



2018 AMS Executive Elections

A “How-to-Run” guide for prospective candidates

What are AMS Elections?

Provide an opportunity for students to vote for their incoming student leaders (AMS President, VP Operations and VP University Affairs).

The election period is composed of four parts: Nominations, Validation by AMS Assembly, Campaigning, and Voting.

- *Nominations:* The Nomination period opens January 11th, 2017 and closes January 15th, 2017. Nomination packages for AMS Executive can be picked up at the AMS Front Desk, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. beginning January 9th until the 15th.
 - The nomination package is an exhaustive list of rules and regulations, as well as important deadlines pertaining to the election season
 - AMS Executive candidates are required to obtain signatures of 2% of the AMS student body during the nomination period (~360 signatures).
- *Validation:* All candidates who have obtained the minimum required number of signatures must have Assembly approval to be placed on the ballot.
- *Campaigning:* The Campaigning period is from January 22nd to January 28th. Teams can put up posters, perform class talks, booth around campus, and generally promote their platforms. There are rules and regulations surrounding this period that teams must abide by, and can be found in the AMS Elections and Referenda Policy Manual

The AMS Student Body will vote on January 29th and 30th.

What does the AMS Executive do?

The AMS Executive is annually elected and comprised of the President, Vice-President Operations (& CEO), and the Vice-President of University Affairs. Together, they are responsible for representing the interests of all AMS members and for the day-to-day management of the AMS.

President: Responsible for external representation of the society and ultimately accountable for ensuring the fulfillment of the Society’s mandate and mission. The President also has responsibility to oversee the governance of the Society in addition to five offices that manage the day-to-day happenings of the Society.

Vice-President of Operations: Responsible for all day-to-day operational and financial matters of the Society. They oversee the 4 service directors, who in turn oversee the corporate services that the AMS offers. They administer the AMS Health and Dental Plan and Bus-It program. The VP Operations is also the Chief Executive Officer of the Society.





Vice-President of University Affairs: Responsible for all matters of a political and/or educational nature, research and policy development, internal academic issues, and university administration affairs. They oversee the four commissions and serve as one of two Queen's representatives on the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance (OUSA) Steering Committee.

Do you want to find out more of what the Executive does? Contact the current AMS Executive! President: Jennifer Li, president@ams.queensu.ca

Vice-President Operations: Chelsea Hollidge, vpops@ams.queensu.ca

Vice-President University Affairs: Palmer Lockridge, vpua@ams.queensu.ca

While the Executive can be a good starting point, it is also important to reach out to any AMS Staff to learn more about what they do. A contact list can be found here: <http://myams.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/AMS-Contact-List-2017-2018.pdf>

Sample questions to ask:

1. When did you know you wanted to run for AMS Executive? What planning and consultations did you do prior to the election period?
2. How does your role interact with the rest of the Society? What is the most important function of your job?
3. What is the most challenging issue in your portfolio?
4. Do you have any suggestions as to how to manage time throughout the campaign period?

Who can Run?

To be eligible to run for AMS Executive, you must meet the following criteria:

1. Payment of an AMS Specific Student Fee (generally paid in September with Tuition)
2. Membership in one of the following AMS Member Societies:
 - a. Arts and Science Undergraduate Society;
 - b. Concurrent Education Students Association;
 - c. Physical and Health Education and Kinesiology Students Association;
 - d. Engineering Society;
 - e. Aesculapian Society;
 - f. Commerce Society;
 - g. Nursing Students' Society;
 - h. MBA Society.

Note that you must run as a team of 3 people, rather than for individual positions. The term of office is 1 year, from May 1st 2018 to April 30th, 2019.





Your Elections Team:

The AMS Elections Team is responsible for facilitating the elections, as well as enforcing any elections rules and regulations. The team is led by the AMS Chief Returning Officer (CRO) and the AMS Chief Electoral Officer (CEO):

Sarah Obonsawain, CRO: The CRO is responsible for organizing the logistics, marketing, and facilitating the nomination and campaign periods. Contact Sarah (cro@ams.queensu.ca) if you have any questions pertaining to the nomination process or campaign logistics.

Matt Ierino, CEO: The CEO is responsible for hearing complaints from teams during the Elections process and also responsible for issuing any rulings and/or sanctions pertaining to elections. Matt can be contacted at ceo@ams.queensu.ca.

Neil Sengupta, AMS Secretary: The AMS Secretary is responsible for overseeing the administration of the Elections Team, and for ensuring that the process abides by AMS Policy. If you have any questions related to elections policy or eligibility, contact Neil at secretariat@ams.queensu.ca

AMS Policy on Elections:

Relevant policy documents can be found on the AMS website, at <http://myams.org/data-documents/>.

For general information on Elections and Referenda, consult the AMS Constitution, Section 4.

For Executive election specific policy, consult the AMS Elections and Referenda Policy Manual.

Resources Available:

Running in an election can sometimes be a stressful process – there are deadlines to know, school work to do, and a team to manage. While the intensity of elections is naturally part of the process, there are several resources available to help make the process more seamless and accessible:

Health and Wellness Resources

Student Wellness Services provides a full range of health and counselling services, including appointments with doctors, nurses, and counsellors. Student Wellness Services can be contacted at <http://www.queensu.ca/studentwellness/home>

Make sure to take advantage of your AMS Health and Dental Plan! Your health plan covers professionals such as physiotherapists, counsellors, and massage therapy. The link to your plan can be found here: <http://myams.org/plan/>

Additionally, if elected to the Executive, it is recommended to take a reduced course load for the duration of the second semester, in order to properly balance your academics and newfound responsibilities.

