Student Governance Volunteer Opportunities

Student Elections to Senate and the Board of Governors

Participating as an elected Student representative provides interested students with a unique opportunity to contribute to governance of the University, helping to influence policy and issues that affect the quality of experience and education at the University of Guelph.

About Senate and the Board of Governors

The University functions with a bicameral governance structure set out under the University of Guelph Act (1964) [1], which defines the responsibilities of the Board of Governors and the Senate. Senate is responsible for academic programs, regulations, and policies, whereas the Board of Governors oversees the government, conduct, management and control of the University and its property, revenues, expenditures, business and affairs.

Additional information on the bylaws, membership, meeting schedules, etc. can be found on the Board of Governors [2] and Senate [3] webpages.

Nomination and Election Process

The Board of Governors "Undergraduate and Graduate Student Electoral Procedures [4]" and the Senate "Regulations Governing the Election of Students to Senate [5]" include provisions for representation of students on the Board and Senate. Elections are held annually during the Winter semester. Should an insufficient number of nominations be received during the Winter election period to fill the available student seats, a by-election is held at the beginning of the following Fall semester (September 2016).

Campaigning

As per section 9.6. of the Undergraduate and Graduate Student Electoral Procedures and section 9f. of the Regulations Governing the Election of Students to Senate, each candidate shall enjoy the right to campaign and inform the student body of their candidacy in a manner consistent with relevant University policies and regulations. The following is a non-exhaustive list of related University policies and procedures:

- Policy on Non-academic Misconduct
- Human Rights Policy
- Mass E-Mail Policy
- Student Email Communications Policy
- Acceptable Use Policy
- University postering policies (e.g. Student Housing, University Centre, etc.)