

RUSA

1/23/2018

Chris Kay, Parliamentarian

Complainant: Viktor Krapivin, Internal Affairs Chair

Question: May candidates who are currently members of a governing council, run in RUSA elections?

Finding: No elected member a governing council can run in a RUSA election nor can they hold any elected position within RUSA concurrent to their holding an elected position in their governing council. Article 4.01 of the Constitution states, “No member may concurrently run for or hold an elected office on more than one body”. From this passage it seems clear that that students cannot hold elected office in more than one governing council at a time, including RUSA. There are a few exceptions to this rule. Governing council RUSA representatives may hold their positions in their respective governing councils concurrent to their position in RUSA. In addition governing council members who are not elected, and elected is understood to mean elected generally by the students that governing council represents as opposed to internal election, may run in RUSA elections as well as serve in RUSA concurrently. To clarify, this means that positions which could not possibly be subject to a general election¹ are to be understood as eligible to run in RUSA elections and to serve in RUSA concurrently whereas positions which could possibly be generally elected are not eligible. Therefore a vacancy appointment does not allow the appointee to serve in or run for a seat in RUSA concurrently. So if an elected member of a governing council wished to run for RUSA or serve in RUSA they must resign their governing council position before they would become eligible to do so. Members who are currently in breach of this ruling but who gained their positions prior to the issuance of this ruling shall not be required to resign from any of their positions, however should they wish to take up a new position in either organization they must then obey all precepts of this ruling.

¹ For example, RUSA Parliamentarians are internally elected and cannot be generally elected.