Dons Elections
Students are elected to all positions for Graduate Student Senate through the Dons Elections.

WHEN TO VOTE
Dons Elections take place Monday to Friday, April 22-26, 2019. Voting will take place beginning at 10am on April 22nd and last until 5pm on April 26th.

WHERE TO VOTE
All voting will take place online. Polling stations will be located in various locations around campus including the University Center and the residence halls, but you can vote from anywhere online!

HOW TO VOTE
Log in to the online ballot, view the questions and choices, and make your selections. Use your myUSF login info:
Username: USF email address (ex: student@dons.usfca.edu)
Password: USF student ID number

NOTE: Only positions in which you are eligible to vote for will be populated on your ballot. Voter eligibility is determined by the records of the Registrar's Office.

VOTER ELIGIBILITY
Must be a currently enrolled full-time student and have paid the Student Activity Fee for the semester. Graduate students are eligible for the AGSUSF Election. A valid USF student ID number will be required to vote.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Contact elections@usfca.edu with any questions about Dons Elections.
Graduate Student Senate

The Graduate Student Senate (GSS) was created to represent, lead, and unify the Associated Graduate Students of the University of San Francisco, to achieve the betterment of the students in their professional and social interests, and to promote the coordination of activities and events for the graduate student population.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

There shall be five executive officers that make up the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall be primarily responsible for the coordination, implementation and evaluation of all Senate activities, programs, and services.

SENATOR REPRESENTATIVES

There shall be up to nine Senators to complete the Senate and will represent the voice of the Association. Senate members shall be responsible primarily to their respective constituent community.
PRESIDENT

Annika Miyamoto  
*Academic Program: Clinical Psychology*

I am grateful and humbled to have served 2 years on the Graduate Student Senate (GSS), first as a Senator and now as the Vice-President of Mission, having learned so much about advocacy, leadership, and the importance of building relationships within the campus community. In reviewing data from the Campus Climate Survey specific to graduate students, I believe both the University and the GSS can do better to serve the student community. Moving forward, my vision for the GSS is to push for improvement of the graduate student experience on the Hilltop and all branch campuses and support our fellow students in under-represented and marginalized communities based on the university’s value of social justice. I’m ready for change, how about you?

VICE PRESIDENT OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Min Kim  
*Academic Program: Direct Entry MSN*

I am running to be a senator because I want to be an advocate for my department but also be available to bridge any differences within different graduate school programs. For ten years, I lived in Washington, DC area and observed the effectiveness and disservice of politics. I believe in leading by serving and having humility and kindness toward everyone I meet. I am one of the student representatives for my cohort, and I want to extend that for my department. I would love to see how each of the departments can collaborate and communicate more efficiently to meet the mission and vision of the university.

VICE PRESIDENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Miguel Ramirez  
*Academic Program: Public Administration*

I have been serving as the Vice President of External Affairs for the Graduate Student Senate Since (GSS) January 2019. I have enjoyed working alongside the GSS executive, and senator board members. I am encouraged by their expressed motivation in achieving the GSS Goal, that is; Leading, Unifying, and Representing the Graduate Study Body. I hope to serve in this position for the next year so that we could be build off of the momentum established. GSS is an organization that exist for the Graduate Student body, I’m interested in learning what type of events would you want to see scheduled? I look forward to the opportunity to continue to serve as the Vice President, of External Affairs on the Graduate Student Senate.
VICE PRESIDENT OF MISSION

Sabrina Wong

Academic Program: Nursing

I have worked as a pediatric cardiovascular ICU nurse in the hospital setting, and volunteered as a nurse and medical interpreter in free clinics. My work necessitates me to have compassion, but compassion should not be limited only to one’s career. My hope is to help support and initiate missional work for students and faculty at USF. The desire to serve your campus and local community is crucial, and should be important to all graduate students. My goal is to coordinate education, awareness and advocacy initiatives alongside senator representatives and fellow executive board members.

COLLEGE OF ARTS OF SCIENCES REPRESENTATIVE

Rudra Sisodia

Academic Program: Sport Management

Born and Raised in a political family, I have been working in areas like this. I consider myself a good team player, quick learner and a detail-oriented person. I believe that by being part of this Committee, I would play an important role in building bonds among the staff, faculty, and administration. As a business student, I have skills in Marketing and Finance, I have worked on Marketing projects with Stanford. I have led my previous university Soccer team to glories as a captain, which highlights my leadership skills. I would be glad to contribute my time and efforts in making the difference for the GSS and for the grad students.

SCHOOL OF NURSING & HEALTH PROFESSIONS REPRESENTATIVE

Kristen Joyce Ignacio

Academic Program: Clinical Nurse Leader

If elected, I would proudly represent the School of Nursing and Health Professions to advocate for my peers and continue to improve our program, in hopes of making lasting positive changes. My leadership experience has instilled in me the significance of teamwork and quality of work. I am skilled in active-listening, recognizing the needs of others, and implementing events going beyond school and involving the community. If given the opportunity, I know that my hard work, determination, an unwavering willingness to help others will be the tools I need to be successful in making USF a better place for graduate students. I am confident that my achievements and my experiences have made me a valuable asset for the Graduate Student Senate.

Sharon Tafolla

Academic Program: Master of Public Health

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I have identified multiple opportunities to strengthen the programs in Sacramento and facilitate their integration with the main USF campus. I feel that my work experience in clinical and public health policy settings at the local, state, and national level can provide creative insight to the activities and events the graduate student body would be interested in and would find beneficial to their personal and professional development. My strengths include listening, challenging the process, and thinking innovatively. It is my vision that as part of the GSS in Sacramento and the SONHP, I will contribute to the creation of an environment that reinforces graduate students’ decisions to pursue their professional development with USF.

Jennifer Enerio  
**Academic Program: ME-MSN**

I would like to serve as a SONHP representative because I want to be a positive social impact for my community. I want to collaborate alongside other graduate student leaders and have a greater understanding of other programs to support and improve student life on campus. I would love to implement more social activities and developmental events for graduate students. In previous positions, I have been president for an undergraduate organization, lead support staff at a medical clinic, and the representative of the ancillary staff on a unit council. By being the SONHP representative, I intend to serve as a liaison for my peers and represent their views, interests, and values to foster a strong and supportive community.

**VACANT POSITIONS**

Vice President of Treasury, School of Management Representative (2), School of Education (2), College of Arts and Sciences (1) and Campus Representative (3)

For more information about vacant positions please contact elections@usfca.edu
GSS Referenda
A referendum shall be any legislation requiring direct approval by the Association in GSS elections.

Referendums include, but are not limited to, substantive amendments to the GSS Senate Constitution, proposed changes to the GSS Student Activity Fee, and any other issue that merits the vote of the general student body. Any referendum approved that proposes to change the Student Activity Fee must also be approved through the Board of Trustees of the University of San Francisco in their December meeting prior to implementation of said referendum.

There shall be two (2) methods of proposing a substantive constitutional amendment or referring an issue to the general student body: a) A vote of approval of at least two-thirds of the total Senate membership will place an amendment or any item before the Association membership in the form of a referendum; b) Submission of a petition signed by at least ten percent of the Association members and presented to the President or the Senate will place any item before the Association members in the form of a referendum. A majority vote of approval by the students voting will be required to implement an amendment/referendum.

MUNI PASS PROGRAM
Should the university establish a Transportation Fee of $153 per semester for graduate students that attend San Francisco based campuses which includes providing a semestral pass for unlimited rides on MUNI to start in the 2020-21 academic year?

- What will the Transportation Fee provide?
  - Approval of the transportation fee would provide each graduate student that attends a San Francisco based campus with a semesterly pass for unlimited rides on MUNI.

- Will establishing a Transportation Fee raise my tuition and fees?
  - Yes. The proposal is a request to establish a transportation fee paid for by each graduate student of $153. This will be paid as part of your tuition and fees each semester.
  - $34 per month for 9 months (September through May) = $308 for the whole year

- When will establishing a Transportation Fee go into effect?
  - If approved, the fee will go into effect in Fall 2021.