



# REPORT

*From the office of the...*

## Elections Department

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TO: Members of the Executive Board  
FROM: Chloe Deraiche, CRO & Sarah Figueiredo, DRO  
SUBJECT: Elections Department Report #2  
DATE: Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>

### **UPDATE**

We have been spending a significant amount of our time gearing up for the October SRA By-Election for the faculties of Social Science & Kinesiology, which ultimately did not occur, given that all of the seats were acclaimed. We wrapped up the first round of external faculty elections at the end of September, and are now settling into our space & working on digitizing several years' worth of files.

### **SERVICE USAGE**

We have had an influx of views on our social media accounts during the by-elections. Our joint efforts with the SRA Social Science caucus has increased our outreach, with our LRW tabling promotions post reaching over seven thousand individuals (higher than the average post by about three thousand).

Through the tabling efforts during the October by election, we have handed out an increasing amount of SRA information packages, as well as general promotion swag (buttons and stickers).

In terms of candidate outreach, all three open SRA seats were filled by the initial closing of nominations (no extension was needed). Each position was acclaimed. No complaints were submitted (as no campaigns were conducted).

### **PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

The only election cycle that occurred since the previous report was the October SRA By-Election. For this, we worked heavily with the SRA Social Science caucus to best advertise their two open seats and encourage students to participate in student politics. Despite a large effort in promotions for this election, only two students nominated themselves for the SRA Social Science seats, and only one for the SRA Kinesiology seat, resulting in all three seats being acclaimed. This is not the ideal outcome, and we hope for further engagement in future by- and at-large elections.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES**

A project that we will be working on for a large portion of November is digitizing old Elections Department files that date back as far as 1999. It is important to digitize these files as soon as we can as they are currently taking up a significant amount of (limited)

space at our desk, as well as being difficult to reference in paper form. We are hoping to have a significant portion of these files digitized and uploaded to our server by the end of November.

Additionally, we are currently preparing for presidentials. Basic Promo has been ordered, but we are looking into extended promotions (window posters, coffee sleeves, atrium banners). A meeting has been set up with Wooder to discuss the promotional strategy. Presidential Meet & Greet, and Debate planning has begun. Tentative dates are scheduled for January 15th (Meet & Greet) and January 18th (Debate).

In November we will be reviewing, (possibly) changing and ratifying the rules for presidentials, as nomination packages will be available as of December 4th. We are currently reviewing by-law 10 and 10A with internal governance to discuss the inclusion of plebiscites.

### **BUDGET**

This month \$200 was spent from the general promo line for a SRA By-Election Promo Package, as well as around \$300 from the reimbursements line for FYC reimbursements.

Of the general promotions budget \$479.29 out of \$2000 has been spent, leaving us with \$1,520.71. Of the elections refund budget \$310.77 of \$2,500 has been spent, leaving us with \$2,189.23. All other balances remain untouched.

\$20 in revenue was generated through First Year Council fines. Total generated revenue to date is \$770, which consists of the \$150 fees from 5 external elections and the fines from First Year Council.

There are no unforeseen costs.

### **VOLUNTEERS**

Our volunteers collaborated for the first time at our First Year Council fines meeting, and got to experience a fines meeting for the first time. This was exciting not only for them, but also for us, as it was the first time (other than training) that our volunteers collaborated. Additionally, with the closing of the SRA Elections Committee seat, we were able to welcome a new member to our committee and have a full team for the first time. We are currently working on ideas to increase volunteer enthusiasm, as well as brainstorming “committee bonding” ideas.

### **CURRENT CHALLENGES**

A challenge for us right now is working around our committee’s schedule in order to have important meetings and getting all of us in one room. Our entire committee has very different schedules from one another, and it is proving difficult to coordinate meetings.

Another challenge for us is the enormous volume of files that we have to digitize. We have roughly eight or nine boxes of files, containing three or four full binders apiece. It

will take a lot of time between the two of us in order to digitize these files and upload them to the server where they can be more accessible to future CROs & DROs.

### **SUCSESSES**

One major success was not having to extend SRA By-Election nominations. Due to the busy nature of this time of year, and the large commitment of being a member of the SRA, it is sometimes difficult to find enough candidates to fill all seats. We were able to engage with students, and fill all seats without extending the nomination period. Success!