2019-20 ARTS AND SCIENCE COUNCIL AND ITS STANDING COMMITTEES
2019 FALL CANDIDATE STATEMENTS: REMAINING UNFILLED STUDENT POSITIONS

The following is a list of elections to be held on October 10-11, 2019 and the candidates for each position. Note that not all seats on the Arts and Science Council or the Standing Committees have required an election, as in some cases the candidates were acclaimed because the number of candidates did not exceed the number of available positions.

Arts & Science Council

First-Year Full-Time Undergraduate Student
(5 candidates; 3 available positions)

Jad El-Ghali
I am interested in representing first years in order to help ease the transition from high school to university for all my fellow first year peers and continue improving the university life for higher year students. As an outspoken first year myself, I am able to connect and understand the different concerns and struggles that all new students feel, while being able to clearly express and communicate them to the Arts and Science Council and think of proactive and effective solutions.

Evan Kanter
Why would I be a good representative? Three reasons:
1. I listen. I’m always available at VoteEvan@Kanter.ca or by phone at (647)875-8621. I’ll listen to your feedback and act upon it.
2. I’m not afraid to challenge the status quo or administration. I’ll stand up to demand change when needed – from mental health, to diversity, to POST.
3. I get things done. I’ll be a tireless and persistent advocate on the issues that matter to our students.

If you want a representative that will listen to you, speak truth to power, and get things done, please give me a vote!

Do Hyoun (Diana) Kim
It is my honor to participate in the 2019 Fall A&S Council election. Being an international student from South Korea, one of my worries was that I might be an outsider to this huge campus community. At the same time, I had desired to deeply engage in this campus and participate in fostering an environment that allows all students to flourish. By becoming a member of the Arts and Science Council, I thus aim to contribute in providing more vitality to campus and ensure that all students define UofT as their home away from home.

Gloria Kim
I believe that the position of a first year representative should be someone that is both equally involved and an authentic representative for the class, as well as a student that is responsible for guiding, providing resources for the class and allowing informative and effective announcements to keep each student aware of what is going on
in UofT. I am confident that I bring all these essential aspects for this position through my extensive experience in making myself involved and aware of students’ lives around me, including the skills I have in promoting crucial information and upcoming events for students.

Prietha Thavakumaran
I believe by being an open-minded and intellectual individual, I can bring unity amongst students and the Arts and Science council with aiding in the required changes needed for a successful university & faculty. With my ability to collaborate, and organize, I will responsibly help with improving policies. As a leader, I am aware of the needed initiative to be a part of the council, and I will assure you, that I am well-fitted to do so! Thank you for the time you took to read my application.

Graduate Student
(3 candidates; 2 available positions)

Austin Gaghadar
I am interested in serving on the Arts and Science council to try to offer potential improvements and make a meaningful change in the broader University community. I believe that my varied experiences at schools of different sizes and from different countries will allow me to bring a unique viewpoint and comparative perspective to this role to offer novel and innovate ideas. In addition, my experience studying at the Faculty of Law will increase my ability to manoeuvre effectively in the Council environment to practically enact positive change.

Daniel Hidru
Daniel Hidru is a Computer Science PhD student who has contributed to the university in his roles as the President of the Computer Science Graduate Student Union, the Co-Chair of Massey College’s Quarter Century Fund, and a member of the Faculty of Arts and Science’s First-Year Foundations Council. He has also organized wellness workshops for graduate students and enrolled them in mental health training. The breadth of his experience (governance, financial, academic, student life) will allow him to make decisions that are in the best interest of students in the Faculty of Arts and Science.

Arsh Khan
I would like to assist the university to represent the interests of students wanting to take their degree global and have an international perspective in their area of studies/specializations. I would focus on building a curriculum with high academic standards which prepares students to have transferrable global problem solving and analytical skills, which they could use in real practical scenarios. Being an International student and an Engineer turned to Economics and International Relations, with degrees in Law, Management and Trade, I have the perspective to represent students with diverse set of academic and cultural backgrounds.

Committee on Standing
(5 candidates; 1 available position)

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**Katherine (Ke Ru) Li**
Hello! Currently, I’m doing a double major in Neuroscience and Philosophy. I believe that changes to programs and courses in general should be scrutinized with the highest level of care as it affects everyone, whether they want it to or not. With my prior experiences in being a student representative on my high school’s Vice-Principal Caring Schools Committee and Youth Library Committee, I will ensure that even the smallest change is not disregarded. Thank you for your time.

**Bryan Liceralde**
Passionate, responsible, enthusiastic student who’ll advance student rights while making UofT more competitive. He’ll propose abolishing breadth requirement to give students more freedom in creatively customizing bachelor’s degree like Oxford students. He’ll demand faculty to let students assign 2.0 credit/no-credit to mandatory courses in their programs. He’ll introduce policy granting students the right to retake courses worth 2.0 credits if their grades suffered because of circumstances beyond their control. He’ll hold professors accountable and ensure academic justice’s served in students’ best interests. Experienced UTSU presidential, social science director and Governing Council candidate who engaged 361 students in student political elections.