

May 27, 2020

Election Committee
AFT Faculty Guild Local 1521
3356 Barham Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90068

RE: Multiple Violations of Election Code #10

Dear Ms. Zelaya,

I am writing to inform the Election's Committee of the AFT Faculty Guild Local 1521 that I am disenchanted with and I am challenging the results and the validity of the run-off election for West Los Angeles College counted today. I believe that my opponent Ms. Chee violated the AFT Election Code #10 – Campaigning on multiple occasions and her conduct violates the election rules all candidates signed to follow.

AFT Election Code #10 states "Federal law prohibits the use of any union or employer resources to promote the candidacy of any person in a union election." Additionally, "Campaigning may not be conducted at campus meetings or events other than the candidate forums and union chapter meetings" (Election Code 10, page 3). It was brought to my attention that the following events took place:

- To change the electorate base in her favor, Ms. Chee contacted adjunct faculty who teach at both West Los Angeles College and East Los Angeles College to change their home campus to West Los Angeles.
- On April 2, Ms. Chee scheduled a "Happy Hour (Adjunct Faculty Senate Division)" zoom session with the following agenda:
 - Remote transition week triumphs and challenges
 - Senate Voting rights for adjunct faculty
 - Building an adjunct faculty community and ...

It was confirmed by the WLAC Academic Senate President, Holly Bailey-Hoffman, that this event was not sanctioned by the Academic Senate and this zoom link was sent via campus email.

- The Academic Senate does not have a Division for Adjuncts. This was a false statement made by Ms. Chee to attract adjuncts. In short, she was campaigning in disguise.
- When it was discovered that the AFT 1521A Staff Guild ballots were sent to 11 faculty by mistake, the staff from AFT 1521A and AAA were diligent in promptly correcting this issue.

There was one WLAC faculty member who sent me a picture of the AFT 1521A Staff Guild ballot that he received in the mail. Following the Election Code, I immediately forwarded the text message to the Mr. Robert Salazar, AFT 1521 Staff Guild member. He informed the me that this was a mistake and it was corrected immediately.

As I understand the other 10 incidences were reported by Ms. Chee. She was copied in the emails and appeared to be advocating for herself and campaigning for votes using the campus email system.

- I received several communications from my colleagues that Ms. Chee sent them a random emails to their campus email starting with greetings such as " It's been a long time since we connected " and " I recall that we were on [__] Committee and we have not spoken in a while" and then proceeded to campaign using the campus email system. Once again, a violation of the prohibition on using District resources and the college email system.

I am confident that there are other incidences in which Ms. Chee used unethical campaigning strategies that clearly violate other aspects of the election code of the AFT Faculty Guild Local 1521. With the above mention violations of Election Code #10, I am requesting that the Election Committee make a recommendation to the AFT Faculty Guild Executive Board to invalidate the final outcome of the WLAC run-off election for West Los Angeles College for violation of the Election Process Code.

In solidarity,



Tim Russell