



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Office of the Attorney General

Legal Opinion (C) (55-006)

Subject: University-Wide Initiatives and Referendum Elections

Date: July 24th, 2014

Student Body Vice President Rhondel Whyte issued a request for a legal opinion on July 24th, 2014. Student Body Vice President Whyte asked does the slash between "University-Wide initiative" and "referendum election" in Amendment 7 of the Constitution denote a separate relationship between the two?

Statue 700.45 States the following:


Student Government Referendum- An action which allows any Student Government Officer, with the consent of the Senate and Student Body President, the power to call for a Referendum in which the Student Body will vote on the issue presented to them.

Furthermore,

Statue 700.46 States the following:

Student Referendum- An action which allows any USF student, by petition, to bring forth a question or issue to be voted on by the Student Body.

Therefore, it is the opinion of the Attorney General that the definitions listed in Title 7 lead to the fact that there is a separation between a "University-Wide Initiative", what I would classify a student referendum to be since there is no definition of "University-Wide Initiative" in the current Title 7 , and a "Referendum Election".


Alexander Johnson
Attorney General



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CC:

Student Body President Jean Cocco
Student Body Vice President Rhondel Whyte
Senate President Andy Rodriguez
Senate President Pro-Tempore Abdool Aziz
Chief Justice Sammy Hamed
Senior Justice Daniel Shapiro
SGATO Assistant Director Jessica Morgan
SGATO Director Gary Manka
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