

# Elections 2018 Information Session

November 22 & 23; December 6 & 7; January 10 & 11



# Elections Contacts

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# Agenda

- ▣ Positions Available for Election
- ▣ Steps to Becoming a Candidate
- ▣ Campaigning
- ▣ Voting Procedures

# Positions up for elections

- Students' Union
  - Board of Directors (12 – 2 must come from each campus)
  - President & CEO (1)
  - Referendum Chair
  
- Wilfrid Laurier University
  - Student Representative on the Senate (6)
  - Student Representative on the Board of Governors (1)

# Board of Directors

- 12 Directors
  - Lead the long-term strategic direction of the Students' Union;
  - Analyze and develop high-level policy for organizational growth and maturation;
  - Monitor the performance of the President/CEO based on a set of Board-mandated policies known as the Executive Limitations and Ends;
  - Engage and connect with the students on a regular basis;
  - Facilitate and participate in outreach events;
  - Foster a multi-campus mentality that aims to benefit the needs of students on both the Brantford and Waterloo campuses;
  - The average time commitment is **4-10 hour per week** but this varies based on committee involvement

# President & CEO

- ▣ Serve as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and official spokesperson for the Students' Union;
- ▣ Work towards fulfilling the Ends Policy of the Students' Union as interpreted by the Strategic Plan;
- ▣ Remain in compliance with the Executive Limitation Policies;
- ▣ Oversee all functions and departments of the Students' Union
- ▣ Hire and manage a team of Vice Presidents, who will aid and oversee the various departments and functions of the Students' Union;
- ▣ Carry out any applicable policy direction from the Board of Directors;
- ▣ Frequently communicate with University Administration, city officials and Provincial and Federal members of parliament;
- ▣ The President is financially compensated for **40 hours of work per week.**

# Referendum Chair

- Run a “yes” or “no” campaign with respect to a referendum question.
- For example, if there are 2 questions asked this year, there will be 4 Referendum chairs

# Senate

- Up for election this year: **5** Waterloo Senators , **1** Brantford Senator
- The Senate is the highest Academic body of WLU and makes decisions on all academic issues. Students serve on the following committees:



# Senate

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic Planning     | <input type="checkbox"/> Nominating          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> By-laws & Regulations | <input type="checkbox"/> Student Life        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Executive             | <input type="checkbox"/> Student Appeals     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance               | <input type="checkbox"/> Research            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Honorary Degree       | <input type="checkbox"/> University Teaching |

# Board of Governors

- ▣ Up for election is **1** Board of Governors
- ▣ The Board of Governors is the highest Governance body of WLU and oversees all aspects of the University, amends/creates policies and exercises overall Governance for the Wilfrid Laurier University.
- ▣ Much of the work done by the Board of Governors occurs within its Standing Committees.
- ▣ Students serve on the following committees:
  - ▣ Executive & Governance;
  - ▣ Audit & Compliance;
  - ▣ Buildings & Property;
  - ▣ Finance & Investments;
  - ▣ Human Resources & Compensation

# Questions?



# Steps to Becoming a Candidate

1. Submit your Platform Summary
  - ▣ Before noon on **Thursday January 12<sup>th</sup>**
  - ▣ MAX 150 words
2. Submit your Full Platform
  - ▣ Before **noon** on **Monday January 15<sup>th</sup>**
3. Submit your nomination package
  - ▣ DEADLINE is **noon** on **Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>**
4. Attend All Candidates' Meeting
  - ▣ **10 PM on Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>**

# Platform Summary

- Max 150 words
  - If you go over 150 words, we cut it off with a slash
- Posted on the Students' Union Website, in the Cord, and on the ballot
  - May also be reproduced in other locations
- Most important aspects of what you are running for
- Can be your full platform if under 150 words

# Platform

- If you do not submit a platform by Noon on Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, you do NOT get to submit a platform.
  - Any platform you post would be unofficial, not making it in the Cord or on the Ballot.
- If your platform summary is your full platform, you do not need to resubmit it
- May be in any format

# Nomination Package

- Consists of:
  - Nomination Form
  - Proof of Registration Form
  - Proof of Age Form
  - Signature Page Form
  - Choice of Agent Form
  - Proof of Registration Form – Agent

# Nomination Package

- Proof of Registration form & Agent Proof of Registration Form
  - Signing this form means the candidate is enrolled in at least one course a semester as per the Election Policy
  
- Proof of Age
  - MUST be 18 by Election Day (January 30) – legally, Boards must consist of adults only
  - Include a photocopy of government ID proving date of birth



# Nomination Package

- Signature Page
  - Need 10 signatures (Board of Governors, Senate)
  - Need 25 signatures (Referendum Chair)
  - Need 50 signatures (Board of Directors)
  - Need 75 signatures (President)
  - **Get more signatures than you need – if someone incorrectly enters their student number or is a grad student/ineligible to vote, they don't count and you could lose your candidate status**

# Nomination Package

- Choice of Agent form
  - Your agent counts as being “you” based on elections policies.
  - If you cannot attend the All Candidates Meeting, you are disqualified.
  - Because your agent is “you”, if THEY are at the All Candidates Meeting, you will not be disqualified
  - If you so choose, your agent can represent you at any elections event or function such as appeals, open forums, etc.

# All Candidates Meeting

- Bring your campaign teams!
- 10 PM in BA201 (Waterloo)
- 10 PM in RCW202(Brantford)
- You will get further explanation of all rules, policies you need to know, etc.
- If neither you nor your agent are present, you will be disqualified – don't go through the effort and throw it away
- 30 minutes after the meeting ends (on both campuses) campaigning begins!

# Nomination Package

- Scrutineer Registration Form
  - A scrutineer has to be a current student
  - A scrutineer has to be registered by January 26<sup>th</sup> at noon
  - We recommend having two scrutineers as they will not be able to leave until the results are being announced
  - The job of a scrutineer is to observe the votes being tallied and results being compiled
  - They are a representation of a candidate or referendum question and must adhere to election policy

# Questions?



# Campaigning

- Each candidate is allotted a budget - you are not given the money, but you can claim it in reimbursements
  - NOTE: get all materials pre-approved by the CRO or DRO **BEFORE** you buy it – if you don't, it may not be useable/reimbursable
  - President - \$700
  - Board of Directors - \$150
  - Board of Governors, Senate - \$50
  - Referendum Chair - \$450
- You may **NOT** exceed the budget allocated – you win an election through your actions, not your wallet

# Campaigning

- Demerits
  - Any time a rule is broken, you will receive demerits. The full list can be found in the Elections (Section 19) & Referenda Policies (Section 18)
  - Examples:
    - Promotional material violations (1 demerit)
    - Campaigning on election day (3 demerits)
    - Libel or Slander (5 demerits)
  - Candidates, if you get 10 demerits you are disqualified
  - Referendum chairs, if you get 7 demerits, a new chair will be selected, if you get 10 demerits, you sacrifice your reimbursements

# Campaigning

- Demerits
  - Demerits will be emailed to you and available in hard copy at the front desk of the Students' Union Office the next day by 9:30 AM
  - If you would like to appeal, you must provide your reasons in typing to the Chair, Elections Portfolio Talha Naeem (mnaeem@wlu.ca), by 11:59 PM the following day
  - All demerits resulting in disqualification are automatically appealed
  - Check your email constantly, if you do not read your demerit within the 24 hour period you may not appeal.



# Questions?



# Voting Systems

- There are two voting systems for elected positions.
  - Multiple candidates, one winner: Optional Instant Runoff Voting (OIRV or IRV)
    - E.g. President, Board of Governors, Brantford Senate
  - Multiple candidates, multiple winners: Single Transferrable Vote (STV)
    - E.g. Waterloo Senate, Board of Directors
  
- There is one voting system for Referenda Questions.
  - First Past the Post (FPTP)
    - Whatever side (Yes/No) meets 50% +1

# O-IRV Instant Runoff

- Ranked Ballot
  - Can rank 1<sup>st</sup> choice, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choices, 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> choices, etc.
    - Can **NOT** rank 1<sup>st</sup> choice and last choice, ignoring the middle
    - Can **NOT** skip 1<sup>st</sup> choice if ranking candidates
- Each voter gets 1 vote – **will never be split**
- Not a points system – only 1<sup>st</sup> priority counts at first
- To win, a candidate must get at least **50.01% of the vote**
- If no candidate has >50%, the lowest candidate is dropped and their votes reassigned to the next highest applicable priority
- Repeat as necessary

# STV (Single Transferable Vote)

- ▣ Ranked Ballot
  - ▣ Can rank 1<sup>st</sup> choice, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choices, 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> choices, etc.
    - ▣ Can **NOT** rank 1<sup>st</sup> choice and last choice, ignoring the middle
    - ▣ Can **NOT** skip 1<sup>st</sup> choice if ranking candidates
- ▣ Each voter gets 1 vote – **will probably be split**
- ▣ Not a points system – only 1<sup>st</sup> priority counts at first
- ▣ To win, a candidate must meet the **droop quota**
  - ▣ Droop quota =  
 $1 + (\# \text{ of Voters}) / (\# \text{ of seats} + 1)$   
E.g. for Board of Directors,  $1 + (\# \text{ of voters} / 16)$

# Elections Calendar 2018

| SUNDAY         | MONDAY  | TUESDAY                     | WEDNESDAY                            | THURSDAY                               | FRIDAY                                  | SATURDAY |
|----------------|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|----------|
| <b>JANUARY</b> | 1   | 2                           | 3                                    | 4                                      | 5                                       | 6        |
| 7              | 8   | 9                           | 10<br>INFO SESSIONS<br>10PM          | 11<br>INFO SESSIONS<br>10PM            | 12<br>PLATFORM<br>SUMMARIES DUE<br>12PM | 13       |
| 14             | 15<br>ALL CANDIDATES<br>MEETING 10PM RCW202<br>& BA201 NOMINATION<br>PACKAGES DUE WITH<br>FULL PLATFORMS 12PM | 16<br>CAMPAIGNING<br>BEGINS | 17                                   | 18<br>BRANTFORD<br>OPEN FORUM<br>10 AM | 19                                      | 20       |
| 21             | 22<br>CANDIDATE<br>NIGHT 10PM<br>WILFS  | 23                          | 24<br>OPEN FORUM<br>10AM<br>WATERLOO | 25<br>LIVE PRES.<br>DEBATE<br>WATERLOO | 26<br>SCRUTINEER<br>FORM DUE 12PM       | 27       |
| 28             | 29<br>LIVE PRES.<br>DEBATE<br>BRANTFORD   | 30<br>VOTING OPENS<br>8AM   | 31<br>VOTING DAY                     | 1 February<br>VOTING &<br>RESULTS      |   |          |

# Questions?

