Affairs), and Valeria Pedraza (The current Educational Programming Coordinator at the AS Queer Resource Center).

Millka Solomon
Monday at 18:23

of the AS Candidate Mail, have become confused with Lani. Why? I am assuming the importance of this clarification is that it is not only homophobic but also black. The confusion of black and is homophobic because not every person who is gay is in the same. Everything that I am writing is based on my personal experience with the black community, its leaders, and the lack of commitment to ending the homophobic violence in this space. This confusion is anti-black because this critique is rooted in blackness and is black love. The repeated attempts of bringing the other AS Candidate, Lani Defiesta, into this conversation is an attempt to defend this black love with a general gay issue and that very act is anti-black. The second thing that I want to clarify is that this conversation is not a new topic within the black community at WWU. This specific conversation has been brought up time and time again and there has been progress. This statement that I am writing in a call out built from love because I believe in the black community, and I am tired of trying to manage this issue privately. I am calling this issue out because I am refusing to be continuously silenced.

Being a public representative means you are signing up to be held accountable publicly for any public or private thing you do in the name of that public service." — a front of mine said this in the AS Elections of 2017.

To give a historical context, I am going to bring up the first round of conversations that I posted on social media in the spring of 2017.

DOCS.GOOGLE.COM
A Call Out Built from Love
Before I begin, I must clarify two things. Firstly, everything...

Dayjha McMillan and 9 others

DOCS.GOOGLE.COM
A Call Out Built from Love
Before I begin, I must clarify two things. Firstly, everything...

You, Dayjha McMillan and 22 others

Like
Comment
Share

Levi Eckman
Monday at 18:24

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A Call Out Built from Love
Before I begin, I must clarify two things. Firstly, everything...

You, Dayjha McMillan and 10 others

Like
Comment
Share

Valeria Renee Pedraza
Monday at 22:32

be critical in your voting this week! I & organizing overall, center & celebrate queer & trans Black folks, do not erase their labor or invalidate experiences for heteronormative oppression & convenience I thank you for your labor, thank you thank you thank you.

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A Call Out Built from Love
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You, Dayjha McMillan and 13 others

Like
Comment
Share

About this website
7. What happened next is Anne Lee (The current VP for Student Life) on 5/2/2019 publicly endorsed the 4 candidates that are currently running opposed in the AS Elections. Applauding in the comments of this post are Zoe Peterson (The current AS WIRC Educational Programming Coordinator), Dayjha McMillan (A current AS Senator of the Fairhaven College), Soumya Ayelasomayajula (AS Assistant Director for Club Logistics for the ESC), and Natalie Reeder (Child Care Assistant at WWU AS Child Development Center). Keep in mind that this endorsement was posted shortly after the release of an opinion piece published in the Western Front. This opinion piece states: “Do you forfeit your right to publicly share your opinion in an election when you sign your HR papers and become an AS employee? According to the code, you do.”

i've been sitting on this decision for a few weeks now, and it's clear to me that this is what needs to happen, in light of the critical matters regarding the well-being of our QTPOC students, and the recently released WF article.

this is a matter of who will step up to continually challenge the oppressive structures of our institution, who will do the critical individual and collective work to push forward student needs, and who will pass the mic.

i endorse:

as president: lani defiesta
vp for governmental affairs: grace drescnel
vp for sustainability: trever mullins
vp for diversity: esugen battsengel

much love,
anne lee, asvp for student life
8. In addition to yet another personal endorsement from a current AS Employee, the current candidates running in the AS Election shared it on 5/2/2019: Lani Defiesta (Candidate for AS President), Trever Mullins (Candidate for VP of Sustainability), and Grace Drechsel (Candidate for VP of Governmental Affairs).

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much love,
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To be endorsed by someone so inspiring and dedicated has honestly left me speechless.

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Each and every receipt here (except the endorsement of QTPOC) is in itself, a violation of election code ‘Section 3, IV Endorsements sections b and c’. In this instance, the above code cited explicitly states:
"c. Current AS employees, may not, as employees or individuals, endorse candidates.
d. AS employees may not, even as individuals, work on a campaign for or against a candidate, with the exception of their own as a filed and eligible candidate." Each post in this document breaks that very code.