Boston University | Student Elections Commission
Official Statement

7:00 PM, April 21, 2011

The Student Elections Commission received the following complaint from an anonymous student at 1:34 AM on April 21, 2011, assigned reference number 9:

> Gabe Rivas sent an email message to all students currently taking Core courses during the busiest time of the Core process through the "email" function on the SMGTools platform. This violates numerous sections of the code: 1) 3.4.11b states emails must be sent between 8p-8a EST; this email was sent around 2:30p. 2) 3.4.11e states recipients must be specified in the To or CC lines, my email came as a BCC, per SMGTools policy. 3) 3.4.11f states all emails must CC election@bu.edu; this email does not reflect this. 4)3.4.11g provides a disclaimer that must appear at the bottom of all email messages; this email does not contain this statement. 5) 3.4.11h states that candidates may not use "University tools, such as, but not limited to, … SMGTools".

After consideration of the complaint, the SEC has issued the following ruling:

> Based on the evidence submitted by the complainant and collected independently by the SEC, we have found with a vote of 5-0 (1 abstention) that the following violations have taken place:
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> I.   That the email in question violated section 3.4.11 of the Elections Code, subsections b, e, g, and h. Therefore, the "Rhettvolution" slate shall be charged with eighty (80) violation points.
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> II. That the email in question violated the SMG Academic Conduct Code's Policy on Computing Ethics, which states that "you must not use any computing facility irresponsibly or in a way that might needlessly interfere with the work of other. This includes transmitting or making accessible… materials such as chain letters, unauthorized mass mailings, or unsolicited advertising." Therefore, the "Rhettvolution" slate shall be charged with one hundred twenty (120) violation points.
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> III. That the email in question violated the Boston University Lifebook's Policy on Computing Ethics, which states that "the unauthorized or improper use of Boston University's computer facilities… constitutes a violation of University policy." Therefore, the "Rhettvolution" slate shall be charged with two hundred (200) violation points.
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> In total, the "Rhettvolution" slate shall be assessed four hundred (400) violation points for this incident, for a cumulative total of four hundred (400) violation points.