

DIE Board Hearing Application

Please note that this information will all be public. While the UASU's practice is to redact email addresses and phone numbers from publicly posted DIE Board hearing applications, the information provided may be kept, used, and disclosed in keeping with the operations of the DIE Board, UASU Bylaws, and Alberta's Personal Information Protection Act.

If necessary, the Students' Union DIE Board Registrar may contact you to confirm that you are a student.

NOTE: Under the DIE Board Protocols, the DIE Board reserves the right to reject applications that it judges to be frivolous or vexatious.

Name Megan Garbutt

E-mail

Phone Number

This application is for a:

DIE Board Hearing

Reason for Application

Describe the specific violation of a bylaw or rule, your specific interpretation question, or the specific errors made by the DIE Board or the CRO. If you want the Board to issue some kind of order, explain what you think the Board should do. You may also attach additional written submissions or supporting documents at the end of this form.

Reason

Dear DIE Board,

My name is Megan Garbutt and I am the Chief Returning Officer of the Students Union this year. I am submitting this application today to suggest an interpretation request for a dilemma occurring in the Fall By-Election.

Denee Reansbury is a current councillor (via vacancy petition) on Students' Council and General Faculties Council representing the Faculty of Native Studies. Considering that vacancy petitions for Students' Council expire at the subsequent election and that you can only fill out a vacancy petition once every 365 days (Regulation 110.06 Section 01.06 and 03.07e), she needs to run in the Fall By-Election if she wants to keep her seat.

I received Denee's nomination package for the Fall By-Election in-person from my mailbox in SUB 2-900 on Tuesday September 23rd. Upon reviewing her nomination package, I noticed that some of her signatures were not on our voter role for various reasons. With this, I sent her an email on Tuesday September 23rd at 9:33pm (attachment 1) asking her to obtain 8 more signatures by Wednesday September 24th at 6:00pm as this was the new nomination deadline (48hr later) given that the race was uncontested. Denee delivered on this request and I sent her an email on Wednesday September 24th at 4:10pm telling her that I received her new form (also attachment 1).

Also on Tuesday September 23rd at 9:49pm, I sent an email titled "Welcome to the 2025 Fall By-Election" where I bcc'd all of the candidates (attachment 2). In this email I mentioned some key details including the candidates meeting that would be happening the following day. At 9:52pm that same day, Denee replied to this email stating that she would have to bring her children (attachment 3), to which I replied saying that

was fine and sending her a meeting link to join online if that was easier for her (also attachment 3). I also immediately sent the same meeting link to all of the candidates, including to Denee again (in total, Denee received 2 emails containing this link) (also attachment 3).

The next day, Wednesday September 24th, at 6:00pm, I arrived at the Bill Smith Room (SUB 6-06) to start the candidates meeting. This candidates meeting is mandatory as per Bylaw 320 Section 08 and Regulation 320.08. Courtney Graham (UASU Governance Manager) joined me in-person along with Aamir Mohamed and Amaan Khan. Online, Dasmesh Puri and Nolan Greenwood joined. The meeting only took about 17 minutes, however, I stayed in the Bill Smith Room with the google meet opened until 7:00pm, just in case Denee was running late, but she never showed up. During this time she also did not send me any notification that she was no longer able to come or with any clarifying questions about the meeting.

On the following day, Thursday September 25th, at 1:19pm, I sent Denee an email inquiring about this absence at the mandatory candidates meeting (attachment 4). I also made sure to mention the numerous procedures in place to help her with this meeting. I ended this email asking why she was unable to come, ensuring to not sound accusatory, but instead sympathetic. Denee initially replied to this email at 1:57pm the same day stating that she was told a link would be made available but it never was (attachment 5). I would like to note here that the only time that I mentioned that a link would be made available was in the emails that contained the link. She immediately (1:59pm) followed that email up with a second email stating that she never received the email reminder about the meeting and also attached a screenshot of her inbox (attachment 6 and 7). I would like to note that in this screenshot you can see the email I sent titled "Welcome to the 2025 Fall By-Election" which not only contained the reminder about the candidates meeting, but also (within the email replies) contained the meeting link. In her inbox you can see that this email has been read and is starred. At almost the same time as I received this email (2:00pm), I sent her an email explaining the Welcome email that I sent which contained screenshots of said email and of her email being one of the recipients of the email (Attachment 8). After reading her reply, I sent her another email explaining that the reminder was in the Welcome email, noting that she replied to it, and asking for an explanation for this contradiction (Attachment 9). Denee sent another email back to me at 2:14pm (Attachment 10) saying that I said I sent a reminder email day of (which I never said) and explaining how (due to various reasons) she has a hard time keeping track of her emails. She also suggested that I sent google calendar invites out next time, which I do think is a good suggestion for the future. I never replied to this email as I knew I wanted to take further steps before replying. Denee did send me another email later that night at 6:10pm (Attachment 11) explaining how she will not be campaigning and also containing her candidate bio. I would like to also note that the candidate bio was due on Wednesday the 24th at 6:00pm, which was also stated in my initial Welcome email and in the nomination package, so I will not be accepting this bio as it was sent late. I never replied to this email either due to the same reason as above.

With all of this being said, I would really appreciate it if the DIE Board were able to interpret this situation as it pertains to Regulation 320.08 Section 02.02b-c ("The C.R.O. shall grant exemptions to Section 01(1) to Candidates or side managers, but shall do so only where the Candidate or side manager: (b) informs and provides satisfactory evidence to the C.R.O. of absence due to an unforeseen academic circumstance for which no notice could be given; or (C) informs and provides satisfactory evidence to the C.R.O. of an emergency for which no notice could be given."). I understand that (as per Denee's perspective) there were circumstances that Denee was going through that made it difficult for her to keep her emails straight and thus missed the link. However, I do not know if these circumstances apply under this Regulation. If they do not, the best option is to proceed with disqualification as per Bylaw 320 Section 08.02 ("Where a Candidate or side manager contravenes Regulation 320.08 - Candidate's Meeting, that Candidate or side manager shall be disqualified."). I would really appreciate it if the DIE Board could assess this situation and tell me if it counts as an unforeseen circumstance.

Please let me know if you need anything else from me.

Cheers,
Megan Garbutt

Proposed Respondent(s)

List the individual(s) alleged to have infringed a rule or who are otherwise adversely involved in interest to your application. If you are appealing a CRO Ruling, list the CRO and any candidates involved.

Proposed Respondent

Denée Reansbury

Anticipated Witnesses

List other individuals involved in the case who can contribute to the Hearing, if any.

Anticipated Witness

N/A

SignatureA handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DR' with a stylized flourish at the end.**Attach File**

Although not required, you may attach additional written submissions or supporting documents for the Board to consider, including any relevant facts, a copy of any Students' Union legislation or rules relevant to your arguments, and your position on the matters in issue. These submissions will help the Board understand the nature of your complaint or request for interpretation. The Board may rule against you if you do not provide sufficient reasons for your application.

Please submit as a single document.

If you're unsure of how to combine multiple separate documents, you can save all documents as a PDF and use [PDF Merge](#).

Direct any questions to:

DIE Board Registrar

governance@su.ualberta.ca

SUB 6-24