



**2012 Governing Council Elections  
Student Candidates' Statements**

Voting Period: Monday, February 27, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. to Friday, March 9, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.

Online voting will take place on ROSI ([www.rosi.utoronto.ca](http://www.rosi.utoronto.ca)) and paper ballots will be mailed to post graduate medical trainees.

**Full-Time Undergraduate Students – Constituency I  
(Faculty of Arts and Science; University of Toronto Mississauga; University of Toronto at Scarborough)**

<p><b>Guled Arale</b> As a student leader at the University of Toronto at Scarborough, I have always worked tirelessly in trying to improve the lives of my fellow peers. Currently, I am the Chairman of the Board of Directors at the Scarborough Campus Students' Union and with that I have ample amount of experience in navigating bureaucracy to achieve results that have made a positive impact on the lives of students. If elected I will strive and advocate to move UofT towards becoming an academically accessible, affordable, and vibrant campus.</p>	<p><b>Yolen Bollo-Kamara</b> In my three years at UofT (Ethics Society &amp; Law/Political Science), I've been involved in the clubs community, currently serving as an executive with Amnesty International, an active member of the Black Students' Association and African Students' Association, and working at UTSU. I've met many of you at events that I've organized and while working on campaigns that reflect issues that you care about: tuition fees, student life and equity. Students hold only 8 of 50 seats at Governing Council, the highest decision-making body at UofT. Vote for me as your representative and I will ensure your voices are heard.</p>
<p><b>Gregory Calvin</b> I've come to learn many things about UofT. Things which make me proud (a world-class education and faculty, hundreds of student life enriching services, unmatched diversity), things which upset me (rising education costs; disconnects between faculty and students), and things which I've come to love (the strength and warmth of our community – students, faculty and administration alike – who are all willing to help whenever possible). I want to know what you love, what makes you proud, and what you would change about our University, and to help make that heard as your Full-Time Undergraduate Governing Council Representative. <a href="http://voteregcalvin.com">voteregcalvin.com</a></p>	<p><b>Laurel Chester</b> I will be a strong advocate of student issues on a council that, at present, is stacked against us. With an emphasis on increased communication with student groups on campus, I hope to represent a broad base of student views. As students, we deserve a much greater say and influence within our own university on important issues such as tuition hikes, grading, scholarships and grants. Guided by passion and integrity I will strive to be a strong student voice.</p>

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<p><b>Aidan Fishman</b> Between work, fun and maintaining your GPA, do you ever feel like a fish out of water? If so, Aidan Fishman is your candidate! I'm running for Governing Council because I believe that undergraduates need a strong, experienced representative who will look out for our interests. I support additional merit-based scholarships, the speedy elimination of breadth requirements, and a greater role for student feedback in determining course offerings and content. Together, we can make U of T a fairer, more rewarding place to learn. Every school (of fish) needs its leader – vote the Fish for Governing Council!</p>	<p><b>Patrick Grubber</b> My name is Patrick Grubber and I wish to represent full time Undergraduate Arts and Science students of U of T on the 2012-2013 Governing Council. If elected I would like to give a higher profile to topics discussed on the Council. To do this I would like to engender more interest and participation in matters dealt with by the Council and I would like to open larger channels of dialogue between the GC and the full time Arts and Science undergraduates. I hope to do this by being your chosen representative to the GC so please vote for me. URL: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/groups/302611596452139/">http://www.facebook.com/groups/302611596452139/</a></p>
<p><b>Charles Ludwig</b> I am a second-year undergraduate student enrolled in University College, and currently serving as a 2011-2012 Upper-Year Representative on the UCLit. I'm campaigning because I believe that transparency and honesty are the best policies. Unfortunately, many of Governing Council's important decisions are not being made aware to students for their consideration! If elected I will make sure that you become informed of such decisions and that your suggestions and feedback are heard. Why not make the most of your college experience; a vote for me is a vote to an enlightened 2012-2013 year! Learn more at <a href="http://charleswalkerludwig.webs.com">charleswalkerludwig.webs.com</a></p>	<p><b>Yakir Pimentel</b> As Vice-President of an on-campus group, I am thoroughly familiar with the responsibilities and expectations of a leadership role. The experiences within, and outside, the university setting allow me to think abstractly in problem-solving scenarios to find solutions to best benefit the community. As a Scarborough-native, I feel my opinions reflect the campus community's concerns, while emphasizing my passion for UTSC's ascension in recognition and academic standards. I am already heavily invested towards the growth and prosperity of the University of Toronto, and I look forward to being a proponent of such change now and in the years to come.</p>

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<p><b>Jacob Raggiunti</b> My name is Jacob Raggiunti and I am a Full-Time Undergraduate Student enrolled in the Faculty of Arts and Science at Trinity College. I support the forward movement of the University at large as well as students' interests. I have always had a passion for the art of writing and creative thinking, and I feel that these skills will allow me to best represent the University community as a member of the Governing Council. My hours of dedication to volunteer work, extracurricular involvement, and academic success are proof that I am best suited for a position on the Governing Council.</p>	<p><b>Aisha Raja</b> I am a 3rd year Ethics, Society and Law student running for Undergraduate Student representative. Over the past three years I have been at the forefront of various initiatives for the betterment of student life on campus. I have helped organize efforts to increase collaboration between various faith and culture groups during my time at the Multi-Faith Centre and Anti-Racism and Cultural Diversity Office. Having held executive positions in multiple student groups, I have attained the experience and skill set vital to this position. I believe I can bring a very holistic and unique perspective to the table and position. <a href="http://www.voteraja.com">http://www.voteraja.com</a></p>
<p><b>Katherine Rebejko</b> As a full-time undergraduate Arts and Science student at the St. George Campus, I, Katherine Rebejko, am excited to be given the opportunity to serve as a student governor. Being heavily involved in student organizations and executive committees makes me an ideal candidate. I promise to exercise the appropriate judgment that will serve to the greater good of my constituency and University. I will set forward principles of trust, integrity and honesty in serving as a liaison with the governing council. If you want a passionate, experienced, and transparent representative vote Katherine. Together we will be the agent of change.</p>	<p><b>Jessica Riehm</b> There are many unspoken issues and undelivered changes, but only one relentless voice of experience. As your representative I will oversee academic policies that enhance your academic experience and personal success. I will work tirelessly to ensure that governing council puts student needs first. As a policy visionary I will encourage policy that allows students to create roadmaps towards graduate studies and a career. As your voice, my sole purpose is to represent you, the students, and I guarantee to be heard over policies that will help get you into graduate school. Vote Jessica Riehm, the candidate for your success. <a href="http://jessicariehmforuoftgoverningcouncil.webs.com/">http://jessicariehmforuoftgoverningcouncil.webs.com/</a></p>

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<p><b>Parmveer Singh</b> My name is Parmveer Singh, and I am a second year student majoring in Human Biology and Biological Anthropology. I believe I can represent undergraduate students on the University of Toronto Governing Council very well. Over my first two years of university, I have been extremely involved in extracurricular activities around campus. This includes serving on the Innis College Student Society, committees of the Faculty of Arts &amp; Science, and several other councils/committees. With the experience I have gained, I know I can do a great job getting the voice of undergraduate students, from all disciplines, heard. <a href="http://www.facebook.com/events/242499909171142/">http://www.facebook.com/events/242499909171142/</a></p>	<p><b>ZiJian Yang</b> Dear fellow students, To most of us, the UofT governing council is an invisible organization that seems very out of touch. However, it is a significant function that affects our experience here at the university on almost every level: from the academics to how our money is spent. If elected, I will be able to better facilitate all the dealings behind the scene, so that you can spend your time on things that matter to you. Sincerely, ZiJian Yang</p>
<p><b>Nana Zhou</b> Engage in making a difference at our university! Vote Nana for Governing Council. As a fellow student, I hope to represent our voice to improve academics and student life at UofT. I will strive to lower student costs and enhance student services. Let me work for you to promote the brand of our education, highlight our challenges and increase opportunities for career development and grad school options. Together, we can improve our experience at UofT. Please feel free to contact me at <a href="mailto:nana.zhou@utoronto.ca">nana.zhou@utoronto.ca</a> and join me on Facebook at “Vote Nana Zhou for Governing Council”. Thank you! <a href="http://facebook.com/groups/331428270210899/">http://facebook.com/groups/331428270210899/</a></p>	

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**Full-Time Undergraduate Students – Constituency II (Professional Faculties)**

<p><b>James Bateman</b> James Bateman is a 3rd year Engineering Science student within the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering. As a mature student and entrepreneur, with nearly a decade of industry experience, James is well prepared to represent full-time undergraduates at the University of Toronto on the Governing Council. Vote for James Bateman and trust his experience to represent you on the highest governing board at UofT. More information can be found online at <a href="http://individual.utoronto.ca/jamesbateman/">http://individual.utoronto.ca/jamesbateman/</a></p>	<p><b>Andrew Girgis</b> Put YOUR concerns back on the table! Have your interests voiced to the people that make decisions on your behalf on matters relating to tuition, academic standards and policies. I want each of you, the biggest stakeholders at UofT, to have your interests valued and to take control of your education. I want to represent YOU, the students of professional faculties, and the future of your respective professions! I know what it means to face an increasingly competitive workforce. Having a cutting-edge, superior education is crucial in advancing your professions. A vote for me is a vote for your future.</p>
<p><b>Dipen Thakrar</b> I ask to be your chosen representative to the University of Toronto Governing Council. Now a post-graduate medical resident in Anesthesia, I bring with me years of experience as a student, teacher, administrator and researcher. This is supported by a track record of effective leadership, advocacy and collaboration and my dedication to bettering the student experience. Having previously worked on many student-centered groups at other universities – including as a University Senator and class Vice-President – I offer both expertise and perspective in promoting the success and development of our university. Please contact me with questions or comments at any time: <a href="mailto:dipen.thakrar@utoronto.ca">dipen.thakrar@utoronto.ca</a></p>	

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**Graduate Students, Constituency I (Humanities and Social Sciences)**

<p><b>Michael Donnelly</b> Michael Donnelly is a PhD student in English Literature, and works on the shared language of human rights in literature and law since 1945. He has been involved in student governance and with Amnesty's writing program; he currently sits on the Graduate Education Council (GEC), and is one of three student members on the Graduate Academic Appeals Board (GAAB). He would welcome the opportunity of sitting on Governing Council to further expand his influence beyond the School of Graduate Studies, and in doing so, be an insistent advocate for polices that enrich the university community at large.</p>	<p><b>Greg Hughes</b> As a prospective member of the University of Toronto's Governing Council, I will work hard to represent the interests of students and provide a measured perspective. My experiences as a graduate student in the Faculty of Information and in the professional world will present students with a fresh voice to represent them at Council. I hope I can count on your support during the election period.</p>
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Questions about the Governing Council elections process may be directed to the Chief Returning Officer, Mr. Anwar Kazimi (416-978-8427; anwar.kazimi@utoronto.ca), or the Deputy Returning Officer, Ms Mae-Yu Tan (416-978-8794; maeyu.tan@utoronto.ca).