

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Election Guidelines 2025

for

**Governing Council, Academic Board, University of Toronto Mississauga
and University of Toronto Scarborough Campus Councils
and their Standing Committees**

*Approved by the Elections Committee
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Prepared by:

The Office of the Governing Council
Room 106, Simcoe Hall, 27 King's College Circle, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1A1
Telephone: 416-978-6576 Facsimile: 416-978-8182

These *Election Guidelines 2025* are also available online at the [Elections Section](#) of the Governing Council website.

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SECTION 1**Section 1.1 *Principles of Good Governance and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion***

Subject to applicable laws, University governance must be guided by excellent principles of good governance in relation to stewardship and public accountability, and at the same time recognize the unique nature and characteristics of the academic community or institution, including:

- the fundamental autonomy of universities, coupled with the essential responsibility for public accountability;
- the need to respect the academic mission of excellence in teaching and research;
- the importance of ensuring that academic freedom and responsibility are respected;
- the need to be seen to be accountable – through transparency – to all parties interested in and supporting the University;
- the desire for meaningful and objective stakeholder participation in governance; and
- the diversity and broad representation of governors.

Further to the principles of good governance, it is critical that governance bodies reflect the diversity of the University community.

Building a culture of belonging increases our capacity to effectively address and serve the interests of our global community. Therefore, the University of Toronto is working to correct inequities that were developed historically and are ongoing. We strongly encourage nominations from Indigenous Peoples, Black and racialized persons, women, persons with disabilities, and people of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. We value candidates who have demonstrated a commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion and recognize that diverse perspectives, experiences, and expertise are essential to strengthening our academic mission. We are committed to fostering a community of belonging and creating inclusive conditions in which everyone can thrive.

SECTION 1.2 – Definitions

In these *Guidelines*:

“*Act*” means *The University of Toronto Act, 1971*, S.O. 1971, c. 56, as amended by *The University of Toronto Amendment Act, 1978*, S.O. 1978, c. 88.

“Administrative Staff” means the staff-appointed employees of the University, University College, the Constituent Colleges and the Federated Universities who are not members of the Teaching Staff thereof.

“Associated Party” means an individual or group who a candidate knew, or reasonably ought to have known, would assist that candidate with their Campaign.

“Campaigning” or “Campaign” includes any conduct of and/or attempt by a candidate or by the candidate’s supporters, whether individuals or organizations, to encourage a voter to cast a ballot in favour or in opposition of a candidate, whether or not Campaign Material is used.

“Campaign Period” means the period commencing at 9:00 a.m. of the first day on which the candidates may Campaign and ending at 5:00 p.m. of the last day on which the candidates may Campaign.

“Campaign Material” includes any advertisement, blog, design, display, flyer, item, literature, social networking tool, sound, symbol, mark, website, electronic media, in any form, electronic or otherwise, that is used, created or copied in order to and/or likely to influence at least one voter to cast a ballot in favour or in opposition of a candidate.

“Colleges” refer to University College and the Constituent Colleges and “College” refers to any one of them.

“Constituent Colleges” refer to the following: Erindale College (also known as the University of Toronto Mississauga), Innis College, New College, Scarborough College (also known as the University of Toronto Scarborough), Woodsworth College, and any other college established by the Governing Council and “Constituent College” refers to any one of them.

“Distribute” means the dissemination of Campaign Materials, electronically or otherwise, by a candidate, or an Associated Party, to an individual or group.

“Election Period” means the period commencing at 12:00 noon on the first day for making nominations and ending on the day when all appeals and recounts, if any, have been finally disposed of and, if none, on the day when winners have been declared elected.

“Fair Market Value” of a product or service means the typical price, without special concessions or discounts, that is available in Greater Toronto Area for that product or service, to all persons who approach a person or company that sells, or deals in, that product or service.

“Federated Universities” refer to the following universities: Victoria University; Trinity College; and The University of St. Michael’s College and “Federated University” refers to any one of them.

“Full-Time Undergraduate Student” means a Student registered at the University in a program of full-time study leading to a degree, post-secondary diploma or certificate of the University or in a program designated by the Governing Council as a program of post-secondary study at the University who is not registered in the School of Graduate Studies or the Toronto School of Theology. Full-Time Undergraduate Student status will be determined by the definition used in the Student’s academic division. For the purpose

of the Governing Council elections, Students at the University of Toronto Scarborough who are registered in a work term will be considered to be Full-Time Undergraduate Students.

“Graduate Student” means a Student registered in the School of Graduate Studies.

“*Guidelines*” refer to these Election Guidelines, including all Appendices thereof and any and all amendments made thereto from time to time.

“Librarian” means an employee of the University, University College, the Constituent Colleges and the arts and science faculties of the Federated Universities who hold the rank of Librarian I, Librarian II, Librarian III, or Librarian IV.

“Part-Time Undergraduate Student” means a Student registered at the University in a program of part-time study leading to a degree, post-secondary diploma or certificate of the University or in a program designated by the Governing Council as a program of post-secondary study at the University who is not registered in the School of Graduate Studies or the Toronto School of Theology. Part-Time Undergraduate Student status will be determined by the definition used in the Student’s academic division.

“Student” means any person registered at the University for full-time or part-time study in a program that leads to a degree, post-secondary diploma or certificate of the University or in a program designated by the Governing Council as a program of post-secondary study at the University. The Transitional Year Program and the Millie Rotman Shime Academic Bridging Program have been designated by the Governing Council as programs of post-secondary study at the University, and, accordingly, a student in either of these programs is considered a “Student” in these *Guidelines*.

“Teaching Staff” means employees of the University who hold the academic rank of Professor; Associate Professor; Assistant Professor; Professor, Teaching Stream; Associate Professor, Teaching Stream; Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream; Lecturer and Senior Lecturer; Tutor and Senior Tutor; Assistant Professor (Conditional); Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream (Conditional); Sessional Lecturer I, Sessional Lecturer II, Sessional Lecturer III, Athletics Instructor and Senior Athletics Instructor but does not include any part-time lecturer who is registered as a student. For this purpose, “Lecturer” also includes Associates in the Faculty of Dentistry.

“University” refers to the University of Toronto.

SECTION 2 – 2025 Election Schedule**2.1 Administrative Staff, Librarians, Students, and Teaching Staff****Nomination Period**

Nominations Open	Tuesday January 7	12:00 noon
Nominations Close	Thursday, January 16	5:00 p.m.
Announcement of Candidates	Tuesday January 21	10:00 a.m.
Date as of which election expenses may be incurred by candidates	Tuesday, January 21	5:00 p.m.
Deadline for filing Notice of Intent to Appeal on the basis of Technical Invalidation	Tuesday, January 21	5:00 p.m.
Appeals completed	Wednesday, January 22	12:00 noon
Announcement of Additional Candidates	Thursday, January 23	5:00 p.m.

Withdrawal of Candidacy

Deadline for withdrawing name from ballot	Friday, January 24	5:00 p.m.
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Campaign Period

Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Student Candidates – St. George	Thursday, January 23	10:00 a.m.
Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Administrative and Teaching Staff Candidates – St. George	Thursday, January 23	12:00 noon
Campaign Guidelines Information Session for all Candidates - UTM	Wednesday, January 22	11:00 a.m.
Campaign Guidelines Information Session for all Candidates - UTSC	Wednesday, January 22	2:00 p.m.
Campaign Period Begins	Monday, January 27	9:00 a.m.
Campaign Period Ends	Friday, February 14	5:00 p.m.

Voting Period

Web-based Voting Period Begins	Tuesday, February 4	10:00 a.m.
Web-based Voting Period Ends	Friday, February 14	5:00 p.m.
Mail Ballots Mailed (if required)	Mail by January 31	
Deadline for Return of Mail Ballots (if required)	Friday, February 14	5:00 p.m.
Counting of Mail Ballots (if required)	Tuesday, February 18	9:00 a.m.

Announcement of Results and Declaration of Winners Elected for the Governing Council, the Academic Board, and UTM and UTSC Councils and their Standing Committees

Announcement of Election Results	Wednesday, February 19	10:00 a.m.
Deadline for filing Notice of Intent to Appeal	Thursday, February 20	12:00 noon
Appeals completed	Friday, February 21	12:00 noon
Winners Declared Elected	Friday, February 21	4:00 p.m.

Announcement of Results and Declaration of Winners Elected for the UTM and UTSC Councils and their Standing Committees – Student Seats

Announcement of Election Results	Monday, April 7	10:00 a.m.
Deadline for filing Notice of Intent to Appeal	Tuesday, April 8	12:00 noon
Appeals completed	Wednesday, April 9	5:00 p.m.
Winners Declared Elected	Thursday, April 10	12:00 noon

Post-Election Period

Deadline for Filing Expense Statement	Tuesday, March 4	5:00 p.m.
Notice of Hearings regarding Expenses	Tuesday, March 11	5:00 p.m.
Hearings regarding Expenses Completed	Thursday, March 13	5:00 p.m.

IMPORTANT: This schedule is subject to changes made by the CRO from time to time if circumstances warrant.

SECTION 3 - Introduction to the Governing Council of the University of Toronto

3.1 The Role and Powers of the Governing Council of the University of Toronto¹

The Governing Council of the University of Toronto (the “Governing Council”) is composed of 50 people, the majority of whom are elected from the Administrative Staff, the Alumni, the Teaching Staff, Full-Time Undergraduate Students, Part-Time Undergraduate Students, and Graduate Students of the University (see Section 1.2(4) for details). The current iteration of the legislation which established the University, *The University of Toronto Act, 1971*, as amended, (the “Act”), vests the Governing Council with many powers, including the powers to govern, manage, and control the University and the property, revenues, business, and affairs of the University. The Governing Council may delegate certain powers to the President, to the President’s designees, and to its Boards and Committees. *By-law Number 2* of the Governing Council² stipulates how the powers of the Council are exercised, and how its meetings are conducted.

Generally, the Governing Council exercises its powers through judging matters of broad policy and through monitorial functions. The Governing Council monitors the President and the President’s senior officers (collectively, referred to as the “Administration”), who are responsible for the administration of the University, through, for example:

- the review, assessment, and deliberation of matters and proposals brought before the Governing Council by the Administration for approval;
- the receipt of regular oral and written reports from the Administration;
- the use of Question Period at meetings of the Governing Council;
- the requirement in policy documents for routine reporting of specific administrative actions;
- the receipt of an annual report from the University Ombudsman;
- the right to approve the establishment and disestablishment of senior executive offices and the appointment of University officers; and
- an active Audit Committee.

Some examples of matters brought by the Administration before the Governing Council and its Boards and Committees for approval include:

- proposals for new academic programs and units;
- policies on admissions and awards, tuition and ancillary fees, research, and grading practices;
- multi-year budget guidelines and capital plans;
- resource allocation in support of the University’s priorities;
- campus and student services; and
- acquisition and/or disposal of assets.

Detailed information about the Governing Council, including its meeting schedule, membership information, and agendas and minutes of past meetings are available online at:

<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/governance-bodies>

¹ Adapted from the Report of the Chairman’s Advisory Committee on Governance, May 10, 1988, available online: <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/ppmay101988.pdf>

² By-law Number 2 of the Governing Council is available online: <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/bylaw2.pdf>
<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>

3.2 Members of the Governing Council: Their Duty, Being Effective Members, and Time Commitment

(1) The Duty of Members of the Governing Council

The *Act* imposes a legal obligation on members of the Governing Council to act with diligence, honestly, and with good faith in the best interests of the University.

(2) Expectations and Attributes of Members of the Governing Council

Governors are collectively and individually stewards of the University. Each Governor must act in good faith with the view to the best interests of the University as a whole, to defend the autonomy and the independence of the University and to enhance its public image. In this context, listed below are principles considered critical to being an effective member of the Governing Council.

- Advancing and upholding the mission of the University.
- Understanding and having relevant input in the University's vision, strategies and objectives.
- Assuming, with other Governors, the stewardship role of overseeing the business and affairs of the University.
- Exercising informed judgement – within a reasonable time of joining the Council, becoming knowledgeable about the University and its role in the province, the country, and globally; the academic sector more broadly; emerging trends, issues and challenges, thereby being able to provide wise counsel on a range of issues, through knowledge and experience with topics and their context.
- Understanding the current governance policies and practices, the mandates and authorities of the committees on which a member serves.
- Understanding that the Governing Council's role is one of oversight with a focus on strategic matters rather than management or administration.
- Preparing thoroughly for each meeting by reviewing the material provided and requesting, as appropriate, additional information in order to appropriately add value in deliberations and exercising oversight.
- Communicating persuasively and logically at governance meetings and being willing to be accountable for and be bound by decisions made by the Governing Council or its Boards / Committees.
- Voting on all matters requiring a decision except where a conflict of interest may exist.
- Committing to participate actively in governance meetings. Attending at least 75% of all meetings and advising the Secretariat in advance if one must be absent and, if there is a need for extended absences, consulting the Chair about the need and implications. Electronic participation can be considered in some circumstances.
- Consistent with the University's values, supporting the fullest range of respectful and constructive debate.
- Maintaining the transparency which the University prides itself on within the immediate and broader communities, by disclosing, considering, and appropriately managing or eliminating any actual, potential, or appearance of a conflict.
- Understanding the obligation to protect confidential information to which Governors are exposed.

(3) Time Commitment

- In addition to being members of the Governing Council, members are also expected to volunteer as members of two Boards and/or Committees of the Council.
- Members are expected to attend the meetings of the Governing Council and the meetings of the Boards and/or Committees of which they are members. Most meetings are scheduled throughout the academic year between September and June, usually beginning at either 3:00, 4:00 p.m. or 5:00 p.m. and continuing for up to two and a half hours.
- In total, a member is expected to prepare for and attend approximately 18 meetings during an academic year.
- From time to time, members are also asked to serve on *ad hoc*, search, or advisory committees.
- Past members have estimated a time commitment averaging approximately four hours per week, translating to approximately 200+ hours per governance year (July 1 to June 30).
- Additionally, members of the Governing Council should engage their constituents and attend University and community events to serve as ambassadors of the University.

(4) Composition of the Governing Council

In accordance with the Act, the Governing Council has the following composition (totaling 50 members)³:

Ex Officio

Chancellor	1
President	1

Appointed

Government Appointees	16
Presidential Appointees	2

Elected

Administrative Staff	2
Alumni	8
Teaching Staff	12
Graduate Students	2
Full-Time Undergraduate Students	4
Part-Time Undergraduate Students	2

³ Subsection 2(2) of the *Act*.

(5) Boards and Committees of the Governing Council

The Boards and Committees of the Governing Council are composed of members of the Council as well as individuals within the University community, who have been selected based on their backgrounds and expertise to serve on these bodies. Members of the Governing Council play a critical role in the work of Boards and Committees, and these bodies contribute to the governance of the University in the following ways.

First, the Governing Council has delegated some of its powers to the Boards and Committees. For example, the Academic Board and the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs have final decision-making authority on certain purely academic matters. Accordingly, the Administration would bring such matters directly to the Academic Board or the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs for final approval.

Second, matters which require the ultimate approval of the Governing Council are first brought by the Administration before Boards and Committees for detailed review, assessment, and deliberation. The types of matters brought before a particular Board or Committee depends on the function and responsibilities of that Board or Committee. Following preliminary approval from Boards and/or Committees, such matters progress to the Governing Council for final approval. This decision-making structure facilitates careful examination of matters at a preliminary stage by bodies comprising members with appropriate backgrounds and expertise before they are brought to the Governing Council for final consideration and approval.

Third, the monitorial role of the Governing Council is also shared with its Boards and Committees. It is prudent for certain matters to be monitored by individuals with appropriate backgrounds or expertise. For instance, the Audit Committee is composed of members with accounting and business backgrounds who are qualified to analyze and deliberate on technical matters relating to the internal and external audits of the University's finances.

There are four classes of Boards, Campus Councils and Committees of the Governing Council, each with specific functions and responsibilities⁴:

- (1) the Executive Committee;
- (2) the Academic Board, the Business Board, the University Affairs Board, the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) Campus Council, and the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC) Campus Council;
- (3) Special Committees which may be established from time to time; and
- (4) Standing Committees, which report either to the Governing Council, to a Board, or to a Campus Council. The table below lists the Standing Committees together with the corresponding body to which the Standing Committee reports:

Standing Committee	Body to which the Committee Reports
Agenda Committee	Academic Board
Academic Appeals Committee	Academic Board
Committee on Academic Policy and Programs	Academic Board
Planning and Budget Committee	Academic Board
Audit Committee	Business Board
Elections Committee	Executive Committee
Committee for Honorary Degrees	Governing Council
UTM Campus Council	Executive Committee
UTM Agenda Committee	UTM Campus Council
UTM Academic Affairs Committee	UTM Campus Council
UTM Campus Affairs Committee	UTM Campus Council
UTSC Campus Council	Executive Committee
UTSC Agenda Committee	UTSC Campus Council
UTSC Academic Affairs Committee	UTSC Campus Council
UTSC Campus Affairs Committee	UTSC Campus Council

Detailed information about the Boards and Committees of the Governing Council, including their meeting schedules, membership information, terms of reference (information about size, composition, quorum, and function of a particular Board or Committee), and agendas and minutes (referred to as “Reports”) of past meetings are available online at: <https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/governance-bodies>

⁴ These four classes of Boards and Committees of the Governing Council are prescribed by section 29 of By-Law Number 2 of the Governing Council.

SECTION 4 - The Roles of the Chief Returning Officer, Deputy Returning Officer(s), and the Election Overseers

4.1 Chief Returning Officer

The Chief Returning Officer (CRO) is appointed by the Executive Committee on the recommendation of the Secretary of the Governing Council. The CRO is responsible for the interpretation and implementation of these *Guidelines*, including, but not limited to:

- (1) ruling on matters such as the validity of nominations, violations of these *Guidelines*, and voter eligibility;
- (2) coordinating matters relating to on-line voting in the Governing Council, Academic Board, and UTM/UTSC Campus Councils and their Standing Committees' elections, including liaising with appropriate University departments on the production of the on-line balloting procedures; and
- (3) Verifying and tabulating mail ballot returns.

The CRO also provides information and recommendations for consideration and approval to the Elections Committee in the role of a non-voting assessor.

The CRO is intended to be an impartial participant in the administration of the elections; accordingly, the CRO may not vote in the elections.

Decisions of the CRO may be appealed to the Elections Committee in accordance with these *Guidelines*.⁵

The CRO is employed within the Office of the Governing Council. The CRO's contact information is available in the Elections Section of the Governing Council website:
<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>

4.2 Deputy Returning Officer

One or more Deputy Returning Officers (DROs) may be appointed at the discretion of the Secretary of the Governing Council. Appointments are reported to the Executive Committee for information.

The Deputy Returning Officers assist the CRO in their duties as appropriate, and act in the CRO's absence as required. Deputy Returning Officers may not vote in the Governing Council, Academic Board or UTM/UTSC Campus Councils and their Standing Committees' elections.

4.3 Elections Committee as Election Overseers

As discussed above, the Elections Committee is responsible for developing and updating these *Guidelines*, which establish the manner of and the procedures to be used in the elections.

Additionally, the members of the Elections Committee also serve as the Election Overseers and consider any appeal of a decision of the CRO as well as any appeal or any other question arising from the conduct of the elections as outlined in these *Guidelines*. The decision of the Election Overseers in such matters shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.

A member of the Elections Committee, who is standing for election, involved in an election Campaign, or endorsing a candidate for election, may act as an Election Overseer provided the Member does not

⁵ Please refer to the Table of Contents (pages 2-9) to locate information on the "Filing of Notice of Intent to Appeal Decision of Invalidation and Appeals"; "Recount"; and "Filing of Notice of Intent to Appeal and Appeals" within Sections 7 to 11.

participate in considering a matter arising from or pertaining to the Member's own constituency or the constituency of a candidate the Member is publicly endorsing.

SECTION 5 - Authority for Elections and these Guidelines⁶

The *Act* empowers the Governing Council to determine the manner and procedure of election of its members, including the determination of constituencies, assign Students and members of the Teaching Staff and Administrative Staff to such constituencies, and conduct such elections, but in the case of election of members by the Administrative Staff, the Teaching Staff and the Students, or any of them, the elections shall be by secret ballot and no person shall be eligible to cast more than one ballot.⁷

Some of these powers of the Governing Council have been delegated to the Executive Committee and the Elections Committee.

The Elections Committee is responsible for developing the *Election Guidelines*, which establishes the manner and procedure to be used in the election of Administrative Staff, Librarians, Students and Teaching Staff to the Governing Council, the Academic Board, and the Campus Councils and their Standing Committees, including the establishment of constituencies within these categories.

The Elections Committee reports to the Executive Committee. Recommendations of the Elections Committee may be approved by the Executive Committee or forwarded to the Governing Council for approval. Amendments to the policy on elections are considered by the Executive Committee and recommended to the Governing Council for approval. Major amendments to the annual *Election Guidelines* are approved by the Executive Committee and do not require the approval of the Governing Council. Minor amendments to the *Election Guidelines* are approved by the Elections Committee. The determination of whether amendments are major is made by the Chair of the Executive Committee.

The *Election Guidelines* are formulated in accordance with the *Act*. For instance, the provisions in these *Guidelines* relating to eligibility and nomination procedures are crafted to adhere to the provisions of the *Act* be elected by and from among constituents from the members' own constituencies. Furthermore, consistent with the *Act*, constituencies were established within the Administrative Staff, Teaching Staff, and the Student categories to enable broad representation on the governance bodies from various divisions of the University.

⁶ Adapted in part from the terms of reference of the Elections Committee and Executive Committee available online at: <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Boards+and+Committees/Elections+Committee/ector.pdf> and <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Boards+and+Committees/Executive+Committee/extor.pdf>

⁷ Clause 2(14)(nb) of the *Act*.

SECTION 6 – Commitment Regarding Individuals with Disabilities

The University strives to facilitate the inclusion of individuals with disabilities into all aspects of University life, including full participation in the work of Governing Council, its Boards and Committees. At the same time the University endeavours to protect each individual’s privacy, confidentiality and autonomy (University’s *Statement of Commitment Regarding Persons with Disabilities*, February 25, 2021).

In developing its procedures for accommodation requests, the University is committed to compliance with existing legislation [*Ontario Human Rights Code* and portions of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* (AODA)]. The University is also mindful that accommodation is a shared responsibility and that, to be effective, the process requires the co-operative engagement of everyone involved. As part of the elections process, the Office of the Governing Council endeavours to make all election related materials accessible and compliant with the AODA. The Office of the Governing Council consults on a regular basis with the University’s AODA Office regarding legislation and policy to ensure that its procedures are in compliance. The procedures outlined below indicate the roles and responsibilities of university offices, and of the person seeking accommodation.

Confirmation of Disability Accommodations Process

Staff in the Office of the Governing Council will not compel disclosure of the nature of an individual’s disability, nor do they wish to see supporting documentation. However, in order to ensure that the accommodation provided is appropriate and individuals are best supported, individuals requesting an accommodation should contact one of the offices listed in the chart below. That office will work with individuals to discuss options for appropriate accommodations. As part of this process an individual may be asked to provide supporting documentation to one of these offices, as provided under Human Rights legislation.

6.1 Contact Information for the Health and Well-being Programs and Services Office and the Accessibility Services Offices

Administrative Staff, Librarians, and Teaching Staff from all three campuses may contact the office listed below.
Health and Well-being Programs and Services Office
263 McCaul Street, 2nd Floor TORONTO ON M5T 1W7 General Inquiries: 416-978-2149 Fax Number: 416-971-3052 Website: http://well-being.hrandequity.utoronto.ca/

Students may contact the appropriate office listed below, according to the campus on which they are registered.		
St. George Campus Accessibility Services	UTM Accessibility Services University of Toronto Mississauga	UTSC AccessAbility Services, University of Toronto Scarborough
455 Spadina Avenue, 4th Floor, Suite 400 (Just north of College Street) Toronto, Ontario, M5S 2G8 Tel.: 416-978-8060 Fax: 416-978-5729 Email: accessibility.services@utoronto.ca Website: http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/as	Room 2037, Davis Building 3359 Mississauga Road North, Mississauga, Ontario, L5L 1C6 Tel.: 905-569-4699 Fax: 905-569-4366 Email: access.utm@utoronto.ca Website: http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/accessibility/	Room IA5105, Sam Ibrahim Building 1050 Military Trail, Scarborough, Ontario M1C 1A4 Tel.: 416-287-7560 Fax: 416-287-7334 Email: ability.utsc@utoronto.ca Website: https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/ability/

Procedures for Governors, Campus Council, Board, and Committee Members, and Candidates for Election who are Requesting Accommodation for Disabilities, are available here:

<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/requesting-accommodation-disabilities>

SECTION 7 - Election of Administrative Staff to the Governing Council

7.1 Administrative Staff Members of the Governing Council

The *Act* stipulates that two members of the Governing Council shall be elected by the Administrative Staff from among the Administrative Staff.⁸

“Administrative Staff” means the staff-appointed employees of the University, University College, the Constituent Colleges and the Federated Universities who are not members of the Teaching Staff thereof.

7.2 Term of Office

The term of office for an Administrative Staff member of the Governing Council begins on July 1st in the year in which the member is elected and ends 3 years later on June 30th.

7.3 Current Administrative Staff Members of the Governing Council

The current Administrative Staff members of the Governing Council are listed in the table below.

Current Members	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Mr. Sarosh Jamal	June 30, 2025	Yes
Mr. Vikram Chadawada	June 30, 2027	No

7.4 2025 Election Schedule Summary

Nomination Period: Tuesday, January 7, 12:00 noon to Thursday, January 16, 5:00 p.m.

Campaign Period: Monday, January 27, 9:00 a.m. to Friday, February 14, 5:00 p.m.

Voting Period: Tuesday, February 4, 10:00 a.m. to Friday, February 14, 5:00 p.m.

Post-Election Period: Friday, February 21, 5:00 p.m. to Thursday, March 13, 5:00 p.m.

(Please see the detailed schedule at Section 2 of these *Guidelines*.)

⁸ Clause 2(2)(f) of the *Act*.

7.5 Eligibility

(1) Member of the Administrative Staff

- (a) In order to be eligible to be elected as an Administrative Staff member of the Governing Council, an individual must be a staff-appointed member of the Administrative Staff, be nominated by staff-appointed Administrative Staff, and remain a member of the Administrative Staff from the close of the nomination period to the time when all relevant election-related appeals and recounts, if any, have been finally disposed of, or, if there are no appeals or recounts, when winners have been declared elected and be nominated as an Administrative Staff candidate by staff-appointed Administrative Staff. In addition, once elected, an Administrative Staff member may only remain a member of the Governing Council so long as the individual is a staff-appointed member of the Administrative Staff. The individual must resign if they cease to be a member of the Administrative Staff.
- (b) If an individual is both a member of the Administrative Staff and a Student, the individual:
- (i) may only be a candidate for election to become either a Student member or a staff-appointed Administrative Staff member of the Governing Council;⁹ and
 - (ii) shall declare on the nomination form whether the individual is running for election to become a Student member or an Administrative Staff member of the Governing Council and use the applicable nomination form.

7.6 Nomination Process

(1) Nomination Period

Nominations open: Tuesday, January 7, 12:00 noon

Nominations Close: Thursday, January 16, 5:00 p.m.

(2) Nomination Forms

- (a) An individual seeking nomination must file a fully completed official nomination form and submit it to the Office of the Governing Council prior to the close of the nomination period.
- (i) It shall be the responsibility of the individual seeking nomination to ensure that the correct nomination form, i.e., the form for Administrative Staff candidates for the Governing Council elections, is used.
- (c) An individual seeking nomination must file a fully completed online nomination form and submit it to the Office of the Governing Council prior to the close of the nomination period.

It is the responsibility of the individual seeking nomination to ensure that the supporting nominators have confirmed their supporting nomination, as per the instructions contained in the electronic nomination form; and submitted before the closing date and time of the Call for Nominations.

(3) Supporting Nominators

- (a) To become a candidate in the elections, Administrative Staff member seeking nomination must meet the following requirements with respect to supporting nominators:

⁹ This requirement is prescribed by subsection 2(3a) of the *Act*.

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- (i) the individual seeking nomination may not nominate oneself;
 - (ii) the individual seeking nomination must have on their nomination form the support of 5 supporting nominators and provide the full name of the supporting nominator and the name of the department or office in which the supporting nominator is employed; and
 - (iii) It is the responsibility of the individual seeking nomination to ensure that the supporting nominators have completed the electronic form, as per the instructions contained in the electronic nomination form; and submitted before the closing date and time of the Call for Nominations.
- (b) The names of supporting nominators will not be released to the public, to any individual seeking nomination, or to any candidate.

(4) Candidate's Statement

- (a) An individual seeking nomination may, but will not be required to, submit to the CRO a statement, biographical in nature or otherwise. If the individual successfully becomes a candidate, the statement will be:
- (i) distributed to voters who will use mail ballots; provided together with the name of the candidate during the online voting process to voters who will vote online; and
 - (ii) otherwise distributed or reproduced by the Office of the Governing Council in a manner chosen by the CRO.

Individuals seeking nomination may wish to provide biographical information and address in their statements, their motivation for running in the elections, and how their background qualifies them for becoming a member of the Governing Council.

- (b) The statement must be 100 words or less in length, subject to the following:
- (i) acronyms and abbreviations will be counted as one word; and
 - (ii) the individual's name will not be counted in the 100-word limit if placed at the beginning of the individual's statement.

If the statement contains more than 100 words, only the first 100 words will be printed.

- (c) The statement must be submitted before the close of the nomination period to the Office of the Governing Council in one of two ways:
- (i) The statement may be submitted with the nomination form.
 - (ii) The statement may also be submitted by e-mail from the personal utoronto.ca e-mail account of the individual seeking nomination to the CRO, separate from the nomination form, as long as it is received prior to the close of the nomination period.

The statement may not be altered or amended once the campaigning period has begun, but the statement may be withdrawn upon the written request of the individual seeking nomination. Any e-mail not actually received or received by the CRO time-stamped after the close of the nomination period will be rejected, notwithstanding that the e-mail may have been sent prior to the deadline. Individuals submitting statements by e-mail assume any and all risks associated therewith.

- (d) A fully completed nomination form shall signify consent and direction by the individual to the Office of the Governing Council to distribute the individual's statement and reproduce the individual's statement in the manner above described and acceptance of complete responsibility by the individual for any

consequences arising from such distribution and reproduction of the statement and for the contents of the statement.

- (i) For clarity, the CRO, DRO, and the University shall not be responsible for the statement in any way (other than for the physical or electronic reproduction and distribution of the statement in the manner described above), including, but not limited to, any consequences arising from the distribution or reproduction of the statement and the accuracy of the statement.
- (ii) The statement will not be distributed or otherwise made available if, in the opinion of the Election Overseers, assisted by such advisors as they may retain, the statement is obscene, denigrating, otherwise objectionable, in violation of these *Guidelines* or the University's rules or policies, or it could render the University liable to a suit for libel. The decision of the Election Overseers in this regard shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.

(e) Questions relating to the 100-word statement may be directed to the CRO.

(5) Verification of Candidate

The eligibility of each Administrative Staff candidate will be assessed by:

- (a) cross-referencing the candidate's information as it appears on the candidate's nomination form against records of the Human Resources Information Systems and staff records in the Federated Universities to determine whether the candidate is eligible for election to become an Administrative Staff member of the Governing Council;
- (b) reviewing the candidate's nomination form to assess whether:
 - (i) the correct nomination form has been used;
 - (ii) the nomination form has been completed correctly;
 - (iii) the nomination form contains the required number of valid supporting nominators; and
 - (iv) the candidate's signature is present on the nomination form, signifying the candidate's consent to stand for election.

(6) Verification of Supporting Nominators

The validity of each supporting nominator of Administrative Staff candidates will be assessed by:

- (a) comparing the supporting nominator's full name and the supporting nominator's department or office of employment, as indicated on the nomination form, against records of the Human Resources Information Systems and staff records in the Federated Universities to determine whether the supporting nominator is eligible to nominate Administrative Staff.

(7) Errors or Irregularities in Nominations

- (a) Errors or irregularities on the nomination form may be corrected prior to the close of the nomination period.
- (b) The CRO may, but will not be required to, notify candidates of the existence of any errors or irregularities before the close of the nomination period.

(8) Technical Invalidation

- (a) Technical grounds upon which the CRO may rely to invalidate a nomination form, include, but are not limited to:

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- (i) the candidate does not meet the eligibility requirements;
 - (ii) insufficient number of valid supporting nominators;
 - (iii) substantive error on the nomination form;
 - (iv) the incorrect nomination form was used;
 - (v) the nomination form is incomplete;
 - (vi) the nomination form is not appropriately verifiable; or
 - (vii) the nomination form does not conform with these *Guidelines*.
- (b) The CRO's decision to invalidate a nomination form on technical grounds may be appealed to the Election Overseers.

7.7 Announcement of Candidates

Announcement of Candidates: Tuesday January 21, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

7.8 Filing of Notice of Intent to Appeal Decision of Invalidation and Appeals

- (a) An individual may appeal the decision of the CRO to invalidate the individual's nomination form on technical grounds to the Election Overseers by filing a Notice of Intent to Appeal in accordance with the following requirements:
- (i) The Notice of Intent to Appeal must be submitted to the Office of the Governing Council by the deadline noted in the Election Schedule, either through e-mail or by hand-delivered letter to the CRO.
- (b) The Election Overseers shall review the appellant's grounds for an appeal of the CRO's decision to invalidate a nomination form as outlined in the Notice of Intent to Appeal filed by the appellant, and the Elections Committee may;
- (i) dismiss the appeal if it decides that the grounds do not have merit;
 - (ii) grant the appeal without a hearing if it decides that the grounds have merit; or
 - (iii) hold a hearing in a manner and in accordance with such procedures as it may determine to be appropriate and render a decision thereafter.
- (c) The Election Overseers shall render a decision by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 22, 2025.
- (d) The decision of the Election Overseers shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.

7.9 Announcement of Additional Candidates

Individuals who successfully appeal the invalidation of their nomination will be announced as candidates at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 23, 2025, using a method selected by the CRO.

7.10 Withdrawal of Candidacy

- (a) A candidate may withdraw by submitting via e-mail to the CRO or the CRO's designee an online statement for this purpose.
- (b) If a candidate wishes to have their name removed from the ballot, the candidate must withdraw by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 24, 2025.

- (i) If a candidate withdraws after this time, the withdrawal and the fact that the candidate's name remains on the ballot shall not invalidate the election.
- (ii) Votes cast for a candidate who has withdrawn shall not be counted and shall be void.

7.11 Acclamations

Subject to the provisions of these *Guidelines*, an Administrative Staff candidate may be acclaimed, i.e., deemed to be elected, by the CRO in the following circumstances:

- (a) after the announcement of official candidates and the completion of any appeals relating to nomination invalidations, the number of Administrative Staff candidates is equal to or less than the number of vacancies on the Governing Council to be filled by Administrative Staff; or
- (b) another candidate withdraws their nomination and, consequently, the number of remaining candidates is equal to or less than the number of vacancies on the Governing Council to be filled by Administrative Staff.

7.12 Re-opening of Nominations

- (a) If no verified nomination forms are filed during the nomination period, or the number of verified nomination forms is fewer than the number of vacancies, the CRO may re-open nominations up to two times.
- (b) If the second re-opening of nominations fails to produce a candidate, the CRO may determine the appropriate course of action.

7.13 Campaign Period

Campaign Period Begins: Monday, January 27, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

Campaign Period Ends: Friday, February 14, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

(1) Guidelines Information Session for Candidates

Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 12:00 noon

- (a) Candidates are encouraged to attend or send an authorized representative to attend the Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates organized by the CRO to review Campaign Guidelines.
- (b) A candidate may contact the CRO to receive the information given at the Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates if the candidate is unable to attend the session.
- (c) All candidates, whether in attendance or not, shall be responsible for and shall act in accordance with all the information provided at the Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates.

(2) Campaigning

Candidates for election to the Governing Council must abide by all the guidelines for Campaigning contained in all of the Appendices of these *Guidelines* and any additional guidelines regarding Campaigning that may be issued by the CRO in writing from time to time. Any violation of the guidelines for Campaigning may result in the imposition of sanctions against a candidate by the Election Overseers, including, but not limited to, disqualification from the elections.

7.14 Balloting

(1) Eligibility

- (a) No person may cast more than one ballot.¹⁰
- (b) Only Administrative Staff are eligible to vote for an Administrative Staff candidate for the Governing Council.
- (c) An Administrative Staff candidate shall not vote for any candidate for election to the Governing Council other than Administrative Staff candidates, notwithstanding that the Administrative Staff candidate may also be a Student.

(2) Web-based Online Voting for Administrative Staff

- (a) Voting by Administrative Staff for Administrative Staff candidates will be conducted through an electronic voting platform decided by the CRO.
- (b) Internet access is available for free to Administrative Staff on computers in the Information Commons and its satellite facilities on all three campuses and in many colleges, faculties and libraries.
- (c) Voting involves the following:
 - (i) A voter must log in to the voting platform using the instructions provided by the CRO.
 - (ii) The constituency in which the voter is eligible to vote will be determined by records generated from Human Resources Information Systems and staff records in the Federated Universities and securely transferred to the voting platform.
 - (iii) After successfully logging into the voting platform, the voter will be presented with a list of elections based on the constituency in which they are eligible to vote.
 - (iv) Following the instructions provided by the voting platform, the voter will be presented with the list of candidates in that constituency listed in random order and provided with several options, including casting or spoiling a ballot and reading the candidates' statements.
 - (v) The voter may choose not to vote at this point and may exit the voting platform and return to the process at another time.

¹⁰ This prohibition is prescribed by clause 2 (14) (nb) of the *Act*.

<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>

- (vi) Once the voter selects a candidate or candidates, as the case may be, for whom to vote, clicking the “Confirm Vote” button will bring up a confirmation screen.
- (vii) If the voter leaves all candidate choices blank, and then casts the ballot, the voter will be advised to please answer all questions, and the voter may click on the ‘Abstain’ button to spoil the ballot.
- (d) An Administrative Staff voter who has already voted will not be accepted by the voting platform as an eligible voter a second time.

(3) Verification of Ballots

The eligibility of a voter will be verified upon logging into the online voting platform. The voter's personal information will be verified against a list of eligible voters compiled using staff records from the Human Resources Information Systems and the Federated Universities.

(4) Mail Ballot Voting

- (a) Administrative Staff without an e-mail account within the utoronto.ca domain may only vote by mail ballot provided by the Office of the Governing Council.
 - (i) Photocopies of ballots or copies of ballots obtained from other sources will be declared invalid.
 - (ii) Mail ballots will be mailed to Administrative Staff who do not have e-mail accounts within the utoronto.ca domain at their addresses within the University according to the records of Human Resources Information Systems and the Federated Universities.
 - (iii) Individuals who will be absent from their University addresses during the voting period may ask to have their ballots forwarded to them at an alternate address.
- (b) Each mail ballot will be accompanied by:
 - (i) an information sheet containing:
 - i) the names of each of the candidates together with their respective statements;
 - ii) instructions on the correct method to return the ballot;
 - iii) information on eligibility to use that particular ballot;
 - iv) a short description of the powers and duties of the Governing Council; and
 - v) instructions on how to obtain the correct ballot for persons who receive an incorrect ballot;
 - (ii) a small secrecy envelope into which the marked ballot should be sealed; and
 - (iii) a pre-addressed return envelope into which the small secrecy envelope should be sealed. (Voters will be instructed to sign and to legibly print their names and the names of the department or office in which they are employed on the upper left corner of this pre-addressed return envelope. Failure to do so will invalidate the ballot.)
- (c) Information about how to obtain a mail ballot will be advertised in the campus media and on the Elections Section of the Governing Council website to target those individuals who are entitled, but did not receive a mail ballot.
- (d) Non-receipt of mail ballots will not invalidate an election.
- (e) Individuals who wish to vote shall cast their ballots in accordance with the following:

- (i) A voter may vote for as many candidates as the number of vacancies on the Governing Council to be filled by Administrative Staff.
- (ii) Any kind of mark on the ballot that unambiguously indicates an intention on the part of the voter to cast a vote for a particular candidate shall be acceptable provided all other requirements are met.
- (iii) Ballots must be returned to the Office of the Governing Council in accordance with the instructions provided, including:
 - i) placing the marked ballot into the secrecy envelope;
 - ii) sealing the secrecy envelope;
 - iii) inserting the secrecy envelope into the pre-addressed return envelope;
 - iv) filling in the information required on the pre-addressed return envelope; and
 - v) signing the pre-addressed return envelope.
- (iv) Ballots must be delivered to the Office of the Governing Council by Canada Post, University Mail, or hand delivery by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 14, 2025. Ballots returned by electronic, facsimile or any other means will be invalidated.
- (f) Once a ballot has been received by the Office of the Governing Council, the ballot shall not be returned to the voter, shall not be changed, and no additional ballots shall be provided to replace the ballot already received.

(5) Verification of Ballots

- (a) All mail ballots received by the Office of the Governing Council will be assessed to ascertain their validity by;
 - (i) examining the envelope in which the ballot is sealed to ensure that it has not been compromised;
 - (ii) examining each ballot to determine, among other things, its authenticity and whether it was properly marked;
 - (iii) cross-referencing each voter's personal information provided on the pre-addressed return envelope against the staff records provided by the Human Resources Information System and the Federated Universities to determine whether the voter is eligible to vote for the candidate(s) selected by the voter; and
 - (iv) examining the pre-addressed return envelope to determine whether the voter's signature is present and whether all the information required was printed legibly thereon.
- (b) Grounds for invalidating a mail ballot include, but are not limited to:
 - (i) the information required on the pre-addressed return envelope is missing or illegible;
 - (ii) the voter casting the mail ballot is not eligible to vote;
 - (iii) the ballot received is not the one provided by the Office of the Governing Council;
 - (iv) the voter selected more candidates than the number of vacancies on the Governing Council to be filled by Administrative Staff;
 - (v) the voter cast more than one ballot, in which case, all ballots of the voter shall be invalidated; and
 - (vi) the markings on the ballot are ambiguous.

(6) Secrecy of Ballots

The secrecy of the balloting process is maintained:

- (a) with respect to the web-based balloting process, votes cast are kept in a database which is separate from and independent of the list of eligible voters, so that votes cast cannot be identified with any individual voter; and
- (b) with respect to the mail balloting process, mail ballots are removed from their sealed secrecy envelopes and tabulated only after all secrecy envelopes received have been removed from the self-addressed envelopes and accumulated in a manner to ensure that none of the secrecy envelopes can be associated with any particular pre-addressed return envelope. This process ensures that a mail ballot cannot be identified with any individual voter.

7.15 Notification of Ballot Counting and Scrutineering

- (a) Prior to the end of the voting period, the CRO shall notify each Administrative Staff candidate in writing of the location and the schedule for counting the mail ballots and any subsequent changes thereto.
- (b) Each Administrative Staff candidate or a designee, so designated by the candidate by submitting a signed statement to this effect to the Office of the Governing Council, shall be entitled to:
 - (i) observe the tabulation of mail ballots received from Administrative Staff; and
 - (ii) seek verification that the voters voting by mail ballot are eligible to vote for Administrative Staff.
- (c) Mail ballot counting will proceed at the location and in accordance with the schedule indicated in the written notification sent to the candidates, whether or not candidates or their designees are present.

7.16 Announcement of Results

The number of votes received by each candidate (the total number of votes, including both online and mail ballots) will be announced at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, using a method selected by the CRO.

- (a) As there are no individual ballots in web-based voting, a recount of online ballots will not be possible.
- (b) Mail ballots may be subject to a recount.
 - (i) A candidate may request a recount of the mail ballots by filing the form prescribed for this purpose in accordance with the following requirements.
 - i) The candidate must complete the form, including specifying the grounds upon which the candidate requests a recount, and must submit it to the Office of the Governing Council by 12:00 noon on Thursday, February 20, 2025.
 - (ii) The Election Overseers shall review the candidate's grounds for seeking a recount as outlined in the form filed by the candidate, and the Elections Committee may:
 - i) dismiss the recount request if it decides that the grounds do not have merit;
 - ii) authorize the recount without a hearing; or
 - iii) hold a hearing in a manner and in accordance with such procedures as it may determine to be appropriate and render a decision thereafter.
 - (iii) If authorized by the Election Overseers, a recount of the mail ballots shall be conducted.

7.18 Equality of Votes

- (a) In the case of equality of votes where the election of the candidates receiving an equal number of votes would result in the election of a greater number of candidates than the number of vacancies on the Governing Council to be filled by Administrative Staff, the successful candidate or candidates shall be determined by a second election between or among the candidates receiving an equal number of votes.
- (b) The CRO shall set the election schedule for any second or subsequent elections.
- (c) If the second election also results in an equality of votes the CRO shall consult the Elections Committee on how to proceed.

7.19 Filing of Notice of Intent to Appeal and Appeals

- (a) A candidate may appeal any matter arising from the conduct of elections during the Election Period to the Election Overseers, including the announcement of results, by filing a Notice of Intent to Appeal in accordance with the following requirements:
 - (i) The Notice of Intent to Appeal must be submitted to the Office of the Governing Council by the deadline noted in the Election Schedule, either through e-mail or by hand-delivered letter to the CRO.
- (b) The Election Overseers shall review the appellant's grounds for an appeal as outlined in the Notice of Intent to Appeal filed by the appellant and the Election Overseers may:
 - (i) dismiss the appeal if it decides that the grounds do not have merit;
 - (ii) grant the appeal without a hearing if it decides that the grounds have merit; or
 - (iii) hold a hearing in a manner and in accordance with such procedures as it may determine to be appropriate and render a decision thereafter.
- (c) The Election Overseers shall render a decision by 12:00 noon on Friday, February 21, 2025.
- (d) The decision of the Election Overseers shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.

7.20 Elections Not Necessarily Invalidated by Irregularities

An irregularity, failure, non-compliance or mistake in any way related to the election shall not invalidate the election if it appears to the Election Overseers that the election was conducted in accordance with the principles of these *Guidelines* and that the irregularity, failure, non-compliance or mistake did not or would not have been reasonably likely to have affected the result of the election.

7.21 Election Expenses

(1) Spending Limit

- (a) The limit for election related expenses, including Campaigning expenses, for each Administrative Staff candidate is \$800, of which the University will reimburse the Administrative Staff candidate \$600.
 - (i) If an additional election is required as a result of an equality of votes in the first election, the CRO shall establish a separate spending limit.

(2) Reimbursement of Election Expenses

- (a) Expenses eligible for reimbursement include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - (i) paper and office supplies;
 - (ii) copying and printing of Campaign Materials;
 - (iii) reasonable transportation costs incurred in connection with Campaigning at campuses other than that at which the candidate works;
 - (iv) campaign advertisements;
 - (v) web design and domain expenses explicitly related to the election;
 - (vi) refreshments, excluding alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, coolers, etc.); and
 - (vii) the Fair Market Value of all donated goods and services actually used in the candidate's Campaign, except voluntary unpaid labour.
- (b) Expenses ineligible for reimbursement include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - (i) expenses incurred prior to the announcement of candidates;
 - (ii) parking fines incurred during Campaign-related activity;
 - (iii) costs resulting from the removal of posters from University or non-University property as a result of illegal posting for the election;
 - (iv) alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, coolers, etc.);
 - (v) interest/financing costs for the election Campaign;
 - (vi) costs which could be considered of a personal nature and unrelated to the Campaign;
 - (vii) web design and domain expenses not explicitly related to the election; and
 - (viii) medical expenses including prescription and non-prescription drugs.
- (c) Candidates, whether they are seeking reimbursement or not, are normally expected to submit receipts for all expenses including a statement of all donated goods and services actually used in the candidate's Campaign (except voluntary unpaid labour) with their Fair Market Value, within fourteen days of the close of the election.
 - (i) Candidates will normally be asked to sign a sworn statement that all expenses have been disclosed and that the total represents the total amount of expenses by the candidate or by anyone acting on behalf or with the candidate's knowledge and consent.
 - (ii) Candidates who have no Campaign expenses may, at the discretion of the CRO, be exempt from submitting an expense statement.

(3) Enforcement of the Election Expenses Limit

- (a) There will be no circumstances under which the limit may be exceeded.

- (b) If the sworn statement indicates that the limit has been exceeded, or if an allegation is made to the CRO that a candidate has exceeded the limit, the CRO will investigate the matter and, if warranted, take the alleged violation to the Elections Committee acting as the Election Overseers.
 - (i) A hearing will be held.
 - (ii) The decision of the Election Overseers shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.
 - (iii) If the candidate is found guilty, and was successful in the election, the candidate will be disqualified and will not become a member of the Governing Council.
- (c) Failure to submit the sworn statement concerning election expenses may be referred by the CRO to the Elections Committee acting as the Election Overseers.
 - (i) a hearing may be held;
 - (ii) penalties may be imposed, including, but not limited to:
 - i) for successful candidates: disqualification and ceasing to be members of the Governing Council;
 - ii) for unsuccessful candidates: public announcement and/or disqualification from future Governing Council elections for a year or number of years.
- (d) Within seven days of the deadline for submitting the sworn statement, the CRO must inform the Elections Committee and the concerned candidate(s) of any irregularities that have been discovered.
- (e) If a hearing is necessary, it should be held as soon as possible and should be completed by 12:00 noon on Friday, February 21, 2025.

7.22 Resignation for Ineligibility

- (a) A candidate will be declared ineligible if, at any time during the Election Period, the candidate ceases to meet the eligibility requirements.
- (b) An elected Administrative Staff member of the Governing Council must resign if, at any time during the Administrative Staff member's term, the Administrative Staff member ceases to be a member of the Administrative Staff.

(1) By-elections

- (a) A by-election shall be held to fill any vacancy arising from the departure of an elected Administrative Staff member of the Governing Council, unless the vacancy occurs within eight months of the end of the departing member's term.
- (b) If a vacancy arising from the departure of an elected Administrative Staff member of the Governing Council occurs within eight months of the end of the departing member's term, the CRO shall consult the Elections Committee to determine whether a by-election will be held.
 - (i) The Elections Committee shall meet to determine whether a by-election shall be held.
 - (ii) Advance notice of such meeting of the Elections Committee shall be announced on the website of the Office of the Governing Council so that there is sufficient time to allow comments to be submitted to the Elections Committee.

- (iii) Comments relating to whether a by-election should be held may be submitted to the Elections Committee in writing via the Office of the Governing Council.
- (iv) The decision of the Elections Committee on whether a by-election should be held shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.
- (c) A by-election shall be administered by the CRO and shall be conducted in a manner and in accordance with procedures which are substantially similar to *Guidelines*.

SECTION 8 – Election of Teaching Staff to the Governing Council

8.1 Teaching Staff Members of the Governing Council

The *Act* stipulates that twelve members of the Governing Council shall be elected by the Teaching Staff from among the Teaching Staff.¹¹

“Teaching Staff” means employees of the University who hold the academic rank of Professor; Associate Professor; Assistant Professor; Professor, Teaching Stream; Associate Professor, Teaching Stream; Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream; Lecturer and Senior Lecturer; Tutor and Senior Tutor; Assistant Professor (Conditional); Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream (Conditional); Sessional Lecturer I, Sessional Lecturer II, Sessional Lecturer III, Athletics Instructor and Senior Athletics Instructor but does not include any part-time lecturer who is registered as a student. For this purpose, “Lecturer” also includes Associates in the Faculty of Dentistry.

8.2 Term of Office

The term of office for a Teaching Staff member of the Governing Council begins on July 1st in the year in which the member is elected and ends 3 years later on June 30th.

8.3 Constituencies

Elected Teaching Staff members of the Governing Council are elected from ten constituencies to enable broad representation on the Governing Council from various divisions within the University. Accordingly, Teaching Staff from many divisions of the University are represented on the Governing Council.

Teaching Staff members’ constituencies are determined primarily on the basis of the College, Federated University, faculty, or school in which they hold their major teaching appointments. If a single constituency cannot be identified for an individual on the basis of their major teaching appointment, the CRO shall determine the appropriate constituency for the individual following any appropriate consultations. Individuals may consult the CRO if they require clarification as to the constituency to which they belong.

For Constituency V, Teaching Staff from the Faculty of Medicine, no more than one person shall be elected from same department within this faculty. Accordingly:

- (1) Supporting nominations for a candidate from the same department within the Faculty of Medicine as a current Teaching Staff member of the Governing Council, whose term will not expire in 2025, will be rejected, unless the candidate is also appointed to another department with the Faculty of Medicine that will not already be represented on the Governing Council by another member of the Governing Council, in which case the candidate shall declare on their nomination form that they are seeking nomination on the basis of their appointment in the latter department; and
- (2) if there is more than one candidate from a particular department, only the candidate receiving the most votes among the candidates from the same department will be eligible to fill any vacancy on the Governing Council; the other candidates within that same department will be eliminated from consideration for any vacancy on Governing Council, notwithstanding that these candidates may have received more votes than other candidates in other departments within the Faculty of Medicine.

¹¹ Clause 2(2)(d) of the *Act*.

8.4 Current Teaching Staff Members of the Governing Council

The current Teaching Staff members of the Governing Council are listed in the table below. The names of the members whose terms will expire on June 30, 2025 are highlighted in bold to show that elections will be held in 2025 to fill the vacancies on the Governing Council arising from the expiration of these members' terms.

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
IA: All Teaching Staff members in the Faculty of Arts and Science who hold their major appointments in the Departments of Art History, Classics, East Asian Studies, English, French, Germanic Languages and Literatures, History, Italian Studies, Linguistics, Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations, Philosophy, Study of Religion, Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures, Spanish and Portuguese, the Centre for Comparative Literature, the Cinema Studies Institute, the Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies, the Centre for Medieval Studies, and the Institute for History & Philosophy of Science & Technology (excluding those who are members of Constituency II or III).	Prof. Donald Ainslie	June 30, 2027	No
IB: All Teaching Staff members in the Faculty of Arts and Science who hold their major appointments in the Departments of Anthropology, Economics, Geography & Planning, Political Science, Sociology, the Centre for Criminology and Sociological Studies, Centre for Indigenous Studies, the Munk School of Global Affairs, the Centre for Industrial Relations and Human Resources, School of the Environment, the Women and Gender Studies Institute, and Teaching Staff members who hold their major appointments in University College, St Michael's College, New College, Woodsworth College, and Innis College	Prof. Ron Levi	June 30, 2027	No

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
(excluding those who are members of Constituency IA, IC, II or III).			

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
IC: All Teaching Staff members in the Faculty of Arts and Science who hold their major appointments in the Departments of Astronomy and Astrophysics, Cell and Systems Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Earth Sciences, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Mathematics, Physics, Psychology, Statistical Sciences, the Canadian Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics (excluding those who are members of Constituency II or III).	Prof. Mark Lautens	June 30, 2025	Yes
II: All Teaching Staff who hold their major appointments at the University of Toronto Mississauga	Prof. Andrew Petersen	June 30, 2026	No
III: All Teaching Staff members who hold their major appointments at the University of Toronto Scarborough	Prof. Aarthi Ashok	June 30, 2027	No
IV: All Teaching Staff members who hold their major appointments in the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering	Prof. David Zingg	June 30, 2025	Yes
V: All Teaching Staff members in the Faculty of Medicine. Members elected from the Faculty of Medicine may not be from the same Department within the Faculty	Prof. Audrey Karlinsky (Surgery)	June 30, 2027	No
	Prof. K. Sonu Gaiind (Psychiatry)	June 30, 2025	Yes
	Prof. Glen Bandiera (Medicine)	June 30, 2025	Yes

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
VI: All Teaching Staff members who hold their major appointments in the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, Faculty of Dentistry, Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy and the Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education	Prof. Laurent Bozec	June 30, 2027	No
VII: All Teaching Staff members who hold their major appointments in the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, Joseph L. Rotman School of Management, Faculty of Information, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Music and the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work	Prof. Ramy Elitzur	June 30, 2026	No
VIII: All Teaching Staff members who hold their major appointments in the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto (OISE)	Prof. Douglas McDougall	June 30, 2026	No

8.5 2025 Election Schedule Summary

Nomination Period: Tuesday, January 7, 12:00 noon to Thursday, January 16, 5:00 p.m.

Campaign Period: Monday, January 27, 9:00 a.m. to Friday, February 14, 5:00 p.m.

Voting Period: Tuesday, February 4, 10:00 a.m. to Friday, February 14, 5:00 p.m.

Post-Election Period: Friday, February 21, 5:00 p.m. to Thursday, March 13, 5:00 p.m.

(Please see the detailed schedule at Section 2 of these *Guidelines*.)

8.6 Eligibility

(1) Member of the Teaching Staff

- (a) In order to be eligible to be elected as a Teaching Staff member of the Governing Council, an individual must:

- (i) be a member of the Teaching Staff in the same constituency as one of the current Teaching Staff members of the Governing Council whose term will expire on June 30, 2025;
 - (ii) be nominated as a Teaching Staff candidate by Teaching Staff within this same constituency;
 - (iii) if the individual is a member of the Teaching Staff within the Faculty of Medicine, the individual must be a member of a department that is different from the current Teaching Staff member(s) of the Governing Council of Constituency V, whose term(s) will not expire in 2025; and
 - (iv) remain a member of this same constituency from the close of the nomination period to the time when all relevant election-related appeals and recounts, if any, have been finally disposed of, or, if there are no appeals or recounts, when winners have been declared elected. In addition, once elected, the individual may only remain a member of the Governing Council so long as the individual is a member of the same Teaching Staff constituency. The individual must resign if the individual ceases to be a member of that Teaching Staff constituency.
- (b) If an individual is a member of more than one of the ten Teaching Staff constituencies, the individual:
- (i) may be a Teaching Staff candidate for election in only one of the Teaching Staff constituencies; and
 - (ii) must declare the constituency in which the individual is seeking election on the individual's nomination form.
- (c) If an individual is both a member of the Teaching Staff and a Student, the individual:
- (i) may only be a candidate for election to become either a Student member or a Teaching Staff member of the Governing Council;¹² and
 - (ii) must declare on the nomination form whether the individual is running for election to become a Student member or a Teaching Staff member of the Governing Council.

8.7 Nomination Process

(1) Nomination Period

Nominations open: Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at 12:00 noon

Nominations Close: Thursday, January 16, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

(2) Nomination Forms

- (a) An individual seeking nomination must file a fully completed online nomination form and submit it to the Office of the Governing Council prior to the close of the nomination period.
 - (i) It shall be the responsibility of the individual seeking nomination to ensure that the correct nomination form is used.
- (b) The Chief Returning Officer will obtain from the individual seeking nomination confirmation of the acceptance of the terms and conditions outlined in these *Guidelines*. It is the responsibility of the individual seeking nomination to ensure that the supporting nominators have completed the electronic form, as per the instructions contained in the nomination form; and submitted before the closing date and time of the Call for Nominations.

¹² This requirement is prescribed by subsection 2(3a) of the *Act*.

<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>

(3) Supporting Nominators

- (a) To become a candidate in the elections, Teaching Staff seeking nomination must meet the following requirements with respect to supporting nominators:
- (i) the individual seeking nomination may not nominate oneself;
 - (ii) the individual seeking nomination must have on their nomination form the support of 5 supporting nominators and provide the full name and utoronto.ca e-mail of the supporting nominator;
 - (iii) each supporting nominator of a Teaching Staff candidate must be a member of the Teaching Staff constituency in which the candidate is seeking nomination; and
 - (iv) It is the responsibility of the individual seeking nomination to ensure that the supporting nominators have completed the electronic form, as per the instructions contained in the electronic nomination form; and submitted before the closing date and time of the Call for Nominations.
- (b) The names of supporting nominators will not be released to the public, to any individual seeking nomination, or to any candidates.

(4) Candidate's Statement

- (a) An individual seeking nomination may, but will not be required to, submit to the CRO a statement that provides biographical information, addresses the individual's motivation for running in the elections, and outlines how the individual's background qualifies the individual for becoming a member of the Governing Council. The URL of a website which will be used for campaign purposes may also be included in the statement.

If the individual becomes a candidate, the statement will be:

- (i) distributed to voters who will be voting by mail ballots;
 - (ii) provided together with the name of the candidate during the online voting process to voters who will be voting online; and
 - (iii) otherwise distributed or reproduced by the Office of the Governing Council in a manner chosen by the CRO.
- (b) The statement must be 100 words or less in length, subject to the following:
- (i) acronyms and abbreviations will be counted as one word; and
 - (ii) the individual's name will not be counted in the 100-word limit if placed at the beginning of the individual's statement; and
 - (iii) the individual's URL will not be counted in the 100-word limit and should be placed at the end of the statement.

If the statement contains more than 100 words, only the first 100 words will be printed.

- (c) The statement must be submitted before the close of the nomination period to the Office of the Governing Council in one of two ways:
- (i) The statement may be submitted with the nomination form.
 - (ii) The statement may also be submitted by e-mail from the personal utoronto.ca e-mail account of the individual seeking nomination to the CRO, separate from the nomination form, as long as it is received prior to the close of the nomination period.

The statement may not be altered or amended after the close of the nomination period, but the statement may be withdrawn upon the written request of the individual seeking nomination. Individuals seeking nomination are encouraged to submit their statements with their nomination forms, as the reliability of e-mail cannot be guaranteed. Any e-mail not actually received or received by the CRO time-stamped after the close of the nomination period will be rejected, notwithstanding that the e-mail may have been sent prior to the deadline. Individuals submitting statements by e-mail assume any and all risks associated therewith.

- (d) A fully completed nomination form shall signify consent and direction by the individual to the Office of the Governing Council to distribute and reproduce the individual's statement in the manner above described and acceptance of complete responsibility by the individual for the consequences arising from such distribution and reproduction of the statement and for the contents of the statement.
 - (i) For clarity, the CRO, DRO, and the University shall not be responsible for the statement in any way (other than for the physical or electronic reproduction and distribution of the statement in the manner described above), including, but not limited to, any consequences arising from the distribution or reproduction of the statement and the accuracy of the statement.
 - (ii) The statement will not be distributed or otherwise made available if, in the opinion of the Election Overseers, assisted by such advisors as they may retain, the statement is obscene, denigrating, otherwise objectionable, in violation of these *Guidelines* or the University's rules or policies, or it could render the University liable to a suit for libel. The decision of the Election Overseers in this regard shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.
- (e) Questions relating to the 100-word statement may be directed to the CRO.

(5) Verification of Candidate

The eligibility of each Teaching Staff candidate will be assessed by:

- (a) determining whether the candidate is a member of the Teaching Staff of the same constituency as one of the current Teaching Staff members of the Governing Council whose term will expire on June 30, 2025;
- (b) cross-referencing the candidate's information as it appears on the candidate's nomination form with the records of the Human Resources Information Systems and staff records in the Federated Universities to determine whether the candidate is eligible for election in the constituency in which the individual seeks nomination;
- (c) reviewing the candidate's nomination form to assess whether:
 - (i) the correct nomination form has been used;
 - (ii) the nomination form has been completed correctly;
 - (iii) the nomination form contains the required number of valid supporting nominators; and
 - (iv) the candidate's signature is present on the nomination form, signifying the candidate's consent to stand for election.

(6) Verification of Supporting Nominators

The validity of each supporting nominator for Teaching Staff candidates will be assessed by:

- (a) comparing the supporting nominator's full name and the supporting nominator's department or office of employment, as indicated on the nomination form, against records of the Human Resources Information Systems and staff records in the Federated Universities to determine whether the supporting nominator is eligible to nominate Teaching Staff in the candidate's constituency.

(7) Errors or Irregularities in Nominations

- (a) Errors or irregularities on the nomination form may be corrected prior to the close of the nomination period.
- (b) The CRO, may, but will not be required to, notify candidates of the existence of any errors or irregularities before the close of the nomination period.

(8) Technical Invalidation

- (a) Technical grounds upon which the CRO may rely to invalidate a nomination form, include, but are not limited to:
 - (i) the candidate does not meet the eligibility requirements;
 - (ii) insufficient number of valid supporting nominators;
 - (iii) substantive error on the nomination form;
 - (iv) the incorrect nomination form was used;
 - (v) the nomination form is incomplete;
 - (vi) the nomination form is not appropriately verifiable; or
 - (vii) the nomination form does not conform with these *Guidelines*.
- (b) The CRO's decision to invalidate a nomination form on technical grounds may be appealed to the Election Overseers.

8.8 Announcement of Candidates

On Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 10:00 a.m., the names of all candidates will be announced using a method selected by the CRO.

8.9 Filing of Notice of Intent to Appeal and Appeals

- (a) An individual may appeal the decision of the CRO to invalidate their nomination form on technical grounds to the Election Overseers by filing a Notice of Intent to Appeal in accordance with the following requirements:
 - (i) The Notice of Intent to Appeal must be submitted to the Office of the Governing Council by the deadline noted in the Election Schedule, either through e-mail or by hand-delivered letter to the CRO.
- (b) The Election Overseers shall review the appellant's grounds for an appeal of the CRO's decision to invalidate a nomination form as outlined in the Notice of Intent to Appeal filed by the appellant, and the Elections Committee may:

- (i) dismiss the appeal without a hearing if it decides that the grounds do not have merit;
- (ii) allow the appeal without a hearing if it decides that the grounds have merit; or
- (iii) hold a hearing in a manner and in accordance with such procedures as it may determine to be appropriate and render a decision thereafter.

(c) The Election Overseers shall render a decision by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 22, 2025.

(d) The decision of the Election Overseers shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.

8.10 Announcement of Additional Candidates

Individuals who successfully appeal the invalidation of their nomination will be announced as candidates on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 12:00 noon using a method selected by the CRO.

8.11 Withdrawal of Candidacy

(a) A candidate may withdraw by submitting to the CRO or the CRO's designee an online statement for this purpose.

- (i) The prescribed form will be available in the Office of the Governing Council and on the Elections Section of the Governing Council website:
<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>

(b) If a candidate wishes to have their name removed from the ballot, the candidate must withdraw by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 24, 2025.

- (i) If a candidate withdraws the nomination after this time, the withdrawal and the fact the candidate's name remains on the ballot shall not invalidate the election.
- (ii) Votes cast for a candidate who has withdrawn shall not be counted and shall be void.

8.12 Acclamations

Subject to the provisions of these *Guidelines*, a Teaching Staff candidate may be acclaimed, i.e., deemed to be elected, by the CRO, in the following circumstances:

- (a) after the announcement of official candidates and the completion of any appeals relating to nomination invalidations, the number of candidates in the candidate's constituency is equal to or less than the number of vacancies on the Governing Council to be filled by Teaching Staff from the candidate's constituency; or
- (b) another candidate withdraws their nomination and, consequently, the number of remaining candidates is equal to or less than the number of vacancies on the Governing Council to be filled by Teaching Staff from the candidate's constituency.

8.13 Re-opening of Nominations

- (a) If no verified nomination forms are filed during the nomination period, or the number of verified nomination forms is fewer than the number of available vacancies, the CRO may re-open nominations twice.
- (b) If the second re-opening of nominations fails to produce a candidate, the CRO may determine the appropriate course of action.

8.14 Campaign Period

Campaign Period Begins: Monday, January 27, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

Campaign Period Ends: Friday, February 14, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

(1) Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates

Thursday, January 23, 2025, 12:00 noon

- (a) Candidates are encouraged to attend or send an authorized representative to attend the Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates organized by the CRO to review Campaign guidelines.
- (b) A candidate may contact the CRO to receive the information given at the Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates if the candidate is unable to attend the session.
- (c) All candidates, whether present or not, shall be responsible for and shall act in accordance with all the information provided at the Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates.

(2) Campaigning

Candidates for election to the Governing Council shall abide by all the guidelines for Campaigning contained in all of the Appendices of these *Guidelines* and any additional guidelines regarding Campaigning that may be issued by the CRO in writing from time to time. Any violation of the guidelines for Campaigning may result in the imposition of sanctions against a candidate by the Election Overseers, including, but not limited to, disqualification from the elections.

8.15 Balloting

(1) Eligibility

- (a) No person may cast more than one ballot.¹³
- (b) Teaching Staff may only vote for Teaching Staff candidates in their constituency. For example, Teaching Staff in Constituency 1A may only vote for candidates who are also Teaching Staff of Constituency 1A.
- (c) A Teaching Staff candidate may not vote for any other candidate for election to the Governing Council other than Teaching Staff candidates who are also members of the constituency to which the candidate has declared candidacy, notwithstanding that the Teaching Staff candidate may also be a member of another Teaching Staff constituency or a Student.

(2) Web-based Online Voting for Teaching Staff

- (a) Voting by Teaching Staff for Teaching Staff candidates will be conducted through an online voting platform decided by the CRO.
- (b) Internet access is available for free to Teaching Staff on computers in the Information Commons and its satellite facilities on all three campuses and in many colleges, faculties and libraries.

¹³ This prohibition is prescribed by clause 2 (14) (nb) of the *Act*.

<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>

(c) Voting involves the following:

- (i) A voter must log in to the online voting platform using the instructions provided by the CRO.
- (ii) The constituency in which the voter is eligible to vote will be determined by records generated from Human Resources Information Systems and staff records in the Federated Universities and securely transferred to the voting platform.
- (iii) After successfully logging into the online voting platform, the voter will be presented with a list of elections based on the constituency in which they are eligible to vote.
- (iv) Following the instructions provided by the online voting platform, the voter will be presented with the list of candidates in that constituency listed in random order and provided with several options, including casting or spoiling a ballot and reading the candidates' statements.
- (v) The voter may choose not to vote at this point and may exit the online voting platform and return to the process at another time.
- (vi) Once the voter selects a candidate or candidates, as the case may be, for whom to vote, clicking the "Confirm Vote" button will bring up a confirmation screen.
- (vii) If the voter leaves all candidate choices blank, and then casts the ballot, the voter will be advised to please answer all questions, and the voter may click on the 'Abstain' button to spoil the ballot.

(d) A Teaching Staff voter who has already voted will not be accepted by the voting platform as an eligible voter a second time.

(3) Verification of Ballots

The eligibility of a voter will be verified upon logging into the online voting platform. The voter's personal information will be verified against a list of eligible voters compiled using staff records from the Human Resources Information Systems and the Federated Universities.

(4) Mail Ballot Voting

- (a) Teaching Staff without an e-mail account within the utoronto.ca domain may only vote by mail ballot provided by the Office of the Governing Council.
 - (i) Photocopies of ballots or copies of ballots obtained from other sources will be declared invalid.
 - (ii) Mail ballots will be mailed to Teaching Staff who do not have e-mail accounts within the utoronto.ca domain at their addresses within the University according to the records of the Human Resources Information Systems and the Federated Universities.
 - (iii) Individuals who will be absent from their University addresses during the voting period may ask to have their ballots forwarded to them at alternate addresses.
- (b) Each mail ballot will be accompanied by:
 - (i) an information sheet containing:
 - i) the names of each of the candidates together with their respective statements;
 - ii) instructions on the correct method to return the ballot;
 - iii) information on eligibility to use that particular ballot;

- iv) a short description of the powers and duties of the Governing Council; and
 - v) instructions on how to obtain the correct ballot for persons who receive an incorrect ballot;
 - (ii) a small secrecy envelope into which the marked ballot should be sealed; and
 - (iii) a pre-addressed return envelope into which the small secrecy envelope should be sealed. (Voters will be instructed to sign and to legibly print their names and the names of the department or office in which they are employed on the upper left corner of this pre-addressed return envelope. Failure to do so will invalidate the ballot.)
- (c) Information about how to obtain a mail ballot will be advertised in the campus media and on the Elections Section of the Governing Council website to target those individuals who are entitled but did not receive a mail ballot.
- (d) Non-receipt of mail ballots will not invalidate an election.
- (e) Individuals who wish to vote must cast their ballots in accordance with the following:
- (i) A voter may vote for as many candidates as the number of vacancies on the Governing Council to be filled by Teaching Staff from the voter's constituency.
 - (ii) Any kind of mark on the ballot that unambiguously indicates an intention on the part of the voter to cast a vote for a particular candidate shall be acceptable provided all other requirements are met.
 - (iii) Ballots must be returned to the Office of the Governing Council in accordance with the instructions provided, including:
 - i) placing the marked ballot into the secrecy envelope;
 - ii) sealing the secrecy envelope;
 - iii) inserting the secrecy envelope into the pre-addressed return envelope;
 - iv) filling in the information required on the pre-addressed return envelope; and
 - v) signing the pre-addressed return envelope.
 - (iv) Ballots must be delivered to the Office of the Governing Council by Canada Post, University Mail, or hand delivery by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 14, 2025. Ballots returned by electronic, facsimile or any other means will be invalidated.
- (f) Once a ballot has been received by the Office of the Governing Council, the ballot will not be returned to the voter, shall not be changed, and no additional ballots shall be provided to replace the ballot already received.

(5) Verification of Ballots

- (a) All mail ballots received by the Office of the Governing Council will be assessed to ascertain their validity by:
- (i) examining the envelope in which the ballot is sealed to ensure that it has not been compromised;
 - (ii) examining each ballot to determine, among other things, its authenticity and whether it was properly marked;
 - (iii) cross-referencing each voter's personal information provided on the pre-addressed return envelope against the staff records provided by the Human Resources Information System and the Federated Universities to determine whether the voter is eligible to vote for the candidate(s) selected by the voter; and
 - (iv) examining the pre-addressed return envelope to determine whether the voter's signature is present and whether all the information required was printed legibly thereon.

- (b) Grounds for invalidating a mail ballot include, but are not limited to:
- (i) the information required on the pre-addressed return envelope is missing or illegible;
 - (ii) the voter casting the mail ballot is not eligible to vote;
 - (iii) the ballot received is not the one provided by the Office of the Governing Council;
 - (iv) the voter selected more candidates than the number of vacancies on the Governing Council to be filled by Teaching Staff from the voter's constituency; and
 - (v) the voter cast more than one ballot, in which case, all ballots of the voter shall be invalidated; and;
 - (vi) the markings on the ballot are ambiguous.

(6) Secrecy of Ballots

The secrecy of the balloting process is maintained:

- (a) with respect to the web-based balloting process, votes cast are kept in a database which is separate from and independent of the list of eligible voters, so that votes cast cannot be identified with any individual voter; and
- (b) with respect to the mail balloting process, mail ballots are removed from their sealed secrecy envelopes and tabulated only after all secrecy envelopes received have been removed from the self-addressed envelopes and accumulated in a manner to ensure that none of the secrecy envelopes can be associated with any particular pre-addressed return envelope. This process ensures that a mail ballot cannot be identified with any individual voter.

8.16 Notification of Ballot Counting and Scrutineering

- (a) Prior to the end of the voting period, the CRO shall notify each Teaching Staff candidate in writing of the location and the schedule for counting the mail ballots and any subsequent changes thereto.
- (b) Each Teaching Staff candidate or a designee, so designated by the candidate by submitting a signed statement to this effect to the Office of the Governing Council, shall be entitled to:
 - (i) observe the tabulation of mail ballots received from Teaching Staff; and
 - (ii) seek verification that the voters voting by mail ballot are eligible to vote for Teaching Staff.
- (c) Mail ballot counting will proceed at the location and in accordance with the schedule indicated in the written notification sent to the candidates, whether or not candidates or their designees are present.

8.17 Announcement of Results

The number of votes received by each candidate (the total number of votes, including both online and mail ballots) will be announced at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, using a method selected by the CRO.

8.18 Recount

- (a) As there are no individual ballots in web-based voting, a recount of online ballots will not be possible.
- (b) Mail ballots may be subject to a recount.

- (i) A candidate may request a recount of the mail ballots by filing the form prescribed for this purpose in accordance with the following requirements.
 - i) The prescribed form that must be used will be available at the Office of the Governing Council.
 - ii) The candidate must complete the form, including specifying the grounds upon which the candidate requests a recount, and must file the form by hand-delivery at the Office of the Governing Council by 12:00 noon on Thursday, February 20, 2025.
- (ii) The Election Overseers shall review the candidate's grounds for seeking a recount as outlined in the form filed by the candidate, and the Elections Committee may:
 - i) dismiss the recount request if it decides that the grounds do not have merit;
 - ii) authorize the recount without a hearing; or
 - iii) hold a hearing in a manner and in accordance with such procedures as it may determine to be appropriate and render a decision thereafter.
- (iii) If authorized by the Election Overseers, a recount of the mail ballots shall be conducted.

8.19 Equality of Votes

- (a) In the case of equality of votes where the election of the candidates receiving an equal number of votes would result in the election of a greater number of candidates than there are vacancies on the Governing Council to be filled by Teaching Staff of a particular constituency, the successful candidate or candidates shall be determined by a second election between or among the candidates of that constituency receiving an equal number of votes, subject to the proviso that no two members of the Governing Council may be from the same department within Constituency V, members of the Teaching Staff of the Faculty of Medicine.
- (b) The CRO shall set the election schedule for any second or subsequent elections.
- (c) If the second election also results in an equality of votes, the CRO shall consult the Elections Committee on how to proceed.

8.20 Filing of Notice of Intent to Appeal and Appeals

- (a) A candidate may appeal any matter arising from the conduct of the elections during the Election Period to the Election Overseers, including the announcement of results, by filing a Notice of Intent to Appeal in accordance with the following requirements:
 - (i) The Notice of Intent to Appeal must be submitted to the Office of the Governing Council by the deadline noted in the Election Schedule, either through e-mail or by hand-delivered letter to the CRO.
- (b) The Election Overseers shall review the appellant's grounds for an appeal as outlined in the Notice of Intent to Appeal filed by the appellant and the Election Overseers may:
 - (i) dismiss the appeal if it decides that the grounds do not have merit;
 - (ii) grant the appeal without a hearing if it decides that the grounds have merit; or
 - (iii) hold a hearing in a manner and in accordance with such procedures as it may determine to be appropriate and render a decision thereafter.
- (c) The Election Overseers shall render a decision by 12:00 noon on Friday, February 21, 2025.

(d) The decision of the Election Overseers shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.

8.21 Elections Not Necessarily Invalidated by Irregularities

An irregularity, failure, non-compliance or mistake in any way relating to the elections, or to an election in any constituency, shall not invalidate the elections if the Election Overseers decide that the elections were conducted in accordance with the principles of these *Guidelines* and that the irregularity, failure, non-compliance or mistake did not or would not have been reasonably likely to have affected the result of the elections.

8.22 Election expenses

Candidates are eligible to receive reimbursement for valid election expenses incurred between 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 27, 2025 and 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 14, 2025.

(1) Spending Limit

- (a) The limit for election related expenses, including Campaigning expenses, for each Teaching Staff candidate is \$400, of which the University will reimburse the Teaching Staff candidate \$300.
 - (i) If an additional election is required as a result of an equality of votes in the first election, the CRO shall establish a separate spending limit.

(2) Reimbursement of Election Expenses

- (a) Expenses eligible for reimbursement include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - (i) paper and office supplies;
 - (ii) copying and printing of Campaign Materials;
 - (iii) reasonable transportation costs incurred in connection with Campaigning at campuses other than that at which the candidate works;
 - (iv) Campaign advertisements;
 - (v) web design and domain expenses explicitly related to the election;
 - (vi) refreshments, excluding alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, coolers, etc.);
 - (vii) the Fair Market Value of all donated goods and services actually used in the candidate's Campaign, except voluntary unpaid labour.
- (b) Expenses ineligible for reimbursement include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - (i) expenses incurred prior to the announcement of candidates;
 - (ii) parking fines incurred during Campaign-related activity;
 - (iii) costs resulting from the removal of posters from University or non-University property as a result of illegal poster for the election;
 - (iv) alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, coolers, etc.);
 - (v) interest/financing costs for the election Campaign;
 - (vi) costs which could be considered of a personal nature and unrelated to the Campaign;
 - (vii) web design and domain expenses not explicitly related to the election;
 - (viii) medical expenses including prescription and non-prescription drugs.
- (c) Candidates, whether they are seeking reimbursement or not, are normally expected to submit receipts for all expenses including a statement of all donated goods and services actually used in the candidate's

Campaign (except voluntary unpaid labour) with their Fair Market Value, within fourteen days of the close of the election.

- (i) Candidates will normally be asked to sign a statement that all expenses have been disclosed and that the total represents the total amount of expenses by the candidate or by anyone acting on the candidate's behalf or with the candidate's knowledge and consent.
- (ii) Candidates who have no Campaign expenses may, at the discretion of the CRO, be exempt from submitting an expense statement.

(3) Enforcement of the Election Expenses Limit

- (a) There will be no circumstances under which the limit may be exceeded.
- (b) If the sworn statement indicates that the limit has been exceeded, or if an allegation is made to the CRO that a candidate has exceeded the limit, the CRO will investigate the matter and, if warranted, take the alleged violation to the Elections Committee acting as the Election Overseers.
 - (i) A hearing will be held.
 - (ii) The decision of the Election Overseers shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.
 - (iii) If the candidate is found guilty, and has been successful in the election, the candidate will be disqualified and will not become a member of the Governing Council.
- (c) Failure to submit the sworn statement concerning election expenses may be referred by the CRO to the Elections Committee acting as the Election Overseers.
 - (i) a hearing may be held;
 - (ii) penalties may be imposed, including, but not limited to:
 - i) for successful candidates: disqualification and ceasing to be members of the Governing Council;
 - ii) for unsuccessful candidates: public announcement and/or disqualification from future Governing Council elections for a year or number of years.
- (d) Within seven days of the deadline for submitting the sworn statement, the CRO must inform the Elections Committee and the concerned candidate(s) of any irregularities that have been discovered.
- (e) If a hearing is necessary, it should be held as soon as possible and should be completed by Thursday March 13, 2025, by 5:00 p.m.

8.23 Resignation for Ineligibility

- (a) A candidate will be declared ineligible if, at any time during the Election Period, the candidate ceases to meet the eligibility requirements.
- (b) Teaching Staff members of the Governing Council holding the academic rank of Sessional Lecturer I, Sessional Lecturer II, or Sessional Lecturer III are only eligible to be on the Governing Council if they continue to have an appointment in the constituency in which they were elected.
- (c) An elected Teaching Staff member of the Governing Council must resign if, at any time during the Teaching Staff member's term, the Teaching Staff member ceases to be a member of the constituency in which they were elected.

(1) By-elections

- (d) A by-election shall be held to fill any vacancy arising from the departure of an elected Teaching Staff member of the Governing Council, unless the vacancy occurs within eight months of the end of the departing member's term.
- (e) If a vacancy arising from the departure of an elected Teaching Staff member of the Governing Council occurs within eight months of the end of the departing member's term, the CRO shall consult the Elections Committee to determine whether a by-election will be held.
 - (i) The Elections Committee shall meet to determine whether a by-election shall be held.
 - (ii) Advance notice of such meeting of the Elections Committee shall be announced on the website of the Office of the Governing Council so that there is sufficient time to allow comments to be submitted to the Elections Committee.
 - (iii) Comments relating to whether a by-election should be held may be submitted to the Elections Committee in writing via the Office of the Governing Council.
 - (iv) The decision of the Elections Committee on whether a by-election should be held shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.
- (f) A by-election shall be administered by the CRO and shall be conducted in a manner and in accordance with procedures which are substantially similar to *Guidelines*.

SECTION 9 – Election of Students to the Governing Council

9.1 Student Members of the Governing Council

The *Act* stipulates that eight members of the Governing Council shall be elected from the Student body, four of whom shall be elected by and from among the Full-Time Undergraduate Students, two of whom shall be elected by and from among the Graduate Students, and two of whom shall be elected by and from among the Part-Time Undergraduate Students.¹⁴

“Full-Time Undergraduate Student” means a Student registered at the University in a program of full-time study leading to a degree, post-secondary diploma or certificate of the University or in a program designated by the Governing Council as a program of post-secondary study at the University who is not registered in the School of Graduate Studies or the Toronto School of Theology. Full-Time Undergraduate Student status will be determined by the definition used in the Student’s academic division. For the purpose of the Governing Council elections, Students at the University of Toronto Scarborough who are registered in a work term will be considered to be Full-Time Undergraduate Students.

“Graduate Student” means a Student registered in the School of Graduate Studies.

“Part-Time Undergraduate Student” means a Student registered at the University in a program of part-time study leading to a degree, post-secondary diploma or certificate of the University or in a program designated by the Governing Council as a program of post-secondary study at the University who is not registered in the School of Graduate Studies or the Toronto School of Theology. Part-Time Undergraduate Student status will be determined by the definition used in the Student’s academic division.

“Student” means any person registered at the University for full-time or part-time study in a program that leads to a degree, post-secondary diploma or certificate of the University or in a program designated by the Governing Council as a program of post-secondary study at the University. The Transitional Year Program and the Millie Rotman Shime Academic Bridging Program have been designated by the Governing Council as programs of post-secondary study at the University, and, accordingly, a student in either of these programs is considered a “Student” in these *Guidelines*.

9.2 Term of Office

The term of office for a Student member of the Governing Council begins on July 1st in the year in which the member is elected and ends one year later on June 30th.

9.3 Constituencies

Student members of the Governing Council are elected from five constituencies to enable diverse representation on the Governing Council from different Student bodies within the University.

For Full-Time Undergraduate Students Constituency I, no two individuals shall be elected from the same College or Federated University. Accordingly, if there is more than one candidate from a particular College or Federated University in Full-Time Undergraduate Students Constituency I, only the candidate receiving the most votes of the candidates from that College or Federated University will be eligible to fill any vacancy on the Governing Council; the other candidates within that same College or Federated University will be eliminated from consideration for any vacancy on the Governing Council, notwithstanding that these candidates may have received more votes than other candidates from other Colleges or Federated Universities.

¹⁴ Clause 2(2)(e) of the Act.

For Full-Time Undergraduate Students Constituency II, no two individuals shall be elected from the same faculty or school. Accordingly, if there is more than one candidate from a particular faculty or school in Full-Time Undergraduate Students Constituency II, only the candidate receiving the most votes of the candidates from that faculty or school will be eligible to fill any vacancy on the Governing Council; the other candidates within that same faculty or school will be eliminated from consideration for any vacancy on the Governing Council, notwithstanding that these candidates may have received more votes than other candidates in other faculties or schools within the same constituency.

“Constituent Colleges” refer to the following: Erindale College (also known as the University of Toronto Mississauga), Innis College, New College, Scarborough College (also known as the University of Toronto Scarborough), Woodsworth College, and any other college established by the Governing Council and “Constituent College” refers to any one of them.

“Colleges” refer to University College and the Constituent Colleges and “College” refers to any one of them.

“Federated Universities” refer to the following universities: Victoria University; Trinity College; and The University of St. Michael’s College and “Federated University” refers to any one of them.

9.4 Current Student Members of the Governing Council

The current Student members of the Governing Council are listed in the tables below. The terms of all Student members of the Governing Council expire on June 30, 2025. Consequently, elections will be held in 2025 to fill all vacancies on the Governing Council arising from the expiration of these members’ terms.

(1) Full-Time Undergraduate Students

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
<p>I: All Full-Time Undergraduate Students registered in the Faculty of Arts and Science on the St. George campus, at the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM), or at the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC).</p> <p>Both members elected in Constituency I may not be registered in the same college on the St. George campus or both registered at UTM or both registered at UTSC.</p> <p>In the event that a member elected while registered in one college or campus later registers in the college in which the other elected member is registered, the transferring member shall resign from the Governing Council.</p>	<p>Liam Dravid</p>	<p>June 30, 2025</p>	<p>Yes</p>
	<p>Cameron Miranda-Radbord</p>	<p>June 30, 2025</p>	<p>Yes</p>

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
<p>II: All Full-Time Undergraduate Students registered in the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design, Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering, Faculty of Dentistry, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Medicine (including post-graduate medical trainees), Faculty of Music, Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, and Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education.</p> <p>Both members elected in Constituency II must not be registered in the same faculty or school.</p> <p>In the event that a member elected while registered in one faculty of school later registers in the faculty or school in which the other elected member is registered, the transferring member shall resign from the Governing Council.</p>	<p>Luke Calabretta</p>	<p>June 30, 2025</p>	<p>Yes</p>
	<p>Ankita Goyat</p>	<p>June 30, 2025</p>	<p>Yes</p>

(2) Part-Time Undergraduate Students

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
<p>All Students registered at the University in a program of part-time study leading to a degree, post-secondary diploma or certificate of the University or in a program designated by the Governing Council as a program of post-secondary study at the University.</p>	<p>Akina Lalla</p>	<p>June 30, 2025</p>	<p>Yes</p>
	<p>Maya Povhe</p>	<p>June 30, 2025</p>	<p>Yes</p>

(3) Graduate Students¹⁵

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
I: All Students registered in Division I (Humanities) and Division II (Social Sciences) of the School of Graduate Studies.	Jovan Bursac	June 30, 2025	Yes
II: All Students registered in Division III (Physical Sciences) and Division IV (Life Sciences) of the School of Graduate Studies.	William Verreault	June 30, 2025	Yes

9.5 2025 Election Schedule Summary

Nomination Period: Tuesday, January 7, 12:00 noon to Thursday, January 16, 5:00 p.m.

Campaign Period: Monday, January 27, 9:00 a.m. to Friday, February 14, 5:00 p.m.

Voting Period: Tuesday, February 4, 10:00 a.m. to Friday, February 14, 5:00 p.m.

Post-Election Period: Friday, February 21, 5:00 p.m. to Thursday, March 13, 5:00 p.m.

(Please see the detailed schedule at Section 2 of these *Guidelines*.)

9.6 Eligibility**(1) Member of a Student Constituency**

(a) In order to be eligible to be elected as a Student member of the Governing Council, an individual must:

- (i) be a Student within one of the five constituencies;
- (ii) be nominated as a candidate by Students within the individual's own constituency; and
- (iii) remain a Student of this same constituency from the close of the nomination period to the time when all relevant election-related appeals and recounts, if any, have been finally disposed of, or, if there are no appeals or recounts, when winners have been declared elected (see exception below relating to Students enrolled in double degree programs).

(b) In addition, once elected, a Student registered within:

- (i) the St. George campus or within the University of Toronto Mississauga may only remain a Student member of the Governing Council so long as the individual is a Student in the constituency in which the Student was elected from the month of September immediately following the elections to the month of May of the following year; and

¹⁵ For a list of graduate units within Division I to IV, please refer to <https://sgs.calendar.utoronto.ca/divisional-structure-view>

- (ii) the University of Toronto Scarborough may only remain a Student member of the Governing Council so long as the individual is a Student in the constituency in which the Student was elected for at least two of the three semesters between the month of May immediately following the elections and the month of April of the following year.
- (c) For the purposes of elections to the Governing Council and its bodies, Students registered in the Professional Experience Year (PEY) program in 2024-25 will be included in the full-time undergraduate student constituencies. This includes the participation as candidates and for voting in the elections. Students enrolled in the PEY program in 2024-25 may submit a nomination for the full-time undergraduate constituencies provided that they were registered as full-time students in the academic year immediately prior to the PEY. Elected students may participate in the PEY program in 2025-26, provided they were registered as full-time students in 2024-25.
- (d) If an individual is both a member of the Administrative Staff and a Student, the individual:
- (i) may only be a candidate for election to become either a Student member or an Administrative Staff member of the Governing Council;¹⁶ and
 - (ii) shall declare on the nomination form whether the individual is running for election to become a Student member or an Administrative Staff member of the Governing Council.
- (e) If an individual is both a member of the Teaching Staff and a Student, the individual:
- (i) may only be a candidate for election to become either a Student member or a Teaching Staff member of the Governing Council;¹⁷ and
 - (ii) shall declare on the nomination form whether the individual is running for election to become a Student member or a Teaching Staff member of the Governing Council.
- (f) A Student enrolled in a double degree program may only seek nomination in the constituency to which the Student will belong in the academic year immediately following the elections, notwithstanding that the Student may not yet be a member of that constituency during the Election Period.
- (i) During the course of studies of a Student enrolled in a double degree program, the Student may be a Student within one constituency in one year and a Student within another constituency in another year. For instance, in one year, a Student may be registered in the Faculty of Medicine, which falls within Full-Time Undergraduate Students Constituency II, while, in another year, the student may be registered in the School of Graduate Studies, which falls within either Graduate Students Constituency I or Graduate Students Constituency II.
 - (ii) Double degree programs include, but are not limited to, the BBA, Specialist Program In Management And Finance / Honours Bsc, Specialist Program In Statistics, Quantitative Finance Stream.
- (g) If an individual is a member of more than one of the five Student constituencies, the individual:
- (i) may be a Student candidate for election in only one of the Student constituencies; and
 - (ii) must declare the constituency in which the individual is seeking election on the individual's nomination form.

¹⁶ This requirement is prescribed by subsection 2(3a) of the *Act*.

¹⁷ This requirement is prescribed by subsection 2(3a) of the *Act*.

9.7 Nomination Process

(1) Nomination Period

Nominations open: Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at 12:00 noon

Nominations close: Thursday, January 16, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

(2) Nomination Forms

- (a) An individual seeking nomination must file a fully completed online nomination form and submit it to the Office of the Governing Council prior to the close of the nomination period.
 - (i) It shall be the responsibility of the individual seeking nomination to ensure that the correct nomination form is used.
- (b) The Chief Returning Officer will obtain from the individual seeking nomination confirmation of the acceptance of the terms and conditions outlined in these *Guidelines*. It is the responsibility of the individual seeking nomination to ensure that the supporting nominators have completed the electronic form, as per the instructions contained in the nomination form; and submitted before the closing date and time of the Call for Nominations.

(3) Supporting Nominators

- (a) To become a candidate in the elections, a Student seeking nomination must meet the following requirements with respect to supporting nominators:
 - (i) the individual seeking nomination may not nominate oneself;
 - (ii) the individual seeking nomination as a full-time undergraduate student or as a graduate student or as a part-time undergraduate student must have the support 5 supporting nominators, and provide, the full name and student number of the supporting nominator; and
 - (iii) each supporting nominator of a Student candidate must be a member of the Student constituency in which the candidate is seeking nomination.
 - (iv) It is the responsibility of the individual seeking nomination to ensure that the supporting nominators have completed the electronic form, as per the instructions contained in the electronic nomination form; and submitted before the closing date and time of the Call for Nominations.
- (b) The names of supporting nominators will not be released to the public, to any individual seeking nomination, or to any candidates.

(4) Candidate's Statement

- (a) An individual seeking nomination may, but will not be required to, submit to the CRO a statement that provides biographical information, addresses the individual's motivation for running in the elections, and outlines how the individual's background qualifies the individual for becoming a member of the Governing Council. The URL of a website which will be used for campaign purposes may also be included in the statement.

If the individual becomes a candidate, the statement will be:

- (i) distributed to postgraduate medical trainees who will vote by mail ballots;
- (ii) provided together with the name of the candidate during the online voting process to voters who will be voting online; and

<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>

- (iii) otherwise distributed or reproduced by the Office of the Governing Council in a manner chosen by the CRO.

(b) The statement must be 100 words or less in length, subject to the following:

- (i) acronyms and abbreviations will be counted as one word; and
- (ii) the individual's name will not be counted in the 100-word limit if placed at the beginning of the individual's statement; and
- (iii) the individual's URL will not be counted in the 100-word limit and should be placed at the end of the statement.

If the statement contains more than 100 words, only the first 100 words will be printed.

(c) The statement must be submitted before the close of the nomination period to the Office of the Governing Council in one of two ways:

- (i) The statement may be submitted with the nomination form.
- (ii) The statement may also be submitted by e-mail from the personal utoronto.ca e-mail account of the individual seeking nomination to the CRO, separate from the nomination form, as long as it is received prior to the close of the nomination period.

(d) The statement may not be altered or amended after the close of the nomination period, but the statement may be withdrawn upon the written request of the individual seeking nomination. Individuals seeking nomination are encouraged to submit their statements with their nomination forms, as the reliability of e-mail cannot be guaranteed. Any e-mail not actually received or received by the CRO time-stamped after the close of the nomination period will be rejected, notwithstanding that the e-mail may have been sent prior to the deadline. Individuals submitting statements by e-mail assume any and all risks associated therewith.

(e) A fully completed nomination form shall signify the individual's consent and direction by the individual to the Office of the Governing Council to distribute and reproduce the individual's statement in the manner above described and acceptance of complete responsibility for the statement by the individual for any consequences arising from such distribution and reproduction of the statement and for the contents of the statement.

- (i) For clarity, the CRO, DRO, and the University shall not be responsible for the statement in any way (other than for the physical or electronic reproduction and distribution of the statement in the manner described above), including, but not limited to, any consequences arising from the distribution or reproduction of the statement and the accuracy of the statement.
- (ii) The statement will not be distributed or otherwise made available if, in the opinion of the Election Overseers, assisted by such advisors as they may retain, the statement is obscene, denigrating, otherwise objectionable, in violation of these *Guidelines* or the University's rules or policies, or it could render the University liable to a suit for libel. The decision of the Election Overseers in this regard shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.

(f) Questions relating to the 100-word statement may be directed to the CRO.

(5) Verification of Candidate

The eligibility of a Student candidate will be assessed by:

- (a) cross-referencing the candidate's information as it appears on the candidate's nomination form with the Repository of Student Information (ROSI) records to determine whether the candidate is eligible for election in the constituency in which the individual seeks nomination;
- (b) reviewing the candidate's nomination form to assess whether:
 - (i) the correct nomination form has been used;
 - (ii) the nomination form has been completed correctly;
 - (iii) the nomination form contains the required number of valid supporting nominators; and
 - (iv) the candidate's signature is present on the nomination form, signifying the candidate's consent to stand for election; and

(6) Verification of Supporting nominators

The validity of each supporting nominator for Student candidates will be assessed by:

- (a) comparing the supporting nominator's full name and student number, as indicated on the nomination form, with the ROSI records to determine whether the supporting nominator is eligible to nominate Students in the candidate's constituency.

(7) Errors or Irregularities in Nomination Form

- (a) Errors or irregularities on the nomination form may be corrected prior to the close of the nomination period.
- (b) The CRO, may, but is not required to notify candidates of the existence of any errors or irregularities before the close of the nomination period.

(8) Technical Invalidation

- (a) Technical grounds upon which the CRO may rely to invalidate a nomination form, include, but are not limited to:
 - (i) the candidate does not meet the eligibility requirements;
 - (ii) insufficient number of valid supporting nominators;
 - (iii) substantive error on the nomination form;
 - (iv) the incorrect nomination form was used;
 - (v) the nomination form is incomplete;
 - (vi) the nomination form is not appropriately verifiable; or
 - (vii) the nomination form does not conform with these *Guidelines*.
- (b) The CRO's decision to invalidate a nomination form on technical grounds may be appealed to the Election Overseers.

9.8 Announcement of Candidates

On Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., the names of all candidates will be announced using a method selected by the CRO.

9.9 Filing of Notice of Intent to Appeal Decision of Invalidation and Appeals

- (a) An individual may appeal the decision of the CRO to invalidate the individual's nomination form on technical grounds to the Election Overseers by filing a Notice of Intent to Appeal in accordance with the following requirements:
 - (i) The Notice of Intent to Appeal must be submitted to the Office of the Governing Council by the deadline noted in the Election Schedule, either through e-mail or by hand-delivered letter to the CRO.
- (b) The Election Overseers shall review the appellant's grounds for an appeal of the CRO's decision to invalidate a nomination form as outlined in the Notice of Intent to Appeal filed by the appellant, and the Election Overseers may;
 - (i) dismiss the appeal if it decides that the grounds do not have merit;
 - (ii) grant the appeal without a hearing if it decides that the grounds have merit; or
 - (iii) hold a hearing in a manner and in accordance with such procedures as it may determine to be appropriate and render a decision thereafter.
- (c) The Election Overseers shall render a decision by 12:00 noon on Wednesday, January 22, 2025.
- (d) The decision of the Election Overseers shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.

9.10 Announcement of Additional Candidates

Individuals who successfully appeal the invalidation of their nomination will be announced as candidates on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 12:00 noon using a method selected by the CRO.

9.11 Withdrawal of Candidacy

- (a) A candidate may withdraw by submitting to the CRO or the CRO's designee an online statement for this purpose.
 - (i) The prescribed form will be available on the Elections Section of the Governing Council website: <https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>
- (b) If a candidate wishes to have their name removed from the ballot, the candidate must withdraw by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 24, 2025.
 - (i) If a candidate withdraws the nomination after this time, the withdrawal and the fact that the candidate's name remains on the ballot shall not invalidate the election.
 - (ii) Votes cast for a candidate who has withdrawn shall not be counted and shall be void.

9.12 Acclamations

Subject to the provisions of these *Guidelines*, a Student candidate may be acclaimed, i.e., deemed to be elected by the CRO, in the following circumstances:

- (a) after the announcement of official candidates and the completion of any appeals relating to nomination invalidations, the number of candidates in the candidate's constituency is equal to or less than the number of vacancies on the Governing Council to be filled by Students from the candidate's constituency; or

<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>

- (b) another candidate withdraws their nomination and, consequently, the number of remaining candidates is equal to or less than the number of vacancies on the Governing Council to be filled by Students from the candidate's constituency.

9.13 Re-opening of Nominations

- (a) If no verified nomination forms are filed during the nomination period, or the number of verified nomination forms is fewer than the number of available vacancies, the CRO may re-open nominations twice.
- (b) If the second re-opening of nominations fails to produce a candidate, the CRO may determine the appropriate course of action.

9.14 Campaign Period

Campaign Period Begins: Monday, January 27, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

Campaign Period Ends: Friday, February 14, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

(1) Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates

Thursday, January 23, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

- (a) Candidates are encouraged to attend or send an authorized representative to attend the Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates organized by the CRO to review Campaign guidelines.
- (b) A candidate may contact the CRO to receive the information given at the Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates if the candidate is unable to attend the session.
- (c) All candidates, whether present or not, shall be responsible for and shall act in accordance with all the information provided at the Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates.

(2) Campaigning

Candidates for election to the Governing Council shall abide by all the guidelines for Campaigning contained in all of the Appendices of these *Guidelines* and any additional guidelines regarding Campaigning that may be issued by the CRO, in writing, from time to time. Any violation of the guidelines for Campaigning may result in the imposition of sanctions against a candidate by the Election Overseers, including, but not limited to, disqualification from the elections.

9.15 Balloting

(1) Eligibility

- (b) No person may cast more than one ballot. ¹⁸
- (c) Students may only vote for Student candidates in their constituency. For example, a Student in Full-Time Undergraduate Students Constituency I may only vote for candidates of that constituency.
- (d) A Student candidate may not vote for any other candidate for election to the Governing Council other than Student candidates who are also members of the constituency to which the candidate has declared candidacy, notwithstanding that the candidate may also be a member of the Teaching Staff or the Administrative Staff.

(2) Online based Voting for Students

- (e) Voting by Students for Student candidates will be conducted through an electronic voting platform decided by the CRO.
- (f) Internet access is available for free to Students on computers in the Information Commons and its satellite facilities on all three campuses and in many colleges, faculties and libraries.
- (g) Voting involves the following:
 - (i) A voter must log in to the voting platform using the instructions provided by the CRO.
 - (ii) The constituency in which the voter is eligible to vote will be determined by records generated from Human Resources Information Systems and staff records in the Federated Universities and securely transferred to the voting platform.
 - (iii) After successfully logging into the voting platform, the voter will be presented with a list of elections based on the constituency in which they are eligible to vote.
 - (iv) Following the instructions provided by the voting platform, the voter will be presented with the list of candidates in that constituency listed in random order and provided with several options, including casting or spoiling a ballot and reading the candidates' statements.
 - (v) The voter may choose not to vote at this point and may exit the voting platform and return to the process at another time.
 - (vi) Once the voter selects a candidate or candidates, as the case may be, for whom to vote, clicking the "Confirm Vote" button will bring up a confirmation screen.
 - (vii) If the voter leaves all candidate choices blank, and then casts the ballot, the voter will be advised to please answer all questions, and the voter may click on the 'Abstain' button to spoil the ballot.

A Student voter who has already voted will not be accepted by the voting platform as an eligible voter a second time.

¹⁸ This prohibition is prescribed by clause 2 (14) (nb) of the *Act*.

<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>

(3) Verification of Ballots

The eligibility of a voter will be verified using the login process. The personnel number and date of birth inputted will be verified against a list of eligible voters compiled using staff records from the Human Resources Information Systems and the Federated Universities.

9.16 Announcement of Results

The number of votes received by each candidate (the total number of votes, including electronic and mail ballots, if applicable) will be announced at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, using a method selected by the CRO.

9.17 Recount

- (a) As there are no individual ballots in web-based voting, a recount of electronic ballots will not be possible.

9.18 Equality of Votes

- (a) In the case of equality of votes where the election of the candidates receiving an equal number of votes would result in the election of a greater number of candidates than there are vacancies on the Governing Council to be filled by Students of a particular constituency, the successful candidate or candidates may be determined by a second election between or among the candidates of that constituency receiving an equal number of votes, which will be held no later than two weeks after the close of the first election, subject always to the following provisos: (1) that both vacancies on the Governing Council to be filled by Full-Time Undergraduate Students in Constituency I may not be filled by two Students both from the same College or Federated University; and (2) that both vacancies on the Governing Council to be filled by Full-Time Undergraduate Students in Constituency II may not be filled by two Students both from the same faculty or school.
- (b) If two or more candidates from the same College or Federated University in Full-Time Undergraduate Students Constituency I receive equal number of votes, which number of votes is sufficient for them to be elected to fill a vacancy on the Governing Council, the successful candidate shall be determined by another election between or among the candidates receiving an equal number of votes.
- (c) If two or more candidates from the same faculty of school in Full-Time Undergraduate Students Constituency II receive equal number of votes, which number of votes is sufficient for them to be elected to fill a vacancy on the Governing Council, the successful candidate shall be determined by another election between or among the candidates receiving an equal number of votes.
- (d) The CRO shall set the election schedule for any second or subsequent elections.
- (e) If the second election also results in an equality of votes, the CRO shall consult the Elections Committee on how to proceed.

9.19 Filing of Notice of Intent to Appeal and Appeals

- (a) A candidate may appeal any matter arising from the conduct of the elections during the Election Period to the Election Overseers, including the announcement of results, by filing a Notice of Intent to Appeal in accordance with the following requirements:
- (i) The Notice of Intent to Appeal must be submitted to the Office of the Governing Council by the deadline noted in the Election Schedule, either through e-mail or by hand-delivered letter to the CRO.
- (b) The Election Overseers shall review the appellant’s grounds for an appeal as outlined in the Notice of Intent to Appeal filed by the appellant and the Election Overseers may:
- (i) dismiss the appeal if it decides that the grounds do not have merit;
 - (ii) grant the appeal without a hearing if it decides that the grounds have merit; or
 - (iii) hold a hearing in a manner and in accordance with such procedures as it may determine to be appropriate and render a decision thereafter.
- (c) The Election Overseers shall render a decision by 12:00 p.m. noon on Friday, February 21, 2025.
- (d) The decision of the Election Overseers shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.

9.20 Elections Not Necessarily Invalidated by Irregularities

An irregularity, failure, non-compliance or mistake in any way relating to the elections, or to an election in any constituency, shall not invalidate the elections if the Election Overseers decide that the elections were conducted in accordance with the principles of these *Guidelines* and that the irregularity, failure, non-compliance or mistake did not or would not have been reasonably likely to have affected the results of the elections.

9.21 Election Expenses

(1) Spending limit

- (a) Each year a separate limit for election related expenses, including Campaigning expenses, is set for each constituency in the Student elections. The limit is calculated on the basis of \$50 per thousand for Students enrolled as of November 2024, with a minimum \$400.
- (i) For 2025, the spending limits are:

Full-Time Undergraduate Students Constituency I	\$2915
Full-Time Undergraduate Students Constituency II	\$ 791
Part-Time Undergraduate Students	\$ 400
Graduate Students Constituency I	\$ 539
Graduate Students Constituency II	\$ 542

- (ii) If an additional election is required as a result of an equality of votes in the previous election, the CRO shall establish a separate spending limit.

(2) Reimbursement of election expenses

Candidates are eligible to receive reimbursement for valid election expenses incurred between 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 27, 2025, and 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 14, 2025.

- (a) Expenses eligible for reimbursement include, but are not limited to, the following:
- (i) paper and office supplies;
 - (ii) copying and printing of Campaign Materials;
 - (iii) reasonable transportation costs incurred in connection with Campaigning at campuses other than that at which the candidate is registered;
 - (iv) Campaign advertisements;
 - (v) web design and domain expenses explicitly related to the election;
 - (vi) refreshments, excluding alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, coolers, etc.); and
 - (vii) the Fair Market Value of all donated goods and services actually used in the candidate's Campaign, except voluntary unpaid labour.
- (b) Expenses ineligible for reimbursement include, but are not limited to, the following:
- (i) expenses incurred prior to the announcement of candidates;
 - (ii) parking fines incurred during Campaign-related activity;
 - (iii) costs resulting from the removal of posters from University or non-University property as a result of illegal posterage for the election;
 - (iv) alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, coolers, etc.);
 - (v) interest/financing costs for the election Campaign;
 - (vi) costs which could be considered of a personal nature and unrelated to the Campaign;
 - (vii) web design and domain expenses not explicitly related to the election; and
 - (viii) medical expenses including prescription and non-prescription drugs.
- (c) A Student candidate will be refunded an amount equal to the lesser of:
- (i) the first \$100 of spending, plus 75% of additional spending of amounts above \$100 and less than the spending limit for the candidate's constituency, or
 - (ii) total expenses (\$100 or less).
- (d) Candidates, whether they are seeking reimbursement or not, are normally expected to submit receipts for all expenses including a statement of all donated goods and services actually used in the candidate's Campaign (except voluntary unpaid labour) with their Fair Market Value, within fourteen days of the close of the election.
- (i) Candidates will normally be asked to sign a sworn statement that all expenses have been disclosed and that the total represents the total amount of expenses by the candidate or by anyone acting on the candidate's behalf or with the candidate's knowledge and consent.
 - (ii) Candidates who have no Campaign expenses may, at the discretion of the CRO, be exempt from submitting an expense statement.

(3) Enforcement of the Election Expenses Limit

- (a) There will be no circumstances under which the limit may be exceeded.
- (b) If the sworn statement indicates that the limit has been exceeded, or if an allegation is made to the CRO that a candidate has exceeded the limit, the CRO will investigate the matter and, if warranted, take the alleged violation to the Elections Committee acting as the Election Overseers.
 - (i) A hearing will be held.
 - (ii) The decision of the Election Overseers shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.
 - (iii) If the candidate is found guilty, and has been successful in the election, the candidate will be disqualified and will not become a member of the Governing Council.
- (c) Failure to submit the sworn statement concerning election expenses may be referred by the CRO to the Elections Committee acting as the Election Overseers.
 - (i) a hearing may be held;
 - (ii) penalties may be imposed, including, but not limited to:
 - i) for successful candidates: disqualification and ceasing to be members of the Governing Council;
 - ii) for unsuccessful candidates: public announcement and/or disqualification from future Governing Council elections for a year or number of years.
- (d) Within seven days of the deadline for submitting the sworn statement, the CRO must inform the Elections Committee and the concerned candidate(s) of any irregularities that have been discovered.
- (e) If a hearing is necessary, it should be held as soon as possible and should be completed by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 13, 2025.

9.22 Resignation for Ineligibility

- (a) A candidate will be declared ineligible if, at any time during the Election Period, the candidate ceases to meet the eligibility requirements.
- (b) In addition, once elected,
 - (i) a Student registered within the St. George campus or within the University of Toronto Mississauga may only remain a Student member of the Governing Council so long as the individual is a registered Student in the constituency in which the Student was elected from the month of September immediately following the elections to the month of May of the following year; and
 - (ii) a Student registered within the University of Toronto Scarborough may only remain a Student member of the Governing Council so long as the individual is a registered Student in the constituency in which the Student was elected in at least two of the three terms between the month of May immediately following the elections and the month of April of the following year (if the Student is not registered in the fall semester, i.e. September to December, 2025, the Student must have been registered in the summer semester, i.e., May to August, 2025, and must sign a letter of intent declaring that the Student will be registered in the winter semester, i.e., January to April, 2025).

- (c) An elected member of the Governing Council must resign if, at any time during the elected member's term,
- (i) the member ceases to be a member of the constituency in which the member was elected;
 - (ii) the member, as a member of Full-Time Undergraduate Students Constituency I, transfers from one College to another College, in which the other elected Student member of the Governing Council from Full-Time Undergraduate Students Constituency I is registered; or
 - (iii) the member, as a member of Full-Time Undergraduate Students Constituency II, transfers from one faculty or school to another faculty or school, in which the other elected Student member of the Governing Council from Full-Time Undergraduate Students Constituency II is registered.

(1) By-elections

- (a) A by-election shall be held to fill any vacancy arising from the departure of an elected Student member of the Governing Council, unless the vacancy occurs within eight months of the end of the departing member's term.
- (b) If a vacancy arising from the departure of an elected Student member of the Governing Council occurs within eight months of the end of the departing member's term, the CRO shall consult the Elections Committee to determine whether a by-election will be held.
- (i) The Elections Committee shall meet to determine whether a by-election shall be held.
 - (ii) Advance notice of such meeting of the Elections Committee shall be announced on the website of the Office of the Governing Council so that there is sufficient time to allow comments to be submitted to the Elections Committee.
 - (iii) Comments relating to whether a by-election should be held may be submitted to the Elections Committee in writing via the Office of the Governing Council.
 - (iv) The decision of the Elections Committee on whether a by-election should be held shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.
- (c) A by-election shall be administered by the CRO and shall be conducted in a manner and in accordance with procedures which are substantially similar to *Guidelines*.

SECTION 10 – Election of Teaching Staff and Librarians to the Academic Board

10.1 Introduction to the Academic Board

(1) Composition of the Academic Board

The Academic Board is composed of 123 people. Of the elected members of the Academic Board who are not also members of the Governing Council, 51 members are elected from the Teaching Staff and 2 members are elected from the Librarians.

“Teaching Staff” means employees of the University who hold the academic rank of Professor; Associate Professor; Assistant Professor; Professor, Teaching Stream; Associate Professor, Teaching Stream; Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream; Lecturer and Senior Lecturer; Tutor and Senior Tutor; Assistant Professor (Conditional); Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream (Conditional); Sessional Lecturer I, Sessional Lecturer II, Sessional Lecturer III, Athletics Instructor and Senior Athletics Instructor but does not include any part-time lecturer who is registered as a student. For this purpose, “Lecturer” also includes Associates in the Faculty of Dentistry.

“Librarian” means an employee of the University, University College, the Constituent Colleges and the arts and science faculties of the Federated Universities who hold the rank of Librarian I, Librarian II, Librarian III, or Librarian IV.

(2) The Function and Responsibilities of the Academic Board¹⁹

The Academic Board is responsible for consideration of policy in the academic area and for monitoring matters within this area of responsibility. In general, the Board reviews and assesses matters brought before it by the President and the President’s senior officers which affect the teaching, learning and research functions of the University, including the establishment of University objectives and priorities, the development of long-term and short-term plans, and the effective use of resources in the course of these pursuits.

The Academic Board has final decision-making authority on certain purely academic matters, including, but not limited to, (1) dealing with matters arising in connection with the award of fellowships, scholarships, medals, prizes and other awards for academic achievement and (2) determining and regulating the standards of admission of students to the University, the contents and curricula of all programs and courses of study and the requirements for graduation. With respect to matters which the Academic Board does not have final decision-making authority, most such matters are examined by the Academic Board, and if appropriate, recommended to the Executive Committee, which can confirm approval thereof on behalf of the Governing Council. However, for matters having significant impact on the University as a whole, having serious steering effects on the development of a particular division, or having a major impact on the relationships amongst divisions and relationships between the University and the community at large, such matters normally require the approval of the Governing Council.

Examples of matters reviewed by the members of the Academic Board include:

- academic appeals;
- academic appointments policies and individual appointments;
- academic discipline;
- academic priorities for fundraising;

¹⁹ Adapted from the Terms of Reference of the Academic Board, available online at:

<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Boards+and+Committees/Academic+Board/abtor.pdf>

<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>

- academic programs;
- academic services;
- admissions;
- awards;
- budget guidelines and budget plans;
- capital projects and space policy;
- constitutions of divisional councils;
- continuing studies;
- curriculum and academic regulations;
- earned and posthumously awarded degrees, diplomas and certificates;
- endowed chairs, professorships and distinguished scholars;
- enrolment policy;
- establishment, termination or restructuring of academic units;
- examinations and grading practices;
- name changes of academic units;
- planning policy;
- research;
- submissions to and agreements with external bodies;
- teaching guidelines; and
- University objectives / mission statement.

10.2 Term of Office

The term of office of an elected Teaching Staff or Librarian member of the Academic Board begins on July 1st in the year in which the member is elected and ends 3 years later on June 30th. A member may serve a maximum of nine consecutive years on the Board.

10.3 Constituencies and Departments (or Equivalent Units)

Elected Teaching Staff members of the Academic Board, who are not also members of the Governing Council, are elected from nineteen constituencies to enable broad representation on the Academic Board from various divisions within the University (see table below). Elected Librarians who serve on the Academic Board are elected by and from amongst Librarians, which constitute an additional constituency for the purpose of Academic Board elections.

Teaching Staff's constituencies are determined primarily on the basis of the College, Federated University, faculty, or school in which they hold their major teaching appointments. If a single constituency cannot be identified for an individual on the basis of their major teaching appointment, the CRO shall determine the appropriate constituency for the individual following any appropriate consultations. Individuals may consult the CRO if they require clarification as to the constituency to which they belong.

For constituencies with more than one elected member on the Academic Board, including the Faculties of Applied Science and Engineering, Arts and Science, Medicine, the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, the University of Toronto Scarborough, the University of Toronto Mississauga, the School of Graduate Studies, and Librarians, no more than one person shall be elected from each department or equivalent unit within the particular constituency. Accordingly:

- (1) nominations for a candidate from the same department or equivalent unit as a current member of the Academic Board, whose term will not expire in 2025, will be rejected, unless the candidate is also appointed in another department or equivalent unit which will not already be represented on the Academic Board in the 2025-2026 academic year by another member of the Academic Board, in which case the candidate shall declare on their nomination form that the candidate is seeking nomination on the basis of their appointment in the latter department; and

- (2) if there is more than one candidate from a particular department or equivalent unit, only the candidate receiving the most votes of the candidates from the same department or equivalent unit will be eligible to fill any vacancy on the Academic Board; the other candidates within that same department or equivalent unit will be eliminated from consideration for any vacancy on the Academic Board, notwithstanding that these candidates may have received more votes than other candidates in other departments or equivalent units within the same constituency.

10.4 Current Elected Teaching Staff and Librarian Members of the Academic Board

The current members of the Academic Board are listed in the table below. The names of the members whose terms will expire on June 30, 2025 are highlighted in bold to show that elections will be held in 2025 to fill the vacancies on the Academic Board arising from the expiration of these members' terms.

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Applied Science and Engineering	Charles Q. Jia (Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry)	June 30, 2025	Yes
	Prof Bensiyon Benhabib (Mechanical and Industrial Engineering)	June 30, 2026	No
	Prof Shal Cohen (Institute for Studies in Transdisciplinary Engineering Education and Practice)	June 30, 2027	No
Architecture, Landscape and Design	Jeannie Kim	June 30, 2025	Yes

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Arts and Science	Prof Jordan Bear (Art History)	June 30, 2027	No
	Prof. Robert Gazzale (Economics)	June 30, 2025	Yes
	Prof. Libbie Mills (Religion)	June 30, 2027	No
	Prof. Paul Downes (English)	June 30, 2025	Yes
	Prof. Suzanne Wood (Psychology)	June 30, 2025	Yes
	Prof Karen Reid (Computer Science)	June 30, 2027	No
	Prof. Rosa Saverino (French)	June 30, 2025	Yes
	Prof. Jason Harlow (Physics)	June 30, 2025	Yes
	Prof. Robert Austin (History)	June 30, 2026	No
	Prof. Suresh Sivanandam (Astronomy & Astrophysics)	June 30, 2026	No
	Prof. Sali Tagliamonte (Linguistics)	June 30, 2026	No
	Prof. Dinesh Christendat (Cell & Systems Biology)	June 30, 2026	No
	Prof. Christian Caron (Sociology)	June 30, 2026	No
	Prof. Adam Stinchcombe (Mathematics)	June 30, 2027	No
	Dentistry	Prof. Anuradha Prakki	June 30, 2027
Information	Prof. Matt Ratto	June 30, 2026	No
Kinesiology and Physical Education	Prof. Catherine Amara	June 30, 2025	Yes
Law	Prof. Markus Dubber	June 30, 2026	No
Management	Prof. John Oesch	June 30, 2025	Yes
Medicine	Prof. Pier Bryden (Psychiatry)	June 30, 2026	No
	Dr. Rita Kandel (Laboratory Medicine & Pathobiology)	June 30, 2027	No
	Prof. Marcus Law (Family and Community Medicine)	June 30, 2026	No
	Prof. Walid Houry (Biochemistry)	June 30, 2026	No
	TBD	June 30, 2027	No
	TBD	June 30, 2026	No

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
	TBD	June 30, 2027	No
	Dr. Laura Simone(Paediatrics)	June 30, 2025	Yes
	Dr. Jesse Pasternak (Surgery)	June 30, 2027	No
	Dr. Lorne Costello (Medicine)	June 30, 2025	Yes
	Dr. Shone Joos (Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy)	June 30, 2025	Yes
Music	TBD	TBD	Yes
Nursing	Prof. Zoraida Beekhoo	June 30, 2026	No
OISE	Prof. Joseph Flessa (Leadership, Higher and Adult Education)	June 30, 2025	Yes
	Prof. Rob Simon (Curriculum, Teaching and Learning)	June 30, 2026	No
	Zachery Hawes	June 30, 2027	No
Pharmacy	Dr. Naomi Steenhof	June 30, 2027	No
Public Health	Prof. Susan Bondy	June 30, 2026	No
Social Work	Prof. Ramona Alaggia	June 30, 2025	Yes
University of Toronto Mississauga	Prof. Sheila Batacharya (ISUP)	June 30, 2027	No
	Prof. Lisa Kramer (Management)	June 30, 2025	Yes
	Prof. Sergio Tenenbaum (Philosophy)	June 30, 2026	No
University of Toronto Scarborough	TBD	TBD	Yes
	Prof. Tarun Dewan (Management)	June 30, 2026	No
	Prof. Elaine Khoo (Centre for Teaching and Learning)	June 30, 2025	Yes
Librarians	Monique Flaccavento (OISE Library)	June 30, 2027	No
	Tys Klumpenhower (Archives)	June 30, 2026	No

10.5 2025 Election Schedule Summary

Nomination Period: Tuesday, January 7, 12:00 noon to Thursday, January 16, 5:00 p.m.

Campaign Period: Monday, January 27, 9:00 a.m. to Friday, February 14, 5:00 p.m.

<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>

Voting Period: Tuesday, February 4, 10:00 a.m. to Friday, February 14, 5:00 p.m.

Post-Election Period: Friday, February 21, 5:00 p.m. to Thursday, March 17, 5:00 p.m.

(Please see the detailed schedule at Section 2 of these *Guidelines*.)

10.6 Eligibility

(1) Constituency and Department/Equivalent Unit

In order to be eligible to be elected as a member of the Academic Board, an individual must:

- (a) be a member of one of the constituencies listed above, as a member of the Teaching Staff or a Librarian, as the case may be, which constituency is currently represented by one or more member(s) of the Academic Board whose term(s) will expire on June 30, 2025.
- (b) remain a member of this same constituency from the close of the nomination period to the time when all relevant election-related appeals and recounts, if any, have been finally disposed of, or if there are no appeals or recounts, when winners have been declared elected;
- (c) be a member of a department or equivalent unit, which is not the same as the department of a current member of the Academic Board, whose term will not expire in 2025; and
- (d) remain a member of this same department or a department that will not already be represented on the Academic Board from the close of the nomination period to the time when all relevant election-related appeals and recounts, if any, have been finally disposed of, or if there are no appeals or recounts, when winners have been declared elected.

10.7 Nomination Process

(1) Nomination Period

Nominations open: Monday, January 7, 2025 at 12:00 noon

Nominations close: Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

(2) Nomination Forms

- (a) An individual seeking nomination must file a fully completed online nomination form and submit it to the Office of the Governing Council prior to the close of the nomination period.
 - (ii) It shall be the responsibility of the individual seeking nomination to ensure that the correct nomination form is used.
- (b) The Chief Returning Officer will obtain from the individual seeking nomination confirmation of the acceptance of the terms and conditions outlined in these *Guidelines*. It is the responsibility of the individual seeking nomination to ensure that the supporting nominators have completed the electronic form, as per the instructions contained in the nomination form; and submitted before the closing date and time of the Call for Nominations.

(3) Supporting nominators

- (a) To become a candidate in the Academic Board elections, Teaching Staff or Librarians seeking nomination must meet the following requirements with respect to supporting nominators:
- (i) the individual seeking nomination may not nominate oneself;
 - (ii) the individual seeking nomination must have on their nomination form the support of 3 supporting nominators, the full name of the supporting nominator and the name of the department or office in which the supporting nominator is employed; and
 - (iii) each supporting nominator of a Teaching Staff candidate or a Librarian candidate, as the case may be, must be a member of the constituency in which the candidate is seeking nomination.
 - (iv) It is the responsibility of the individual seeking nomination to ensure that the supporting nominators have completed the electronic form, as per the instructions contained in the electronic nomination form; and submitted before the closing date and time of the Call for Nominations.
- (b) The names of supporting nominators will not be released to the public, to any individual seeking nomination, or to any candidates.

(4) Candidate's Statement

- (a) An individual seeking nomination may, but will not be required to, submit to the CRO a statement that provides biographical information, addresses the individual's motivation for running in the elections, and outlines how the individual's background qualifies them for becoming a member of the Governing Council. The URL of a website which will be used for campaign purposes may also be included in the statement.

If the individual becomes a candidate, the statement will be:

- (i) distributed to voters who will be voting by mail ballots;
 - (ii) provided together with the name of the candidate during the online voting process to voters who will be voting online; and
 - (iii) otherwise distributed or reproduced by the Office of the Governing Council in a manner chosen by the CRO.
- (b) The statement must be 100 words or less in length, subject to the following:
- (i) acronyms and abbreviations will be counted as one word; and
 - (ii) the individual's name will not be counted in the 100-word limit if placed at the beginning of the individual's statement. and
 - (iii) the individual's URL will not be counted in the 100-word limit and should be placed at the end of the statement.

If the statement contains more than 100 words, only the first 100 words will be printed.

- (c) The statement must be submitted before the close of the nomination period to the Office of the Governing Council in one of two ways:
- (i) The statement may be submitted with the nomination form.
 - (ii) The statement may also be submitted by e-mail from the personal utoronto.ca e-mail account of the individual seeking nomination to the CRO, separate from the nomination form, as long as it is received prior to the close of the nomination period.
- (d) The statement may not be altered or amended after the close of the nomination period, but the statement may be withdrawn upon the written request of the individual seeking nomination. Individuals seeking

nomination are encouraged to submit their statements with their nomination forms, as the reliability of e-mail cannot be guaranteed. Any e-mail not actually received or received by the CRO time-stamped after the close of the nomination period will be rejected, notwithstanding that the e-mail may have been sent prior to the deadline. Individuals submitting statements by e-mail assume any and all risks associated therewith.

- (e) A fully completed nomination form shall signify consent and direction by the individual to the Office of the Governing Council to distribute and reproduce the individual's statement in the manner above described and acceptance of complete responsibility by the individual for any consequences arising from such distribution and reproduction of the statement and for the contents of the statement.
 - (i) For clarity, the CRO, DRO, and the University shall not be responsible for the statement in anyway (other than for physical or electronic reproduction and distribution of the statement in the manner described above), including, but not limited to, any consequences arising from the distribution or reproduction of the statement and the accuracy of the statement.
 - (ii) The statement will not be distributed or otherwise made available if, in the opinion of the Election Overseers, assisted by such advisors as they may retain, the statement is obscene, denigrating, otherwise objectionable, in violation of these *Guidelines* or the University's rules or policies, or it could render the University liable to a suit for libel. The decision of the Election Overseers in this regard shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.
- (f) Questions relating to the 100-word statement may be directed to the CRO.

(5) Verification of Candidate

The eligibility of a Teaching Staff or Librarian candidate will be assessed by:

- (a) determining whether the candidate is a member of the Teaching Staff or a Librarian of the same constituency as one of the current members of the Academic Board whose term(s) will expire on June 30, 2025;
- (b) determining whether the candidate is from a department or equivalent unit that is not already represented in the Academic Board;
- (c) cross-referencing the candidate's information as it appears on the candidate's nomination form with the records of the Human Resources Information Systems and staff records in the Federated Universities to determine whether the candidate is eligible for election in the constituency in which the individual seeks nomination; and
- (d) reviewing the candidate's nomination form to assess whether:
 - (i) the correct nomination form has been used;
 - (ii) the nomination form has been completed correctly;
 - (iii) the nomination form contains the required number of valid supporting nominators; and
 - (iv) the candidate's signature is present on the nomination form, signifying the candidate's consent to stand for election.

(6) Verification of Supporting Nominators

The validity of each supporting nominator for Teaching Staff or Librarian candidates will be assessed by:

- (a) comparing the supporting nominator's full name and the supporting nominator's department or office of employment, as indicated on the nomination form, against records of the Human Resources Information

Systems and staff records in the Federated Universities to determine whether the supporting nominator is eligible to nominate Teaching Staff or Librarians in the candidate's constituency; and

- (b) cross-referencing all nomination forms received to determine whether a supporting nominator nominated more individuals than there are vacancies on the Academic Board to be filled by Teaching Staff or Librarians of the supporting nominator's constituency.

(7) Errors or Irregularities in the Nomination Form

- (a) Errors or irregularities on the nomination form may be corrected prior to the close of the nomination period.
- (b) The CRO, may, but will not be required to, notify candidates of the existence of any errors or irregularities before the close of the nomination period.

(8) Technical Invalidation

- (a) Technical grounds upon which the CRO may rely to invalidate a nomination form, include, but are not limited to:
 - (i) the candidate does not meet the eligibility requirements;
 - (ii) insufficient number of valid supporting nominators;
 - (iii) substantive error on the nomination form;
 - (iv) the incorrect nomination form was used;
 - (v) the nomination form is incomplete;
 - (vi) the nomination form is not appropriately verifiable; or
 - (vii) the nomination form does not conform with these *Guidelines*.
- (b) The CRO's decision to invalidate a nomination form on technical grounds may be appealed to the Election Overseers.

10.8 Announcement of Candidates

On Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 10:00 a.m., the names of all candidates will be announced using a method selected by the CRO.

10.9 Filing of Notice of Intent to Appeal Decision of Invalidation and Appeals

- (a) An individual may appeal the decision of the CRO to invalidate the individual's nomination form on technical grounds to the Election Overseers by filing a Notice of Intent to Appeal in accordance with the following requirements:
 - (i) The Notice of Intent to Appeal must be submitted to the Office of the Governing Council by the deadline noted in the Election Schedule, either through e-mail or by hand-delivered letter to the CRO.
- (b) The Election Overseers shall review the appellant's grounds for an appeal of the CRO's decision to invalidate a nomination form as outlined in the Notice of Intent to Appeal filed by the appellant, and the Election Overseers may;
 - (i) dismiss the appeal if it decides that the grounds do not have merit;
 - (ii) grant the appeal without a hearing if it decides that the grounds have merit; or

- (iii) hold a hearing in a manner and in accordance with such procedures as it may determine to be appropriate and render a decision thereafter.

(c) The Election Overseers shall render a decision by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 22, 2025.

(d) The decision of the Election Overseers shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.

10.10 Announcement of Additional Candidates

Individuals who successfully appeal the invalidation of their nomination will be announced as candidates on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 12:00 noon using a method selected by the CRO.

10.11 Withdrawal of Candidacy

(a) A candidate may withdraw by submitting to the CRO or the CRO's designee an online statement for this purpose.

(b) If a candidate wishes to have their name removed from the ballot, the candidate must withdraw by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 24, 2025.

- (i) If a candidate withdraws the nomination after this time, the withdrawal and the fact the candidate's name remains on the ballot shall not invalidate the election.
- (ii) Votes cast for a candidate who has withdrawn shall not be counted and shall be void.

10.12 Acclamations

Subject to the provisions of these *Guidelines*, a candidate may be acclaimed, i.e., deemed to be elected, on to the Academic Board by the CRO under the following circumstances:

(a) any appeals relating to nomination invalidations have been completed;

(b) the official candidates have been announced;

(c) the candidate has not withdrawn from the election;

(d) the number of candidates in the candidate's constituency is equal to or less than the number of vacancies on the Academic Board to be filled by individuals of that constituency;

(e) the acclamation would not otherwise violate other provisions in these *Guidelines*; and

(f) either: (1) the candidate is the only candidate from their department or equivalent unit; or (2) the candidate received the most votes of all the candidates from the candidate's department or equivalent unit.

10.13 Re-opening of Nominations

(a) The CRO may re-open nominations for up to two times provided: (1) no verified nomination forms are filed during the nomination period; (2) the number of verified nomination forms is fewer than the number of vacancies on the Academic Board; or (3) the number of verified nomination forms received in respect of a constituency are insufficient such that there are insufficient candidates to ensure that no more than one person on the Academic Board is elected from each department or equivalent unit.

- (b) If the second re-opening of nominations fails to produce a candidate, the CRO may determine the appropriate course of action.

10.14 Campaign Period

Campaign Period Begins: Monday, January 27, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.
Campaign Period Ends: Friday, February 14, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

(1) Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates

Thursday, January 23, 2025, 3:30 p.m.

- (a) Candidates are encouraged to attend in person or send an authorized representative to attend the Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates organized by the CRO to review Campaign guidelines.
- (b) A candidate may contact the CRO to receive the information given at the Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates if the candidate is unable to attend the session.
- (c) All candidates, whether present in person or not, shall be responsible for and shall act in accordance with all the information provided at the Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates.

(2) Campaigning

Candidates for election to the Governing Council shall abide by all the guidelines for Campaigning contained in all the Appendices of these *Guidelines* and any additional *Guidelines* regarding Campaigning that may be issued by the CRO in writing from time to time. Any violation of the *Guidelines* for Campaigning may result in the imposition of sanctions against a candidate by the Election Overseers, including, but not limited to, disqualification from the election.

10.15 Balloting

(1) Eligibility

- (a) No person may cast more than one ballot.
- (b) Teaching Staff may only vote for Teaching Staff candidates in their constituency. For example, Teaching Staff in the Arts and Science constituency may only vote for candidates who are also Teaching Staff within Arts and Science.
- (c) Librarians may only vote for Librarian candidates.
- (d) A Teaching Staff candidate may not vote for any other candidate for election to the Academic Board other than Teaching Staff candidates who are also members of the constituency to which the candidate has declared candidacy, notwithstanding that the Teaching Staff candidate may also be a Librarian or a member of another Teaching Staff constituency.
- (e) A Librarian candidate may not vote for any other candidate for election to the Academic Board other than Librarian candidates, notwithstanding that the Librarian candidate may also be a member of a Teaching Staff constituency.

(2) Web-based voting

- (a) Voting by Teaching Staff and Librarians for Teaching Staff and Librarian candidates will be conducted through the online voting platform at <https://utoronto.simplyvoting.com/>
- (b) Internet access is available for free to Teaching Staff and Librarians on computers in the Information Commons and its satellite facilities on all three campuses and in many colleges, faculties and libraries.
- (c) Voting involves the following:
 - (i) A voter must log in to the online voting platform using the voter's UTORid and password.
 - (ii) The constituency in which the voter is eligible to vote will be determined by records generated from Human Resources Information Systems and staff records in the Federated Universities and securely transferred to the online voting platform.
 - (iii) After successfully logging into the online voting platform, the voter will be presented with a list of elections based on the constituency in which they are eligible to vote.
 - (iv) After clicking to vote in an election, the voter will be presented with the list of candidates in that constituency listed in random order and provided with several options, including casting or abstaining and reading the candidates' statements.
 - (v) The voter may choose not to vote at this point and may exit the online voting platform and return to the process at another time. The voter has 10 minutes to vote before the session times out.
 - (vi) Once the voter selects a candidate or candidates, as the case may be, for whom to vote, clicking the green "Vote" button will bring up a confirmation screen.
- (d) A Teaching Staff and Librarians voter who has already voted will not be accepted by the online voting platform as an eligible voter a second time.

(3) Verification of Ballots

The eligibility of a voter will be verified upon logging into the online voting platform. The voter's personal information will be verified against a list of eligible voters compiled using staff records from the Human Resources Information Systems and the Federated Universities.

(4) Mail Ballot Voting

- (a) Teaching Staff and Librarians without an e-mail account within the utoronto.ca domain may only vote by mail ballot provided by the Office of the Governing Council.
 - (i) Photocopies of ballots or copies of ballots obtained from other sources will be declared invalid.
 - (ii) Mail ballots will be mailed to Teaching Staff and Librarians who do not have e-mail accounts within the utoronto.ca domain at their addresses within the University according to the records of the Human Resources Information Systems and the Federated Universities.
 - (iii) Individuals who will be absent from their University addresses during the voting period may ask to have their ballots forwarded to them at alternate addresses.
- (b) Each mail ballot will be accompanied by:
 - (i) an information sheet containing:

- i) the names of each of the candidates together with their respective statements;
 - ii) instructions on the correct method to return the ballot;
 - iii) information on eligibility to use that particular ballot;
 - iv) a short description of the Academic Board; and
 - v) instructions on how to obtain the correct ballot for persons who receive an incorrect ballot;
 - (ii) a small secrecy envelope into which the marked ballot should be sealed; and
 - (iii) a pre-addressed return envelope into which the small secrecy envelope should be sealed. (Voters will be instructed to sign and to legibly print their names and the names of the department or office in which they are employed on the upper left corner of this pre-addressed return envelope. Failure to do so will invalidate the ballot.)
- (c) Information about how to obtain a mail ballot will be advertised in the campus media and on the Elections Section of the Governing Council website to target those individuals who are entitled but did not receive a mail ballot.
- (d) Non-receipt of mail ballots will not invalidate an election.
- (e) Individuals who wish to vote shall cast their ballots in accordance with the following:
- (i) A voter may vote for as many candidates as the number of vacancies on the Academic Board to be filled by candidate(s) from the voter's constituency.
 - (ii) Any kind of mark on the ballot that unambiguously indicates an intention on the part of the voter to cast a vote for a particular candidate shall be acceptable, provided that all other requirements are met.
 - (iii) Ballots must be returned to the Office of the Governing Council in accordance with the instructions provided, including:
 - i) placing the marked ballot into the secrecy envelope;
 - ii) sealing the secrecy envelope;
 - iii) inserting the secrecy envelope into the pre-addressed return envelope;
 - iv) filling in the information required on the pre-addressed return envelope; and
 - v) signing the pre-addressed return envelope.
 - (iv) Ballots must be delivered to the Office of the Governing Council by Canada Post, University Mail, or hand delivery by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 17, 2025. Ballots returned by electronic, facsimile or any other means will be invalidated.
- (f) Once a ballot has been received by the Office of the Governing Council, the ballot will not be returned to the voter, shall not be changed, and no additional ballots shall be provided to replace the ballot already received.

(5) Verification of Ballots

- (a) All mail ballots received by the Office of the Governing Council will be assessed to ascertain their validity by:
- (i) examining the envelope in which the ballot is sealed to ensure that it has not been compromised;
 - (ii) examining each ballot to determine, among other things, its authenticity and whether it was properly marked;
 - (iii) cross-referencing each voter's personal information provided on the pre-addressed return envelope against the staff records provided by the Human Resources Information System and

- the Federated Universities to determine whether the voter is eligible to vote for the candidate(s) selected by the voter; and
- (iv) examining the pre-addressed return envelope to determine whether the voter's signature is present and whether all the information required was printed legibly thereon.

(b) Grounds for invalidating a mail ballot include, but are not limited to:

- (i) the information required on the pre-addressed return envelope is missing or illegible;
- (ii) the voter casting the mail ballot is not eligible to vote;
- (iii) the ballot received is not the one provided by the Office of the Governing Council; the voter selected more candidates than as the number of vacancies on the Academic Board to be filled by the candidate(s) in the voter's constituency;
- (iv) the voter cast more than one ballot, in which case, all ballots of the voter shall be invalidated; and
- (v) the markings on the ballot are ambiguous.

(6) Secrecy of Ballots

The secrecy of the balloting process is maintained:

- (a) with respect to the web-based balloting process, votes cast are kept in a database which is separate from and independent of the list of eligible voters, so that votes cast cannot be identified with any individual voter; and
- (b) with respect to the mail balloting process, mail ballots are removed from their sealed secrecy envelopes and tabulated only after all secrecy envelopes received have been removed from the self-addressed envelopes and accumulated in a manner to ensure that none of the secrecy envelopes can be associated with any particular pre-addressed return envelope. This process ensures that a mail ballot cannot be identified with any individual voter.

10.16 Notification of Ballot Counting and Scrutineering

- (a) Prior to the end of the voting period, the CRO shall notify each Teaching Staff candidate in writing of the location and the schedule for counting the mail ballots and any subsequent changes thereto.
- (b) Each Teaching Staff candidate or a designee, so designated by the candidate by submitting a signed statement to this effect to the Office of the Governing Council, shall be entitled to:
 - (i) observe the tabulation of mail ballots received from Teaching Staff; and
 - (ii) seek verification that the voters voting by mail ballot are eligible to vote for Teaching Staff.
- (c) Mail ballot counting will proceed at the location and in accordance with the schedule indicated in the written notification sent to the candidates, whether or not candidates or their designees are present.

10.17 Announcement of Results

The number of votes received by each candidate (the total number of votes, including both online and mail ballots) will be announced at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, using a method selected by the CRO.

10.18 Recounts

- (a) As there are no individual ballots in web-based voting, a recount of online ballots will not be possible.

<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>

- (b) Mail ballots may be subject to a recount.
- (i) A candidate may request a recount of the mail ballots by filing the form prescribed for this purpose in accordance with the following requirements.
 - i) The prescribed form that must be used will be available at the Office of the Governing Council.
 - ii) The candidate must complete the form, including specifying the grounds upon which the candidate requests a recount, and must file the form by hand-delivery at the Office of the Governing Council by 12:00 noon on Thursday, February 20, 2025.
 - (ii) The Election Overseers shall review the candidate's grounds for seeking a recount as outlined in the form filed by the candidate, and the Elections Committee may:
 - i) dismiss the recount request if it decides that the grounds do not have merit;
 - ii) authorize the recount without a hearing; or
 - iii) hold a hearing in a manner and in accordance with such procedures as it may determine to be appropriate and render a decision thereafter.
 - (iii) If authorized by the Election Overseers, a recount of the mail ballots shall be conducted.

10.19 Equality of Votes

- (a) If two or more candidates within the same constituency receive equal number of votes, the successful candidate or candidates to fill the vacancies on the Academic Board shall be determined by a second election between or among the candidates receiving an equal number of votes, subject always to the proviso that no more than one person shall be elected from each department or equivalent unit on to the Academic Board.
- (b) If two or more candidates from the same department or equivalent unit receive equal number of votes, which number of votes is sufficient to fill a vacancy on the Academic Board, the successful candidate shall be determined by another election between or among the candidates receiving an equal number of votes.
- (c) The CRO shall set the new schedule for any second or subsequent elections.
- (d) The CRO may set additional elections and consult the Elections Committee on how to proceed at any time to resolve equality of votes.

10.20 Filing of Notice of Intent to Appeal and Appeals

- (a) A candidate may appeal any matter arising from the conduct of elections during the Election Period to the Election Overseers, including the announcement of results, by filing a Notice of Intent to Appeal in accordance with the following requirements:
 - (ii) The Notice of Intent to Appeal must be submitted to the Office of the Governing Council by the deadline noted in the Election Schedule, either through e-mail or by hand-delivered letter to the CRO.
- (b) The Election Overseers shall review the appellant's grounds for an appeal as outlined in the Notice of Intent to Appeal filed by the appellant and the Election Overseers may:

- (i) dismiss the appeal if it decides that the grounds do not have merit;
- (ii) grant the appeal without a hearing if it decides that the grounds have merit; or
- (iii) hold a hearing in a manner and in accordance with such procedures as it may determine to be appropriate and render a decision thereafter.

(c) The Election Overseers shall render a decision by 12:00 p.m. noon on Friday, February 21, 2025.

(d) The decision of the Election Overseers shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.

10.21 Elections Not Necessarily Invalidated by Irregularities

An irregularity, failure, non-compliance or mistake in any way related to the elections, or to an election in any constituency, shall not invalidate the elections if the Election Overseers decide that the elections were conducted in accordance with the principles of these *Guidelines* and that the irregularity, failure, non-compliance or mistake would not have been reasonably likely to have affected the results of the elections.

10.22 Election expenses

(1) Spending Limit

(a) The limit for election related expenses, including Campaign expenses, for each Teaching Staff and Librarian candidate is \$400, of which the University will reimburse the Teaching Staff or Librarian candidate \$300.

- (i) If an additional election is required as a result of an equality of votes in the first election, the CRO shall establish a separate spending limit will be established by the CRO.

(2) Reimbursement of Election Expenses

Candidates are eligible to receive reimbursement for valid election expenses incurred between 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 27, 2025 and 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 14, 2025.

(a) Expenses eligible for reimbursement include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (i) paper and office supplies;
- (ii) copying and printing of Campaign Materials;
- (iii) reasonable transportation costs incurred in connection with Campaigning at campuses other than that at which the candidate works;
- (iv) Campaign advertisements;
- (v) web design and domain expenses explicitly related to the election;
- (vi) refreshments, excluding alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, coolers, etc.); and
- (vii) the Fair Market Value of all donated goods and services actually used in the candidate's Campaign, except voluntary unpaid labour.

(b) Expenses ineligible for reimbursement include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (i) expenses incurred prior to the announcement of candidates;
- (ii) parking fines incurred during Campaign-related activity;
- (iii) costs resulting from the removal of posters from University or non-University property as a result of illegal postering for the election;
- (iv) alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, coolers, etc.);
- (v) interest/financing costs for the election Campaign;
- (vi) costs which could be considered of a personal nature and unrelated to the Campaign;

- (vii) web design and domain expenses not explicitly related to the election; and
 - (viii) medical expenses including prescription and non-prescription drugs.
- (c) Candidates, whether they are seeking reimbursement or not, are normally expected to submit receipts for all expenses including a statement of all donated goods and services actually used in the candidate's Campaign (except voluntary unpaid labour) with their Fair Market Value, within fourteen days of the close of the election.
- (i) Candidates will normally be asked to sign a statement that all expenses have been disclosed and that the total represents the total amount of expenses by the candidate or by anyone acting on the candidate's behalf or with the candidate's knowledge and consent.
 - (ii) Candidates who have no Campaign expenses may, at the discretion of the CRO, be exempt from submitting an expense statement.

(3) Enforcement of the Election Expenses Limit

- (a) There will be no circumstances under which the limit may be exceeded.
- (b) If the sworn statement indicates that the limit has been exceeded, or if an allegation is made to the CRO that a candidate has exceeded the limit, the CRO will investigate the matter and, if warranted, take the alleged violation to the Elections Committee acting as the Election Overseers.
- (i) A hearing will be held.
 - (ii) The decision of the Election Overseers shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.
 - (iii) If the candidate is found guilty, and has been successful in the election, the candidate will be disqualified and will not become a member of the Governing Council.
- (c) Failure to submit the sworn statement concerning election expenses may be referred by the CRO to the Elections Committee acting as the Election Overseers.
- (i) a hearing may be held;
 - (ii) penalties may be imposed, including, but not limited to:
 - i) for successful candidates: disqualification and ceasing to be members of the Governing Council;
 - ii) for unsuccessful candidates: public announcement and/or disqualification from future Academic Board elections for a year or number of years.
- (d) Within seven days of the deadline for submitting the sworn statement, the CRO must inform the Elections Committee and the concerned candidate(s) of any irregularities that have been discovered.
- (e) If a hearing is necessary, it should be held as soon as possible and should be completed by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 13, 2025.

10.23 Resignation for Ineligibility

- (a) A candidate will be declared ineligible if, at any time during the Election Period, the candidate ceases to meet the eligibility requirements.
- (b) Teaching Staff holding the academic rank of Sessional Lecturer I, Sessional Lecturer II or Sessional Lecturer III are eligible to be a member of the Academic Board only if they continue to have an appointment in the constituency in which they were elected.

- (c) An elected Teaching Staff or Librarian member of the Academic Board must resign if, at any time during the elected Teaching Staff or Librarian member's term:
 - (i) the member ceases to be a member of the constituency in which the member was elected; or
 - (ii) the member leaves the department or equivalent unit for another department or equivalent unit that is already represented on the Academic Board.

(1) By-elections

- (a) A by-election shall be held to fill any vacancy arising from the departure of an elected member of the Academic Board, unless the vacancy occurs within eight months of the end of the departing member's term.
- (b) If a vacancy arising from the departure of an elected member of Academic Board occurs within eight months of the end of the departing member's term, the CRO shall consult the Elections Committee to determine whether a by-election will be held.
 - (i) The Elections Committee shall meet to determine whether a by-election shall be held.
 - (ii) Advance notice of such meeting of the Elections Committee shall be announced on the website of the Office of the Governing Council so that there is sufficient time to allow comments to be submitted to the Elections Committee.
 - (iii) Comments relating to whether a by-election should be held may be submitted to the Elections Committee in writing via the Office of the Governing Council.
 - (iv) The decision of the Elections Committee on whether a by-election should be held shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.
- (c) A by-election shall be administered by the CRO and shall be conducted in a manner and in accordance with procedures which are substantially similar to *Guidelines*.

SECTION 11 - Election of Administrative Staff, Librarians, Students and Teaching Staff to the UTM and UTSC Campus Councils and their Standing Committees

11.1 Introduction to the UTM and UTSC Campus Councils and their Standing Committees

(1) Standing Committees of the UTM and UTSC Campus Councils

The standing Committees of the UTM and UTSC Campus Councils (CC) are the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC), the Campus Affairs Committee (CAC), and the Agenda Committee (AC).²⁰

(2) Composition of the UTM and UTSC Campus Councils

The UTM and UTSC Campus Councils are composed of twenty-eight people respectively. Of the elected members of the Campus Councils who are not also members of the Governing Council, two Administrative Staff members, four Student members, and five Teaching Staff members may be elected by and from among their respective estates.

For definitions of “Administrative Staff”, “Librarian”, “Students”, and “Teaching Staff” refer to Section 1.

(3) The Function and Responsibilities of the UTM and UTSC Campus Councils and their Standing Committees

On behalf of the Governing Council, the Campus Councils exercise governance oversight of campus-specific matters, as well as any matters assigned to it by the Governing Council from time to time. In general, the Campus Councils are concerned with matters affecting the Campus’ objectives and priorities, the development of long-term and short-term plans and the effective use of resources in the course of these pursuits.

Decisions of the Campus Council may be final with confirmation by the Executive Committee on behalf of the Governing Council or constitute a recommendation to the Governing Council or one of its bodies.

The following are examples of items reviewed by the members of the Campus Councils and/or one of its Standing Committees:

- Academic appeals
- Academic plans and guidelines for such plans
- Academic priorities for fundraising
- Academic programs
- Academic regulations
- Admissions
- Awards
- Budget
- Campus and student services
- Campus Master Plans
- Campus security
- Capital projects and space
- Child care
- Co-curricular programs, services, and facilities

²⁰ Members of the Agenda Committee are appointed annually by the Campus Council from among its members on the recommendation of the Council Chair, following nominations by and from among the represented estates on the Campus Council.

- Compulsory non-academic incidental fees
- Establishment, termination or restructuring of academic units
- Examinations and grading practices
- Divisional Guidelines for the Assessment of Teaching and/or Creative Professional activity
- Name changes of academic units
- Relations with the campus's external community
- Research planning
- Student societies and campus organizations

11.2 Appointments to the UTM and UTSC Campus Councils and their Standing Committees

The terms of reference for the [UTM and UTSC Campus Councils and their Standing Committees](#) allow for appointments to those governance bodies by both the Governing Council and the respective Campus Councils.

Appointments by the Governing Council to its respective governance bodies are carefully considered by the Chair and the Executive Committee based on the skills and experience required on those bodies, the need for both continuity and renewal of membership, and governors' expressed preferences.

The elections for the Governing Council, the Academic Board, the UTM and UTSC Campus Councils, and their Standing Committees will be conducted simultaneously in February 2025 to allow for full student participation prior to the April examination period and while students are still on campus before leaving for the summer. The timing of the elections process will also ensure that the appointment of governors to the UTM and UTSC Campus Councils and their Standing Committees may be considered for approval by the Governing Council on Thursday, April 3, 2025. Subsequent appointments to the UTM and UTSC governance bodies, which must occur sequentially, may then be considered for approval by June 30th, prior to the start of members' terms on July 1st.

As a matter of procedure, there will be an embargo on the declaration of the result of the elections to the UTM and UTSC Campus Councils and their Standing Committees until after the governor appointments to the UTM and UTSC Campus Councils and their Standing Committees have been approved by the Governing Council. The results will be known only to the Chief Returning Officer and shall not be disclosed to any other member of the Governing Council, including the Chair, or the members of the Governing Council Secretariat.

By agreeing to stand for election to the UTM and UTSC Campus Councils and their Standing Committees all candidates accept that, if elected, they may not be able to serve a) if a seat from their estate/constituency has been filled by the appointment of a member of the Governing Council to a Campus Council or one or more of its Committees or b) if a seat from their estate/constituency has been filled by the appointment of a member of the UTM or UTSC Campus Council to one or more of its Committees.

11.3 Candidates of more than one election of the Governing Council, the UTM and UTSC Campus Council and their Standing Committees

Some candidates may choose to participate in multiple elections for seats on Governing Council, and the Campus Councils and/or their Standing Committees.

In instances where candidates are successful in winning the Governing Council election and the election of the Campus Councils and/or their Standing Committees, the candidate will be declared elected for the Governing Council only. The candidates with the next highest number of votes polled in each of the elections for the Campus Council and/or their Standing Committees will then be declared winners of those elections.

In instances where candidates are successful in winning the Campus Council election and the election of one or both of their Standing Committees, the candidate will be declared elected for the Campus Council only. The candidates with the next highest number of votes polled in each of the elections for the Standing Committees will be declared winners of those elections.

11.4 Term of Office

The term of office for elected Student members of the Campus Council begins on July 1st in the year in which the member is elected ends one year later, on June 30th.

11.5 Estates of the UTM and UTSC Campus Councils

(1) Administrative Staff and Librarians

There are two seats for Administrative Staff members – one of whom is a librarian – who will serve a term of three years. Normally, one of the two administrative staff positions will be reserved for a librarian.

UTM

Estate	Current Member	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Administrative Staff	Ron Wener	June 30, 2026	No
Librarians	Joanna Szurmak	June 30, 2027	No

UTSC

Estate	Current Member	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Administrative Staff	Hoorik Yeghiazarian	June 30, 2027	No
Librarians	Mariana Jardim	June 30, 2026	No

(2) Students

The four student seats on the UTM/UTSC Campus Council are distributed among three undergraduate students and one graduate student. The Governing Council may appoint one Student governor to the Campus Council. In such an instance, the distribution of the remaining student seats on the Campus Council will be determined by the constituency of the Student governor appointed by the Governing Council. For example, if a Student governor representing the undergraduate student constituency is appointed to the Campus Council by the Governing Council, the remaining three seats on the Campus Council will be distributed among two undergraduate students and one graduate student, each of whom would be elected by and from among their constituency.

UTM

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Undergraduate	Jan Durkiewicz	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Ehab James	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Elliot Fabian-Fine	June 30, 2025	Yes
Graduate	Nasha Sethna	June 30, 2025	Yes

UTSC

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Undergraduate	Willow James	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Shennel Simpson	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Arjun Singh Yangleem	June 30, 2025	Yes
Graduate	Vacant	June 30, 2025	Yes

(3) Teaching Staff

There are six Teaching Staff members of the Campus Councils, one of whom will be appointed by the Governing Council. The elected teaching staff members of the Campus Councils will serve terms of three years.

UTM

Academic Unit	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Chemical & Physical Sciences	Prof. Gradinaru Claudiu	June 30, 2027	No
Language Studies	Prof. Rosa Junghwa Hong	June 30, 2026	No
Psychology	Prof. Robert Gerlai	June 30, 2027	No
English & Drama	Prof. Daniel Wright	June 30, 2026	No
Institute for the Study of University Pedagogy	Prof. Laura Taylor	June 30, 2025	Yes

UTSC

Academic Unit	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Management	Prof. Syed Ahmed	June 30, 2027	No
Centre for Teaching and Learning	Prof. Elaine Khoo	June 30, 2025	Yes
Biological Sciences	Prof. Rachel Sturge	June 30, 2025	Yes
English	Prof. Sonja Nikkila	June 30, 2026	No
Computer and Mathematical Sciences	Prof. Brian Harrington	June 30, 2027	No

11.6 Estates of the Academic Affairs Committee

The total membership of the UTM Academic Affairs Committee is 66 members, while the total membership of the UTSC Academic Affairs Committee is 6 members.

(1) Administrative Staff

Non-Campus Council Administrative and Librarian Staff members are normally elected for a three-year term.

There are two Administrative Staff seats on each of the UTM and UTSC Academic Affairs Committee. Of these, one seat is for an elected, non-Campus Council member and one seat is for an appointed Campus Council member. No two administrative staff candidates who belong to the same academic or administrative unit may serve concurrently on the Academic Affairs Committee.

UTM

Estate	Current Member	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Administrative Staff	Afsaneh Tafazzoli	June 30, 2027	No

UTSC

Estate	Current Member	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Administrative Staff	Ainsley Lawson	June 30, 2027	No

(2) Librarians

There is one elected Librarian seat on each of the UTM and UTSC Academic Affairs Committee.

UTM

Estate	Current Member	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Librarians	Vacant	June 30, 2026	Yes

UTSC

Estate	Current Member	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Librarians	Elizabeth O'Brien	June 30, 2025	Yes

(3) Students

The term of office for elected Student members of the Academic Affairs Committee begins on July 1st in the year in which the member is elected and ends one year later on June 30th.

There is a total of nine Student seats on each of the UTM and UTSC Academic Affairs Committee. Of these, two seats are for appointed Governing Council and Campus Council members. (These two seats will be filled either by: (a) one student governor and one Campus Council student member or (b) no student governor and two Campus Council student members.) The remaining seven elected seats are distributed among five undergraduate and two graduate students.

UTM

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Undergraduate	Shakhriyor Bakhtiyorov	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Ayman Kashif	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Katie Ngo	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Ewan Wilton	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Ava Zdrava	June 30, 2025	Yes
Graduate	Areej Al-Dailami	June 30, 2025	Yes
Graduate	Alanna Olteanu	June 30, 2025	Yes

UTSC

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Undergraduate	Sandhya Anand	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Abhay Chawla	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Leonard Hu	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Vacant	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Niyonta Zulfiquar	June 30, 2025	Yes
Graduate	Emmanuel Taiwo	June 30, 2025	Yes
Graduate	Sophia Mastrella	June 30, 2025	Yes

(4) Teaching Staff

Non-Campus Council Teaching Staff members of the Academic Affairs Committee are normally elected for three-year terms.

There is a total of 39 Teaching Staff members on the UTM Academic Affairs Committee. Of these, there are eighteen elected, non-Campus Council Teaching Staff members, who will serve terms of three years, with no more than one Teaching Staff representative from each academic unit at UTM.

Eighteen *ex officio* Teaching Staff seats are for the Chairs (or their designates) from each of the academic units. The remaining three are for appointed Campus Council Teaching Staff members.

There is a total of 37 Teaching Staff members on the UTSC Academic Affairs Committee. Of these, there are seventeen elected, non-Campus Council Teaching Staff members, with no more than one Teaching Staff representative from each academic unit at UTSC. Seventeen *ex officio* Teaching Staff seats are for the Chairs (or their designates) from each of the academic units. The remaining three are for appointed Campus Council Teaching Staff members.

UTM

Academic Unit	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Economics	Prof. Robert McMillan	June 30, 2027	No
English and Drama	Prof. Elizabeth Blake	June 30, 2026	No
Institute of Communication, Culture, Information and Technology	Prof. Michael Nixon	June 30, 2027	No
Geography, Geomatics and Environment	Prof. Pierre Desrochers	June 30, 2026	No
Psychology	Prof. Brett Beston	June 30, 2027	No
Biology	Prof. Adriano Senatore	June 30, 2026	No
Language Studies	Prof. Barend Beekhuizen	June 30, 2025	Yes
Sociology	Prof. Andrew Miles	June 30, 2027	No
Philosophy	Prof. Jonathan Weisberg	June 30, 2025	Yes
Chemical and Physical Sciences	Prof. Jumi Shin	June 30, 2027	No
Political Science	Prof. Randy Besco	June 30, 2025	Yes
Visual Studies	Prof. Meghan Sutherland	June 30, 2025	Yes
Management	Prof. Andreas Park	June 30, 2027	No
Historical Studies	Prof. Gary Lee Pelletier	June 30, 2027	No
Anthropology	Prof. Sarah Hillewaert	June 30, 2025	Yes
Mathematical and Computational Sciences	Prof. Jaimal Thind	June 30, 2026	No
Institute for Management & Innovation	Prof. Andreas Park	June 30, 2027	No
Institute for the Study of University Pedagogy	Prof. Michael deBraga	June 30, 2027	No

UTSC

Academic Unit	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Management	Prof. Lisa Harvey	June 30, 2027	No
Biological Sciences	Prof. Shelley Brunt	June 30, 2025	Yes
English	Prof. Randy Lundy	June 30, 2027	No
Environmental and Physical Sciences	Prof. Marco Zimmer-De Luilis	June 30, 2027	No
Philosophy	Prof. Jessica Wilson	June 30, 2025	Yes
Human Geography	Vacant	June 30, 2025	Yes
Arts, Culture and Media	Prof. Hadiya Roderique	June 30, 2026	No
Political Sciences	Prof. Phil Triadafilopoulos	June 30, 2026	No
Historical and Cultural Studies	Vacant	June 30, 2025	Yes
Psychology	Prof. Anthony Ruocco	June 30, 2025	Yes
Language Studies	Prof. Corinne Beauquis	June 30, 2027	No
Sociology	Prof. John Hannigan	June 30, 2026	No
Computer and Mathematical Sciences	Prof. Mahinda Samarakoon	June 30, 2027	No
Anthropology	Prof. Lianne Tripp	June 30, 2026	No
Centre for Teaching and Learning	Prof. Kamini Persaud	June 30, 2025	Yes
Health and Society	Prof. Keith Colaco	June 30, 2027	No
Global Development Studies	Prof. Judith Teichman	June 30, 2025	Yes

11.7 Estates of the Campus Affairs Committee

The total membership of each of the UTM and UTSC Campus Affairs Committees is 34.

(1) Administrative Staff

Non-Campus Council Administrative Staff members are normally elected for a three-year term.

There are four Administrative Staff seats on each of the UTM and UTSC Campus Affairs Committee. Three of these four seats are for elected, non-Campus Council members, who will serve a term of three years - with no more than one Administrative Staff representative from each academic or administrative unit. The remaining one seat is for an appointed Campus Council Administrative Staff member.

UTM

Estate	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Administrative Staff	Payam Zahedi	June 30, 2026	No
Administrative Staff	Laura Ferlito	June 30, 2025	Yes
Administrative Staff	Vacant	June 30, 2027	Yes

UTSC

Estate	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Administrative Staff	Monica Sok	June 30, 2027	No
Administrative Staff	Ainsley Lawson	June 30, 2025	Yes
Administrative Staff	Vacant	June 30, 2025	Yes

(2) Librarians

Non-Campus Council Librarian Staff members are normally elected for a three-year term.

There is one elected Librarian seat on each of the UTM and UTSC Campus Affairs Committee.

UTM

Estate	Current Member	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Librarians	Mai Lu	June 30, 2027	No

UTSC

Estate	Current Member	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Librarians	Stephanie Perpick	June 30, 2027	No

(3) Students

The term of office for elected Student members of the Campus Affairs Committee begins on July 1st in the year in which the member is elected and ends one year later on June 30th.

There are seven Student seats on each of the UTM and UTSC Campus Affairs Committee. Of these, one seat is for an appointed Governing Council student governor or Campus Council student member. The remaining six elected seats are distributed among five undergraduate and one graduate students.

UTM

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Undergraduate	Rosa Fragomeni	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Savithru Kannuri	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Giulia Nuvoloni	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Albert Pan	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Michael Rengifo	June 30, 2025	Yes
Graduate	Thanh Phung	June 30, 2025	Yes

UTSC

Constituency	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Undergraduate	Faith Opoku Agyemang	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Muntaha Almahjub	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Willow James	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Leonard Hu	June 30, 2025	Yes
Undergraduate	Lala Li	June 30, 2025	Yes
Graduate	Liv Engel	June 30, 2025	Yes

(4) Teaching Staff

Non-Campus Council Teaching Staff members of the Campus Affairs Committee are normally elected for three-year terms.

There are nine Teaching Staff seats on the UTM and UTSC Campus Affairs Committee. Seven of these nine seats are for elected, non-Campus Council members, with the remaining two seats are for two Teaching Staff members of the Campus Council. Of those seven seats, there will be no more than one Teaching Staff representative from each academic unit, and they will serve terms of three years.

UTM

Academic Unit	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Sociology	Prof. Jerry Flores	June 30, 2025	Yes
Biology	Prof. Nagham Abdalahad	June 30, 2025	Yes
Chemical & Physical Sciences	Prof. Marc Laflamme	June 30, 2026	No
Language Studies	Prof. Emily Atkinson	June 30, 2027	No
Management	Prof. Peter Landry	June 30, 2027	No
Economics	Prof. Kathleen Yu	June 30, 2026	No
English & Drama	Prof. Melissa Gniadek	June 30, 2027	No

UTSC

Academic Unit	Current Member(s)	Term Ends	Election Required in 2025
Psychology	Prof. Kyle Danielson	June 30, 2025	Yes
Physical and Environmental Sciences	Prof. Tanzina Mohsin	June 30, 2025	Yes
Management	Prof. Sandra Daga	June 30, 2027	No
Vacant	Vacant	June 30, 2025	Yes
Vacant	Vacant	June 30, 2025	Yes
Biological Sciences	Prof. Mark Fitzpatrick	June 30, 2026	No
Language Studies	Prof. Silvia Mittler	June 30, 2027	No

11.8 2025 Election Schedule Summary

Nomination Period: Tuesday, January 7, 12:00 noon to Thursday, January 16, 5:00 p.m.

Campaign Period: Monday, January 27, 9:00 a.m. to Friday, February 14, 5:00 p.m.

Voting Period: Tuesday, February 4, 10:00 a.m. to Friday, February 14, 5:00 p.m.

Post-Election Period: Friday, February 21, 5:00 p.m. to Thursday, March 13, 5:00 p.m.

(Please see the detailed schedule at Section 2 of these *Guidelines*.)

11.9 Eligibility

(1) Administrative Staff

- (a) In order to be eligible to be elected as an Administrative Staff member of the UTM or UTSC Campus Council or their Standing Committees, an individual must a) meet the definition of an Administrative Staff member (please refer to Section 1 of these *Guidelines*), b) be a member based on the respective campus where the individual is seeking election, c) be nominated by the Administrative Staff of that campus, and d) remain an Administrative Staff member of the respective campus from the close of the nomination period to the time when all relevant election-related appeals and recounts, if any, have been finally disposed of, or, if there are no appeals or recounts, when winners have been declared elected. In addition, once elected, an Administrative Staff member may only remain a member of the UTM or UTSC Campus Council or their Standing Committees so long as the individual is an Administrative Staff member at the respective campus. The individual must resign if they cease to be an Administrative Staff member at the campus from which they were elected.

If an individual is a member of more than one of the Administrative Staff, Librarian, Student, or Teaching Staff constituencies, the individual:

- (i) may run for election in only one constituency of the UTM or UTSC Campus Council or its Standing Committees; and
- (ii) must use the applicable nomination form for the constituency in which the individual is running.

(2) Librarians

- (a) In order to be eligible to be elected as a Librarian member of the UTM or UTSC Campus Council or their Standing Committees, an individual must a) meet the definition of a Librarian (please refer to Section 1 of these *Guidelines*), b) be a member based on the respective campus where the individual is seeking election, c) be nominated by the Librarians of that campus, and d) remain a Librarian of the respective campus from the close of the nomination period to the time when all relevant election-related appeals and recounts, if any, have been finally disposed of, or, if there are no appeals or recounts, when winners have been declared elected. In addition, once elected, a Librarian may only remain a member of the UTM or UTSC Campus Council or their Standing Committees so long as the individual is a Librarian at the respective campus. The individual must resign if they cease to be a Librarian at the campus from which they were elected.

If an individual is a member of more than one of the Administrative Staff, Librarian, Student, or Teaching Staff constituencies, the individual:

- (i) may run for election in only one constituency of the UTM or UTSC Campus Council or its Standing Committees; and
- (ii) must use the applicable nomination form for the constituency in which the individual is running.

(3) Students

In order to be eligible to be elected as a Student member of the UTM or UTSC Campus Council or its Standing Committee(s), an individual must:

- (i) be a Student within one of the three constituencies and be registered at the respective campus;
- (ii) be nominated as a candidate by Students within the individual's own constituency; and
- (iii) remain a Student of this same constituency from the close of the nomination period to the time when all relevant election-related appeals and recounts, if any, have been finally disposed of, or, if there are no appeals or recounts, when winners have been declared elected (see exception below relating to Students enrolled in double degree programs).

In addition, once elected, a Student registered within:

- (i) the University of Toronto Mississauga may only remain a Student member of the Campus Council or its Standing Committee(s) so long as the individual is a Student in the constituency in which the Student was elected from the month of September immediately following the elections to the month of May of the following year;
- (ii) the University of Toronto Scarborough may only remain a Student member of the Campus Council or its Standing Committee(s) so long as the individual is a Student in the constituency in which the Student was elected for at least two of the three semesters between the month of May immediately following the elections and the month of April of the following year.

If an individual is a member of more than one of the Administrative Staff, Librarian, Student, or Teaching Staff constituencies, the individual:

- (i) may run for election in only one constituency of the UTM or UTSC Campus Council or its Standing Committees; and
- (ii) must use the applicable nomination form for the constituency in which the individual is running.

A Student enrolled in a double degree program may only seek nomination in the constituency to which the Student will belong in the academic year immediately following the elections, notwithstanding that the Student may not yet be a member of that constituency during the Election Period.

- (i) During the course of studies of a Student enrolled in a double degree program, the Student may be a Student within one constituency in one year and a Student within another constituency in another year. For instance, in one year, a Student may be registered in the Faculty of Medicine, which falls within Full-Time Undergraduate Students Constituency, while, in another year, the Student may be registered in the School of Graduate Studies, which falls within the Graduate Students Constituency.
- (ii) Double degree programs include, but are not limited to, the BBA, Specialist Program in Management and Finance / Honours Bsc, Specialist Program in Statistics, Quantitative Finance Stream.

If an individual is a member of more than one of the Student constituencies, the individual:

- (i) may be a Student candidate for election in only one of the Student constituencies; and must declare the constituency in which the individual is seeking election on the individual's nomination form.

(4) Teaching Staff

- (a) In order to be eligible to be elected as a Teaching Staff member of the UTM or UTSC Campus Council or its Standing Committee(s), an individual must:
- (i) be nominated as a Teaching Staff candidate by Teaching Staff within the same academic unit and retain the primary teaching appointment at the campus from which the individual has been nominated; and
 - (iii) remain a Teaching Staff member of this same academic unit from the close of the nomination period to the time when all relevant election-related appeals and recounts, if any, have been finally disposed of, or, if there are no appeals or recounts, when winners have been declared elected. In addition, once elected, the individual may only remain a member of the UTM or UTSC Campus Council or its Standing Committee(s) so long as the individual is a member of the same Teaching Staff academic unit and with the primary teaching appointment at that campus. The individual must resign if they cease to be a Teaching Staff member of that academic unit or if the individual ceases to hold the primary teaching appointment at that campus.

11.10 Nomination Process

(1) Nomination Period

Nominations open: Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at 12:00 noon

Nominations close: Thursday, January 16, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

(2) Nomination Forms

- (a) An individual seeking nomination must file a fully completed online nomination form and submit it to the Office of the Governing Council prior to the close of the nomination period.
- (i) It shall be the responsibility of the individual seeking nomination to ensure that the correct nomination form is used.
- (b) The Chief Returning Officer will obtain from the individual seeking nomination confirmation of the acceptance of the terms and conditions outlined in these *Guidelines*. It is the responsibility of the individual seeking nomination to ensure that the supporting nominators have completed the electronic form, as per the instructions contained in the nomination form; and submitted before the closing date and time of the Call for Nominations.

(3) Supporting nominators

- (a) To become a candidate in an election to the UTM or UTSC Campus Council or its Standing Committee(s), individuals seeking nomination must meet the following requirements with respect to supporting nominators:
- (i) the candidate may not nominate oneself;
 - (ii) each Administrative Staff, Librarian Staff, and undergraduate Student (includes both full-time and part-time undergraduate students) candidate must have on their nomination form the support of 5 supporting nominators, with the full name of the supporting nominator and the other required information; each supporting nominator must belong to the estate and constituency of the candidate;
 - (iii) each Teaching Staff and graduate Student candidate must have on their nomination form the support of 3 supporting nominators, with the full name of the supporting nominator and the other required information; each supporting nominator must belong to the estate and constituency of the candidate.

- (iv) It is the responsibility of the individual seeking nomination to ensure that the supporting nominators have completed the electronic form, as per the instructions contained in the electronic nomination form; and submitted before the closing date and time of the Call for Nominations.
- (b) The names of supporting nominators will not be released to the public, to any individual seeking nomination, or to any candidate.

(4) Candidate's Statement

Individuals seeking nomination may wish to provide biographical information and address in their statements their motivation for running in the elections and how their background qualifies them for becoming a member of the UTM/UTSC Campus Council or its Standing Committees.

- (a) A candidate may, but will not be required to, submit to the CRO or a DRO a statement, biographical in nature or otherwise. If the individual successfully becomes a candidate, the statement will be:
 - (i) distributed to voters who will use mail ballots;
 - (ii) provided together with the name of the candidate during the online voting process to voters who will vote online; and
 - (iii) otherwise distributed or reproduced by the Office of the Governing Council (or an office designated by the CRO) in a manner chosen by the CRO.
- (b) The statement must be 100 words or less in length, subject to the following:
 - (i) acronyms and abbreviations will be counted as one word;
 - (ii) the individual's name will not be counted in the 100-word limit if placed at the beginning of the individual's statement; and
 - (iii) the individual's URL will not be counted in the 100-word limit and should be placed at the end of the statement.

If the statement contains more than 100 words, only the first 100 words will be printed.

- (c) The statement must be submitted before the close of the nomination period to the Office of the Governing Council (or an office designated by the CRO) in one of two ways:
 - (i) The statement may be submitted with the nomination form.
 - (ii) The statement may also be submitted by e-mail from the personal utoronto.ca e-mail account of the candidate to the CRO or a DRO, separate from the nomination form, as long as it is received prior to the close of the nomination period.

The statement may not be altered or amended after the close of the nomination period, but the statement may be withdrawn upon the written request of the individual seeking nomination. Individuals seeking nomination are encouraged to submit their statements with their nomination forms, as the reliability of e-mail cannot be guaranteed. Any e-mail not actually received or received by the CRO or DRO time-stamped after the close of the nomination period will be rejected, notwithstanding that the e-mail may have been sent prior to the deadline. Individuals submitting statements by e-mail assume any and all risks associated therewith.

- (d) A fully completed nomination form shall signify consent and direction by the individual to the Office of the Governing Council to distribute the individual's statement distribute and reproduce the individual's statement in the manner above described and acceptance of complete responsibility by the individual for any consequences arising from such distribution and reproduction of the statement and for the contents of the statement.

- (i) For clarity, the CRO, DROs, and the University shall not be responsible for the statement in any way (other than for the physical or electronic reproduction and distribution of the statement in the manner described above), including, but not limited to, any consequences arising from the distribution or reproduction of the statement and the accuracy of the statement.
 - (ii) The statement will not be distributed or otherwise made available if, in the opinion of the Election Overseers, assisted by such advisors as they may retain, the statement is obscene, denigrating, otherwise objectionable, in violation of these *Guidelines* or the University's rules or policies, or it could render the University liable to a suit for libel. The decision of the Election Overseers in this regard shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.
- (e) Questions relating to the 100-word statement may be directed to the CRO or a DRO.

(5) Verification of Candidate

The eligibility of each candidate will be assessed by:

- (a) cross-referencing the Administrative Staff, Librarian, or Teaching Staff candidate's information as it appears on the candidate's nomination form against records of the Human Resources Information Systems to determine whether the candidate is eligible for election to become an Administrative Staff, Librarian or Teaching Staff member of the UTM or UTSC Campus Council or its Standing Committee(s);
- (b) cross referencing the Student candidate's information as it appears on the candidate's nomination form with Repository of Student Information (ROSI) records to determine whether the candidate is eligible for election in the constituency in which the student seeks nomination; and
- (c) reviewing the candidate's nomination form to assess whether:
 - (i) the correct nomination form has been used;
 - (ii) the nomination form has been completed correctly;
 - (iii) the nomination form contains the required number of valid supporting nominators; and
 - (iv) the candidate's signature is present on the nomination form, signifying the candidate's consent to stand for election and abide by the terms of the election process.

(6) Errors or Irregularities in Nominations

- (a) Errors or irregularities on the nomination form may be corrected prior to the close of the nomination period.
- (b) The CRO or a DRO may, but will not be required to, notify candidates of the existence of any errors or irregularities before the close of the nomination period.

(7) Technical Invalidation

- (a) Technical grounds upon which the CRO may rely to invalidate a nomination form, include, but are not limited to:
 - (i) the candidate does not meet the eligibility requirements;
 - (ii) insufficient number of valid supporting nominators;
 - (iii) substantive error on the nomination form;
 - (iv) the incorrect nomination form was used;
 - (v) the nomination form is incomplete;
 - (vi) the nomination form is not appropriately verifiable;

- (vii) the nomination form does not conform with these *Guidelines*.
- (b) The CRO's decision to invalidate a nomination form on technical grounds may be appealed to the Election Overseers.

11.11 Announcement of Candidates

On Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 10:00 a.m., the names of all candidates will be announced using a method selected by the CRO.

11.12 Filing of Notice of Intent to Appeal Decision of Invalidation and Appeals

- (a) An individual may appeal the decision of the CRO to invalidate their nomination form on technical grounds to the Election Overseers by filing a Notice of Intent to Appeal in accordance with the following requirements:
 - (i) The Notice of Intent to Appeal must be submitted to the Office of the Governing Council by the deadline noted in the Election Schedule, either through e-mail or by hand-delivered letter to the CRO.
 - (b) The Election Overseers shall review the appellant's grounds for an appeal of the CRO's decision to invalidate a nomination form as outlined in the Notice of Intent to Appeal filed by the appellant, and the Elections Committee may;
 - (i) dismiss the appeal if it decides that the grounds do not have merit;
 - (ii) grant the appeal without a hearing if it decides that the grounds have merit; or
 - (iii) hold a hearing in a manner and in accordance with such procedures as it may determine to be appropriate and render a decision thereafter.
 - (c) The Election Overseers shall render a decision by 5:00 p.m. noon on Wednesday, January 22, 2025.
 - (d) The decision of the Election Overseers shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.

11.13 Announcement of Additional Candidates

Individuals who successfully appeal the invalidation of their nomination will be announced as candidates on Thursday, January 25, 2025, at 12:00 noon using a method selected by the CRO.

11.14 Withdrawal of Candidacy

- (a) A candidate may withdraw by submitting to the CRO or the CRO's designee an online statement for this purpose.
 - (i) The prescribed form will be available on the Elections Section of the Governing Council website: <https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>
- (b) If a candidate wishes to have their name removed from the ballot, the candidate must withdraw by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 24, 2025.
 - (i) If a candidate withdraws after this time, the withdrawal and the fact that the candidate's name remains on the ballot shall not invalidate the election.
 - (ii) Votes cast for a candidate who has withdrawn shall not be counted and shall be void.

11.15 Acclamations

Subject to the provisions of these *Guidelines*, a candidate may be acclaimed to a UTM or UTSC Standing Committee, i.e., deemed to be elected, by the CRO in the following circumstances

- (i) after the announcement of official candidates and the completion of any appeals relating to nomination invalidations, the number of candidates is equal to or less than the number of vacancies on the UTM or UTSC Standing Committee(s) to be filled; or
- (ii) another candidate withdraws their nomination and, consequently, the number of remaining candidates is equal to or less than the number of vacancies on the UTM or UTSC Campus Council Standing Committee(s) to be filled.

11.16 Re-opening of Nominations

- (a) If no verified nomination forms are filed during the nomination period, or the number of verified nomination forms is fewer than the number of vacancies, the CRO may re-open nominations twice.
- (b) If the second re-opening of nominations fails to produce a candidate, the CRO may determine the appropriate course of action.

11.17 Campaign Period

Campaign Period Begins: Monday, January 27, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

Campaign Period Ends: Friday, February 14, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

(1) Campaign Guidelines Information Sessions for Candidates

UTSC:

Wednesday, January 22, 2025, 2:00 p.m.

UTM:

Wednesday, January 22, 2025, 11:00 a.m.

- (a) Candidates are encouraged to attend or send an authorized representative to attend the Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates organized by the CRO to review Campaign Guidelines.
- (b) A candidate may contact the CRO to receive the information given at the Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates if the candidate is unable to attend the session.
- (c) All candidates, whether in attendance or not, shall be responsible for and shall act in accordance with all the information provided at the Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates.

(2) Campaigning

Candidates must abide by all the guidelines for Campaigning contained in all of the Appendices of these Guidelines and any additional guidelines regarding Campaigning that may be issued by the CRO in writing from time to time. Any violation of the guidelines for Campaigning may result in the imposition of sanctions against a candidate by the Election Overseers, including, but not limited to, disqualification from the elections.

11.18 Balloting

(1) Eligibility

- (a) No person may cast more than one ballot.
- (b) Only an eligible voter may vote for a candidate(s) in the same estate and constituency.
- (c) For elections to the UTM/UTSC Campus Council, Librarians may vote for the election of Administrative Staff candidates.
- (d) For elections to the UTM and UTSC Academic Affairs Committee and the UTM and UTSC Campus Affairs Committee, Librarians may only vote for the election of Librarian candidates.

(2) Web-based Voting for Administrative Staff, Librarians and Teaching Staff

- (b) Voting by Administrative Staff, Librarians and Teaching Staff for Administrative Staff, Librarians and Teaching Staff candidates will be conducted through the online voting platform at <https://utoronto.simplyvoting.com/>
- (b) Internet access is available for free to Teaching Staff and Librarians on computers in the Information Commons and its satellite facilities on all three campuses and in many colleges, faculties and libraries.
- (c) Voting involves the following:
 - (i) A voter must log in to the online voting platform using the voter's UTORid and password.
 - (ii) The constituency in which the voter is eligible to vote will be determined by records generated from Human Resources Information Systems and staff records in the Federated Universities and securely transferred to the online voting platform.
 - (iii) After successfully logging into the online voting platform, the voter will be presented with a list of elections based on the constituency in which they are eligible to vote.
 - (iv) After clicking to vote in an election, the voter will be presented with the list of candidates in that constituency listed in random order and provided with several options, including casting or abstaining and reading the candidates' statements.
 - (v) The voter may choose not to vote at this point and may exit the online voting platform and return to the process at another time. The voter has 10 minutes to vote before the session times out.
 - (vi) Once the voter selects a candidate or candidates, as the case may be, for whom to vote, clicking the green "Vote" button will bring up a confirmation screen.
- (d) An Administrative Staff, Librarian and Teaching Staff voter who has already voted will not be accepted by the online voting platform as an eligible voter a second time.

(3) Verification of Ballots for Administrative Staff, Librarians and Teaching Staff

The eligibility of a voter will be verified upon logging into the online voting platform. The voter's personal information will be verified against a list of eligible voters compiled using staff records from the Human Resources Information Systems and the Federated Universities.

(4) Mail Ballot Voting for Administrative, Librarian and Teaching Staff

- (a) Administrative Staff, Librarians and Teaching Staff, without an e-mail account within the utoronto.ca domain, may only vote by mail ballot provided by the Office of the Governing Council.
- (i) Photocopies of ballots or copies of ballots obtained from other sources will be declared invalid.
 - (ii) Mail ballots will be mailed to voters who do not have e-mail accounts within the utoronto.ca domain at their addresses within the University according to the records of Human Resources Information Systems.
 - (iii) Individuals who will be absent from their University addresses during the voting period may ask to have their ballots forwarded to them at alternate addresses.
- (b) Each mail ballot will be accompanied by:
- (i) an information sheet containing:
 - i) the names of each of the candidates together with their respective statements;
 - ii) instructions on the correct method to return the ballot;
 - iii) information on eligibility to use that particular ballot;
 - iv) a short description of the powers and duties of the body for which an election is being held; and
 - v) instructions on how to obtain the correct ballot for persons who receive an incorrect ballot;
 - (ii) a small secrecy envelope into which the marked ballot should be sealed; and
 - (iii) a pre-addressed return envelope into which the small secrecy envelope should be sealed. (Voters will be instructed to sign and to legibly print their names and the names of the department or office in which they are employed on the upper left corner of this pre-addressed return envelope. Failure to do so will invalidate the ballot.)
- (c) Information about how to obtain a mail ballot will be advertised in the campus media and on the Elections Section of the Governing Council website to target those individuals who are entitled, but did not receive a mail ballot.
- (d) Non-receipt of mail ballots will not invalidate an election.
- (e) Individuals who wish to vote shall cast their ballots in accordance with the following:
- (i) A voter may vote for as many candidates as the number of vacancies to be filled.
 - (ii) Any kind of mark on the ballot that unambiguously indicates an intention on the part of the voter to cast a vote for a particular candidate shall be acceptable provided all other requirements are met.
 - (iii) Ballots must be returned to the Office of the Governing Council in accordance with the instructions provided, including:
 - i) placing the marked ballot into the secrecy envelope;
 - ii) sealing the secrecy envelope;
 - iii) inserting the secrecy envelope into the pre-addressed return envelope;

- iv) filling in the information required on the pre-addressed return envelope; and
 - v) signing the pre-addressed return envelope.
- (iv) Ballots must be delivered to the Office of the Governing Council by Canada Post, University Mail, or hand delivery by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 14, 2025. Ballots returned by electronic, facsimile or any other means will be invalidated.
- (f) Once a ballot has been received by the Office of the Governing Council, the ballot shall not be returned to the voter, shall not be changed, and no additional ballots shall be provided to replace the ballot already received.

(5) Verification of Ballots for Administrative, Librarian and Teaching Staff

- (a) All mail ballots received by the Office of the Governing Council will be assessed to ascertain their validity by;
- (i) examining the envelope in which the ballot is sealed to ensure that it has not been compromised;
 - (ii) examining each ballot to determine, among other things, its authenticity and whether it was properly marked;
 - (iii) cross-referencing each voter's personal information provided on the pre-addressed return envelope against the staff records provided by the Human Resources Information System to determine whether the voter is eligible to vote for the candidate(s) selected by the voter; and
 - (iv) examining the pre-addressed return envelope to determine whether the voter's signature is present and whether all the information required was printed legibly thereon.
- (b) Grounds for invalidating a mail ballot include, but are not limited to:
- (i) the information required on the pre-addressed return envelope is missing or illegible;
 - (ii) the voter casting the mail ballot is not eligible to vote;
 - (iii) the ballot received is not the one provided by the Office of the Governing Council;
 - (iv) the voter selected more candidates than the number of vacancies to be filled;
 - (v) the voter cast more than one ballot, in which case, all ballots of the voter shall be invalidated; and
 - (vi) the markings on the ballot are ambiguous.

(6) Notification of Ballot Counting and Scrutineering

- (a) Prior to the end of the voting period, the CRO (or DRO) shall notify each Administrative Staff, Librarian, and Teaching Staff candidate in writing of the location and the schedule for counting the mail ballots and any subsequent changes thereto.
- (b) Each Administrative Staff, Librarian, and Teaching Staff candidate or a designee, so designated by the candidate by submitting a signed statement to this effect to the Office of the Governing Council, shall be entitled to:
- (i) observe the tabulation of mail ballots received from Administrative Staff, Librarians, and Teaching Staff; and
 - (ii) seek verification that the voters voting by mail ballot are eligible to vote for Administrative Staff, Librarians, and Teaching Staff.
- (c) Mail ballot counting will proceed at the location and in accordance with the schedule indicated in the written notification sent to the candidates, whether or not candidates or their designees are present.

(7) Web-based Voting for Students

- (a) Voting by Students for Student candidates will be conducted through the online voting platform at <https://utoronto.simplyvoting.com/>
- (b) Students may vote during the voting period, which commences at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, and ends at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 14, 2025.
- (c) Internet access is available for free to Students on computers in the Information Commons and its satellite facilities on all three campuses and in many colleges, faculties and libraries.
- (d) Voting involves the following:
 - (i) A voter must log in to online voting platform using the voter's UTORid and password.
 - (ii) The constituency in which the voter is eligible to vote will be determined by records generated from ROSI/ACORN and securely transferred to the online voting platform.
 - (iii) After successfully logging into the online voting platform, the voter will be presented with a list of elections based on the constituency in which they are eligible to vote.
 - (iv) (After clicking to vote in an election, the voter will be presented with the list of candidates in that constituency listed in random order and provided with several options, including casting or abstaining and reading the candidates' statements.
 - (v) The voter may choose not to vote at this point and may exit the online voting platform and return to the process at another time. The voter has 10 minutes to vote before the session times out.
 - (vi) Once the voter selects a candidate or candidates, as the case may be, for whom to vote, clicking the green "Vote" button will bring up a confirmation screen.
- (e) A Student who has already voted will not be accepted by the online voting platform as an eligible voter a second time.

(8) Verification of Ballots for Students

The eligibility of a voter will be verified upon logging into the online voting platform. The voter's personal information will be verified against a list of eligible voters.

(9) Secrecy of Ballots

The secrecy of the balloting process is maintained as the votes cast are kept in a database which is separate from and independent of the list of eligible voters, so that votes cast cannot be identified with any individual voter.

11.19 Announcement of Results

The number of votes received by each candidate (the total number of votes, including both electronic and mail ballots) will be announced at 10:00 a.m. on February 19, 2025, using a method selected by the CRO.

11.20 Recount

- (a) As there are no individual ballots in web-based voting, a recount of electronic ballots will not be possible.

11.21 Equality of Votes

- (a) In the case of equality of votes where the election of the candidates receiving an equal number of votes would result in the election of a greater number of candidates than the number of vacancies to be filled, the successful candidate or candidates shall be determined by a second election between or among the candidates receiving an equal number of votes.
- (b) The CRO shall set the election schedule for any second or subsequent elections.
- (c) If the second election also results in an equality of votes the CRO shall consult the Elections Committee on how to proceed.

11.22 Filing of Notice of Intent to Appeal and Appeals

- (a) A candidate may appeal any matter arising from the conduct of elections during the Election Period to the Election Overseers, including the announcement of results, by filing a Notice of Intent to Appeal in accordance with the following requirements:
 - (i) The Notice of Intent to Appeal must be submitted to the Office of the Governing Council by the deadline noted in the Election Schedule, either through e-mail or by hand-delivered letter to the CRO.
- (b) The Election Overseers shall review the appellant's grounds for an appeal as outlined in the Notice of Intent to Appeal filed by the appellant and the Election Overseers may:
 - (i) dismiss the appeal if it decides that the grounds do not have merit;
 - (ii) grant the appeal without a hearing if it decides that the grounds have merit; or
 - (iii) hold a hearing in a manner and in accordance with such procedures as it may determine to be appropriate and render a decision thereafter.
- (c) The Election Overseers shall render a decision by 12:00 p.m. noon on Friday, February 21, 2025.
- (d) The decision of the Election Overseers shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.

11.23 Elections Not Necessarily Invalidated by Irregularities

An irregularity, failure, non-compliance or mistake in any way related to the election shall not invalidate the election if it appears to the Election Overseers that the election was conducted in accordance with the principles of these *Guidelines* and that the irregularity, failure, non-compliance or mistake did not or would not have been reasonably likely to have affected the result of the election.

11.24 Election Expenses

(1) Spending Limit

- (a) The limit for election related expenses, including Campaigning expenses for UTM and UTSC Campus Councils and their Standing Committees, for each Administrative Staff candidate is \$400, of which the University will reimburse the Administrative Staff candidate \$300.
- (b) The limit for election related expenses, including Campaigning expenses for UTM and UTSC Campus Councils and their Standing Committees, for each Librarian Staff candidate is \$400, of which the University will reimburse the Librarian candidate \$300.
- (c) The limit for election related expenses, including Campaigning expenses for UTM and UTSC Campus Councils and their Standing Committees, for each Teaching Staff candidate is \$400, of which the University will reimburse the Teaching Staff candidate \$300.
- (d) Each year a separate limit for election related expenses, including Campaigning expenses, is set for each constituency in the Student elections. The limit is calculated on the basis of \$50 per thousand Students enrolled as of November 2024, with a minimum \$400.

In 2025, the spending limits are:

UTM Undergraduate Students	\$ 801
UTM Graduate Students	\$ 400
UTSC Undergraduate Students	\$ 731
UTSC Graduate Students	\$ 400

- (i) If an additional election is required as a result of an equality of votes in the first election, the CRO shall establish a separate spending limit.
- (e) Candidates participating in more than one election of the Governing Council and/or the UTM/UTSC Campus Councils and/or their Standing Committees, shall have a spending limit based on the highest amount outlined in these *Guidelines* for any one campaign.

(2) Reimbursement of Election Expenses

- (a) Expenses eligible for reimbursement include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - (i) paper and office supplies;
 - (ii) copying and printing of Campaign Materials;
 - (iii) reasonable transportation costs incurred in connection with Campaigning at campuses other than that at which the candidate works;
 - (iv) campaign advertisements;
 - (v) web design and domain expenses explicitly related to the election;
 - (vi) refreshments, excluding alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, coolers, etc.); and
 - (vii) the Fair Market Value of all donated goods and services actually used in the candidate's Campaign, except voluntary unpaid labour.
- (b) Expenses ineligible for reimbursement include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - (i) expenses incurred prior to the announcement of candidates;
 - (ii) parking fines incurred during Campaign-related activity;

- (iii) costs resulting from the removal of posters from University or non-University property as a result of illegal posting for the election;
 - (iv) alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, coolers, etc.);
 - (v) interest/financing costs for the election Campaign;
 - (vi) costs which could be considered of a personal nature and unrelated to the Campaign;
 - (vii) web design and domain expenses not explicitly related to the election; and
 - (viii) medical expenses including prescription and non-prescription drugs.
- (c) A Student candidate will be refunded an amount equal to the lesser of:
- (i) the first \$100 of spending, plus 75% of additional spending amounts above \$100 and less than the spending limit for the candidate's constituency, or
 - (ii) total expenses (\$100 or less).
- (d) Candidates, whether they are seeking reimbursement or not, are normally expected to submit receipts for all expenses including a statement of all donated goods and services actually used in the candidate's Campaign (except voluntary unpaid labour) with their Fair Market Value, within fourteen days of the close of the election.
- (i) Candidates will normally be asked to sign a sworn statement that all expenses have been disclosed and that the total represents the total amount of expenses by the candidate or by anyone acting on the candidate's behalf or with the candidate's knowledge and consent.
 - (ii) Candidates who have no Campaign expenses may, at the discretion of the CRO, be exempt from submitting an expense statement.

(3) Enforcement of the Election Expenses Limit

- (a) There will be no circumstances under which the limit may be exceeded.
- (b) If the sworn statement indicates that the limit has been exceeded, or if an allegation is made to the CRO that a candidate has exceeded the limit, the CRO will investigate the matter and, if warranted, take the alleged violation to the Elections Committee acting as the Election Overseers.
- (i) A hearing will be held.
 - (ii) The decision of the Election Overseers shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.
 - (iii) If the candidate is found guilty, and was successful in the election, the candidate will be disqualified and will not become a member of the Governing Council.
- (c) Failure to submit the sworn statement concerning election expenses may be referred by the CRO to the Elections Committee acting as the Election Overseers.
- (i) a hearing may be held;
 - (ii) penalties may be imposed, including, but not limited to:
 - i) for successful candidates: disqualification and ceasing to be members of the Governing Council;
 - ii) for unsuccessful candidates: public announcement and/or disqualification from future Governing Council elections for a year or number of years.

Within seven days of the deadline for submitting the sworn statement, the CRO must inform the Elections Committee and the concerned candidate(s) of any irregularities that have been discovered.

- (d) If a hearing is necessary, it should be held as soon as possible and should be completed by Thursday, March 13, 2025.

11.25 Resignation for Ineligibility

- (a) A candidate will be declared ineligible if, at any time during the Election Period, the candidate ceases to meet the eligibility requirements.
- (b) An elected member of the UTM or UTSC Campus Council or its Standing Committee must resign if, at any time during elected member's term, the elected member ceases to be a member of the estate or constituency under which they had been elected.

(1) By-elections

- (a) A by-election shall be held to fill any vacancy arising from the departure of an elected member of the UTM or UTSC Campus Council or its Standing Committee, unless the vacancy occurs within eight months of the end of the departing member's term.
- (b) If a vacancy arising from the departure of an elected member of the UTM or UTSC Campus Council or its Standing Committee occurs within eight months of the end of the departing member's term, the CRO shall consult the Elections Committee to determine whether a by-election will be held.
 - (i) The Elections Committee shall meet to determine whether a by-election shall be held.
 - (ii) Advance notice of such meeting of the Elections Committee shall be announced on the website of the Office of the Governing Council so that there is sufficient time to allow comments to be submitted to the Elections Committee.
 - (iii) Comments relating to whether a by-election should be held may be submitted to the Elections Committee in writing via the Office of the Governing Council on the form prescribed for this purpose, which will be available at the Office of the Governing Council.
 - (iv) The decision of the Elections Committee on whether a by-election should be held shall be final and not subject to any further review or appeal.
- (c) A by-election shall be administered by the CRO and shall be conducted in a manner and in accordance with procedures which are substantially similar to the *Guidelines*.

APPENDIX A: Guidelines for Campaigning and Enforcement of the *Election Guidelines 2025***Campaign and Election Responsibilities of Candidates**

- (a) Candidates and their associated parties are expected to conduct honourable Campaigns in accordance with the rules of fair play and are expected to strive to focus on matters concerning the governance and best interests of the University during their Campaigns:
 - (i) Fair play includes, but is not limited to, behaving in accordance with generally accepted community standards, being respectful of other candidates and their Campaigns and representing facts accurately.
 - (ii) Candidates should seek the advice and directions of the CRO on disputes about interpretations of fair play in the context of the University elections process.
 - (iii) Candidates are encouraged to seek resolution of disputes over campaign Guidelines through informal processes before having recourse to formal allegations of violations.
- (b) Candidates shall familiarize themselves with and abide by all the guidelines contained in all the Appendices of these *Guidelines*.
- (c) Candidates shall review and familiarize themselves with the definitions of “Associated Party”, “Campaigning”, “Campaign”, “Campaign Material”, and “Distribute” as well as all the definitions of the other terms listed in the Definitions section of these *Guidelines*.
- (d) Candidates shall advise the CRO or DRO in writing prior to the beginning of the Campaign Period of any student society, recognized campus group, or other campus organization in which they hold an executive position.
- (e) Candidates shall ensure that all Campaigning and Campaign Materials conform to all policies and regulations of the University, and with all applicable laws.
- (f) Candidates shall not remove, deface or unreasonably inhibit the viewing of each other’s Campaign Materials.
- (g) Candidates shall not interfere with a voter’s freedom to cast a ballot for the candidate of their choice or compromise the secrecy of the ballot process.
- (h) Candidates shall not permit a voter to use any candidates’ devices, or any device belonging to a campaign worker or volunteer, to vote.
- (i) Candidates shall not facilitate or persuade a voter to vote on a device that does not belong to the voter (establishing a polling station is not permitted).
- (j) Candidates shall respect the privacy of voters and shall not be present when votes are being cast.
- (k) Candidates shall be responsible for the actions, and violations stemming from such actions, of any Associated Party, however occurring.

Campaign Period

- (a) The Campaigning Period for all elections begins at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 27, 2025, and will end at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 14, 2025.

- (b) Candidates shall not Campaign until 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 27, 2025.

Access to Members of the Candidate's Constituency

All candidates must be allowed reasonable access to members of their constituency during the Campaign Period. Such access shall not be unreasonably withheld.

Campaign Material

- (a) The display and the distribution of Campaign Material shall be done in accordance with the policies and regulations of the University, including, but not limited to, those of the Facilities and Services department of the University and those of each building, faculty, department, residence and administrative service of the University; and with all applicable laws.
- (b) The University crest shall not appear on any Campaign Materials. Candidates may use the University's name.
- (c) Candidates shall abide by the guidelines regarding the placement and size of posters.
- (d) Candidates shall not post or Distribute Campaign Material that might reasonably be considered libelous.
- (e) Candidates shall remove all Campaign Material on University property as soon as reasonably possible after the Campaign period.
- (f) All written Campaign Material in any medium shall be in one or both official languages.

Use of Web and Electronic Media

- (a) Candidates shall ensure that their electronic Campaign Materials, including, but not limited to websites, blogs, social networking tools, or other electronic media that might reasonably be attributed to them, conform with all applicable University policies and regulations regarding information and communication technology²¹ and with the relevant regulations of each building, faculty, department, residence, administrative service, and other divisions on each of the three campuses.

Use of Resources

- (a) With the exception of the permitted uses listed below, candidates shall not utilize resources, electronic or otherwise (e.g. photocopiers, computers, supplies), to which they have access by virtue of their membership in (or affiliation with) any student society, recognized campus group, or other campus organization.
- (b) Candidates are permitted to use E-mail Lists belonging to University organizations in which they are members provided that:
- (i) They have obtained written permission prior to use and in compliance with all or any guidelines for the use of such e-mail lists from the owners/administrators of such email lists, including from student societies, recognized campus groups, other campus organizations and other owners/administrators;

²¹ The University of Toronto's guideline on the "Appropriate Use of Information and Communication Technology" is available from the website of the Office of the Vice-President and Provost at <http://www.provost.utoronto.ca/policy/use.htm>
<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>

(ii) The communication follows the CRO-approved template that will be provided at the Campaign Guidelines Information Session for Candidates; and

“E-mail Lists” refer to electronic mailing lists that are intended to reach large numbers of subscribers, often through the use of a database. The LISTERV program is one example.

(c) Candidates are permitted to obtain endorsements from student societies, recognized campus groups, or other campus organizations as of 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 23, 2025, but they are not permitted to advertise such endorsements until the start of the campaign period, at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 27, 2025.

Advertising

- (a) Candidates may place advertisements in the campus press to appear during the Campaign Period.
- (b) Candidates' statements submitted on the nomination forms will be disseminated by the Governing Council by means chosen by the CRO or DRO.

Additional Guidelines

- (a) The CRO or DRO may issue additional guidelines in writing from time to time, as may be required to clarify specific situations.

Authority to Enforce Provisions of these *Guidelines*

- (a) The Elections Committee, the CRO, and the DRO have sole authority to enforce the provisions of these *Guidelines*.
- (b) No candidate may attempt to enforce the provisions of these *Guidelines*.

Allegations of Violations of Campaign Rules

- (a) Allegations of violation of these *Guidelines* by a candidate or one of the candidate's workers shall be submitted in writing to the CRO who shall decide on the charge.
- (b) An allegation of a violation must be given in writing to the CRO within five days of the alleged violation.
- (c) The CRO may lay charges of violations of Campaign rules on the CRO's own initiative.

Investigation of Alleged Campaign Violations

The CRO will investigate each allegation, assisted by such staff that the CRO may wish to employ.

Frivolous and/or Vexatious Allegations of Campaign Violations

- (a) In the case that the CRO receives frivolous and/or vexatious complaints, the CRO may:
 - (i) Warn the candidate complainant that, in the CRO's opinion, the complaints are frivolous and/or vexatious, and request that the complaints be withdrawn.
 - (ii) If the complainant refuses to withdraw the complaints, the CRO may assign a neutral party to investigate whether the complaint is frivolous and/or vexatious.

- (iii) If the neutral investigator determines that complaints received are frivolous and/or vexatious, the CRO is empowered to choose one of the following:
 - i) If the complainant is a candidate, recommend a sanction to the Election Overseers;
 - ii) Refuse to hear the complaint;
 - iii) Recommend charges under the Code of Student Conduct or appropriate action under other relevant policies of the University including the Statement on Prohibited Discrimination and Discriminatory Harassment.
- (iv) Decisions made by the CRO in this regard are subject to appeal to the Elections Committee.

Hearings of Alleged Campaign Violations

- (a) When an investigation confirms a Campaign violation, the CRO will call a meeting of the Election Overseers to discuss the charges of violations to the Campaign rules and to decide on the appropriate action to be taken.
 - (i) The CRO will invite both the candidate making the allegation and the candidate alleged to have committed the offense to the meeting where the alleged violation will be addressed.
 - (ii) Each candidate will have an opportunity to present their case.
 - (iii) A written report of the meeting will be made available within a forty-eight (48) hour period to all those in attendance at the meeting.

Serious and Severe Violations

- (a) Violations of these *Guidelines* and the policies and regulations of the University, its faculties, buildings and residences fall into two categories, Serious violations and Severe violations as interpreted by the Election Overseers.
 - (i) The Election Overseers have the sole authority to determine the category into which a particular violation falls
 - (ii) The degree of a violation may influence its classification
- (b) A Serious violation is one which contravenes the spirit and letter of these *Guidelines* in an attempt to gain an unfair advantage in the elections process but does not itself constitute a substantial effort to undermine that process.
 - (i) The Election Overseers may also determine that a serious violation has been committed even if it appears that the candidate did not intentionally seek to gain unfair advantage in the electoral process.
 - (ii) Serious violations might include, but are not limited to:
 - i) violations of the rules of fair play as defined on page 118 of these *Guidelines*;
 - ii) interfering with a voter's freedom to cast a ballot for the candidate of the voter's choice or compromising the secrecy of the ballot process;
 - iii) using material, in the course of a Campaign, explicitly forbidden by these *Guidelines* (e.g. University Crest);
 - iv) violations of any restrictions imposed by University faculties, departments, or administrative services;
 - v) unauthorized solicitation of votes, including but not limited to speaking in class without the prior permission of the instructor;
 - vi) the use in a Campaign of any tangible benefit (see Use of Resources, p.119);
 - vii) deliberate misrepresentation of facts;

- viii) spending marginally over the maximum spending limit as set by the *Election Guidelines*;
 - ix) making frivolous and/or vexatious Campaign violation allegations.
- (c) A Severe violation is one characterized by a deliberate and substantial effort to undermine the elections process;
- (i) Severe violations might include, but are not limited to:
 - i) contravening or undermining the secrecy of the balloting/voting process;
 - ii) spending grossly over the maximum spending limit as set by the *Election Guidelines*;
 - iii) intentionally misrepresenting Campaign expenditures;
 - iv) attempting to interfere in the election process, including the online voting process, as regulated by these *Guidelines*.

Sanctions

- (a) Sanctions imposed for a confirmed violation may include:
- (i) Disqualification from the election;
 - (ii) Reduction or elimination of a candidate's reimbursement;
 - (iii) A declaration that an election in a particular constituency or the election of a specific candidate be ruled void.
- (b) The University of Toronto reserves the right to charge any person who violates these *Guidelines* under the provisions of these *Guidelines* and under any other applicable Codes, including the [Code of Student Conduct](#) and the [Statement on Prohibited Discrimination and Discriminatory Harassment](#).
- (c) The Election Overseers may disqualify from the election (or void the election of) any candidate found to have committed a single Severe violation or two Serious violations of these *Guidelines*, or the policies and regulations of the University, its faculties, buildings and residences.
- (i) At their discretion, the Election Overseers may choose not to disqualify (or void the election of) a candidate found to have committed two Serious violations if the cumulative effect of those violations does not, in their view, warrant disqualification (or voiding).
- (d) Declaration of Winning Candidate in the Event of a Disqualification
- (i) In the event a winning candidate in any election is disqualified (or the election of a candidate is voided), the candidate with the next greatest number of votes will be declared elected, provided that this does not violate the proviso that no two elected candidates may be from the same college, campus or faculty in certain constituencies.

Publication of Confirmed Violations

Details of confirmed violations, including the offending candidate's name, will be highlighted on the Governing Council's elections website and, in web-based elections, on the voting website, for such time as the Election Overseers deem appropriate. The reports of the Elections Committee, which may contain details of alleged and confirmed violations, are publicly and permanently available on the Elections Committee's website listed below²². The names of the offending candidates will be redacted from the reports of the Elections Committee after a period of five years from the date of the meeting of the

²² Reports as of 2000-2001 are available on the Elections Committee's website.
<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>

Committee. In instances where the Election Overseers meet to consider appeals on procedure, the names of the appellants will not be included in the reports of the Election Committee.

<https://governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections>

APPENDIX B: Guidelines for Posters and the Use of Information and Communication Technology

- Posters of any sort may **NOT** be posted before 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 27, 2025.
- Posters must be removed by Friday, February 21, 2025.

General Information

The placing of posters on University property and the use of information and communication technology must be done in accordance with the University's policies and procedures, with the regulations of Facilities and Services, and with the relevant regulations of each building on the three campuses.

- (1) Candidates must advise the CRO or DRO in writing of the approval received from the Manager, Property Management for the placement of posters in locations other than public bulletin boards, the planting or display of signs on University grounds, or the installation of a banner, within 2 days of obtaining such approval.
- (2) Any charges for labour and/or material costs related to the removal of posters from University or non-University property, or fines levied as a result of illegal use of posters, are the sole responsibility of the candidate. Such charges will not be eligible for reimbursement.
- (3) Candidates are responsible for determining the specific regulations concerning the placement of posters in the various buildings on all three campuses.
- (4) Candidates may not remove, cover or unreasonably obscure from view other candidates' posters during the Campaign Period.
- (5) Candidates are responsible for determining the specific policies and regulations concerning the use of information and communication technology of the various faculties, buildings and residences in which a candidate chooses to deploy such technology. Failure to abide by these policies and regulations may result in a candidate being sanctioned by the Election Overseers.

St. George Campus

Refer to the [Procedure on Distribution of Publications, Posters and Banners at the University of Toronto St George Campus](#).

University of Toronto Mississauga

Refer to the [rules for the use of posters](#).

University of Toronto Scarborough

Refer to the [procedures for the use of posters](#).