2017 Homecoming Queen Elections Packet
Important Dates and Deadlines:
2017 Homecoming Queen Elections

**Friday, September 15, 2017:**
Homecoming Queen Nomination forms due by 5:00 P.M.
**Nominations will only be accepted online and can be found at: www.utm.edu/election.**

**Tuesday, September 19, 2017:**
Mandatory Meeting for all candidates will be at 6:00 P.M. in the University Center, Room 217.

**Monday, September 25, 2017:**
Campaign through speaking and engagements and use of internet may begin.

**Tuesday, September 26, 2017:**
Distribution and hanging of approved paper endorsements, posters, and flyers may begin.

**Friday, September 29, 2017:**
Candidate’s biographies are due to the Election Commissioner via e-mail by midnight (tyllgrah@ut.utm.edu).

**Tuesday, October 3, 2017:**
Introduction of Queen Candidates at SAC Lip Sync-7:00 P.M., North Lawn of the Elam Center.

**Wednesday, October 4, 2017:**
Homecoming Queen Elections – 10am – 6pm – Vote online at www.utm.edu/election.
Top 5 vote recipients will be notified that they will make up the Homecoming Court.

**Thursday, October 5, 2017:**
Homecoming Queen Run-off Elections *(if needed)* – 10am – 6pm – www.utm.edu/election

**Thursday, October 5, 2017:**
Members of the Homecoming Court must email the Elections Commissioner by 5:00pm to confirm your biography and identify your escort for the Crowning ceremony.

**Friday, October 6, 2017:**
Members of the 2017 Homecoming Court will be recognized at the Pyramid Show and Pep Rally.
7:00pm – Elam Center.

**Saturday, October 7, 2017:**
Crowning of the 2017 Homecoming Queen, halftime of Homecoming football game. The game kicks off at 2pm. Homecoming Court members will meet at the home side concession stand when the game reaches 2 minutes remaining in the 2nd Quarter.

**Tuesday, October 10, 2017:**
All campaign material must be disposed of by 5:00 P.M.

Tyler Graham – SGA Elections Commissioner
Email: tyllgrah@ut.utm.edu
Cell (call/text): (731) 358-5650
Section I: Elections Qualifications

Article 1:
A Homecoming Queen Nominee must be a full-time student at this university to qualify as a 2017 Homecoming Queen Nominee.

Article 2:
A Homecoming Queen Nominee must have a GPA of at least 2.50 on a 4.0 scale.

Article 3:
A Homecoming Queen Nominee must be supported by a student organization on campus. Only one student per organization may qualify as a Homecoming Queen Nominee.

Article 4:
All students seeking Homecoming Queen Candidacy must complete a Homecoming Queen Nomination form online by 5:00 P.M. on Friday, September 15, 2017. Nomination forms may be completed through the following link http://www.utm.edu/election.

Upon completion of the nomination form, an email will be sent to your organization president to approve or deny your nomination.
Nominations must be approved by the organization president to be valid.

No late forms will be allowed or accepted.

*Note: Each nominee is responsible for verifying their nomination. The Election Commissioner will reply when she receives your completed, accepted nomination form. If the nominee does not receive verification, it is her responsibility to follow up with the Elections Commissioner.
Section II:
Eligible Voters and Representation

Article 1:
All enrolled students at the University of Tennessee at Martin are eligible to vote for Homecoming Queen. In order to win the title of Homecoming Queen, a candidate must receive the majority vote. If there is a tie on Election Day, a run-off election will be held the following day between the two candidates tied candidates.

Article 2:
All eligible students are only permitted to vote once per Election Day. If a run-off election is held, all previous votes become null and all eligible students are permitted to vote again.

Article 3:
Election Polling
a. Student polling will be located:
   - Outside of the Cafeteria in the University Center
   - Online from any computer
b. The location outside of the Cafeteria is off limits to any campaign paraphernalia including but not limited to: posters, flyers, pins, or t-shirts.
c. The turning of campaign shirts inside out while around the booth is not permitted.

*Exception: Voters may wear a pin or t-shirt advocating a candidate while voting. This is with the understanding that the voter will vote and then leave the polling area. If the presence of a voter wearing a t-shirt or pin is deemed obsessive, the Election Officials may ask the said person to leave. If the voter refuses to leave the polling location, the candidate who he/she is affiliated with shall be reported to the Election Commissioner.
Section III: 
Campaign Rules

Article 1: 
Candidates are limited to six (6) posters per academic building (i.e. six posters in Humanities, six posters in Fine Arts, six posters in Brehm Hall, etc.). Any posters, campaigning materials, or speech slandering other candidates can result in referral to Student Court, and possible disqualification.

The buildings available to place campaign posters are:
- Andy Holt Humanities Building
- Joseph E. Johnson EPS Building
- Communications Building
- Gooch Hall
- Brehm Hall
- Fine Arts Building

These are the only buildings available to place posters in. If candidates place more than one name on a poster, the poster shall count as one poster for each candidate. Therefore, the Election Commissioner will allow poster sharing, but any poster with a candidate’s name or image will count as a poster towards the six poster limit. No poster shall be hung prior to Tuesday, September 26, 2017.

*Note: Posters must be approved by the building manager where each poster is hung.

Article 2: 
Flyers are limited to twenty per building.

The buildings available to place campaign flyers are:
- Andy Holt Humanities Building
- Joseph E. Johnson EPS Building
- Communications Building
- Gooch Hall
- Brehm Hall
- Fine Arts Building

These are the only buildings available to place flyers in. If candidates place more than one name on a flyer, the flyer shall count as one flyer for each candidate. Therefore, flyer sharing is allowed by the Elections Commissioner, but any flyer with a candidate’s name or image will count as a flyer towards the twenty flyer limit. No flyer shall be hung or distributed prior to Tuesday, September 26, 2017.

*Note: Flyers must be approved by the building manager where each flyer is hung.

Article 3: 
Campaign materials are allowed to be placed in the dorms. Keep all flyers, posters, etc. to a maximum of 6 in any combination. No campaign materials shall be hung or distributed in the dorms prior to Tuesday, September 26, 2017.

*Note: All campaign material placed in the dorms must be approved and permission must be granted by the Hall Director of the respective hall before hanging or distributing.
Article 4:
Signs are limited to the quad. A candidate may only place 3 signs on campus. Signs are any paper, plastic, poster board, wood, banner, and etc. document with a candidate’s name, student organization, or picture. All signs must have the approval of Tim Nipp, Director of the Physical Plant, before being posted on campus. Tim Nipp can be contacted at 731-881-7601.

Sidewalk chalk is not permitted.
No sign shall be distributed prior to Tuesday, September 26, 2017.
*Note: Stakes should not be used to place signs because of wiring and plumbing considerations.

Article 5:
Candidates are responsible for the clean-up of all campaign paraphernalia before 5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, October 10, 2017.

Article 6:
No campaign material is to be placed on the exterior of buildings, trees, light poles, garbage cans, glass, marble, or painted surfaces. Material can only be placed on approved bulletin boards inside the buildings.

Article 7:
Internet usage as a campaign form is permitted. For all Facebook groups that are created for a candidate, the Elections Commissioner must be an administrator of the group, and receive all messages sent out to the group. For all e-mails sent, the Election Commissioner must be copied to the e-mail. If any derogatory remarks are made about any other candidates, the candidate found making the remarks will be referred to the Student Court, with the suggestion of removal from the election. No electronic campaigning shall begin prior to Monday, September 25, 2017.

Article 8:
All candidates must submit a brief biography of themselves to be read at the Crowning ceremony. Biographies should include the nominee’s major, extra-curricular actives, etc. Biographies should be between 0-100 words. Please submit your biography via e-mail to the Election Commissioner by midnight on Friday, September 29, 2017.
*Note: Biographies can/may be printed in the UTM Pacer and will be as is. It is your responsibility to edit your biography and have it suitable for publication.

Article 9:
Any complaint about the election process shall be submitted typed in duplicate to the SGA Elections Commissioner.

Article 10:
Candidates are responsible for any advertisement that contains their name, image, student organization or logo. Posters, flyers, and online endorsement placed by parties other than the individual (i.e. fraternities, sororities, campus organizations, etc.) with a candidate’s name, image, etc. are subject to the limitations and restrictions previously stated in this packet.

Article 11:
No material or online endorsement shall be distributed or circulated of a negative nature. Name-calling, slander, and/or other offensive activities are prohibited. Any campaigning deemed unethical or negative by the Elections Commissioner will be addressed critically and could result in candidate disqualification.

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**Article 12:**
Speaking engagements and verbal campaigning are allowed in the University Center until 10:00 P.M. on October 3, 2017. At no time during the election day(s) may a candidate campaign by setting up tables in the University Center. A table may be set up outside the University Center, but must be at least 30 feet from the door. Upon October 7, 2016, this location becomes an official polling location and campaigning within the building could result in penalties. Absolutely no campaign materials may be placed or distributed in the University Center at any time during elections.

**Article 13:**
On election day(s) candidates and/or student organizations may not solicit votes by use of laptop or any other electronic device. This behavior will result in the referral to Student Court, and possible disqualification. It is the candidate’s responsibility to enforce the rule. If someone campaigning for the candidate is soliciting votes for a candidate without the candidate’s knowledge, it is up to the candidate to find out and stop the person from doing so.

*Example: Beth is running for Queen and sets up a table in the quad with a laptop with a link to the SGA’s website and says, “Hey! Have you voted yet? Vote for me right here.”*

**Article 14:**
No election or campaign rule shall supersede any existing University rule, policy, or regulation, which places restrictions on general student practice or behavior. Should election and University guidelines conflict, the more restrictive rule shall take precedence.

**Disclaimer:**
The SGA Elections Commissioner has the right to meet and discuss any potential violation and declare new rules upon questionable Election practices.

*Student Government Association’s Constitution, Article VII, Section 3, A: The Elections Commission shall bring any violators of the election rules and regulations as authorized by this Constitution and its By-Laws to the attention of the Procedures Committee at any time during or within one week after an election. The Procedures Committee shall then vote whether to bring charges against the said candidate to the Senate. The Student Court shall have final decision concerning these matters.*
Section IV: Mandatory Meeting

There will be a mandatory meeting for all candidates on **Tuesday, September 19, 2017** at 6:00 P.M. in the University Center, Room 217. All homecoming queen candidates must attend. If a homecoming candidate cannot attend, the candidate must send someone in their place. That is, each homecoming candidate must be represented at this meeting.

The Election Commissioner will be present to go over the campaign rules, to answer any and all questions regarding the Homecoming Elections packet, and to provide information regarding events leading up to the crowning ceremony.

If you have any questions regarding the Homecoming packet or the election, please contact the Election Commissioner:

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SGA Homecoming Court Bio Template

Please include the following information in a paragraph form to read during the half-time activities at the homecoming football game:

Name:_______________________________
Organization Representing:________________________
Major:_______________________________
Hometown:___________________________
Parents Names:____________________________________________________________

At least three extracurricular activities:
________________________________
________________________________
________________________________

Example Paragraph:

Ms. Jane Doe is representing the XYZ Sorority in 2017 SGA Homecoming Court elections. Jane is a Music major from Jackson, Tennessee. She is the daughter of Mr. John Doe and Mrs. Sally Doe. Jane is very active on campus as the President XYZ Sorority and a member of the History Club and Spanish Club.