

Subject: MSA Elections Next Steps

Cc: [OTHER ELECTION HEAD EMAIL]

Bcc: [NOMINEE EMAIL]

Salaams,

Congratulations on making the decision to move forward in this process inshaAllah. May Allah reward you for your intentions and guide you on this journey.

Elections will be held **[DATE AND LOCATION]**. On Elections Night you will be asked to read a short two minute statement, which you will have prepared and submitted in advance. The deadline to submit this statement as a response to this email is **[DEADLINE DAY AND TIME]**. Statements should respond to these questions: Given the opportunity to serve on the MSA Board, what are your aspirations for our community? What goals can we expect from you that are of service to the MSA and what *tangible* actions will you take to achieve those goals? Please keep in mind that as Muslims we ask Allah to put us in these positions if it best for the community, but we do not campaign for ourselves in an arrogant or self-centered manner. It is definitely appropriate to cite your qualifications for the purpose of electing those who are best suited to the positions; however, think about the Islamic attitude towards leadership and try to reflect it in your tone as much as possible. If you have any questions about this feel free to reach out!

Finally, we wanted to give you a brief overview of the Elections Night. You will all be asked to each come up in a random order. When it is your turn you will have two minutes to read your prewritten statement and then we will have up to 5 mins for questions. These questions will be submitted through a google form by the audience and the Election Heads will look through them and decide which ones to ask. Don't worry we will make sure we don't choose anything that will put anyone on the spot or in an uncomfortable position! Following the statements and questions the voting will take place. Good luck to you all!

Best,

[ELECTION HEADS NAMES]

MSA Election Heads

P.S. **A Note on Campaigning:** The Prophet Mohammed (SAW) said in a [saheeh hadith](#), "We will not (or, we do not) appoint for our affairs anyone who seeks that position." Leading our community bears great responsibility, a matter which cannot be taken lightly. It is contrary to Islamic etiquette to seek a position on the MSA Board. The election process is designed with this principle in mind. Asking people to nominate or vote for oneself, creating political parties around a candidate, and campaigning of any kind will not be tolerated. Word of a candidate

asking members to vote for him or her will be grounds for the immediate disqualification of the candidate.