

## THE GOD QUAD: ELIGIBILITY AND ELECTIONS

### **A. The Suite**

The "God Quad" is Branford room J21, a suite that has by tradition housed seniors. Since the renovation of Branford, the God Quad can either house four people (suite J21) or six (by linking J21 with the singles L21 and L22). By tradition, the members of the God Quad are elected by the college as a slate of either four or six candidates. Candidacy and elections are subject to the following rules.

### **B. Qualifications**

1. At least half of the candidates (two of the four candidates, or three of the six candidates) running for the God Quad must be rising seniors, which will allow for maximum exposure to the College, its traditions, and its residents. Senior candidates may not have attained senior status by accelerating two semesters. Any non-senior candidates must be rising juniors. Living in the God Quad counts as using one's senior pick: any junior resident of the God Quad cannot participate in the senior lottery the following year (see IV.C.2).

2. At least three of the four candidates (or four of the six candidates) must have entered the Branford College housing lottery as rising juniors. If the candidates were forced to or chose to live in Annex housing, or were forced off-campus during the housing lottery, they may still qualify for the God Quad. If a majority of the candidates were offered housing in Branford and chose to live off-campus, the slate is ineligible for election.

3. At least three of the four candidates (or four of the six candidates) must be enrolled as students in Yale College during the second semester of their junior year. At least half of the candidates must be eligible for the senior housing draw. (Thus, students on leave or junior term/year abroad are eligible, while withdrawn students are not.) All students in a God Quad slate must be in good academic standing. Members of the slate with a record of violations of the undergraduate regulations, particularly regarding property damage or violation of alcohol regulations, may be grounds for disqualification of the slate at the discretion of the Head of College, Dean, or Housing Committee.

### **C. Election Procedure**

1. Members of the slate must submit their declaration of intention to live in the God Quad to the Branford Dean's Office by the deadline stated in the Branford College Housing Calendar. This declaration must contain the names and signatures of all members of the slate and a statement giving the reasons for their candidacy. This declaration and statement may not exceed one side of one 8 1/2" by 11" page.

2. At least one, but preferably as many members of each slate as possible, are required to meet with the Dean prior to the day intent forms are due. This meeting is designed to answer questions about campaign procedure and the expectations of the suite; the Dean or her AA will send out the relevant information the week of intent.

3. If no slate of qualified students submits a declaration of intention to live in the God Quad, rooms J21, L21, and L22 will be allocated through the regular Branford housing process.

4. Candidates may begin campaigning the day after the deadline for candidacy submission stated in the Branford College Housing Calendar.

5. Voting will be held through secret electronic balloting by means of an official Yale elections website during the days stated in the Branford College Housing Calendar. All undergraduate members of Branford College except graduating seniors are eligible to vote.

6. At the conclusion of voting, the Dean or her designate and a designated member of the Housing Committee will count the votes.

**D. Campaigning Guidelines**

1. Candidates may discuss their campaign within the limits of a single dining hall table or a single undergraduate suite into which they were invited. If the Housing Committee deems it necessary, the candidates will be offered the opportunity to participate in an information session in the Branford Common Room. No other active, unsolicited in-person campaigning is permitted. Although candidates may address questions directly posed to them, there will be no room-to-room campaigning in Branford or on the Old Campus by the candidates or their representatives.

2. 30 posters and 50 table tents are the only forms of 'paper' advertisement permitted during the campaign.

3. Each slate may submit one email to the Branford College Dean's Office to be sent by the Dean through the official Branford list as maintained by Information Technology Services. This email cannot contain a link or have an attachment. No other unsolicited mass emailing, including use of the Branford College Council email list, is permitted. All emails must conform to Yale's Information Technology Appropriate Use Policy.

4. Campaigning by other electronic methods (social media) is permitted. The Dean, Head and all members of the housing committee must be copied on all electronic campaign materials. Inappropriate content or violations of Yale's posting policy (see the *Undergraduate Regulations* XII.J or XIII.H, for example) may result in disqualification or citations for conduct issues.

5. Any alleged violations of these rules will be reviewed by the Housing Committee. If candidates are found guilty of a violation, the slate may be disqualified or otherwise penalized at the discretion of the Committee.

**E. Responsibilities of the God Quad**

At least one member of the slate will be required to become a member of the Branford College Council. This person must be identified in the statement of intent and will be identified on the ballot.