Policy name: Campaigning Space

Date Presented: 15/03/18
Lapse date: April 2020

Renewed: 27/10/21
Lapse date: Dec 23

Student Council notes: (Facts)

Candidates are currently only allowed to put posters up on noticeboards or anywhere that is UUSU property.

VP Jordanstown met with the facilities management of the University to discuss the possibility of allowing candidates to use walls and glass to put up their posters and other campaigning material.

Facilities management said that although they will likely never agree to allowing candidates to use the walls or glass as a general rule, they may allow it in a certain, predefined area on each campus.

Student Council believes: (Opinions)

That the current provision for candidates is inadequate –

1. Noticeboards are just wallpaper to students and there’s that much material on them at one time that candidates’ posters may be ignored.

2. Posters being up on UUSU property are great, but run the risk of engaging our already engaged students instead of reaching out to other students who may not know about the SU or the elections.

3. No other material is allowed on walls or glass, so if we were able to get an exception to allow us to use these means, the unengaged student body has a much higher chance of noticing there’s something big on that they should be paying attention to.

4. Creativity and competition between candidates would flourish, as there is more space for the candidates to do even more.

Student Council resolves that: (Actions)

1. The UUSU executive should agree to what areas they think would benefit from the extension of campaigning space on each campus (for example, the Mall in Jordanstown, the Bridge in Coleraine etc).
2. The UUSU executive should lobby facilities management to allow SU Election candidates to use walls and glass to campaign in those predefined areas.

3. If successful, the UUSU executive has the responsibility to publish these new areas to potential candidates as well as reminding them of their responsibility to use unharmed materials that won’t damage the walls or glass.

Proposer: Student Executive