

**2019-2020**

**Student  
Government  
Association  
Elections**

**SGA Senator Candidates**

# College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

## Bailey Dawn Bender

I have been a student in the School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences for the better half of two semesters and am currently in my junior year of college. I am a transfer student and have found my time at UNT to be the best years of my college experience. I am interested in representing the student body on issues concerning equality of all students and maintaining the welcoming factor that UNT has when facing issues such as the College Admissions Scandal that has just come into light. This being said, I believe that I will make a difference in the way that new students feel when they step foot onto campus. My relevant experience includes being a member of the Officer board of my sorority, Alpha Phi, the Director of Membership for an organization called Root and Soil that I help found, an organization to promote strong female connection in our society. You may be wondering how I will achieve some of the goals I have in mind, well I can tell you, and repetitive emailing will not work forever. We need people walking around campus, inviting students to events in person, and making people feel welcome and loved on campus every day. I believe it is imperative to have meaningful face to face conversations daily, meeting these students in person, inviting them to hang out, and introducing them to people like them, in person, will be the difference.

## Derek Foshee

My name is Derek Foshee, Junior at the University of North Texas in Denton. I wish to serve as senator for the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences because I want to help ensure that my college, and all of its activities and organizations under it, are fairly treated and looked upon, when compared to other colleges and organizations. It is important for all colleges and organizations to be treated equally, as well as the fair treatment in the overall student body at the University of North Texas. My campaign platform is based on one important thing, equality in all parts and aspects of the University for North Texas. Equality in not only our colleges and organizations, but equality in our entire student body. Everybody should bleed green, and I promise to ensure equality. Love trumps hate, and equality ensures stability, especially in government.

# College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

## Jazmin Gamez

Hello! My name is Jazmin Gamez and I am currently running for senate to represent the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. As a member of the SGA Intern Program, I have worked alongside senators and have witnessed the potential that they have in improving the lives of students. Currently, UNT is known for its culture that embraces diversity and inclusivity. It is important to me that the values of our community are upheld by both our student leadership and the university administration. I believe that we need to embrace the plurality of our voices and use our diversity for the progress of our institution. If elected as your senator, I will work to make sure that these values and the safety of our students are reflected in SGA policy. I plan to--  
Advocate for the safety of DACA recipients on campus and increase the transparency of the resources that are available to them-Increase student safety on campus by raising awareness of sexual assault-Better inform students on the resources and opportunities that are available to them-Work towards the implementation of payment plans for services provided by the Student Health and Wellness Center

## Mariah Cruz

My name is Mariah Cruz & I am honored to announce my run to be your next Senate for the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences. The foundation that I am building my campaign upon is specifically geared towards attaining higher student wages, better healthcare services, & an increased amount of scholarships for the CLASS. Initially, I plan on creating a minimum on-campus wage of \$8.50 to ensure that students are not getting underpaid for the work that goes into having a job & sustaining an education. I will also make sure that every student on campus has a place to turn when they are feeling mentally or physically ill regardless of their financial status at the time. Lastly, regarding scholarships, I believe that the students excelling in the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences deserve as much departmental funding as they can get to assist in paying off their expensive educations. Adhering to this, I will use all of my power to increase the number of departmental scholarships offered in the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences. I hope to make the spread of political efficacy & inclusivity a real impact on students' lives & not an illusion.

# College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

## Marisela Zubia

Being originally from El Paso, Tx, I came to UNT for better access to opportunities and UNT has done just that, but there are always ways to improve. With our student population increasing, I believe our primary focus should be on how UNT affects the lives of its students. I currently work as a career ambassador and I strive to give as many resources and as much knowledge as I can to every student that comes for assistance. Through my work I have learned that students come first and if selected for senator my goal would be to give more resources and more knowledge to every student. I am often tabling in various locations on campus, allowing me to listen to student concerns such as bringing awareness to the excessive food waste and not having access to food during spring break. It's amazing that UNT has created the Food Pantry, but it would be greater if all resources like this could be offered while students are still living in the dorms when class is not in session. As mentioned earlier, there's always ways to improve and by creating a united campus, I believe we can continue the Mean Green dream.

## Ryan Keller

I envision being apart of the SGA Senate to reach the undergraduate student body and expand our footprint so that everyone knows who we are and what we strive to achieve. I believe we can accomplish more community outreach as well as building more student to student support. I hope to promote high quality assistance to anyone who has concerns or questions with SGA. Additionally, I would be most pleased to provide my work ethics and responsibilities to the Senate to keep a productive environment for everyone.

## Subhecha Niraula

Hello, my name is Subhecha Niraula and I am currently a Political Science major at the University of North Texas. As a Senator for the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, I wish to advocate for issues that are prevalent in the current student body and especially in first-generation/ low-income students. Being a low-income and a first generation student is a difficult obstacle when applying and getting through college, having understood these struggles I want to provide current/incoming students with as much resources they need to excel at UNT. UNT has great programs for low-income and first generation students such as the TRiO programs and Student Support Services (SSS) however they are not represented on campus as much and often overlooked, because of this students are not able to learn and use these beneficial resources. As senator, I will actively seek to promote these programs and continuously improve SGA by becoming a more effective and valuable resource for students. Because of my experiences, I believe I am a great candidate for SGA as I can provide a different perspective while making

decisions and legislations at UNT. My goal for SGA is to make resources easily accessible for all students so that everyone has the equal opportunity to excel at this university no matter their income or background.

## **Daniel Ojo**

My campaign platform is to ensure that UNT does a better job in promoting equity and representation on our campus for marginalized students that people often forget about such as Asian American students and Muslim Students. I want to continue my work as a senator and work to have more inclusive dining options for students of different religious faiths such as: halal and kosher options. I also want to promote Academic Readiness within the College of Liberal Arts and Social by having more career-based events for students that are underrepresented in class such as philosophy, French, and anthropology. Pursuing a liberal education can be daunting when looking for work and we can do better in providing resources to our students so they can have a more secure outlook for their future. Lastly, I want to work to improve have buses run on the weekends to off-campus apartments from 8-5 on Saturdays. UNT provides over 50 courses on Saturdays that some students are forced to take however we provide no means of transportation for these students. I want to encourage DCTA to provide running buses for this short amount of time.

## **Kevin Herrera**

Hi, my name is Kevin Herrera and I am running for a position as a senator in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. Currently I am an officer for the Hispanic Student Association, and one of my goals is to create a safe space and community for Latinx people. As senator, I would aim to create an environment of inclusivity and create comradery in my college. I would love to create a larger identity for my college, teamwork and cooperation seems to be lacking and I'd love to create a better sense of community. I would also like to create a bigger program for CLASS majors to reach out to potential employers, and create a bigger network of connections. I would love the opportunity to become a senator and understand the obstacles of my college from a different point of view, and continue to take action.

## **Erich DeSchepper**

As your former senator for the 2018-2018 academic year, I understand many of of the complexities that exist within many concerns brought to myself within the past year. I personally subscribe myself to the the idea of equal and fair representation for all of our students in our Senate, whether they can advocate for themselves or not. I want to work personally with UNT students to create and envision and a future that put our students #1. Utilitarianism, inclusion, and transparency are 3 values that I personally hold important to myself and I believe we should be doing that together as a MEAN GREEN family. We are currently in a monumental stage in our lives that calls for attention and attendance 24 hours of our life, because of this, I feel a personal duty to establish and cultivate an environment that everyone can flourish within. This is our vision, together. Represent the interest of students, not faculty.

# College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

## **Madison Ripley**

As a potential UNT SGA Senator, I plan to be a voice for all students at UNT and help those who don't have a voice to make sure they're heard. I hope to have more representation of students in Senate in all aspects. As a Media Arts major, and a potential CLASS senator I want to have more creative-focused students represented in Senate. Overall I want to make UNT as well as SGA a safe and welcoming environment for everyone!

## **Nick Kann**

I would like to provide a voice for all constituents' parts of the Mayborn School of Journalism. Since we will be joining CLASS in the fall, I want these students to know that they still matter and that I will be their voice for getting what the Journalism programs need. I will listen and work closely with all my fellow senators on the needs of my constituents. I want to make sure everyone feels like they matter and are proud to be a part of this amazing University.

# College of Business

## **Jessica Olvera**

My name is Jessica Olvera and I am a BS/MS Accounting major. Over the past year I have had the privilege of serving as an intern for SGA and have learned the importance of using my voice to advocate for those who don't have a platform of their own. As a senator I plan to advocate for full honesty and transparency behind every action and decision that is made on behalf of the College of Business. The changes that are to take place following our \$30 million donation will impact every student within the college and I believe, as students, we have a right to be made aware of the decisions as they occur. Furthermore, as senator I plan on strengthening relations with other colleges to promote more real world situations and opportunities to further prepare business students. If elected, I promise to listen to my constituents and advocate for the betterment of UNT and the College of Business. I have loved every second of my time spent at UNT and would love to have the opportunity to be a voice for my peers.

## **Joshua Crosby**

The University of North Texas is one of the top universities in Texas and I intend to keep it that way whilst also pushing us further. I am deeply committed to advancing the educational and social experience of UNT students. If I am elected I intend to use my position to better the Mean Green experience for students by bringing the voice of my fellow peers with me. I also aim to help prepare students to become thoughtful, successful, and engaged citizens of our campus, community, and most importantly our world.

# College of Business

## Isaiah Littlejohn

Service, Accountability, and Advocation are the 3 principles that I want to base my term on. Through serving not only my fellow constituents within the college of business but also the entire student body. I plan to advocate for more inclusion, advising programs, and events inside the college of business. As well bring a passion and strong-willed mindset to fight for the voices of the entire student body in every which way possible. Combating tangible issues is my goal, it could be more parking, diversifying faculty, and also fighting for the inclusion of all students regardless of gender, race, and sexual orientation. I will do anything in my power to help improve the college of business but also the entire university! I hope to have your vote and remember Service, Accountability, and Advocation 3 ways to progress our campus!

# College of Education

## Victory Nwabufo

Hello! My name is Victory Nwabufo and I am currently a second-year sophomore majoring in Human Development and Family Sciences and minoring in Leadership of Communities and Non-Profit Organizations. My campaign platform for 2019-2020 will be building on what I have done this year to help bridge the gap between Foster Care Alumni and UNT. I will specifically focus on the potential central coordinator position that serves both the Foster Care Alumni and Houseless Student populations. As our system stands currently, there are so many incredible resources available for our students, but they are spread across many different divisions and can easily be looked over or forgotten. By pushing to provide a central coordinator, we are pushing for greater consistency and outreach for these student populations.

# College of Engineering

## Eric King

To fortify technological innovation and excellence at Discovery Park.

## Lorenzo Jaques

To fortify technological innovation and excellence at Discovery Park.

## Nathan Collins

To fortify technological innovation and excellence at Discovery Park.

## Zach Walker

To fortify technological innovation and excellence at Discovery Park.

# College of Health and Public Service

## Jennifer M. Moyers

With our involvement in the Student Government Association, the College of Health and Public Service can share our own programming on a larger platform, as well as more readily participate with the programming of other colleges. By developing a partnership with our fellow colleges, the College of Health and Public Service will have the opportunity to engage with the University on a wider and more macro level. Thank you for the opportunity to facilitate this partnership, and to nurture the link between the College of Health and Public Service and our larger University community.

## Keaton Hare

Hello! I'm Keaton Hare and I am a sophomore Social Work major running for SGA Senate to represent the College of Health and Public Services. Being a member of UNT Democrats, Circle K International, and IGNITE has exposed me to many issues on campus. As a senator, I will work to amplify the voices of everyday students who are passionate about campus issues but don't know where to start creating change. I will advocate for: -Increased opportunities for volunteering and community service on campus, specifically a strong partnership between HPS and the Center for Leadership and Service-Raising the minimum wage for student workers - Providing and spreading the word of Sexual Assault resources on campus -Transparency and accountability within SGA -More services open 24/7 on campus for student use -Increasing the affordability of textbooks

## Kwanna Henderson

My platform is going to be built on enhancing the voice of the students. I want to encourage more student and faculty involvement within my college. I want to help build up the College of Health and Public Service. Networking is imperative to helping professions, a referral could go a long way when it comes to potential clients. I believe those professional relationships have to start now. I am just getting started as senator and I want to do my part in expanding the voice of my college and creating unparalleled networking opportunities for the future helping professionals in our community.

## Seth Rodriguez

My platform is the enrichment and representation of the College of Health and Public Service while also serving the greater student population as a whole. I hope to bring a unique perspective on issues by combining lessons learned within the social work education as well as military experience. Education is a powerful tool and must be properly advocated for and protected in order to ensure a better future for all from the micro levels we interact on a daily basis to the macro levels of intercontinental relationships.



## **Brianna Sattaur**

Uniquely thinking leads to success which is ideal to steer on the right track. Hello Mean Green family, my name is Brianna Sattaur, a first year Health and Public Services student, and I am running for University of North Texas Health and Public Services Senator. I have been in Student Government Association for the past spring 2019 semester, and I am heavily involved throughout campus as well leading in different areas through different organizations. Being a true leader, defines a student body filled with ideas not only for the HPS but for the campus community. I feel as though it's time to bring awareness to the forgotten college my college, Health and Public Services, to recognize all the majors falling under it; mine being Behavior Analysis with a minor in Special Education. Concerns within my college consist of exposure for each major through more events, guest speakers, workshops, and even collabs with other colleges creating an abundance of knowledge here at UNT. My duty is to solve student concerns not only within my college but throughout the campus. Of Course I don't know every issue dealt with my peers, but with my knowledge, passion, and drive I am willing to take the extra mile to satisfy their needs collectively learning about their diverse perspectives. Your vote matters.

# **College of Merchandising, Hospitality and Tourism**

## **Jessica McCoy**

As a student senate for the College of Hospitality, Merchandising, and Tourism I believe it is important to support each college. With that being said, I know each college puts on different activities and I think it would be great if the different colleges would show up and support their activities. I think this is important because we are all in the same college and to know what each college represents as well. Another goal for being an officer is having more activities for Merchandising. I believe merchandising needs more organizations to choose from so people have more options. Our programs here at UNT have so much to offer and I think that it is essential to prove what our college has to offer and why it is one of the top programs in the United States. Being Senate of this college would provide me to reach my goals of making the College of Hospitality, Merchandising, and Tourism the opportunity to be well-rounded.

## **Ben Wagner**

To help promote our uniquely outstanding college of Merchandising, Hospitality & Tourism. To better utilize student talent on campus to improve relevant areas, such as: merchandising in the UNT bookstore as well as an increased emphasis on excellence for UNT guided tours & visits. To facilitate greater extracurricular involvement through direct communication.

# **College of Music**

## **Loke Lovett**

Music majors, vocalists especially, have a significant financial responsibility to pay for accompanists for their performances and lessons. If elected, I will work to find a way for UNT to lead the way in alleviating some of that financial burden. I will continue to work towards improving undergraduate voter turnout in national elections, potentially by using excused absences during the early-voting period.

# **College of Science**

## **Alexis Anderson**

If I was elected for senator one thing I would accomplish meeting the needs of everyone. Also, I would try to get more volunteering and shadowing opportunities available for the pre professional students. My main focus is provide more opportunities to my classmates.

## **Nardos Kiros**

Hello I would like to be chosen as your 2019-2020 college of science senator in order to bring more unity between the students on this campus. Some goals I would like to see happen on this campus is to have more resources available for transfer or non-traditional students in order to give them an easier transition. I also would like to see more professional/networking opportunities given to college of science students to help prepare them for their future endeavors. These are just a couple of ideas that I will be pushing for next year, but I will also be working on getting your guys voice heard as well. That will be my main objective to accommodate everyone as best as I possibly can and making everyone's college experience the most enjoyable it can be.

# **College of Visual Arts and Design**

## **Asia Youngs-Bailey**

As a Senator, I understand that it is my duty to serve my constituents in the best way that represents them and improves their times here at the University of North Texas. By doing so, I will continue my ongoing project, the Art Closet. The Art Closet is a resource on campus that I started in 2018 to provide students in the College of Visual Arts & Design supplies that they may need to be successful in their art courses. The Art Closet will closely resemble the Food Pantry that is in partnership with the Dean of Students office and will be there when students are in a financial bind and cannot purchase necessary resources. I am still working on refining the resource/program to make it work best for College of Visual Arts & Students. With that being

said, I am more than willing to establish more programs and resources for the student body, especially those within the College of Visual Arts & Design.

## Honors College

### Angie Whistler

I'm Angie Whistler, a proud member of the Honors College since day one. As an officer for the Honors College Programming Council and both honors societies within the college, the Honors Program has always been my top priority. As the college with the most diverse coverage of degrees at UNT, we have the unique privilege to create inclusion and increased opportunities for all majors. Unfortunately, the potential I see in this program is not met. As your senator, my defining motivations is ensuring every single Honors student, of every major and background, are included in the unique opportunities this college presents. In order to achieve such goals, specific attention must be paid to unique needs of each Honors student, focusing on the expansion of opportunities to reach outside the already established guidelines, as well as prioritizing underrepresented Arts and Education students. Easing the qualifications for achieving Honors Distinctions with more diverse and online classes would achieve just that. Furthermore, expanding the thesis program to include both research and performances would benefit the large net that this college casts. Most importantly, as your senator, I hope to honor the individualism and honor the diversity of all students in the honors college.

## Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science

### Connie Hu

As a SGA senator, I would focus on the continuation of integration of TAMS further into the UNT community. More importantly, I want to help create a SGA that effectively listens, represents and responds to student's concerns. I want to represent the Texas Academy of Math and Science and provide a voice and allow SGA to have a stronger connection with the student body. I advocate for less expensive parking in front of McConnell Hall, more 3-hour electives, and greater funding for activities such as academic competitions. However, the most ambitious goal remains: integration of the TAMSters as important and influential members of the UNT community.

### Nika Pajuh

My goals for office include but are not limited to helping to better integrate TAMS into the larger UNT community and erase stigmas that I've found exist between traditional students and TAMS. Additionally, I aim to work on extending some opportunities TAMS students and resident advisors are afforded to the larger NTU community, such as our talent auctions and speaker opportunities that allow us to give back to the community. One aspect of TAMS I particularly enjoy is the wide availability of volunteering opportunities offered, especially

throughout local schools in the DFW area. I've heard from many traditional students in my classes that they are also looking for ways to help the area in their areas of strength, both to aid in their own leadership skills, but also to help cultivate interest in their areas of passion, such as music and science. Overall, I aim to help UNT and TAMS better integrate in terms of clubs and organizations that often separate us, and to help both groups take advantage of the resources available.

## **Reese Neal**

As a student at the Texas Academy of Math and Science, I feel that I would provide a unique perspective to the Student Government Association Senate. The nature of the TAMS program is very isolating from the greater UNT community. As a result, there is a widespread sentiment within the TAMS community that we do not have a voice at our university. This sentiment is somewhat warranted. TAMS is a relatively new program with respect to most colleges at UNT; UNT's administrative structure was not designed with our needs, as minors and early-entrance college students, in mind. Speaking from personal experience, there have been multiple instances in which I have had immense difficulty dealing with UNT departments, such as financial aid and the wellness center, solely because I was a TAMS student. Having a voice on the Student Government Association that is able to bring the issues of the TAMS student body to UNT administration is imperative to ensuring the equal treatment and inclusion of TAMS students at UNT. I have attended a Student Government Association Senate Meeting before. Beyond TAMS-specific issues, I am enthusiastic about being directly involved in discussions about student life, university resources, and civic engagement.

## **Neal Davar**

It would be an honor to be the SGA Senate for TAMS. As the SGA Senator, I will use my unique role as a liaison between TAMS and UNT to fulfill the goals of solving various issues that affect both my peers and the TAMS program as a whole, such as lack of parking and the one million dollar funding cut respectively. I will capitalize on my abilities of being a good listener and communicator to ensure that the opinions and concerns of peers, various TAMS administrators, and UNT authorities are vetted appropriately at meetings and discussion events. As an organized individual, I will ensure that I will always be prepared to discuss a well-developed list of notes, comments, and feedback and will be ready to work diligently with other senators and member of the rest of the government body to create realistic goals to help solve these issues. Finally, I will independently strategize solutions to these problems through discussions with other colleges who may have faced similar issues, observe the issue from various perspectives, and create blueprints of potential solutions. By being an SGA member, I hope to make a positive impact on the TAMS and UNT community.