



Raven Society Alumni Membership Nominations Guidelines

Questions should be directed to the Raven Society Vice President, Kasper Nilsson, at ravensociety-vicepresident@virginia.edu.

Description

Each year, the Raven Society solicits nominations for alumni membership. Admission to the Society as alumni ranks among the most selective honors the University confers upon its graduates. Membership is a way to recognize alums for their significant contribution to their field of study, as well as their noted interest in the welfare of the University.

Historical procedures for soliciting nominations for alumni membership have reinforced the traditional ways that opportunities are stratified by privilege and wealth, leaving nominations entirely up to those with institutional power. This clearly disadvantages many first-generation, low-income, and otherwise marginalized students and alumni who do not have the benefits of personal connection with high-level administrators. We will now be soliciting nominations from a wider pool, and we strongly encourage all to consider nominating those who fall outside of traditional academic or professional success.

Brief description of the nomination process and deadlines

1. Emails soliciting nominations are sent to the deans of each school, any affiliated administrators, current alumni members of the raven society, and faculty Ravens.
2. These nominations are typically made without the knowledge of the nominee as is customary for all nomination processes within the Raven Society.
3. Nominees are selected for membership through a two-step process:
 - a. A selection committee consisting of Raven Society faculty, administrators, and students is assembled to select the top nominees for membership. Typically, 6-8 alumni are selected for membership each year.
 - b. The slate of selected nominees is shared with and approved by the rest of the Raven Society during elections.
4. **Nominations are due: Monday, 10/13 at 5 pm.**
5. Selections are tentatively scheduled for: mid-October
6. Elections are tentatively scheduled for: late October
7. Initiation is scheduled for: early November

Number of new alumni members permitted per school

School/Association	Number of seats available	School/Association	Number of seats available
College of Arts & Sciences	2	School of Architecture	1
Graduate School of Arts & Sciences	1	School of Engineering and Applied Science	1
School of Education and Human Development	1	School of Law	1
Darden School of Business	1	School of Medicine	1
Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy	1	School of Nursing	1
McIntire School of Commerce	1		

Criteria for alumni membership

The criteria for alumni membership, set out in the Constitution, are as follows:

- Achieved alumni status no fewer than ten years ago;
- Made genuine contributions to art, commerce, education, government, justice, literature, science, or social welfare;
- Achieved a measure of distinction commensurate with the ideals of the Society;
- Evinced a continuing interest in the welfare of the University

Additional considerations can include: “integrity, high character, sound judgment, . . . intellectual attainment, capacity for leadership . . . and willingness to serve the best interests of the University.”

Nomination packets should clearly demonstrate alumni contributions in the following areas:

- Relevant achievement and honors
- Relevant service to the University
- Relevant service to the community

Required nomination components

- A completed nomination form (found on the [Raven website](#))
- A letter of support detailing the candidate's qualifications (PDF only)
 - This is an excellent place to provide information that is not provided in the nomination form or to further expand on items that are included. Simply repeating the information included in the nomination form does not help the selection committee gain a fuller understanding of who your nominee is.
- The candidate's CV or resume (PDF only)
 - We understand that obtaining an updated CV of a nominee without their knowledge of the nomination can be difficult. We encourage reaching out to colleagues or assistants of the nominee when possible. If you experience difficulties obtaining a CV or resume, please consult with the Vice President.

Please note that incomplete nominations will not be considered.

All nominations should be submitted **by 5pm, Monday, October 13, 2023**. Please email questions to Raven Society Vice President, Kasper Nilsson at ravensociety-vicepresident@virginia.edu.

Link to the online nomination form:

<https://aig.alumni.virginia.edu/raven/alumni-membership-nominations/>