

May 20, 2020

## Statement from the UCSB AS Elections Board

This statement summarizes how the AS Elections Board will address the procedure for a recall election during remote instruction in Spring 2020. As you can imagine, a potential recall during these times is unprecedented and has required that we consider a new set of procedures. Since recall elections are under the jurisdiction of the Elections Board, as of Friday 5/15, we have developed a distinctive process specifically applying to potential recalls during remote instruction. Please see the attached 'Recall Election Procedure' timeline document which outlines the process as determined by the board in collaboration with the Office of the Attorney General.

Remote instruction poses an especially unique challenge to signature collection, which has been completed in-person for as long as UCSB's Associated Students has existed. In this new reality where in-person signature collection is currently not possible, the Elections Board has had to adapt and develop an entirely new process for signature collection. AS Technology has been assisting us with the creation of an online petition platform which was completed and fully operational as of Monday 5/18. We will provide all current and future remote petitioners with a method of signature collection through our secure university platform. This process applies not only to recalls, but also to all election items that may require signatures from the student body, including new fee initiatives. According to a motion unanimously approved by the board on Friday 5/15, **under no circumstances will the AS Elections Board accept or verify any online "signatures" collected through a third-party platform.**

Additional reasons why we are requiring the use of a verified platform:

1. It provides an easy-to-use and confidential platform for signature collection through a university edu webpage, without relying on a third-party solution
2. It contains legal language from AS Election Code & Legal Code for any fee/recall petitions
3. It includes a secure digital signature field, similar to DocuSign
4. It requires sign-in with a UCSB NetID, which ensures that all signatures belong to a UCSB student, while blocking duplicate responses due to required sign-in
5. It gives the petitioner full access to the signature list while also giving administration direct access to begin & expedite the signature verification process

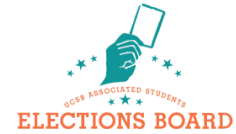
As noted in the recall procedure document and supported by Legal Code, all petitions must be sent directly to the Elections Board and be validated by AS administration. Upon validation, those results will be presented to the Senate.

A full description of Elections decisions can be found in our minutes from Friday 5/15.



# UCSB Associated Students Recall Election Procedure

Compiled by the AS Elections Board  
& the AS Office of the Attorney General



## A - SIGNATURE COLLECTION

1. Upon notification by the petitioner, the Elections Board provides them with the template (verified signatures on Docusign or similar portal) and works with them to understand the process that has been predetermined by the Elections Board
2. The petitioner has the option to inform Senate of intent to petition for a recall
3. Petition gathering can begin before or after the elected official has been sworn in
4. Petition with sufficient signatures submitted to Elections Board – sufficient signatures equal 10% of the voting membership who voted for the said office in the immediately preceding AS General Election (Executives), and 50%+1 (Senators) (Legal code: Article XI, § IV A)
5. Elections Board requests that AS staff validate that petition signers are eligible students
6. Elections Board notifies petitioner of the results of the signature validation for the petition
7. Elections Board presents the recall petition results to Senate

## B - SENATE VOTE

8. First Senate vote to ratify the petition results (procedural vote)
  - 8a. If the petition is not valid, no further action by Elections Board
  - 8b. If the petition is valid, Senate votes by 2/3 majority whether to call for a recall election (recall election is considered to be a special election) (Legal code: Article XI, § II A.2)
9. Second Senate vote on the recall election
  - 9a. If the Senate votes no on the recall election, no further action by Elections Board
  - 9b. If the Senate votes yes for the recall election, the Elections Board determines how and when the recall election will take place, by week 4 in the Fall quarter (Legal code: Article XI, § II A.1)

## C - ELECTION

10. If a recall election is held, the recall shall be effective immediately upon a 2/3 majority student vote in favor with at least 20% voter turnout (Legal code: Article XI, § IV, B)
11. Senate votes to ratify the results of the recall election
12. If recall passes, Senate votes with a 2/3 majority to call a special election to fill the recalled position (Legal code: Article XI, § II A.2)
13. Special election is held – the Elections Board will determine how and when the special election will take place (Legal code: Article XI, § II A.4)