



THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS

March 24, 2015

Dear Members of the Vitality Party:

As you know, I have received numerous appeals regarding the February Student Government Election. These appeals have been heard by the Elections Commission and/or the Student Supreme Court as stipulated by Student Government Statutes or Constitution. The Supreme Court has never enforced the Elections Code after the deadlines stipulated in Statute which says:

- Students or political parties who show actual injury shall have standing to contest the results of any election on the grounds within or outside the scope of the Election Code until 8pm on the Friday following the election. (717.1)
- The Supervisor of elections has until 5pm on the second Thursday after the elections (6 days) to submit any alleged violations and appeals. (715.4 J).

Since the original jurisdiction case is regarding elections and utilizes the election code, yet is outside the period for allowable appeals based on precedence, the schedule 2 violation decision by the Student Supreme Court is overturned.

Continuing to examine issues regarding the election process has a variety of academic and economic consequences, not to mention the lack of precedence, and could eventually disenfranchise the majority of students who voted in the election. I therefore believe it is in the best interest of all parties and students involved, that the election be certified and Inauguration take place on Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at 5:00PM, with no additional complaints regarding any of the election process heard.

This election has brought to light a variety of concerns regarding the election code, that is not the fault of either of the parties involved, and continuing to enforce such a troubled document is not beneficial. I would urge the Student Senate to consider a revision of the relevant statutes in light of the issues with which the Elections Commission and Supreme Court have grappled over the past weeks. In fact, a comprehensive review of the Elections Code contained in Student Body Statutes Chapter 700 would be advisable.

Sincerely,

Mary B. Coburn  
Vice President for Student Affairs