

Question Time

Could we please have someone with decision-making power from the NSO planning committee come to senate and explain the status of current plans for NSO 2020? After the problematic changes that were done for NSO 2019, there was an attempt by concerned faculty to offer feedback on the NSO structure with the hope that those changes would be listened to. So far, it does not appear that any of that input is being taken seriously or listened to in any way. For example, there were concerns expressed with the proposed new changes for the schedule of dates for NSO 2020, and while we were asked for feedback and told that those dates were still in draft form, ultimately, those dates became the actual schedule. And while we are being told that the "day of" schedule for the NSO visits has not been finalized, once again, many of us are concerned that the schedules will be finalized without taking concerns into account. In particular, there has been no reasonable explanation offered for why registration has been taken away from departments. (Why it is better for the student to be registered in a giant room in groups rather than in a one-on-one setting with their departmental advisor?) There is also no explanation offered for why "advising" and "registration" have been separated into two different activities and in the case of overnight visits, activities on two different days. Any clarity on this matter, before the 2020 NSO schedule is finalized would be greatly appreciated.

A. Livschiz