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EGC DECISION

February 2, 2023

After conducting a diligent and thorough review, the Elections Governance Committee (EGC) has concluded that Bhumeet Gupta has violated 3.1 and 3.2 of the Elections Violation Policy. This violation occurred when Bhumeet Gupta posted a photo in front of the trophy case at Alumni Hall, which contained Western logos and a purple background. Consequently, the EGC has sanctioned Bhumeet Gupta a warning for a minor violation and an order to remove the post from his social media. The full report is attached.

For further inquiries, please contact Mason Brown at cro@westernusc.ca.

Candidate(s) under review: Bhumeet Gupta

Deliberations: January 29, 2023

Present: DRO (Non-Voting), [REDACTED]

1. Allegation(s)

- a. Bhumeet Gupta is alleged to have violated sections 3.1 and 3.2 of the Elections Violation Policy for posting a photo in front of trophies at Alumni Hall that contained the Western logo and the colour purple. Exhibit A shows the graphic in question.

2. Violation Under By-Law #2/EGC Violations Policy

- a. Section 3.1 “Candidates in all elections shall refrain from the use of the USC or University logo and any other USC or University copyrighted material or image when producing materials printed, written, or otherwise produced for the purposes of campaigning.”
- b. Section 3.2 “Candidates shall not be able to choose as their campaign colour the colour purple or any colour that could be reasonably perceived to be purple.” During the All-Candidates Meeting, candidates were informed not to use the colour purple at all.

3. Investigative Action Taken by the EGC

- a. The Committee members examined the submitted evidence (Exhibit A) to determine the validity of the allegation.
- b. Gupta was invited to a hearing on January 30th, 2023 at 7:00 PM to present his side of the case and any evidence he may have. Gupta attended the hearing.
- c. During the hearing, Gupta stated that he understood the policy and mentioned he tried to avoid infringing upon the policy by blurring copyrighted materials; however, he was unsuccessful in doing so. Gupta acknowledged the inclusion of copyrighted logos and apologized to the Committee.
- d. The Committee also inquired if the account on which the photo was posted belonged to Gupta; he confirmed it was his account.

4. The EGC’s Findings

- a. Given the evidence and candidate statement, the EGC found that Bhumeet Gupta had violated sections 3.1. and 3.2. of the EGC Violations Policy.

5. Decision

- a. In committee quorum, the EGC agreed that Bhumeet Gupta was in violation of Sections 3.1. and 3.2. of the EGC Violations Policy, which is a non-disqualifiable offence.
- b. As such, the EGC has issued Bhumeet Gupta a warning and an order to delete the post.

Approved for release:

Mason Brown
Chief Returning Officer, USC
Elections Governance Committee

Daivik Shelat
Deputy Returning Officer, USC
Elections Governance Committee

Exhibit A:



bhumeet4senate



 and 42 others

bhumeet4senate Hello! My name is Bhumeet Gupta. As a dedicated and passionate student, I believe that I would be an excellent addition to the team of senate and... more

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7 hours ago