Election Procedures

2019

GSS Election Committee
2019 UBC Graduate Student Society

Election Procedure Guideline

2019 Election Positions:

- President
- VP Academic & University Affairs
- VP External
- VP Students
- 2 Senator positions

Key Dates:

- Nomination Period: 4:30pm, Friday, January 18th to 4:30 pm, Friday, February 15th
- All Candidates Meeting: 5:15pm to 6:15pm, Friday, February 15th, at GSS Loft Room located on the 4th floor of the Nest
  - *Required attendance by all candidates except by special permission*
- Candidate Profile Submission: 4:30pm, Wednesday, February 20th
- Debates:
  - Off-campus Debate: 5pm to 6pm, Tuesday, February 26th, at BC Cancer Research Centre
  - On-campus Debate: 5pm to 6pm, Thursday, February 28th, at the Social Lounge in St. John's College
    - *Required attendance by all candidates except by special permission*
- Campaign Period: 9:00 am, Tuesday, February 19th (continues until end of election 4:30 pm, Friday, March 15th)
- Election: Polls open at 9:00 am, Monday, March 4th to 4:30 pm, Friday, March 15th (12 days)
# Current Executives Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<tr>
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How are candidates nominated?

- Any ordinary Society member (any currently registered Masters or PhD student from UBC Vancouver campus) may be nominated for positions listed above to be contested in the election.
- Nominations shall be effected by submission of a completed copy of the approved nomination form with signatures of three ordinary Society members (any registered Masters or PhD student from UBC Vancouver campus) in support of the nomination and the nominee themselves.
- The nomination form can be picked up in person from the Society office or downloaded from the Society website, and it shall be returned in person by candidates to the Society office so a Society staff member or the Chief Electoral Officer may witness the candidate signature.
- Candidacy will be verified by the Chief Electoral Officer or a member of GSS staff.
- Eligible candidates will be notified and invited to the All Candidates Meeting on Monday, Feb 18th. Unless an exception is granted, all candidates are required to attend the meeting either in person or, with special permission, via Skype.

What material should nominated candidates submit?

All Candidates are required to submit via email the following to the Chief Electoral Officer by 4:30pm, Feb 20th:

1) Personal Statement for GSS website (200 word max). For instance, who you are, why you are the right person for the position, and why people should vote for you, what you hope to achieve if elected.
2) Personal Statement brief for ballot and GSS social media (100 word max)
3) Twitter statement (140 characters)
4) Personal photo

Can I use my preferred name?

Yes! You can certainly use your preferred name on any campaigning material distributed by yourself. The Chief Electoral Officer can also put both your legal and preferred name on the ballet in the format of FirstName (PreferredName) Surname. However, for any official communications, GSS will only use your legal name.

What are the campaigning guidelines?

- The cost of a candidate’s campaign shall not exceed $150. Material used in previous campaigns shall be valued at original cost. The Society will reimburse candidates up to $150 for new campaign materials. A signed statement of expenses with receipts must be submitted to the Chief Electoral Officer at the close of the campaigning period, and is subjected to audit.
- Candidates may not use any portion of their campaign budget to provide financial or in-kind
benefit as an incentive for votes.

- Campaign material must be posted in accordance with UBC Building Policy.
- Candidates may not use Society or any email distribution lists administered by UBC, its Faculties, or Departments during their campaign.
- Candidates may not run in slates, real or apparent, or share expenses for campaign material. A slate means a group of two or more candidates that campaign together for any position elected during the Society's elections on a similar platform for mutual advantage. This includes, but is not limited to, the following activities:
  - appearing on another candidate's campaign materials, including but not limited to posters, banners, flyers, handouts, websites, and social media campaign groups;
  - producing posters or other campaign materials that closely resemble those of another candidate in design, colour, branding or appearance; and using the same slogan or slogans as one or more other candidates.
- Candidates are expected to campaign independently.
- If joint campaign activities, including but not limited to classroom announcements and leafleting, do occur, they must be reported to the Elections Committee. Such reports must be made as they happen every 72 hours. At its discretion, the Elections Committee may approve such activities or order them to cease.
- Candidates are required to attend both the on-/off-campus debates either in person or, with special permission, via Skype. If a candidate is absent from a Debate, their name will be withdrawn from the elections by the Elections Committee, if the candidate does not provide a legitimate reason for their nonattendance to the committee. The decision of the Elections Committee in assessing the legitimacy of a reason will be final.
- Candidates shall not in any way coerce or dishonestly influence a member into making a voting decision in any way.
- Candidates are responsible for informing themselves and anyone campaigning on their behalf as to the contents of this guideline.
- Candidates may be held responsible for conduct that violates the Society's rules. This includes both a candidate's own conduct, as well as that of anyone who campaigns on a candidate's behalf.
- Following the official nomination period, unless there are not 2 or more candidates for all positions, the nomination period will be extended for one week at the discretion of the Chief Electoral Officer. Candidates are able to change the position they are running for up until one hour after the end of this extension to ensure at least one candidate for each position.
How can I vote and when will the result be announced?

The election will take place online using theAMS SimplyVoting online software. All graduate students will receive an email with a link to the ballot. The ballot link will also be posted on the GSS website during the election week. Election results will be released within 72 hours following the closing of the polls.

*Note: All other rules can be found in theGSS Policy Manual, Section 12.0. It is the candidate's responsibility to understand and follow all rules therein.*

Election Team Contact Info:

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Chair of Elections committee, elections@gss.ubc.ca