



2020-2021 Officer Elections Procedures

Nominations

Who is eligible to run for officer positions?

Any graduate student is eligible to run for any officer position in which they have not already served two terms.

How can I nominate someone?

Submit your nomination via [this link](#).

Self-nominations are accepted.

Nominations will be accepted from 12 February 2020 through 10 March 2020. If the Elections Committee receives no nominations for a position, the nomination period will be extended for that position for an additional three days.

What should I do if I am nominated?

At the close of the nomination period, nominees will be provided with a list of all nominations.

Nominees will have one week after nominations close to accept or decline their nominations. The deadline for accepting nominations is 17 March 2020.

If a candidate is nominated for more than one position, they may only select one nomination to accept.

Candidates will have until 17 March 2020 to submit a short biography that includes their name, program, year, GSG experience, and any additional information they wish to share. This information will be distributed on 18 March 2020 through the GSG listserv and the GSG website.

Campaigning

When does campaigning begin?

Campaigning begins on 18 March 2020.

Are there any GSG-sponsored campaigning events?

No.

Are there any restrictions to campaigning?

No.

External funds can be used for campaigning.

Candidates may choose to print campaigning fliers through the Graduate College.



Elections Meeting

When is the Special Elections Meeting?

The Elections Meeting will be held on 18 March 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Memorial Hall Room 127.

What will happen at the meeting?

Each candidate will have five minutes to speak. After each speech, there will be a five-minute question-and-answer session that can be extended with a majority vote of the Senate.

Voting

Who can vote?

All Senators in active standing and members of the Executive Council are eligible to vote. Senators in active standing will be determined according to the GSG Bylaws after the Special Elections Meeting.

Candidates can vote for the position in which they are running.

When can I vote?

Polls will open shortly after the conclusion of the Elections Meeting. Voting members will have one week to vote.

How can I cast my vote?

We will be using the instant run-off system. Voting will be held online.

Via email, each voting member will receive a login with a numeric ID and a link to the ballot. Each voting member can only vote once.

What will the ballot look like?

The ballot will have the following options for each officer position:

- Candidate Names
- No candidate

Voting members will rank their top three desired candidates in order of their preference (1 = first choice, 2 = second choice, and so on). Ballots will be counted for each voting member's top choice. If a candidate obtains a majority of votes, that candidate wins. If no candidate received a majority, then the candidate with the least amount of votes is removed from consideration. The ballots will be counted again until one candidate receives a majority of the votes. A vote to abstain will remove the voting member from the number needed for a majority. For example, if there are forty voting members, a candidate will need twenty-one votes (>50% of forty) to be elected.

A vote for no candidate is a vote of no confidence for all candidates running. For example, if the no confidence vote tallies to 50% or more of the votes, none of the candidates will be able to obtain a majority; and thus, all the candidates would have lost the election and the seat remain vacant.



Elections Results

How will winners be determined?

Candidates must receive a majority of votes to be elected to an officer position.

What happens if there is a tie?

The parliamentarian will cast her vote at the same time as all voting members. If a tie exists, the parliamentarian's vote will act as the tiebreaker. Otherwise, the parliamentarian's vote will not be counted.

If the parliamentarian does not vote for one of the tied candidates, the Elections Committee will run a second election among the tied candidates.