

Student Council Elections 2014-2015: Explanation Voting System

In response to student's request, hereby an explanation of the voting system for the upcoming elections (21 and 23 May). This system is prescribed in art. 50-54 of the VU-regulation 'Regeling Medezeggenschap Studenten'.

Imagine the following vote distribution among candidates of three lists:

list A	List B	List C
C1: 17	C1: 5	C1: 20
	C2: 7	
	C3: 14	
	C4: 24	
	C5: 13	
Total: 17	Total: 63	Total: 20

Total number of votes: 100

Total number of seats: 5

Electoral quotient: 20

The elections take place according to a **list**-system. This means that seats are primarily allotted to lists, and then to the candidates on those lists, according to the following procedures:

Seat allocation to the lists:

- The total number of valid votes is divided by the number of seats to determine the so-called 'electoral quotient': ($100/5 = 20$)
- A list is guaranteed to get a seat each time it attains the electoral quotient:
List A: only has seventeen rest-votes.
List B : gets three seats, and has three rest-votes.
List C: gets one seat, no rest-votes.
- So far four seats have been allotted. The remaining seat goes to the list with the most rest-votes, in this case List A.

Seat allocation to candidates:

- Both candidates of lists A and C each get one seat, no complications there.
- List B has five candidates and only three seats. Two rules apply:
 - (a) If an individual candidate reaches the electoral quotient, he or she is guaranteed to get a seat (so-called preference voting). This applies to C4.
 - (b) The remaining seats are allotted to *the highest on the list*, in this case C1 and C2.

Election result:

List A: One seat (C1)

List B: Three seats (C1, C2, C4)

List C: One seat (C1)

AUC Election Committee.