IEEE Electioneering Policies and Guidelines

2nd March 2024 @ IEEE R10 AGM

IEEE Election Oversight Committee (EOC)

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1

IEEE Election Activities: Importance of Policies and Procedures

▸ IEEE Policies and Procedures are the framework for consistency

▸ Following the same standards and protocols ensures:

- unified approach in conducting election activities
- avoid potential electioneering violations
- establish boundaries and expectations
- fairness in promoting the election and its candidates.

2

2

Election and Electioneering Policies

▸ Importance of adhering to the IEEE Policies

▸ Candidate's Code of Principles

▸ Equal opportunity for candidates in the elections and electioneering activities

▸ Key IEEE Policies sections

- 13.3 Elections and Electioneering

- 13.7 Nominations and Elections – Ballot Material

- 14.1 Use and Control of IEEE Mailing Lists

- 9.28 IEEE Social Media Policy

- 13.3.A.2 Candidate's Code of Principles

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IEEE Election Oversight Committee (EOC)

▸ Provides advice and guidance on electioneering related matters.

▸ Assists the IEEE in adjudicating election-related matters.

▸ Recommends appropriate changes to electioneering procedures.

▸ Questions? Contact EOC at: elections@ieee.org.

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Frequently Asked Questions

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May Candidates Give a Campaign Presentation During an IEEE Meeting or Event?

Candidates may give a presentation during IEEE meetings/events if:

▶ the same opportunity is offered to all candidates for the same position

▶ all candidates are treated equally.

Organizers are responsible for:

▶ determining the information to be presented

▶ following the guidelines established by the governing body of the Organizational Unit (OU).

6

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May Candidates Provide Information for Publication?

Candidates may provide information to be published in the OU's publication if:

▸ same opportunity is offered to all candidates for the same position

▸ candidates are treated equally.

Editors are responsible for:

▸ determining the information to be published

▸ following guidelines established by the governing body of the publication.

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7

7

May Section (Chapter) or Officers Endorse a Candidate or a Petitioner?

Organizational Units (OU) and their committees may not:

▸ endorse candidates or petitioners

▸ pass resolution that endorse an individual

▸ publish documentation that endorses an individual.

OU officers should not advocate for any specific individual where it may appear that they are doing so from a position as an officer.

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8

8

May Candidates Promote Their Candidacy?

Candidates may promote their candidacy if:

▸ IEEE policies and procedures are followed

▸ candidate's behavior during the election campaign reflect the true spirit of IEEE's core principles

▸ their character reflects and provides insight into their professionalism and the ethical standards they will uphold in a leadership position

▸ they maintain collegiality and mutual respect.

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9

9

May IEEE Mailing Lists be Used for Electioneering?

IEEE Mailing Lists **may not** be used for electioneering unless explicitly approved (IEEE Policy 14.1.)

In all campaign-related communication with potential voters, candidates, and their supporters should:

▸ include provisions for opting out from future communications

▸ include reminders to recipients to adhere to IEEE policies

▸ avoid practices that would be interpreted as "spam"

▸ include the following disclaimer:

The opinions expressed herein are the opinions of the author and not necessarily the opinions of IEEE.

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10

10

May IEEE Social Media be Used for Electioneering?

The use of IEEE social media **is permitted** in elections when the content informs members about the upcoming election and related processes, and the views of all candidates, or other items that will appear on the ballot.

Candidates, petitioners, and their supporters **may not use IEEE Social Media** to promote their candidacy.

Responsibilities of OU officers' if using IEEE Social Media for electioneering:

▸ adhering to IEEE Social Media Policy

▸ determining the information to be posted

▸ ensuring all candidates are treated and promoted equally.

The IEEE Social Media Policy (Policy 9.28) explains the use of social media to protect and enhance IEEE's reputation and Master Brand. For the purposes of this policy, "social media" are defined as any form of electronic communications, such as websites, portals, or mobile applications that enable individuals to post and share content publicly, and/or to a select group of individuals in virtual communities and networks, and that allow other individuals to view, respond to, and share this content further.

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11

11

May IEEE Funds be Used for Electioneering?

▸ IEEE funds may not be used for electioneering, except for expenses normally incurred in publicity and arrangement of meetings, and/or in publications.

▸ Candidates may be invited to appear at meetings/events to discuss their position, and they may be reimbursed for actual travel expenses by the Organizational Unit organizing the meeting.

▸ The use of IEEE funds for electioneering purposes in any governmental election is prohibited.

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12

12

Questions?

Contact Election Oversight Committee at: elections@ieee.org.

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13

13