COGS Elections Procedures

* Candidacy Declaration opens on 9/20 at 4pm and closes 10/4 at 4pm
* Elections will take place on 10/25 from 8am-7pm
* There are 48 COGS seats that students can run for
* COGS Candidates DO NOT need to attend the mandatory candidate seminars on 10/16 and 10/17, they are excused from attending.
* On 10/18, COGS candidates will need to send the Supervisor of Elections a document detailing any campaign donations they have received. If they have not received any donations all they need to do is submit a signed statement that they have not received any donations. This document is due by 12pm.
* One 10/27, the Friday following an election. All candidates will need to submit a final expense statement which includes any donations and expenditures during a student’s campaign for office. If they did not spend any money, all they would need to do is to submit a signed statement that they did not spend any money for their campaign. This document is due by 12pm.

FAQs

* Do I need to register with a party?
	+ No, you can submit a candidate application while being registered as an independent candidate. The political parties referred to are campus political parties and not Democratic or Republicans.
* Can I still run for COGS even if I miss the filing deadline?
	+ Yes, if a grad student misses the filing deadline, they can always petition in for membership to COGS according to the governing COGS code.
* Do I need to attend Inauguration to be sworn in?
	+ Yes and No. While it is recommended that all students who win their election to attend the Fall Inauguration (on 11/15) there are some students who will just not be able to attend. If this is the case, then anyone absent from Inauguration can either be sworn in by the Supervisor of Elections during their office hours or can attend the next scheduled COGS meeting and be sworn in there.
* How does voting work in the election?
	+ All voting is done electronically through the FSU Voting system. There are no in person voting precincts. All students at FSU will get a campus wide email on the Monday and Wednesday of Election Week with instructions on how to vote, and the link to vote as well.
* What do I do If I cannot vote?
	+ There are always a handful of students who submit complaints that they are unable to vote for their college or sometimes, themselves. If this is the case, send an email to the Supervisor immediately to try and fix the issue. It is recommended to vote early in the day so any issues can be resolved before the closing of polls.
* When do I hear the election results?
	+ Election results will be announced around 7:30-8pm following the close of polls on Election Day at the regularly scheduled Senate meeting. All results will be read aloud, and a complete document of the results will be posted on the Elections website Thursday morning. In the past most if not all COGS students are unopposed in their elections for office, if a candidate for office is unopposed by the time the filing deadline comes, that candidate has essentially already won their election by acclamation.

Any other questions regarding Election procedures can be sent to the Supervisor or Elections. The email is SGAElect@admin.fsu.edu. I am glad to answer any questions anyone has. Finally, my office hours are posted on the elections website where I will always answer any questions in person. My office is located on the third floor of the student union in room 3238.