

Dear WPA-GO Members, Followers, and Graduate Students at large,

The Writing Program Administrators Graduate Organization (WPA-GO) would like to thank you for your help sharing and circulating our Special Election Call. We are pleased to announce that we are moving forward with the internal elections for Diversity & Outreach Chair and Treasurer! Thank you to all who submitted applications!

As mentioned in my previous letter, WPA-GO is committed to facilitating an antiracist and equitable election process. To that end, we pledged that the election process for each position would not move forward until at least TWO people from nondominant communities apply. As we did not meet that threshold for the Vice Chair position, I write to announce that we are extending the deadline for applications to be Vice Chair of WPA-GO to October 31, 2020.

Vice Chair is a very important position in our governing body, and thus it is all the more important that we follow through on our mission to encourage leaders who are committed to making lasting structural changes within our organization to apply and seek out identity-conscious representation that will amplify underrepresented voices in our field specifically and academia in general. We cannot do this without more than one application to this position.

We acknowledge that the Vice Chair position is a large commitment, but we also want to highlight that it is a monumental opportunity to instigate tangible change that will benefit graduate students in writing studies near and far for years to come. We are so grateful to the Vice Chair applicant who has bravely put themselves out there for this position and for their support as we encourage others to also apply in order to run a fair election process that aligns with our commitments.

We're also excited to announce a new call for applicants to the MA Representative position on the Graduate Committee! This reformulated position is an opportunity to gain exposure and experience in the field, give and receive peer mentorship, help WPA-GO ensure robust participation of master's degree-seeking students who bring unique perspectives and insights to our organization, and participate in WPA-GO committees and task forces according to their interests. The deadline for applications to the MA Representative position is November 30, 2020.

The members of WPA-GO's Graduate Committee are all graduate students, so we intimately understand the busy, multi-faceted lives that graduate students lead and how our current context has amplified demands on our time and productivity. Again, we do not intend for this extension announcement and new

call to add to those demands. Please read the calls for Vice Chair and MA Representative carefully to determine if any of these positions is the right fit for you and your plans this year, and reach out to members of the Graduate Committee to learn more about how WPA-GO can become a part of your graduate experience. We are happy to answer questions, share experiences, and hopefully help interested parties determine how/ if these positions might fit their plans and schedules. Furthermore, if you have individual questions or concerns about WPA-GO or this special election, please feel free to contact me directly or reach out to any of the current <u>Graduate Committee</u> members.

Thank you, Gabrielle Kelenyi Chair, Writing Program Administrators Graduate Organization (WPA-GO) kelenyi@wisc.edu