

2024 GSA General Election

CRO Decision in the Matter of Soumya Kulal and Ajibola Adigun/Rija Kamran
Wednesday, February 28th, 2024

A formal complaint was filed by Soumya Kulal, a candidate for the position of Vice-President Academic in the GSA General Election (hereafter “the Complainant”), against Ajibola Adigun, a candidate for the position of Vice-President Student Life and Rija Kamran, a candidate for the position of Vice-President Academic (hereafter “the Respondents”), on Wednesday, February 28th, 2024.

Complaint: The Complainant provides a screenshot of Ajibola Adigun posting a screenshot of Rija Kamran’s Instagram story, where she reposted the GSA’s account’s post about the Elections Forum. The Complainant notes that this shows Ajibola is supporting Rija.

Response: The CRO did not ask the Respondents for a response as the complaint was dismissed.

Relevant Bylaw and Policy:

I.POL.10.4 Candidates will campaign as individuals and may not serve as Campaign Volunteers for other candidates. Slates are not permitted.

Consultation with the Elections and Referenda Committee (ERC): The CRO dismissed the complaint as it was unfounded and therefore did not consult ERC regarding this matter.

Decision: Although supporting other candidates through sharing Instagram stories would be considered slating, that is not the case with this complaint. Ajibola only shared a story where Rija is advertising the Elections Forum. This is not considered campaigning or sharing campaign material. The complaint is dismissed as it is unfounded.

Appeals: As per GSA Bylaw and Policy, “decisions of the CRO are subject to appeal to the GSA Appeals and Complaints Board (GSA ACB)” (Section I.POL.11.6) and “candidate(s) or referendum campaign member(s) have twenty-four (24) hours from the time the CRO’s decision is deemed delivered to submit an Appeal (Section H.POL.15.2.b). “Deemed Delivered” is defined such that an email is deemed to have been delivered twenty-four (24) hours from the time it was sent (GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section H: Definitions).