29th July, 2024.

The Electoral Commission

Student Representative Council

University of Ghana

Legon.

Dear Electoral Commissioner,

**PETITION FOR THE DISQUALIFICATION OF EMMANUEL OWUSU AMPONSAH FROM UGSRC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY**

I, Leslie David Semokor Kwasi, the incumbent Deputy Organising Secretary of the Sociology Students’ Association (SOSA), hereby submit this formal petition requesting the disqualification of Emmanuel Owusu Amponsah from contesting for the position of President of the University of Ghana Students' Representative Council (UGSRC). This petition is based on the following serious offences committed by Emmanuel Owusu Amponsah during his tenure as SOSA General Secretary:

Firstly, Emmanuel Owusu Amponsah engaged in the misappropriation of SOSA departmental dues. In the first semester of the 2023/24 academic year, he received SOSA departmental dues into his personal account rather than the designated departmental mobile money account. During the manual registration process, which began on 16 October 2023, students were directed to make payments directly to his personal account. This practice clearly violates the principles of financial transparency and accountability as stipulated in University of Ghana Student Representative Council (UGSRC) Article 30(2)(a), which states that “A person shall not be qualified to be an Executive Officer if he/she has been adjudged or otherwise declared by a judicial or quasi-judicial body to have misappropriated funds or conducted himself in such a manner as to cause depreciation in respect of loss or otherwise in any cash or property entrusted to him.”

Secondly, Emmanuel Owusu Amponsah has made unlawful threats against me, including threats of arrest and threats to my life. Such conduct is in direct violation of the University of Ghana Statutes, Non-Academic Offences Article 7.11(c)(v), which prohibits engaging in a course of vexatious conduct directed at specific individuals that is known to be unwelcome and exceeds the bounds of freedom of expression or academic freedom.

Additionally, there have been numerous instances where Emmanuel Owusu Amponsah has transferred departmental funds to the president’s room without involving other executives. This action constitutes a violation of Non-Academic Offences Article 7.11(c)(xv), which states that “Counselling, procuring, conspiring with, abetting, inciting, or aiding a person in the commission of an offence.” This practice raises serious concerns about the integrity and transparency of financial management within SOSA, contravening the principles of collective decision-making and accountability.

Moreover, during the initial two days of manual registration, a total of GHS 29,950.00 was collected. However, only GHS 10,190.00 was deposited into the departmental bank account. The remaining GHS 19,760.00 is unaccounted for, indicating a clear case of embezzlement. This act directly contravenes Article 30(2)(a) of the UGSRC Constitution, which disqualifies individuals who have misappropriated funds. Additionally, Article 30(2)(b) states that a person shall not be qualified if he/she has been found by any committee of inquiry in this University to be incompetent to hold any office or to have acquired assets unlawfully or defrauded the SRC or other body, or misused or abused his office, or wilfully acted in a manner prejudicial to the interests of students.

In light of these offences, I respectfully urge the Electoral Commission to disqualify Emmanuel Owusu Amponsah from contesting for the UGSRC Presidential position. His actions demonstrate a clear disregard for the ethical standards and responsibilities required of a student leader.

Finally, I hereby request the release of the committee report from the SOSA department regarding the aforementioned financial irregularities. This report should be made available to the public to ensure transparency and uphold the integrity of our student governance.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Yours faithfully,

Leslie David Semekor Kwasi

Current Deputy Organising Secretary, SOSA

CC: Dean of Student Affairs

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