

In the space below, please provide a statement (approximately 300-words) that will be helpful to the electorate in their selection. This page will be posted to the University Secretariat website exactly as submitted by the nominee; do not submit personal information on this page (i.e., address, telephone number, e-mail address, photograph, etc.). Please limit your statement to this page only.

**Name of Nominee: \_**Gabriel (Naiqi) Xiao, Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour

I am honoured to stand for election to the Senate of McMaster University. Since joining the Department of Psychology, Neuroscience & Behaviour in 2020 as a Canada Research Chair (Tier II), I have been continually inspired by the unwavering commitment to student success, research innovation, and community engagement that defines our institution. As an immigrant who arrived in Canada in 2010 to pursue graduate education, I have personally experienced the transformative power of higher learning and the value of inclusive academic environments.

If elected, I will work diligently to foster a climate that encourages interdisciplinary collaboration and innovative thinking. My own research background, integrating science, engineering, neuroscience, computer science, and clinical research, coupled with my business degree, has shown me the importance of a holistic perspective when addressing complex challenges. This unique blend allows me to bridge traditionally separate fields and promote innovative collaborations across campus. I aim to ensure that McMaster's diverse research endeavours, especially interdisciplinary ones, are integrated into our curricular activities, providing students with enriched learning experiences.

Furthermore, I will advocate for continued support of equity, diversity, and inclusion across all aspects of campus life. I believe my experiences, from navigating a new cultural environment to forging a path in academia, will allow me to contribute meaningfully to outreach and mentorship initiatives that encourage students from underrepresented groups to pursue higher education and research.

It would be a privilege to serve on the Senate, contributing my passion for interdisciplinary scholarship, inclusive excellence, and the pursuit of new frontiers in research and teaching. I am confident that my dedication, unique background, and collaborative spirit will allow me to be a valuable voice in the Senate's deliberations. I thank you for your consideration and look forward to the opportunity to serve our vibrant McMaster community.