

Supreme Court of the Student Government
Association

Louisiana Tech University

Ruling: 20-21:1

Argued January 14, 2021 – Decided January 14, 2021

On Petition from the SGA Executive.

Background

On Thursday, February 14, 2021, President Zac Little, of the Student Government Association, formally petitioned the Court for clarification on eligibility of a candidate for a college senate seat. President Little informed the Court that the student in question was applying to serve as the College of Education Senate seat; however, the student in question was only minoring in a College of Education related degree. President Little was unsure of the student's eligibility for the seat considering this.

Ruled: After deliberation, the Supreme Court ruled that the student in question was not eligible to serve as the Academic College Senator because of the lack of direct involvement within that Academic College specifically. The Court ruled that a minor fails to constitute proper representation of that Academic College as a whole.

McClinton, G., delivered the Opinion of the Court, in which all other members joined. Jacobs, J., presided over all Court proceedings.

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JUSTICE MCCLINTON delivered the Opinion of the Court.

According to the Constitution of the Student Government Association of Louisiana Tech Article III.3.E.c., candidates for college senate seats, “Must not drop below full-time status and must remain in their respective academic college throughout said term of office. (If appointed by the Student Body President in the event of a vacancy, a candidate shall not be required to have been a student of their respective college for two consecutive quarters.)” The latter clause of this article would apply in this case, if the student were a full-time student in their respective college to begin with. This article is not intended to extend eligibility to a student who has little to no academic involvement with the academic college they intend to represent in the Student Senate. It is the Opinion of the Court that a minor, specifically the UTeach program, does not qualify a student to serve as the College of Education Senator.

Furthermore, the aforementioned article states that the student must continue to be enrolled full-time in their respective academic college. Considering the student in question is majoring in a degree offered by a completely separate academic college at Louisiana Tech University and their only involvement with the College of Education is the UTeach program, the student would not be eligible after appointment, to continue to serve as the College of Education Senator.

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John Jacobs

Chief Justice


Ally Peters

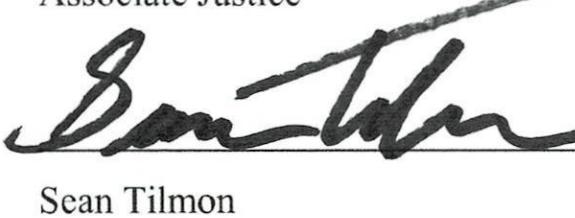
Associate Justice


Gage McClinton

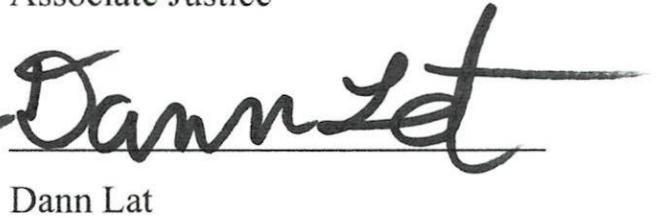
Associate Justice


Dalton Tackett

Associate Justice


Sean Tilmon

Associate Justice


Dann Lat

Associate Justice


Victoria Wells

Associate Justice


Gwyneth Edwards

Associate Justice


Keaton Holley

Associate Justice