

Student Nominees

Advisory Committee on the Vice- President Finance & Administration

May 21, 2024

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Graduate Students

Name: Ayisha Awudu Ali

Statement of Candidacy: I am Ayisha Awudu Ali , a first-year student pursuing a PhD in Management(majoring in Finance). I previous served as a Finance officer for my former employer, the National Intelligence Bureau in Ghana for six years, I also worked as an administrative assistant in two Government organizations for 1 year and three months respectively. I nominate myself for this position because,

-Serving on this committee will provide me with a platform to influence decisions that directly affect the financial and administrative aspects of the university. My input can help shape policies, budgets, and resource allocations, impacting the overall functioning and success of the institution.

-I can represent the interests and concerns of various stakeholders, including students, faculty, staff, and the broader community.

- Serving on a university committee offers valuable opportunities for professional growth and skill development. It will give me an experience in financial analysis, budgeting, strategic planning, and collaborative decision-making, which are highly transferable skills applicable to various career paths.

-Being part of the committee will allow me to network with other professionals, faculty members, administrators, and potentially influential figures within and outside the university. Building relationships with these individuals can open doors to future opportunities, collaborations, and mentorship for me.

Name: Amir Jabbarpour

Statement of Candidacy: I am delighted to submit my candidacy for the position of graduate student representative on the Advisory Committee for the Vice-President (Finance and Administration) at Carleton University. As a dedicated Ph.D. candidate in Medical Physics, I am deeply committed to contributing to the enhancement of our

university's governance and administration.

My academic journey in medical physics has instilled in me a profound appreciation for the importance of effective leadership in finance and administration within the academic setting. I am keenly aware of the pivotal role that sound financial management and strategic administrative decisions play in fostering an environment conducive to research excellence, student support, and institutional growth.

Having been actively involved in various aspects of university life, both academically and administratively, I bring a wealth of experience and perspective to this role. Through my involvement in research projects, teaching assignments, and departmental committees, I have developed strong analytical skills, a collaborative mindset, and a keen understanding of the complexities inherent in academic governance.

If elected, I am committed to representing the interests and concerns of graduate students with diligence and integrity. I will advocate for transparency, accountability, and inclusivity throughout the search process for the next VPFA. Furthermore, I am eager to leverage my expertise in data analysis and decision-making to contribute meaningfully to the evaluation and selection of a candidate who will advance the mission and values of Carleton University.

In summary, I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to serve as a graduate student representative on the Advisory Committee for the VPFA. I am confident that my background, skills, and dedication make me well-suited for this important responsibility, and I am eager to collaborate with my fellow committee members to ensure a rigorous and inclusive search process.

Thank you for considering my candidacy. I am eager to contribute to the continued success and excellence of Carleton University

Name: Diksha Kale

Statement of Candidacy: My name is Diksha Kale, and I'm a PhD candidate in the Department of Law and Legal Studies. I'm interested in serving on the Advisory Committee for the selection of Carleton's new Vice-President of Finance and Administration (VPFA). With growing budget cuts in humanities and arts departments across Canadian universities, it is important to appoint higher administrative staff that does not sacrifice the jobs and financial stability of selected students and faculty. Furthermore, as mass genocides rage across the globe, universities must be held responsible for their role in supporting such violence. Another issue that is of particular concern to me as a graduate student is that of admin bloat, which refers to the employment of multiple higher admin positions requiring huge financial investment on part of the university at the expense of its students and the quality of education they deserve. Carleton University also has a history of appointing higher administration that is unsympathetic to the concerns of students who are crushed by student debt, are underpaid and unappreciated. Through my role on the Advisory Committee, I aim to achieve the following goals:

1. Ensure transparency in the hiring of a new VPFA,
2. Examine the strategic plans and future ambitions of selected candidates,
3. Ascertain the impact of this hiring on the overall budget and financial plan for 2024-2025, and
4. Assess how the hiring of the new VPFA will impact the budget crisis affecting multiple departments at Carleton University.

My qualifications for this position are evident from my 7 years in student government prior to my PhD and my work as an attorney. Instead of showcasing my soft skills, I will instead point out that I have a strong sense of justice and a deep commitment to help alleviate financial issues at the university level that affect other graduate students and contract instructors. If chosen for this position, I promise the Carleton graduate

student community that our collective ethical and financial concerns will play a key role in the selection of the new VPFA. Thank you.

Name: Mohammad Mehrtash

Statement of Candidacy: I am writing to express my keen interest in serving as the graduate student representative on the Advisory Committee for the Vice-President (Finance and Administration) at Carleton University.

As a Master of Technology Innovation Management student at Carleton University, I am actively registered in a full-time program and am committed to maintaining my academic standing throughout my period of service. My academic background, coupled with my extensive professional experience, positions me well to contribute meaningfully to the Advisory Committee.

Relevant Experience:

Governance and Parliamentary Communication: Currently, as an Executive Assistant (Student Position) at the Office of the Speaker, Senate of Canada, I have honed my skills in drafting formal letters, preparing social media content, managing email correspondence, and assisting in speechwriting. My role has required me to collaborate closely with colleagues and other departments, ensuring cohesive communication strategies and effective information dissemination.

Leadership and Event Organization: I have demonstrated strong organizational skills and the ability to manage complex logistics in high-profile settings, such as organizing the Speaker's Christmas party and various diplomatic events. These experiences have equipped me with the necessary skills to contribute effectively to the Advisory Committee's activities.

Technical Proficiency and Administrative Skills: I am proficient in utilizing the Microsoft Office Suite for diverse administrative tasks and adept at managing high-

volume email communications. My experience in drafting formal correspondence and managing electronic filing systems will be directly applicable to the committee's work.

I am proficient in English and have a working knowledge of French, which enhances my ability to communicate effectively in a bilingual environment. My quick learning ability and adaptability ensure that I can rapidly acquire new skills and integrate seamlessly into the committee's activities.

I am deeply committed to contributing to the strategic direction and financial stewardship of Carleton University. My diverse experiences in governance, communication, and administration make me a strong candidate for this role. I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to collaborate with fellow committee members to ensure the selection of a highly qualified Vice-President (Finance and Administration).

Thank you for considering my candidacy.

Name: Georgette Morris

Statement of Candidacy: Georgette is pursuing a PhD at Carleton University, in Law and Legal Studies. She holds an Honours BA in Human Rights and Equity Studies, a BA in Social Science and an MA in Public Policy Administration and Law, all from York University. She also holds certificates in Law and Society, Public Policy Analysis, and graduate diplomas in Democratic Administration and Ethics and Public Affairs. Her primary research interests have been in labour, policy, equity, human rights (im)-migration, citizenship, government, political debate, public reason and agenda setting. Georgette has experience working at all levels of government, within a range of departments and ministries. She has extensive experience in student government during her undergraduate and graduate studies, serving in roles of Communications and Vice President.

I believe I would be an excellent candidate as a committee member of the VFPA

because I possess a range of experiences at all levels of government; specifically within the House of Commons. I am familiar with meeting practices, policy and procedure inclusive of mechanisms that support and facilitate useful meetings. I understand the apolitical nature of the role and its value to the institution as well as population at large.

Name: Vrundesha Sanjaykumar Rathod

Statement of Candidacy:

I am enthusiastic about applying for the Vice-President Finance and Administration at Carleton University, supported by a diverse international background and a current academic role as a Teaching Assistant within the university. My professional journey has taken me across various global contexts, including India, Germany, France, the United Kingdom, and Canada, where I have cultivated a deep expertise in financial project management and administration.

This broad experience has equipped me with a unique perspective on financial operations and strategic planning, which is critical for the VPFA role. I have been responsible for overseeing financial systems and ensuring administrative efficacy in different economic and regulatory environments, fostering adaptability and comprehensive problem-solving abilities.

At Carleton, my aim is to leverage this international experience to enhance our financial strategies and administrative processes. I am committed to promoting financial stability, enhancing operational transparency, and supporting our university's academic mission through thoughtful and strategic resource management.

Thank you for considering my candidacy. I am eager to bring my global insights and professional acumen to contribute effectively to Carleton University's objectives and to

discuss how my experiences align with the needs of this role.

Name: Maryam Setayesh Sanai

Statement of Candidacy: I am excited to apply for the position of student member on the Advisory Committee on the Vice-President (Finance and Administration) at Carleton University. As an actively registered full-time student pursuing Master of Engineering in Technology Innovation Management at Carleton University and having bachelor's in applied mathematics and a second master's degree in transportation engineering, I bring a unique blend of analytical skills and technical knowledge to the committee.

With over four years of experience as a manager, I have developed strong leadership and organizational skills. I have successfully managed teams, streamlined operations, and implemented process improvements to enhance efficiency and productivity. My experience in project management and my ability to make data-driven decisions will be invaluable in contributing to the strategic and administrative oversight of our university. I am confident that my background in applied mathematics and engineering, combined with my practical management experience, makes me a strong candidate for this role. I am eager to contribute my perspective and skills to the Advisory Committee and to work towards the continued success and growth of Carleton University

Name: Farzam Sepanta

Statement of Candidacy: I am Farzam Sepanta, a fourth-year PhD candidate in Building Engineering at Carleton University. My academic and professional life is committed to sustainability and effective leadership in academic and professional settings.

I have actively participated in Carleton's governance through my roles on the Senate Review Committee and the Advisory Committee on the President Search, ensuring that I

effectively represent the expectations of graduate students. These roles have given me valuable experience in university governance and the critical need for strategic financial planning and management.

My professional experiences, such as leading teams in different competitions and projects, show my ability to guide and innovate within teams from different fields. I have received several awards recognizing my contributions to sustainability in building engineering, including the Professional Engineers Ontario's Innovation Challenge Award and the Sustainable Building Challenge Award. Additionally, I received an honorable mention for the Outstanding TA Award, for which I am deeply grateful to the students, as it reflects my commitment to the academic community here at Carleton University.

As a Raven, I am eager to bring my skills and experiences to the Advisory Committee to help Carleton University maintain and enhance its commitment to sustainability and excellence in operations. My goal is to help integrate sustainable practices into our financial and administrative strategies, ensuring our university thrives environmentally and economically in the long term. Equally important to me is representing the interests of graduate students on this committee, as advocating for their needs can provide more opportunities and contribute to their success at Carleton.

I am dedicated to devoting my time and efforts to the Advisory Committee, confident that my engineering and governance background will positively impact our collective goals. Thank you for considering my application.

Name: Udele Sunday Vincent

Statement of Candidacy: I, Sunday Udele, offer over a decade and a half of extensive experience in finance and administration, making me well-equipped to serve as a student representative on the Advisory Committee for the Vice-President (Finance and Administration) at Carleton University. With a strong foundation in business

management, finance, and environmental sustainability, coupled with ongoing studies in Applied Business Analytics, I bring a comprehensive skill set to support the Committee's objectives. My commitment to strategic planning, risk assessment, and stakeholder engagement ensures diligent representation of student interests. I am dedicated to fostering transparency and accountability in university governance. Thank you for considering my candidacy.

Undergraduate Students

Name: Nir Hagigi

Department/Program: Bachelor of Global & International Studies (3rd year standing)

Statement of Candidacy: I am excited to submit my candidacy for a position on the committee. With my experience in Carleton's Senate, including active involvement in the Senate Quality Assurance and Planning Committee and recent election to the Senate Executive Committee, I am well-equipped to contribute effectively to the committee's objectives.

As the president of Independent Jewish Voices Carleton and co-president of the Carleton University Human Rights Society, I am deeply committed to fostering inclusivity and social justice on campus. My passion for advancing these values, combined with my dedication to fiscal responsibility and administrative excellence, makes me eager to collaborate with fellow committee members in ensuring the university's financial stewardship and administrative practices uphold the highest standards.

Thank you for considering my candidacy. I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to contribute to the continued success of Carleton University in this capacity.

Name: Lynn Olsheskie

Department: School of Social Work (3rd year standing)

Statement of Candidacy: I have never served on an election board and would love the experience to do so. Thank you.

Name: Bhidhousee Saraye

Department: FASS – Psychology (2nd year standing)

Statement of Candidacy: I would like to be at the service of the Carleton community to the best of my abilities. I joined Carleton in September of 2023 and have recently achieved a second year standing. I feel ready for this role as I believe I am a quick learner and hence, will be able to fit onto this role swiftly.

Name: Min Thiha Tun

Department: Sprott School of Business (Finance) - 2nd year standing

Statement of Candidacy: As a finance student at Carleton University, I am committed to conducting the nomination and advisory process for our new Vice President of Finance & Administration with integrity, ensuring there are no biases based on gender or race. It is imperative to select a candidate who genuinely seeks to foster development within our university. The ideal candidate will be one who is not only capable of enhancing the financial well-being of our faculty and teaching assistants through improved salary structures but also dedicated to increasing the availability of scholarships, bursaries, and on-campus employment opportunities. This will provide crucial financial support to students in need,

thereby contributing significantly to their educational pursuits.