

DECISIONAL MEMORANDUM

Date: 10/18/18

Re: Parliamentary Counselor v. Parliament

ISSUES

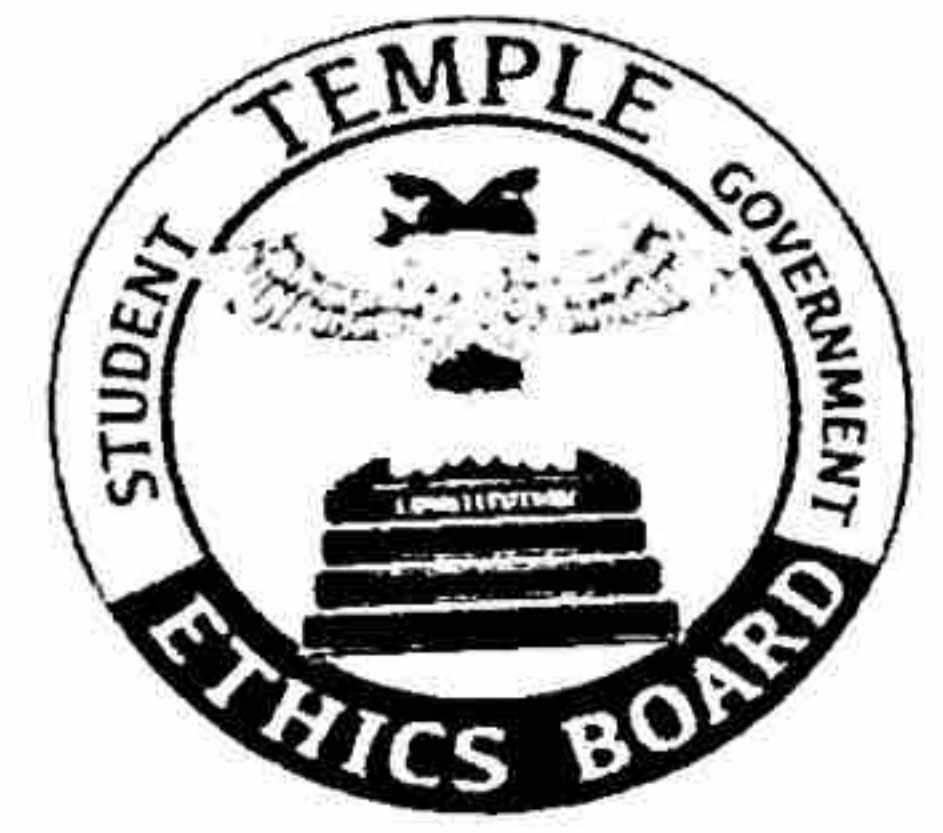
- Whether the Parliamentary Counselor has the Constitutional authority to run any full Parliament sessions in the absence of the Speaker and the Speaker Emeritus. Whether or not the Parliamentary Counselor has the right to run the first Parliament session before Speaker Elections takes place.

1. Statement of Facts

Upon careful examination of the Constitution and the Parliament Bylaws, I took notice of the Parliament Bylaws stating that the Parliamentary Counselor is able to lead Parliament sessions when the Speaker and the Speaker Emeritus is unavailable. This was in the Parliament Bylaws prior to the Constitution's amendment. This does not align with the TSG Constitution because the Parliamentary Counselor is not supposed to lead Parliament sessions at all.

II. Constitutional Analysis

In the absence of the Speaker, the meetings are presided over by the Speaker Emeritus or in their absence the Parliamentary Counselor: "Elections for the Speaker shall be held on the



second official Parliament meeting of each semester; this meeting is presided over by the Speaker Emeritus, or in their absence the Parliamentarian P II, ii, i." This was prior to the role of the Parliamentary Counselor being restructured in the Constitution. The current Constitution does not give the Parliamentary Counselor the right to run a meeting. The duties of the Parliamentary Counselor shall include, but are not limited to, "1. Interpreting and enforcing the Temple Student Government Constitution for the Parliament 2. Maintaining the Temple Student Government Bylaws TSG IV, i." The Speaker is the sole leader of Parliament sessions: "The Parliament shall be led by a Speaker duly elected from among the Representatives TSG, III, ii." If the Speaker is the sole leader of Parliament sessions, then the Parliamentary Counselor does not have the right to hold a meeting in the absence of the Speaker or Speaker Emeritus.

III. Conclusion

For the preceding reasons, I strike Section 1, Article II Section 2 Subsection A. of the Parliament Bylaws. The Parliament Bylaws need to be amended to align with the principles stated in the Constitution in regards to the Parliamentary Counselor's role. Nowhere in the Constitution does it state that the Parliamentary Counselor has the right to run a Parliament meeting.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Nancy Allen', is written over a horizontal line.

Nancy Allen, Parliamentary Counselor