

**2015 Governing Council Elections  
Student Candidates' Statements**

Voting Period: Monday, February 9, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. to Friday, Friday February 20, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

Online voting will take place on ROSI ([www.rosi.utoronto.ca](http://www.rosi.utoronto.ca))

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

<p><b>Sandy Hudson</b></p> <p>As an OISE student studying social justice education, I want Governing Council to prioritize students. I will advocate to remove financial barriers to education &amp; to improve the quality of education (smaller class sizes, job security for TAs). I will support lobbying for government funding (especially in humanities &amp; social sciences), and promote an inclusive campus. I will push for meaningful student input in all university initiatives, including the development of strategies on mental health and combating sexual violence. I support divesting tuition fee dollars from fossil fuels and other unethical investments. Feb 9-20 on ROSI, vote Sandy Hudson. <a href="http://www.facebook.com/sandy4GC">www.facebook.com/sandy4GC</a></p>	<p><b>Akbar Khurshid</b></p> <p>My esteemed peers at the University of Toronto. There is a reason why we hold a prestigious rank in the world and that reason is all of you and your voices. I seek your support in my candidacy for the Governing Council. I have always found the idea of making campaign promises pedantic and dishonest. Instead as your representative, my platform is your platform. I eagerly look forward to implementing the ideas of graduate students. I can be reached at: <a href="mailto:akbar.khurshid@mail.utoronto.ca">akbar.khurshid@mail.utoronto.ca</a>. Akbar Khurshid is the candidate of honesty, transparency and action. I look forward to your decision.</p>
<p><b>Eric Lavigne</b></p> <p>My foremost goal is to provide Council with the perspectives of graduate students from the Social Sciences and the Humanities, ensuring its capacity to make decisions in the best interest of the University. My previous working experience as Associate Dean in three higher education institutions has provided me with key insights into the workings and the needs of colleges and universities. Furthermore, my education has covered the fields of accounting, management and strategic planning; additional tools that I can leverage effectively on the Governing Council. <a href="http://ca.linkedin.com/pub/eric-lavigne/8/a4b/44">http://ca.linkedin.com/pub/eric-lavigne/8/a4b/44</a></p>	<p><b>Nirmalan Vijeyakumar</b></p> <p>I would be honoured to serve on the Governing Council as your Governor representing Graduate Students. I am a Master's in Public Policy Candidate, with a B.A. (Hons.) in Legal Studies from Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario. I have worked in a variety of positions from Chairing a disciplinary committee to volunteering for CIUT 89.5FM. I would like to serve as your Governor as I have a consortium of skills and experience that would add a different perspective to critical issues before Council. For more information I encourage you to visit my website at <a href="http://www.nirmalan4governor2015.com">www.nirmalan4governor2015.com</a></p>