

Hi AUS Council.

As you probably know, Student Court came down with a ruling on the AUS Presidency today. I have read the decision very carefully from beginning to end. You can find it [here](#).

Student Court has said that:

"In conclusion, I would allow the appeal, find *AMS Code* ss. IX A(9)(1), and (7)–(8) applicable to AUS elections with the qualifications expressed in [63], and declare the AUS presidential election void and of no effect."

This means that as of today, there essentially was no election for AUS President. There is some disagreement over whether this officially becomes binding today or at the next AMS meeting on April 28th--but most on the AMS think that the ruling becomes binding today.

Thus, here is what is going to happen.

1. Regardless of when the ruling becomes binding, I am stepping down as President and Elysia Pyne, our VP Internal, is now Acting President (as set out in the Order of Succession in Code). This is effectively immediately.
2. Elysia will call a Council meeting, probably on Monday at lunch. This Council meeting will have the sole purpose of deciding how to handle this situation. There are two likely possibilities:
 - a) Council appoints an Interim President for the summer until a full election can be held in the Fall. Anyone, including myself and Ryan, can be voted in by Council.
 - b) Council immediately calls for a by-election and determines how and when it will be run. This by-election will elect a President for the full year.

However: Elysia will be consulting with AUS and AMS people about what our options are constitutionally. The options above may or may not be allowed to proceed.

3. The court ruling had nothing to do with anything that Ryan, Mike, or I did during the election. It had to do with how the AUS runs its elections. In particular, the court ruled that the AUS Elections Administrator is given powers that are in violation of AMS Code. What the AUS needs to do for now is get a new President in place, and then fix this problem in advance of the next election cycle.
4. I have talked with Ryan. Both of us would like to see an election happen as quickly as possible. Both of us are comfortable with a new election. I hold nothing against Ryan for this situation; honestly, if I were in his shoes I probably would have done the same thing.
5. The most important thing is that the AUS make a reasonable decision on what is best for the Society. You need to have a President in place, but you need to make it happen in a manner that won't extend this controversy any farther. Nobody wants to become President with a dark cloud over their head from all of this. *Whatever you do, make sure you do it right!*

Obviously I'm a little frustrated. I just want to get on with the exciting plans the executive has already been discussing, and that we talked a bit about at Council on Monday. But the process is important, and

I will stand by and await Council's wisdom on how to proceed.

I also know that all of you have exams coming up. I do too. I hope you can find the time to attend the meeting and help resolve the problem, but I understand if you can't. Please, please make sure you find a proxy for the meeting though. This is extremely important.

Peace out, dawgs.

-b