

Nominations Committee

The Nominations Committee is a standing committee of the Students' Senate. The relevant extracts of the Constitution with respect to this committee are:

4.07 Nominations Committee (NC)

- a. The Nominations Committee shall nominate students' representatives to the various institute bodies. It can call for an explanation, in case the nominee (s) is (are) not found suitable for the assigned task. All its nominations/actions are to be ratified by the Senate.
- b. It shall consist of the President, the Chairperson, one PG Senator and one UG Senator.
- c. The President shall be the ex-officio Convener of the Nominations Committee.

Furthermore, there are no guidelines or procedures with regard to how the committee shall function. One of the NC's crucial tasks is to nominate the Students' Senate nominees to the Standing Committees of the Academic Senate. However, the procedure being followed for this has led to several problems:

1. By and large, the Nominations Committee functions acts as nothing but an interview panel.
2. Furthermore, it is often necessary to nominate members of the NC (such as the President or Chairman). This creates a conflict of interest where the person taking the interview is also applying for that post.
3. There is a largely flawed understanding that the Nominations Committee needs to necessarily call for nominations and conduct interviews.

This has been brought up several times in the Senate, especially in the past two years. I propose that a procedure be formulated and added to the Rules and Procedures of the Students' Senate (Appendix I to the Constitution).

My draft procedure is the following:

1. When the Nominations Committee is requested to nominate students for any position, it will meet to decide if nominations shall be called for those positions. In particular, the Nominations Committee shall decide at that moment who shall be nominated irrespective of who else applies. (So for example, in the SSAC the President is normally nominated.).
2. After that, a panel of 1-4 members shall be constituted for each position to be filled. This panel shall be given clear guidelines (for example, for SUGC, it shall make clear that the panel is to nominate the Y11 student representative). A call for nominations shall be made to the General Body, and the applicants shall be interviewed by their panel.
3. The panel, after the interviews will recommend to the NC names for as many posts as it can. If the panel does not interview a suitable candidate, it may choose not to recommend anyone.
4. The NC must accept any names recommended by the panel. For any position that the panel does not recommend, the NC shall nominate whosoever they may find suitable.
5. All nominations shall be ratified by the Senate.