GSA Nominating Committee
Report to GSA Council for the 18 March 2019 Meeting

To: GSA Council
From: Radim Barta
Date: 15 March 2019

Dear Council Colleagues,

The report from the GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC) this month is a summary of discussions/decisions the committee has made since its last report, together with a list of all vacancies filled and those which will be filled shortly.

GSA Policy governing the GSA NoC is located in GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section E: Nominating. As provided for in its Terms of Reference, the GSA NoC has been conducting business via e-mail.

Sincerely,

Radim Barta, Chair of the GSA NoC

GSA Standing Committees

1) GSA Nominating Committee (GSA NoC) (One (1) Graduate Student Position)

Vacancies on the GSA NoC are advertised by the GSA Executive Director and GSA Speaker, who will then provide GSA Council with the names of nominees who meet the eligibility requirements associated with membership on the GSA NoC (GSA Bylaw and Policy, Section E: Nominating, GSA Policy, GSA Standing Committees, GSA Nominating Committee, Section E.POL.4.1). As such, information regarding the position for one (1) graduate student was circulated on behalf of the GSA Executive Director Courtney Thomas and GSA Speaker Pranidhi Baddam in the GSA newsletters of 1 and 8 March 2019 with a deadline of 13 March 2019. One (1) nomination was received. There will be a paper ballot vote. See Item 9 – Nominee for GSA Nominating Committee.

External Committees

1) Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights Selection Committee (One (1) Graduate Student Position)

Information regarding the position for one (1) graduate student was circulated in the GSA newsletters of 1 and 8 March 2019 with a deadline of 13 March 2019. One (1) nomination was received. The name of the elected graduate student will be reported at the 15 April 2019 meeting of GSA Council.

Current Vacancies

1) General Faculties Council (GFC) (Fourteen (14) Graduate Student Positions)

The fourteen (14) vacant positions for the 2019-2020 term on GFC were first advertised in the GSA newsletter of 1 March 2019 with a nomination deadline of 18 March 2019.

Addendum – Meeting of GSA NoC

As was reported at the 28 January 2019 meeting of GSA Council, the GSA NoC met on 14 January 2019 to discuss, among other topics, election procedures relating to the GSA Council-Elected Officer positions of Senator, Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Chief Returning Officer (CRO), and Deputy Returning Officer (DRO). Members determined that these positions, which are crucial to the work of the GSA, merit a more rigorous vetting process beyond that currently in place for other GSA Council elections. In the ensuing discussion, members discussed the below procedural options:

- That GSA Council members have the opportunity to ask questions of all the nominees for a given GSA Council-Elected Officer position, similar to the style of a forum, or
• That GSA Council members have the opportunity to ask questions of each nominee for a given GSA Council-Elected Officer position, individually, while the rest of the nominees for that same position are asked to step outside the room, or
• That the GSA NoC, on behalf of GSA Council, conduct an individual interview with each nominee for a given GSA Council-Elected Officer position prior to the meeting of GSA Council, similar to the procedure undertaken by the GSA NoC in approving nominees for vacancies on the GSA Appeals and Complains Board.

In identifying the election process best suited to the needs and practices of GSA Council, members of the GSA NoC would now like to invite GSA Council members to provide feedback on the proposed options.