

Elections Information Session

November 15 & 16; December 6 & 7; January 3 & 4



Elections Contacts

▣ **Nick DeSumma** suboardchair@wlu.ca

Chief Governance Officer (CGO) and Chair of the Board

▣ **Elizabeth Thompson** suacro@wlu.ca

Assistant Chief Returning Officer (ACRO)

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Brantford Deputy Returning Officer (DRO)

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 Party Chair

- Wilfrid Laurier University
 - Student Representative on the Senate
 - Student Representative on the Board of Governors

Board of Directors

- 12 Directors
 - Leading 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.**

Party Chair

- Run a “yes” or “no” campaign with respect to a referendum question.
- There are 2 questions asked this year, meaning that there are 4 party chairs

Senate

- Up for election this year: 4 Waterloo Senators
- 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 are 2 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 5th**
 - ▣ MAX 150 words
2. Submit your Full Platform
 - ▣ Before **noon** on **Monday January 9th**
3. Submit your nomination package
 - ▣ DEADLINE is **noon** on **Monday, January 9th**
4. Attend All Candidates' Meeting
 - ▣ **10 PM on Monday, January 9th**

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 9th, 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 at least one course a semester as per the Election Policy

- Proof of Age
 - MUST be 18 by Election Day (January 24) – 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 Party 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 would 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 20th 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 ACRO 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
 - Party 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 & Referenda Policies (Policy #3)
 - 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
 - Party chairs, if you get 7 demerits you are disqualified

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 CGO, Nick DeSumma(subboardchair@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 1st choice, 1st and 2nd choices, 1st/2nd/3rd choices, etc.
 - Can **NOT** rank 1st choice and last choice, ignoring the middle
 - Can **NOT** skip 1st choice if ranking candidates
- Each voter gets 1 vote – **will never be split**
- Not a points system – only 1st 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 1st choice, 1st and 2nd choices, 1st/2nd/3rd choices, etc.
 - ▣ Can **NOT** rank 1st choice and last choice, ignoring the middle
 - ▣ Can **NOT** skip 1st choice if ranking candidates
- ▣ Each voter gets 1 vote – **will probably be split**
- ▣ Not a points system – only 1st 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

**ELECTIONS
 CALENDAR
 2017**

**VOTE
 JAN 24-26
 #LAURIERVOTES**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 JANUARY	2	3 INFO SESSIONS 10 PM	4 INFO SESSIONS 10 PM	5 PLATFORM SUMMARIES DUE 12 PM	6	7
8	9 ALL CANDIDATES MEETING 10 PM RCW 202 & BA 201 NOMINATION PACKAGES DUE WITH FULL PLATFORMS 12 PM	10 CAMPAIGNING BEGINS	11	12 BRANTFORD OPEN FORUM 10 AM	13	14
15	16 CANDIDATE NIGHT 10 PM WILF'S	17	18 OPEN FORUM 10 AM WATERLOO	19 LIVE PRES. DEBATE WATERLOO	20 SCRUTINEER FORM DUE 12 PM	21
22	23 LIVE PRES. DEBATE BRANTFORD	24 VOTING OPENS 8AM	25 VOTING DAY	26 VOTING & RESULTS	27 BOARD MEETING 3 PM	28

Questions?

