

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

USU BOARD OF DIRECTORS

What is the election all about?

The University of Sydney Union (USU) is the University's student association – run by students for students. The USU provides all the things you love about campus life (like Welcome Week, clubs and societies, parties, gigs and fab food).

We're at the heart of campus life and we aim to provide the best university experience in Australia. 11 Directors on our Board are elected in May who represent the members in making decisions about the operational and strategic business of the USU.

Between Monday 8 and Friday 12 May 2023, the USU will hold its Annual Elections to elect six new Directors, three of whom must be wom*n identifying or gender diverse. These elections are your chance to have your say on the future of the USU!

Who should I vote for?

Your vote is entirely up to you! Think about your vote. Check out the policies of all the candidates [here](#).

How do I vote?

To vote, you need to be a USU member by 4:00pm (AEST) Friday 5 May 2023. If you are a USU member, you will receive a personalised voting link in via your registered email. Click that link and cast your vote before voting closes at 5:00pm Friday 12 May 2023. We use an optional [quota preferential method of representation](#).

Place a 1 in the box for the candidate that is your first choice. If you want, you can place the number 2 in the box for the candidate that is your second choice and so on. If you want, you can place numbers in the order of your choice in as many boxes as you like.

Why didn't I get a voting link?

There could be a few reasons why you did not receive a voting link.

Firstly, you will not be able to vote unless you are an ordinary or Life member of the USU by 4:00pm (AEST) Friday 5 May 2023. If you are not a member by that date and time or if you are a community member of the USU, you are not eligible to vote.

Secondly, if you are eligible to vote, the USU may not have your correct preferred email address in our system. Please email info@usu.edu.au to update your email address and we will send you a voting link.

Thirdly, if you are eligible to vote and the USU has your correct preferred email address, the email may have gone to spam, junk mail or another folder in your email. Please check those folders. If you are still having issues, please email info@usu.edu.au.

Can I vote on campus?

The USU is conducting the 2023 Annual Elections online. If you are on campus, you may be able to access a computer or use the University wifi and vote from using the personalised voting link in your email.

When does voting open and close?

Voting opens from 9:00am (AEST) Monday 8 May 2023 and closes at 5:00pm (AEST) Friday 12 May 2023. You can vote at any time in between the opening and closing times, including late at night from Monday to Thursday.

I am from the Conservatorium or a satellite campus. Can I vote?

Yes, you can vote if you are a member of the USU by 4:00pm (AEST) Friday 5 May 2023.

I am a staff member at the University. Can I vote?

Yes, staff members of the University of Sydney can vote if you are a member of the USU by 4:00pm (AEST) Friday 5 May 2023. However, contractors of the University of Sydney are only eligible for community membership and are not able to vote.

I am a community member of the USU. Can I vote?

Community members of the USU are not eligible to vote under the USU *Constitution*. However, you will enjoy all the other benefits of membership.

I don't know who to vote for. Can I give my voting link to another person?

No. You must not give your voting link to another person. Every USU Member gets one vote and it is *your* vote to have *your* say on the future of the USU. It is a breach of the *Regulations* to provide another person with your voting link or allow another person to vote on their behalf. Also, it is a breach of the *Regulations* for another person to request your voting link or for any confirmation or receipt of their vote, or a screenshot or evidence of any confirmation or receipt of their vote.

If you don't know who to vote for, check out the policies of all the candidates [here](#).

Someone has asked me for my voting link. Can I give it to them?

No. It is a breach of the *Regulations* for another person to request your voting link. You should not give anyone your voting link. Your voting link is for you personally. If you see a breach of the *Regulations*, report the matter to the Returning Officer [here](#).

I gave my voting link to someone else. Can I submit a new vote?

If you gave your voting link to someone else, please email info@usu.edu.au as soon as possible and we will provide you with a new voting link. We will invalidate and cancel your previous vote. Please remember that you need to submit your new vote before voting closes at 5:00pm (AEST) Friday 12 May 2023.

Someone has intimidated, harassed or coerced me to vote. Can I submit a new vote?

If you did not cast a free vote, please email info@usu.edu.au as soon as possible and we will provide you with a new voting link. We will invalidate and cancel your previous vote. Please remember that you need to submit your new vote before voting closes at 5:00pm Friday 12 May 2023.

It is a breach of the *Regulations* for a person to hinder or interfere with your free exercise of the right to vote in an election. And it is also a breach of the *Regulations* for someone to harass, intimidate or coerce you to vote for or against a candidate. If you see a breach of the *Regulations*, report the matter to the Returning Officer [here](#).

Someone has asked me for my confirmation or receipt of my vote. Can I give it to them?

No. It is a breach of the *Regulations* for another person to request a confirmation or receipt of your vote, or a screenshot or evidence of any confirmation or receipt of your vote. You should not give anyone a confirmation of your vote or a password to a confirmation. This is so to protect the secret ballot. If you see a breach of the *Regulations*, report the matter to the Returning Officer [here](#).

How do I change or revoke my vote?

You can request to change or revoke your vote by emailing info@usu.edu.au. It is a breach of the *Regulations* for another person to request your voting link or use your voting link. If you see a breach of the *Regulations*, report the matter to the Returning Officer [here](#).

I've got another question. How do I contact the USU?

If you see a breach of the *Regulations*, report the matter to the Returning Officer [here](#). If you have another question, please email info@usu.edu.au.