GSA Chief Returning Officer
Report to GSA Council for the 18 March 2019 Meeting

To: GSA Council
From: Vahid Ayan and Amritha Prasad
Date: 15 March 2019

The report below serves as the written report that GSA Policy (Section D: GSA Officers, GSA Policy, Officer Portfolios, Section D.POL.10.1.e.ii) notes the Chief Returning Officer (CRO) will provide following the GSA General Election. This report also serves as my procedural report, as required by GSA Policy (Section I: Elections, GSA Policy, Elections, Section I.POL.15.1).

Note from Vahid Ayan

Dear Council Colleagues,

I would like to thank Amritha Prasad, Deputy Returning Officer, for her great work during the 2019 GSA General Election. Some other commitments took some of my time during the election and Amritha stepped up to the challenge when I was unavailable and was of great assistance in overseeing the election.

Best,
Vahid Ayan, Chief Returning Officer

Note from Amritha Prasad

Dear Council Colleagues,

The 2019 GSA General Election ran pretty smoothly. There were a few questions from candidates and from graduate students at large concerning the stipulations of GSA Bylaw and Policy and, as per those governing documents, the GSA Elections and Referenda Committee (GSA ERC) was consulted whenever an answer was not readily addressed in GSA Bylaw and Policy. No formal complaints were received, which allowed us to release the official results on Friday, 1 March 2019.

Additionally, I have kept a thorough record of possible needed changes to GSA Bylaw and Policy on elections based on the questions that arose throughout the campaigning period that I will be putting forward to the GSA ERC in the coming weeks.

The total voter turnout for the 2019 GSA General Election was 12.7%, which is a slight decrease from the 2018 GSA General Election where we saw a voter turnout of 13.4%.

I would like to thank all of the members of the GSA ERC for their contributions and efforts.

Best,
Amritha Prasad, Deputy Returning Officer