



University of Denver

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Platform

As Approved by Dillon Doyle

Tuesday, April 13th, 2009

Denver, CO

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Preamble

In this state of both great turmoil, fear, and uneasiness, there has come a spirit of change and hope never before seen in my generation. Over the past decade our country has divided to extremes never seen before; our economy is in shambles, and even conservative estimates of future outlook are extremely grim. But despite all of these circumstances, never before have I felt the collective force of the voices of the people. Although divided, people are coming together to avert disaster and restore America to the mantle it belongs.

Every day I feel the collective force driving us all. I feel the voices of the students asking for reform and representation. I feel the need for action, no matter where on the political spectrum said action may fall. People are coming together, they are working, they are making their voices heard. This truly aspirational collective force drives me to work for what I believe in, and for the greater good of our community, both on-campus and off.

As a student representative in the AUSA Senate I will strive to make my constituency and all student voices heard. I will fight for reform. I will work towards increasing sustainability. But perhaps more importantly I will fight for campus unity and collaboration. As a Senator I would be able to add a substantial amount of diversity, culture, and general creative thinking to the collective stew of DU.

Representing my constituency, I will not only act in the best interests of those who I directly represent, but also in the interests of the University and its student body. Whatever the issue, I will do the due diligence and prepare myself to represent you.

As a Senator, I will use my power and clout to voice the concerns of the students. I will fight for sustainability and diversity, and I will act in the general interest of the students. I will strive to make the AUSA Senate approachable, both through the removal of the “misconception shroud” and by making the AUSA Senate more transparent. I will fight to rewrite the constitution, and to generally make the Senate process more fair and democratic.

I Dillon Doyle will strive to be a worthy and just representative of the student body.

On Ecology

Essay

The unprecedented breadth and magnitude of western industrialized civilization has forever altered the state of our now enfeebled planet. Today we stand on the precipice of the demise of enlightened culture; the now irresolute fabric of our existence is threatened by our vastly selfish unsustainable choices. We are on the verge of immutable destruction. Our choices have brought about economic chaos, the likes of which our generation has never seen. We have fostered wars of imperialism due to our ravenous appetite for unsustainable fuels and nutrients. The Earth is now scarred with countless millions of tones of non-biodegradable man-made refuse. Our future is unknown. We live in uncertain times.

While tremendous and commendable progress has been made to mitigate our ecological nightmare, mitigation is not enough. We live in a obsolescence based economy, where great emphasis is placed on “token virginity”. That is, new and never used (or virginal) is deemed remarkably better than used. The oddity that is new car smell baffles me. I don’t understand the attraction towards off-gased and leached chemicals, some of which are proven carcinogens, immunosuppressors, and endocrine interrupters.

Everyday we produce millions of pounds of non-recyclable and non-biodegradable materials. We must use market forces to stop the production of this matter. We must boycott the use of these resources, and call for sustainable and healthy alternatives. We the people must use our choice, we must use our constitutionally granted right to free speech in order to express our outrage and dissatisfaction. Acting together we can change the world.

While meritorious in ideological base, the mechanism of modern recycling is inherently flawed. For the most part we do not recycle, we down-cycle. That is the materials being recycled are not meant for infinite cyclic reuse. The composition of almost all of our materials when recycled does not allow for the material to be re-used for the same purposes. If one recycles their PET bottle (plastic soda can), it may be turned into a textile. Forgetting the fact that this process consumes vast amounts of energy and emits dangerous chemicals (as well as exposes the end user to greater off-gassing of carcinogenic chemicals), the textile produced cannot be practically reused again. Attempting to recycle this material results in a vastly inferior and useless product. The bottles’ life-cycle is extended by one generation only. The bottle has been down-cycled.

In order to complete a sustainable fully cyclic cycle we must design our products with intention. We must use healthy materials that are not only fully reusable with little to no energy input, but we also must use matter that is beneficial to the environment. Imagine using a soda bottle made from natural and sustainable sources, compiled in a environmentally beneficial manor. Imagine if we put a seed in each bottle. Imagine the bottle rapidly decomposing, providing necessary nutrients and nitrogen to the seed, thus fostering the growth of a tree, helping to restore the earth’s natural balance and forests. Imagine instead of the vast sea of no littering seeing a multitude of radically different *please* litter signs in applicable public spaces.

We must strive for ecological diversity to maintain itself in our culture. We must re-evaluate what is considered productive, which is the primary measure of our economic prosperity. We must strive to be like a cherry tree. If one looks at a cherry tree through the heuristic of our modern industrialized economy, they would consider the tree extremely inefficient; it wastes “valuable” resources to create hundreds of flower blossoms and cherry fruits, when generally only one cherry pit will spawn a new tree (the ultimate goal in the tree’s fitness economy). However “inefficient” this process may seem, it is in fact extremely beneficial for the tree’s well being. The flowers and fruit attract necessary fauna which help diversify the local ecology, and thus increase the nutrient capacity of the land. The decomposing cherry fruits are eaten by animals, whose excrement helps foster further growth. The cherry tree has a positive impact on the environment which is not only sustainable but in fact fosters further growth, as well as diversification and development, which is an often sought after goal in our current economic market. Growth for growths sake will become good when we as a society re-evaluate the way in which we grow, allowing for an infinitely productive and “efficient” society.

In order to avert what seems as almost certain destruction we must change now. We must re-evaluate the principles of our society and market, and we must act as one to force the market to change in a ecologically positive manor. Imagine a building a tree, and a city a forest; working together to foster cyclical and reciprocating environmentally positive growth, together we can *and must* change the world.

Therefore (platform),

I strive to live my life in the least negatively impact-full way I can, striving to impact my environment in a positive manor. I attempt to have an ecologically beneficial influence. While I try to remain ecologically positive, I acknowledge that whilst living in a capitalistic college environment which resides in our current culture it is impossible to live completely cradle to cradle. I therefore strive not only to reduce and use intelligent materials, but when I can no longer reduce or choose to use a cradle to cradle product, I strive to offset my impact through environmental projects. I strive to educate others and fight for a smart materialistic revolution. The following are goals and initiatives to work towards in terms of increasing the sustainability and creating a positive environmental impact at the University of Denver.

Printing Reform

One may only reduce their consumption of paper and printing to a certain extent. While the digitalization of documents has greatly reduced our dependance on copied paper, in our current academic setting it is impossible to completely eliminate paper consumption. It is also not within the Universities scope currently to use sustainable soy laser toner as it is viewed as fiscally prohibitive. As a Senator, I will work towards capital investments in energy efficient duplex printers, and education on paper waste. Since we can currently only mitigate our printing to a certain extent, in order to attempt to further offset our emissions I propose using a tiny portion of the money earned from printing on our campus to offset emissions through both carbon credits and investments in other renewable projects both local and national.

Working With Sodexo

As a Senator and student activist I have worked with various student environmental causes and Sodexo to foster greater sustainability and education. Holding a foods forum, we garnered the attention of Sodexo and relevant staff. I will continue to strive to maintain a working relationship with Sodexo, primarily through the founding of a student food's committee which would be responsible for voicing student concerns and taking necessary action. I will continue to work

with the AUSA sustainability committee to use composting for all Sodexo food scraps and compost-able waste. I will continue to help see through the implementation of the community garden and other local foods initiatives. I will strive to reduce the consumption of bottled water, and attempt to replace PET plastics with glass or other more sustainable options.

Recycling and Composting

While we as a society must focus on more intelligent products, we must also do everything currently possible to mitigate our current impact. This means recycling all that is recyclable, and composting everything else. In theory, our campus could be waste free with just a few simple changes. There are only a few products we use on-campus that are not recyclable or compost-able, as there are alternatives for many of the products we currently use that aren't sustainable in the least. As Senator, I will fight for a recycling bin next to every trash can, a converting a portion of outside trash cans into recycling bins; In the Daniels School of Business, every trash can is matched with a recycling bin, and the ratio of recycling to trash generated from the building is vastly greater (in terms of amount of recycling per ton of waste) than at the greater University. I will use Daniels School of Business as a positive example in order to foster more recycling on-campus. Our school is also lacking student composting. I will strive to educate students on the composting features of the new community garden, as well as fight for student composting bins which would be taken offsite by our current waste management company where it is composted in a fiscally responsible manor.

Five Obtainable and Tangible Goals

- 1) Capital investments for duplex printers
- 2) Recycling bins next to every trash can on-campus, or a conversion of a proportion of outdoor bins.
- 3) Sodexo composting
- 4) Reducing bottled water consumption, and replacing PET plastics
- 5) Adding sustainable printing practices

On Diversity

On Diversity

It is of vital importance to not only increase the diversity of our University, but to Liberaally further diversity issues on-campus by creating a more accepting and fair environment of higher education and livelihood.

Not only is this University a place where students come to learn in a fair environment, but it is a place of living. Wether or not you live on-campus, our University is your home. We are working towards uniting the campus, but with this newfound community comes the issue of diversity. Where our University obviously lacks in physical diversity it attempts to make up for in social diversity. It is only mildly successful. More needs to be, and can be done, to further the diversity of incoming students. A lot of the problems we face when attracting students to our University is a lack of inclusive policy and acceptance. We as a campus can, and need to, do a lot to be more inclusive and understanding.

We must stand by the approach of policy interaction in a fair and legal manor. This means passing legislation and working with the bureaucracy of our institution to institutionalize changes for the betterment of our culture on-campus. Without the institutionalization of accepting policies we will never become multifarious.

A big part of being diverse and accepting is to make an effort. We must make the effort to accommodate the sundry of needs from a diverse student body. We must go above and beyond state and national laws. We must work to become accommodating to those who may not even attend our University. With accommodation comes students who fit said accommodation, and thus a more heterogeneous University.

We must also not limit ourselves on diversity in terms of just race, religion, and sexual orientation. We must look to any group who may feel unequal, we must be accommodating. This may mean adapting for the betterment of a group of marginalized peoples who may not fit into social norms. This may mean sticking up for the free speech rights of the far religious right, no matter how "un-accepting" or "un-diverse" their beliefs are. We as an institution must carefully balance the line between legitimate personal belief and infringement on others. We must shy away from becoming a overly socially acceptable diverse body by silencing valid opinions that our society has deemed offensive and inappropriate. We must work to protect all, no matter how much we disagree with a legitimate belief.

At the same time we must work to ensure that all have a safe environment to learn and live. We must not let other's beliefs and thoughts infringe on one's ability to learn, be social, and live. We must be careful in drawing the line of infringement, doing so through a pluralistic democratic process that takes into account the opinions of all in a fair manor. We must strive for a more liberal and accepting notion of diversity, and we as a University must unite together for the betterment of our prestigious alma mater.

Therefore (platform)

As an AUSA I will continue to voice the opinions of all, no matter how much I agree with their beliefs. I will strive to make our University more diverse, and I will fight for the rights of all, not just a small set of socially defined minorities.

Gender Neutral

As an AUSA Senator I founded the University of Denver Gender Neutral Task Force which is working towards gender neutral housing. We have already changed the bathroom policy of Housing and Residential education to be more inclusive of those who may identify differently, and gender neutral housing is within grasping distance. As an AUSA I will continue to work for gender neutral housing.

Free Speech

As an AUSA Senator I have voiced the opinions of those that have been ostracized by social norms. I have defended the rights of all that are legitimate, no matter how much I disagree with them (including the Press Club!). I will continue to voice the opinions of all, no matter how I perceive the issue. I will work to reform University posting regulations to allow for a freer community discourse.

Marginalization

As an AUSA Senator I will strive to make sure that no student feels marginalized in our institution. No matter how socially unacceptable, as long as one does not violate basic liberal democratic principles, I will defend them. All deserve a voice.

Five Obtainable And Tangible Goals

- 1) Change University Posting Regulations
- 2) Make Sure All Voices Are Heard
- 3) Fight For The Right For Student Discourse Through All Mediums
- 4) Enact Gender Neutral Housing
- 5) Further The Diversity of Our University

On Democracy

Essay

The fight for a socially just and liberal government is an often misunderstood and continual fight for freedom. Freedom to me is the ability to make choices that do not negatively effect others, the ability think, speak, and act without the interference of external forces. Albeit, to some extent freedom must be limited in order to curtail undue violence, injustice, and inequality. But the question remains, where does one draw the metaphysical “line of freedom”. Who is to say how much external forces should limit one’s actions. It is socially acceptable to curtail one’s freedom in regards to taking another life, but the extent that one’s freedom must be infringed upon to insure that everyone shall have the same opportunity violates basic laissez-fair free market principles, thus causing great public divide.

In our constitutional democratic republic, the extent to which freedom is limited, or one’s rights, are defined by law and socially accepted public order. At the University of Denver one’s rights are decided upon by in part by, the Board of Trustees, various forms of bureaucracy, and the AUSA Senate. Having control over the student activity fee, the AUSA Senate has drafted a set of rules and regulations to oversee the governing of these funds, the AUSA constitution and it’s bylaws. This means that your right as a student, your right to join “sanctioned organizations”, your organization’s right to do as it wishes, is determined by the AUSA Senate, which ultimately isn’t an autonomous entity (the Board of Trustees has an inordinate amount of oversight). Through a series of somewhat unbalanced and contrived sets of checks and balances, the Senate votes on your rights as a student. Having the power to endorse projects, initiatives, and policy it does not have the right to enact, the AUSA Senate also, to the extent of how it’s image and reputability are taken into account, has power over broader rights to you as a student.

In order to protect your rights as a student I advocate a sort of liberalism of fear, or a government that is fully capable of doing it’s job, but does not have unnecessary and unchecked power. The Senate must fully restore it’s ability to punish those who break policy and legislation, whilst at the same time focus on not abusing it’s power. The Senate needs to endorse transparency, and students must be skeptical of any and all action. Investigate everything, dissent against what you see as wrong. Be active. Without an active and democratic student body, the Senate’s power goes unchecked, and your rights as a student suffer.

I am calling for a rewriting of the Senate constitution, making sure that all positions are checked, and allowing for more student interaction. I am calling for a provision for student led ballot initiatives during elections. I am calling for more fair funding allocation and organization structure. I am calling to check the power of the presidential veto (although never used). I am calling for the re-institution of a judicial branch to re-instate the power of the Senate to enforce rules and policy. I am calling for a more fair and just, well formed executive, legislative, and judicial branched based government.

I am calling for a better, more representative, plurality government.

Therefore (platform),

As a Senator I will strive to make the AUSA Senate as fair and just as possible. I will continue my work as Senator and strive to make our constitutional body more representative of the population it is supposed to represent.

Constitutional Reform

I will work to help create a committee to redraft the constitution of the AUSA and all of its bylaws. In its current state, there are many errors, grievances, and contradictions that have occurred as constitutional changes have occurred over the past years slap-heartedly. Because the structure of our AUSA body does not allow for permanent changes without constitutional amendments, which have to be approved by the Board of Trustees, the way in which we have historically gone about enacting policy is unsustainable, unwise, and has led to horrible records management and countless loopholes and contradictions in what has become a poorly organized and confusing set of documents. I will fight for a bare bones constitution, with the goals of creating a plurality government focusing on being an accurate representation of the student body, being just and fair, as well as providing the structure and support necessary to administer the student activity fee. I would like to see everything except basic inalienable principles defined and laid out in bylaws, which are to be amendable by a fair vote by the Senate.

Records Management

I will also work to maintain a records management committee to insure that not only are our current records maintained and well organized, but that we have a digital representation of the AUSA Senate's great and austere history. Currently, the records of our Senate are horribly misplaced, unorganized, and at times inaccessible.

Transparency

In order to check the great power of the AUSA Senate I will work to bring about transparency to our body. I will continue to fight for a digital and publicly available filming of every open Senate meeting. I will work with the webmaster to make sure that records are maintained online, and that the general student body has easy and uncomplicated access to all Senate happenings, including all financial transactions. I strive to educate my fellow peers on the Senate process, the financial happenings of our institution, and how to generally be active and democratic civically engaged students.

Five Obtainable and Tangible Goals

- 1) Create a committee to redraft the constitution of the AUSA and its bylaws focusing on fairness and central organizational structure
- 2) Help see that records management is revamped and re-organized, making all records accessible online
- 3) Enact video taping of open Senate meetings
- 4) Allow for student led ballot initiatives during elections

5) Further educate the student body on Senate happenings, functions and finances

On-Campus

Essay

As an on-campus Senator my primary objective will be to act in the best interest of the large population of will represent. Because of the two year live in requirement, our University has a large and vibrant on-campus population. Housed in dorms spanning the breadth of our campus, collectively uniting on-campus students is made more difficult by pure geography. With dorms spanning the great space our school occupies, it is sometimes an adventure to travel from JMac to Towers, which obviously does not help in uniting our school.

Arguably the most important and relevant issue in terms of on-campus housing would be it's effects on school unity and spirit, and discussing the way in which on-campus housing is able to further unify our campus as Pioneers. Because on-campus housing centers all students into relatively small campus space, it predisposes our school to an interesting set of circumstances that, for the most part, are positively beneficial to school spirit and unity. School spirit and unity isn't just rallying around a mascot. It is a culture shift. We as a school must come together. We must rid ourselves of apathy and form lasting family bonds. We must become excited at the pure mention of the Pioneers. We must kick ass and take names!

Together as both on-campus residents and as a greater University we must strive to take advantage of what some have described as the best two years of their life, and use it to create and foster a new era of school spirit. This is a culture shift, to be best accomplished with on-campus housing.

Therefore (platform)

School Spirit

As a Senator I will fight for a culture shift towards greater school spirit and unity. I will work to move students past the Boone issue, and focus on more relevant issues that will substantiate into change. I will work with on-campus students to ensure this happens.

RHA

I am a staunch defender of the Residence Hall Association. I believe that this organization does a lot of wonderful work, and I think that RHA is the best tool to enact any widespread culture shift or policy change within on-campus housing. Having said this, RHA can do a lot to improve, mainly with better leadership and involvement. I will work closely with the new president to ensure that RHA is successful, and that the organization is upholding the values and merit of our prestigious University.

Five Obtainable and Tangible Goals

- 1) Work with RHA to create a culture shift towards school unity and spirit.
- 2) Ensure the well being of on-campus students through my position, focusing on on-campus organization funding and progress.
- 3) Enact gender neutral housing (see Diversity).
- 4) Continue efforts towards sustainability with the overall goal of cutting on-campus student waste in half.
- 5) Continue to work with Sodexo to make sure on-campus residents have access to a healthy sustainable and socially just diet.

Example Legislation

Transparency: Video Taping

A Resolution

Whereas, the AUSA Senate serves to foster in others an appreciation and understanding of “democratic values and processes through participation in student government”; and,

Whereas, participation in student government may occur at any level of involvement, not just as an AUSA Senator; and,

Whereas, the AUSA Senate acknowledges that communicating the proceedings, rulings, legislation, ideas, and otherwise unstated means of government happenings to the greater student body is a key component of fostering student involvement and democracy on-campus; and,

Whereas, the AUSA Senate also acknowledges that student attendance at the AUSA Senate is not always possible; and,

Whereas, the AUSA Senate acknowledges that the provided Senate minutes are not a verbatim representation of proceedings; and,

Whereas, the AUSA Senate is in possession of 2,000 web cams; and,

Be It Resolved, that Article XI, Section 1 of the AUSA Constitution be deleted and the attached text be added; and,

Be It Further Resolved, that Article XI of the AUSA Constitution be updated to include correct section numbering

Addendum

Section 1: The AUSA Senate is responsible for hiring a webmaster that must fulfill the following duties:

- i. Maintain content for the following:
 - a. AUSA Senate main site section
 - b. Academic Affairs Committee
 - c. Board of Contingency
 - d. Diversity Committee
 - e. Finance Committee
 - f. Student Organizations Committee

Senate Affairs Committee

ii. Shall maintain video recordings of open AUSA Senate meetings, to be published to the AUSA website, in a manner that shall require no more than one navigation for access, no later than 48 hours from the conclusion of a meeting. In addition, the recordings shall be hosted on YouTube as to ensure greater community access and data retention.

- iii. Assist members of the AUSA Senate with management of content through provided web interfaces.
- iv. Is responsible for maintaining content that is not editable through a web interface.

v. Must maintain the AUSA Senate graphic identity and brand as well as adhering to the University of Denver's style guide policies established for the web.

vi. Shall work closely with each Committee Chairperson for the upkeep of the respective website.

vii. Shall communicate and cooperate with the President Pro-Tempore or his/her designee to provide content for AUSA Senate's website.

viii. Must report to AUSA Senate when requested and report directly to the President Pro-Tempore, Director of Campus Activities, and the Graduate Assistant of Campus Activities who advises the Senate.

IRV Legislation

A Resolution

Whereas, the AUSA Senate is committed to being an accurate representation and voice of the constituency of undergraduate students at the University of Denver; and,

Whereas, in order to be elected AUSA Senator, one ought to have a majority vote as defined as more than 50% of the total eligible votes; and

Whereas, the AUSA Senate ought to adopt policies to ensure that any elected AUSA Senator in fact receives a majority vote; therefore

Be It Resolved, that the AUSA Senate conduct voting in any and all of its elections using the method commonly known as Instant Runoff Voting, as specified in the attached Constitutional amendment; and

Be It Resolved, that this change is take effect for the Spring Election of 2009

Addendum

[*Italics* denote additions]

[Under **Article VII: Elections**]

Section 6: All AUSA members shall have the opportunity to vote for *their first preference for* [deleted: one] AUSA President/Vice President ticket. AUSA members shall have the opportunity to vote for Senators on the basis of their geographic location, academic class, and academic area of study *as defined below. Voting will be carried out using the procedures defined in Article VII, Sections 12 and 13 of the AUSA Constitution.*

- i. An AUSA member shall vote for two candidates representing their geographic location. (i.e., on- or off-campus).
- ii. An AUSA member shall vote for two candidates representing their academic class.
- iii. An AUSA member shall vote for the candidate(s) representing their academic area of study in the amount defined by Article IV, Section 5 of the AUSA Constitution.

Section 7: Members of the senior class will have the right to vote for the President/Vice-President and the Senator(s) representing their respective academic division.

Section 8: Candidates for any office that receive the *majority vote as defined in Article VII, Sections 12 and 13 of the AUSA Constitution* [deleted: plurality vote] shall be declared the winner of their respective election.

Section 9: All elections shall be conducted by means of electronic voting.

Section 10: The AUSA President, AUSA Vice-President, Chairs and Senators shall serve until the inauguration of the next Senate or until their seats are declared vacant.

[deleted: Section 11: In the unlikely case of an exact tie between two candidates or two tickets, the two tickets or candidates that received the plurality of the votes will be party to coin toss to determine the winner of the tie. Each ticket or candidate will chose heads or tails on a coin prior to the coin toss. The coin will be flipped three times: once by the current AUSA President, once by the Director of Campus Activities, and once by the Graduate Assistant that advises the Senate. The ticket or candidate that wins at least two of the three coin tosses will be declared the winner of the contest and the election.]

Section 11: *If an election to the AUSA Senate has only one winner, in which a winner is defined as a seated candidate or ticket, the following procedure is to be followed.*

- i. *Ballot Specifications and Directions to Voters: Ballots approved under this section shall be simple and easy to understand, and shall allow a voter to rank candidates for a position in order of choice. If feasible, ballots shall be designed such that voters may mark their first choices in the same manner as that for offices not elected by instant runoff voting. Sample ballots illustrating voting procedures shall be posted before a voter logs in to the electronic voting method. Directions provided to voters shall conform substantially to the following specifications, although subject to modification based on ballot design and voting method under the recommendation and approval of the Senate Affairs Committee: "Vote for candidates by indicating your first-choice candidate, your second-choice candidate and so on. Indicate your first choice by checking the number "1" beside a candidate's name, your second choice by checking the number "2" by that candidate's name, your third choice by checking the number "3," and so on, for as many choices as you wish or are available. You are free to rank only one candidate, but ranking additional candidates cannot help defeat your first-choice candidate. Do not mark the same number beside more than one candidate, as you will not be able to. Do not skip numbers."*
- ii. *Ballot Counting: The first choice marked on each ballot shall be counted initially as directed by the Senate Affairs Committee. If any candidate receives a majority of the first choices, that candidate shall be declared elected. If no candidate receives a majority of first choices, the Senate Affairs Committee shall conduct the instant runoff consisting of additional rounds of ballot counting. In every round of counting, each ballot is counted as one vote for that ballot's highest ranked advancing candidate. "Advancing candidate" means a candidate for that office who has not been eliminated. A candidate receiving a majority of valid votes in a round is declared elected. If no candidate receives a majority of valid votes in a round, the candidate with the fewest votes shall be eliminated, and all ballots shall be recounted. This process of eliminating the candidate with the fewest votes and recounting all ballots shall continue until one candidate receives a majority of the valid votes in a round. If a ballot has no more available choices ranked on it, that ballot shall be declared "exhausted" and not counted in that round or any*

- subsequent round. Ballots skipping one number shall be counted for that voter's next clearly indicated choice, but ballots skipping more than one number will be declared exhausted when this skipping of numbers is reached.*
- iii. *Determinations in the Case of a Tie: Any ties that could affect the outcome of the election shall be resolved by declaring elected the candidate with a plurality of first choice votes. If a tie exists of first choice votes, the candidate with a plurality of second choice votes shall be declared elected. If a tie still exists, the candidate that wins a coin flip conducted by the Director of Campus Activities shall be declared elected.*
 - iv. *Provision for Change of Voting Method: The Senate Affairs Committee may provide for the use of mechanical, electronic or other devices for marking, sorting and counting the ballots and tabulating the results, and may modify the form of the ballots, the directions to voters, and the details with respect to the method of marking, sorting, counting, invalidating, and retaining of ballots, and the tabulating and recounting of votes, provided that no change shall be made which will alter the intent or principles embodied in this law.*
 - v. *Effects on Rights of Candidates: For all statutory and constitutional provisions in the AUSA Constitution pertaining to the rights of candidates, the number of votes cast for a candidate for a particular seat shall be defined as the number of votes credited to that candidate after the initial round of counting.*

Section 12: *If an election to the AUSA Senate has two or more winners, in which a winner is defined as a seated candidate or ticket, the following procedure is to be followed.*

- i. *See Section 11, i.*
- ii. *Ballot Counting: The first choice marked on each ballot shall be counted initially as directed by the Senate Affairs Committee. If any candidate receives a majority of the first choices, that candidate shall be declared elected. The elected candidate (who had the majority vote) will then be taken out of the race, and ballots that are marked with the elected candidate as first choice will be put back into the race, utilizing the ballot's second choice to be counted in the next round of ballot counting. Another round of counting shall occur following the below stated procedures for Instant Runoff Voting until another majority count is reached for a candidate, at which point that candidate shall also be considered a winner. If no candidate receives a majority of first choices, the Senate Affairs Committee shall conduct the instant runoff consisting of additional rounds of ballot counting. In every round of counting, each ballot is counted as one vote for that ballot's highest ranked advancing candidate. "Advancing candidate" means a candidate for that office who has not been eliminated. A candidate receiving a majority of valid votes in a round is declared elected. If no candidate receives a majority of valid votes in a round, the candidate with the fewest votes shall be eliminated, and all ballots shall be recounted. This process of eliminating the candidate with the fewest votes and recounting all ballots shall continue until one candidate receives a majority of the valid votes in a round. The elected candidate (who had the majority vote) will then be taken out of the race, and ballots that are marked with the elected candidate as first choice will be put back into the race, utilizing the ballot's second choice to be counted in the next round of ballot counting. Another*

round of counting shall occur following the above stated procedures for Instant Runoff Voting until another majority count is reached for a candidate, at which point that candidate shall also be considered elected. In the case that three or more seats are being elected, the above procedure is to be followed until all seats are elected with a majority vote. Once one candidate receives a majority of the valid votes in a round, the candidate will be considered elected. If a ballot has no more available choices ranked on it, that ballot shall be declared “exhausted” and not counted in that round or any subsequent round. Ballots skipping one number shall be counted for that voter's next clearly indicated choice, but ballots skipping more than one number will be declared exhausted when this skipping of numbers is reached.

iii. See Section 11, iii.

iv. See Section 11, iv.

v. See Section 11, v.