

Election to the Executive Committee for the Two-Year term 2018-2019:

As you may be aware, the IATLH elections are being held after a very long time. For the benefit of the new members who have joined the community, here is the recap of the process: As per the by-laws of the association, the elections are due for the selection of new executive committee for the two-year term 2018-2019. The elections will be held and the new committee announced during the Annual General Body meeting.

Nomination Process: Nominations were invited in October of 2017 for the five Executive Committee positions and for one open Trustee position from **225 members** who were active as of October 1st 2017. The last date to file the nominations was October 30th 2017.

Nomination Review: After Glimpses of India was over, the nominations received were reviewed and validated for membership requirements. Out of **225 nominations forms that were sent**, we received nominations from only **24 members**. We had 5 nominations each for the position of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and one open Board of Trustee position, 2 nominations for General Secretary, and 3 nominations for Joint Secretary. The nominations included multiple candidates who were nominated for one position as well as single candidate(s) who were nominated for multiple positions.

Nomination Confirmation/Acceptance: Email confirmation was sought from all nominated persons asking them to confirm their consent for being nominated for the position and either accept or withdraw the nomination. In addition, for candidates who were nominated to more than one position, email confirmation was sought to identify the position they would like to be considered and accept or withdraw the nomination for that position.

Elected Unopposed: Based on the responses received, the following EC positions, **President, Vice-president, Treasurer, and General Secretary**, had only one person accepting their nomination to those positions. Hence those candidates are considered elected unopposed (we will announce them at the AGM when introducing the new committee) for those positions. For the **open position on the Board of Trustees**, we had two candidates who accepted the nomination. Following a face-to-face meeting with the candidates for the trustee position, one of them withdrew their nomination in favor of the other. Hence the remaining candidate for the open **Trustee** position is considered elected unopposed (we will announce them at the AGM when introducing the new committee).

Election: For the position of Joint Secretary, we have two candidates, who have accepted the nomination and are eager to serve on that position. Per the bylaws the election to the Joint Secretary Position will held during AGM meeting of the association.

Election Guidelines: Following are the set of guidelines that will be followed for this election. IATLH requests the members to follow these guidelines and enable us to conduct this election in a smooth and fair manner.

1. As the IATLH elections are being held after a long time, to minimize misinformation regarding the elections and the process, please forward any concerns/questions/issues for clarifications to president.iatlh@gmail.com rather than addressing/speculating on these concerns yourselves.
2. As the Indian Community in Tallahassee is small and diverse, please spare no efforts in maintaining harmony during the campaign and refrain from topics and/or issues that could cast IATLH and its community in bad light. Please support your candidate by showing your candidate in positive light.
3. As IATLH membership is family membership based, there will be **only one vote per membership**.
4. All members **must present** some form of photo identification to enable us to verify the membership. (Please note: the committee that will be conducting the election may not recognize all the members by name. So please help them by bringing a photo id.)
5. Voting will be held during the AGM during the allotted time (see Election Schedule below.)
6. Proxy voting and Absentee voting are not allowed.
7. Only IATLH members for 2017 will be eligible to vote in this election. New IATLH members who are becoming members in 2018 are not eligible to vote.

Election Schedule*:

- 1:00 PM – Library Opens – EC to prepare venue for AGM
- 1:15 PM – AGM Convenes – Welcome address, introductions of current EC/BOT
- 1:20 PM – Election Process Overview
- 1:25 PM – Candidate Speeches (each candidate to address the general body for a maximum of 3 minute.
- 1:32 PM – AGM adjourned for Elections
- 1:35 PM** – Polling Opens
- 3:35 PM – Polling Closes
- 3:40 PM – Counting Begins
- 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM AGM reconvenes for regular order of business and Q&A with the members
- 5:00 PM – Results of election and New IATLH Executive Committee Announced.
- 5:15 PM – AGM adjourns

*Tentative schedule with estimated start times subject to minor modifications if needed.

**Art Competition and Republic day activities will also start at this time and will be held concurrently while voting is taking place.

Once again, we would like to thank all of you and appreciate your patience as we move through the process of electing the next Joint Secretary for 2018-2019 IATLH Executive Committee. Best of luck to both the candidates! And whatever the outcome of the election is, we believe the IATLH and the community would be better served with both the candidates and their supporters continue to be involved with the growth of the organization.