Motion 0557

Whereas the UMSU General Election voting was held on March 9th & 10th, 2023;

Whereas Tracy Ayebare Karuhogo received the highest votes for President at 32.9% of the votes;

Whereas Victoria Romero received 32.5% of votes for President;

Whereas Roleen Alarab received 12.5% of votes for President;

Whereas 20.5% of voters abstained;

Whereas Presidential candidate, Justin Langan, was disqualified after receiving 65 demerits;

Whereas the disqualified candidate was still on the election ballot due to the timing of the disqualification;

Whereas voters weren't notified of this disqualification officially until 4:13pm before the polls closed at 5:00pm;

Whereas 912 students (22.1%) voted for the disqualified candidate;

Whereas those same 22.1% of votes count as an abstention;

Whereas the Chief Returning Officer believes that the election results may not indicate the actual preference of voters;

Whereas the Elections Manual Section XIV Penalties states:

Where a serious contravention of the election occurs, such that the results of the election could not reasonably be deemed to indicate the actual preference of the voters, that election, or part related to the contravention may be declared void.

Whereas the Elections Manual Section XXXV Ties & Recounts states:

In the event that two or more competing candidates receive an equality of votes and have the highest amount of votes for the respective position, the tie-breaking method shall differ as follows:

a. For Executive positions, there shall be a run-off election between the tied Candidates conducted as far as practicable in accordance with the Election Rules. Any such run-off election shall occur within 14 days of the final recount of the ballots of the General Election.

Be it resolved that a run-off election is scheduled between the three Presidential candidates: Tracy Ayebare Karuhogo, Victoria Romero and Roleen Alarab;

Be it further resolved that the campaign period is March 14 & 15th, 2023;

Be it further resolved that voting days are March 16 & 17th, 2023.

Moved by UMSU Chief Returning Officer.