MOTION REGARDING THE ELECTIONS AND REFERENDA TIMELINE 2021-2022 2021-09-23

Submitted for: 2021-09-23

Submitted to: SSMU Legislative Council

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Vice-President (Finance)

Seconded by: Mary Zhang
Management Representative

Document no.: LEG-PUB-MOT-2021-09-23-004

Current Status:
☐ FOR APPROVAL
✓ APPROVED
☐ POSTPONED
☐ COMMITTED
☐ NOT APPROVED

Issue

The Elections and Referenda Timeline 2021-2022 had been reviewed and finalized by the Elections SSMU team, in preparation of the beginning of the academic year. This timeline is typically approved at the first Legislative Council meeting of the academic year.

Background and Rational

As per Section 2, article 6.1 of the Internal Regulations of Elections and Referenda, “Finalized dates for Elections and Referenda occurring in the fall academic semester shall be determined before the first (1st) of October each year. Finalized dates for Elections and Referenda occurring in the winter academic semester shall be determined by the last meeting of the Legislative Council of the fall academic semester”

The Elections SSMU team acknowledges that, according to the internal regulations, section 6.2 stipulates that "Referenda are regularly held during the periods... from the fifteenth (15th) of October to the fifteenth (15th) of November". While the proposed dates extend slightly outside this range, they correspond to the timeline of the academic year and will best ensure electoral participation.

Alignment with Mission

As mentioned above.
### Consultations Completed
Consultations with the Elections SSMU team, the Governance Manager and the Executives.

### Risk Factors and Resource Implications
If any changes to the timeline should arise, the Elections SSMU team will notify the Legislative Council through a formal motion.

### Sustainability Considerations
Sustainability considerations include ensuring that the electronic platforms are ready and available for voters and campaigning/elections.

### Impact of Decision and Next Steps
If approved, Elections SSMU will be able to begin working on these items. Promotion, campaigning, and voting for these elections will occur entirely online, allowing sufficient time for communication between parties interested in campaigning as well as voters.

### Motion or Resolution for Approval
Be it resolved that the Legislative Council adopt the Elections Timeline 2021-2022 outlined in this motion and the timeline in Appendix A.

### Results of the Vote
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<td>In favour</td>
<td>(UNANIMOUS)</td>
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<td>Opposed</td>
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<td>Abstain</td>
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Appendix A

Fall 2021 Referendum - Polling Second Week of November
- Sept 27 - Nov 1st at 5:00PM (Nomination Period for Student/Council Initiated Qs)
- Nov 1st at 5:30 PM - Campaign Meeting
- Nov 2nd at 9:00 AM - Nov 12th at 6:00 PM (Campaign Period)
- Nov 8 at 9:00 AM - Nov 12th at 5:00 PM (Polling Period)
- Nov 12th at 6:00 PM - announcement of results

Executive Elections & Winter 2022 Referendum - run concurrently on two (2) separate ballots
- January 5th at 9:00 AM - February 21st at 5:00 PM EST (Nomination Period For Referenda)
- February 1st at 9:00 AM - Feb 21st at 5:00 PM EST (Nomination Period for Executive Election)
- February 22 at 6:00 PM - March 7th, 2022 at 5:00 PM EST (Extended Nomination Period)
- March 7th, 2022 at 5:00 PM EST - Candidates Meeting
- March 7th, 2022 at 6:00PM EST - Campaign Meeting (referendum)
- March 8th at 9:00 AM - March 18th, 2022 at 6:00 PM (Campaign Period)
- Candidates Debate - March 7th, 2022 6:00 PM EST
- March 14th at 9:00 AM - March 18th at 5:00 PM EST (Polling Period)
- March 18th at 6:00 PM EST - Announcement of Results