

Information for Undergraduate Senate Candidates

About the Position

- The Undergraduate Senate (UGS) is half of the legislative branch of the ASSU, and represents all undergraduate students.
The second half of the legislative branch of the ASSU is the Graduate Student Council.
- 15 Undergraduate Senators serve on the Undergraduate Senate, and all positions are “at-large” (i.e., elected by and representing all current undergraduates.)
- There is no limit to the number of terms a student may serve as an Undergraduate Senator.
- The Undergraduate Senator term of office begins at a date set by the previous Undergraduate Senate, but in no case later than two weeks before the end of Spring Quarter.

Campaigning Overview

- Candidates for UGS are elected individually.
- All candidates for UGS must register a Declaration of Intent with the Elections Commission to be eligible in the election. Write-in candidates who have not registered a Declaration of Intent will not be considered in the election. *See Declaration of Intent.*
- The ballot will list the full name of the candidate. Common name abbreviations are permitted, but nicknames are not.
For instance, Jonathan Hennessy may choose to appear on the ballot as “John Hennessy” or “Johnny Hennessy,” but not “Big John Hennessy.” Stephen Trusheim may choose to appear on the ballot as “Steve Trusheim,” but not “Steve-o Trusheim.”
- To appear as an option on the ballot, the candidate must submit a petition demonstrating that at least 100 undergraduate students support his/her campaign for office. *See Petitioning.*
Candidates that do not appear as an option on the ballot may still win the election as a write-in candidate, provided they have registered a Declaration of Intent with the Elections Commission.
- The Undergraduate Senate election allows voters to pick as many as 15 candidates for office. Each vote is counted equally, and the 15 candidates with the most total votes are elected. *See Voting Procedure.*

Declaration of Intent

- All candidates for the UGS must register a Declaration of Intent with the Elections Commission to be eligible in the election. This is ordinarily the first step towards seeking office.
- Candidates who have not submitted a Declaration of Intent, or whose Declaration of Intent has been declared invalid, are ineligible in the election.
- The Declaration of Intent form is supplied in this packet.

Petitioning

- To appear as an option on the ballot, a candidate must submit a petition showing that 100 undergraduate students support their campaign.
- Graduate students are not eligible to sign the petitions of candidates for Undergraduate Senate.

- Please see the *Petitioning Guidelines and Information* document for important information on petitions, validity, and timeline.

Voting Procedure

- In the Undergraduate Senate election, each current undergraduate may vote for as many as 15 UGS candidates.
A voter may only vote for each candidate once, and need not vote for 15 candidates. Each vote is weighted equally (i.e., voters do not rank their preferences.)
- The total number of votes for each candidate is aggregated; the 15 candidates with the most total votes are elected to the Undergraduate Senate.
- See the election archives at <http://elections.stanford.edu/archives> if you are confused.

Please Note: This document is a summary of the ASSU Constitution, Joint Bylaws, GSC Bylaws, UGS Bylaws, and the Elections Appendix. Those documents are the final authority on any elections issues. This document is provided as a convenient reference, and does not necessarily contain all the regulations that may apply to you.

Please read the Governing Documents at http://assu.stanford.edu/governing_docs/ and e-mail the Elections Commission, elections@elections.stanford.edu, if you have questions.