

STUDENT SENATE 2018-19 CANDIDATES

Member at Large Candidates



Amir Almamri

Class standing: Junior

Major: Marketing

Biography:

My name is Amir Almamri and I am a Junior student here at Wayne State University. I was born in Detroit, but lived in Canada where I learned the French language. I come from a Middle Eastern family and grew up practicing Islam. Although I chose Wayne State University for simple reasons such as its distance from Windsor, I've grown to really appreciate my decision and the city of Detroit. From my time here, I have enjoyed the strengths we have here at Wayne state such as its diversity and the culture of Detroit. At Wayne State, I am a Pre-Med student pursuing a marketing degree. During my free time I enjoy using photography to explore new places in Detroit, volunteering, and attending random Wayne State events. My goal for next year is to be even more involved and to give back more to this community and school.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I am interested in running for Student Senate because I would like to improve the culture at Wayne State University. I believe that Wayne State University is a great school in a great city so it deserves much more spirit by its students. As a member of Student Senate, I would like to increase school spirit by increasing student involvement. This will not only pertain to on-campus and off-campus students only, but it will also affect commuter students. By adding more events during more appropriate times that would better fit commuter students' schedules, there will be better involvement at our school. Another way to increase student involvement at Wayne State is to better advertise events to students. Wayne State needs to develop a more effective system to better find clubs that are more suitable to the specific interests of students. As a candidate I would like to hear better solutions from fellow students to increase school involvement and school spirit. I have been fortunate to have really enjoyed my time at Wayne State and I think it's time more students feel the same way with their experience here.



Stuart Baum

Class standing: Sophomore

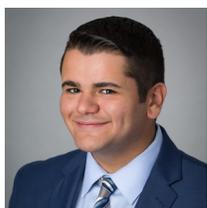
Major: Public Affairs

Biography:

Stuart Baum is a passionate and hardworking sophomore, majoring in Public Affairs and minoring in Criminal Justice. As a Student Senator, he has been a champion for policies and practices that promote the best interests of students. He has successfully advocated for University-wide general education reform that will reduce the amount of general education credits required to graduate, will significantly save students money, and will help eliminate the obstacles they face to graduating on time. He has also worked with a coalition of environmentalist student organizations to push the University to adopt more sustainable practices. As a student representative on the WSU Board of Governors Student Affairs Committee, he has fought for the strengthening and broadening of student support services on campus, while holding both the faculty and administration accountable. As the Student Senate's Director of Governmental Affairs, Stuart has organized efforts to bring a new polling location to Wayne State's campus, that will give the WSU campus community easier access to voting and empower them to make their voices heard by local, state, and national policymakers. Stuart has consistently supported efforts to protect students threatened both by the Trump Administration's Muslim ban and their attempt to revoke the DACA program. Outside of his work on Student Senate, he has registered 3,600 Wayne State students as first-time voters, and helped draft a resolution to create a new and more affordable meal plan that is now available to all students.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I am running for Senate because I want to improve the Wayne State University experience for every student. My guiding principle on Student Senate is to do whatever it takes to help the greatest number of students graduate with their degree in the least amount of time for the least amount of money. I believe that students' interests and needs should take priority in all WSU affairs, and I will fight on their behalf every day. Too often students complain of getting "Wayne-Stated" and having their concerns ignored by the Administration. However, I believe that through hard work we can redefine "Wayne-Stated" to refer to a university that revolves around its students. Once re-elected I plan to fight the continuous rise of tuition, to fix the substandard and unhealthy dining experience on campus, to enhance the services and resources provided to students, to improve access to opportunities through the expansion of affordable regional public transportation, and to help foster the development of a safe, inclusive, and diverse campus environment.



Hussein Bazzi

Class standing: Freshman

Major: Public Health

Biography:

As an incoming freshman at Wayne State University, from the beginning my aspiration has been to attend medical school. More precisely, I became very interested in majoring in Public Health, while pursuing my pre-med path. I have chosen to pursue Public Health, because of my dedication in making a difference in the world. Henceforth, allowing me to grasp an understanding of key public health concepts, will help further my success in making a difference in the world. I really enjoy being apart of a community and helping make a difference. Upon deciding to attend Wayne State I became very excited to discover network connections and be apart of the community. Throughout this year I have been apart of the Irvin D. Reid Honors College, Community of Scholars, Lebanese Student Association, and have been interning with the Abdul El-Sayed campaign. I really hope to branch out become more involved within the Wayne State community.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I strive to prosper, gain new experiences, and contribute to society. Being apart of Student Senate will allow me to do so. If I become apart of Student Senate, I hope to work with other individuals to contribute to making a difference for our peers, while gaining new experiences and growing as an individual. Being that Wayne State University is one of the most diverse universities, I feel that it is important for our Student Senate to be diverse as well. Being a Lebanese, American-Muslim I am confident that I could be a voice for many, and bring many attributes to the table. Different customs, beliefs, and cultures will all play a factor in molding our campus. I believe that through my different experiences, beliefs, and upbringing, I will be able to contribute to the energy of the campus and help better it. If elected onto Student Senate, I will forever leave my watermark on Wayne State's Campus.



Alexis Brown

Class standing: Sophomore

Major: Sociology and Urban Studies

Biography:

I graduated from Avondale High School and in my four years as a student there I was Class President. Through this and many other leadership roles throughout high school and college I have developed many skills that will equip me for the job. Some of these skills include working well within a group, communication, accountability, relationship building, confidence, comfort with public speaking, and many others. Here at Wayne State I am a student athlete. I am a Sophomore double majoring in sociology and urban studies, and the sport I participate in is track and field. My goal after college is to work with the youth of Detroit in a way that will empower them to believe in themselves by equipping them with the resources and skills needed to do so. I also want to simply work within the city.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I am interested in running for student senate because I have a passion for people and I am all about providing platforms for people's voices to be heard and for others to be lifted up. I am also interested because I would like to help bring positive change to the university via students to make the university as a whole better.



Robert Calimente

Class standing: Junior

Major: Finance and Public Affairs

Biography:

I'm Rob Calimente and I'm a junior studying Finance and Public Affairs. Honestly, I'm just your average college student: I show up late to class with a mocha iced latte with extra whipped cream because I forgot to Tapingo, so I waited in line for 13 minutes. And just like any other college student, I waited until the last minute to complete this application. But, it's always been a passion of mine learn from my peers. I strive to balance diverse viewpoints from all corners of campus to ensure each student is equally represented. This is why I want to run for student body representative.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

Going to Wayne State is costly. The time spent finding a parking spot and the tuition money spent for subpar wifi are accepted because the opportunity cost to obtain a degree is worth it. Instead of passively accepting these terms, I am conscious of the certain aspects across the university that need improvement. Because of my participation in greek life and my involvement with faculty members, I have the rapport to recognize student interests and translate them into a vibrant, Wayne State community. I want to represent the interests of students who sit back and let their concerns build up. I will be dedicated to the student body and I am ready to commit to fulfilling the concerns of students. I am fully prepared to handle the responsibilities of a member-at-large student body representative.



Riya Chhabra

Class standing: Freshman

Major: Public Health

Biography:

Hello, my name is Riya Chhabra and I am a freshman at Wayne State in the Irvin D. Reid Honors College. I am pre-med as well as a public health major. I have served in student government in my past schooling years as well as worked as a Teacher's Aid. These experiences have cultivated my interest in current events as well as collaborating with others in sight of a common goal. I am also the Public Relations chair for Scholars of Service and enjoy actively volunteering through the community whether that be tutoring or fundraising. In my free time I enjoy spending time with my friends and family, reading, playing tennis, and watching Netflix.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I am interested in running for student senate because I want to help make Wayne State a better place by giving a voice to students who feel as if they have no say. This position will allow me to give back and actively work towards creating change. I want to help address issues of safety, discrimination, and academic policies in order to create a more unified and diverse community. I also believe that this position will help teach me integral life skills of leadership as well as communication.



Jasmine Coles

Class standing: Junior

Major: Honors Biology

Biography:

Jasmine Coles is a sophomore in the Med-Direct Program with a major in Honors Biology and a minor in Health Psychology and Public Health. Jasmine is passionate about the city of Detroit where she grew up and considers Wayne State to be home. As a product of the Detroit Public School system, Jasmine understands the importance of education and believes that Wayne State should be the front runner of higher learning. For the last two years she has served on Student Senate as a Senator and as the Director of Community Affairs. These past two years, Jasmine has made it her mission to work on decreasing the gap in graduation rates between African American students and White students by partnering with OMSE and the provost office to listen to Black students' feedback, increasing the number of counselors in CAPS, and addressing health concerns in Towers Cafe. For her next year along with her past projects, she'll strive to improve food quality in dining halls, improve transportation on and around campus, and find ways to give Wayne State a community feel for those students who commute. Other than Senate, Jasmine is involved in a range of cultural organizations and community groups.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

In the last two years, Student Senate has allowed me to use my skills to benefit students and gain new insight as to how the University works. I am interested in running for Senate because I want to continue to better myself and serve the needs of the students that I represent. I want to influence change and be a part of the decisions made by the University every day. I wish to make sure that there is a level of transparency from all legislative bodies. Diversity within any student organization is important and I know that I have a unique perspective that will be beneficial to the Senate.



Ajanta Dutta
Class standing: Senior
Major: Biology

Biography:

Ajanta is a Senior at Wayne State, majoring in Biology. She was an elected Senator at Large during the 2016-2017 term; during the 2016-2017 term, she sat on the University Assessment Council and the Student Activities Funding Board, was involved in Academic project group and is currently working with the 'no smoking-policy' project group. Additionally, Ajanta is proud member of the WSU's Bangladeshi Student Association, works as Orientation Leader, and lab assistant, and is a former peer mentor. In her downtime, Ajanta loves binge watching Netflix and is obsessed with reality competition such as Big Brother, Amazing Race and Survivor.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

Student Senate is the voice of the students; I am interested in running for WSU's Student Senate in order to ensure that the needs and ideas of students are heard and fulfilled . I am very passionate about student success and I believe that the ultimate goal is creating the best experience and learning environment at Wayne State University for each and every student.



Marcella Eid
Class standing: Freshman
Major: Political Science

Biography:

Currently I am a freshman in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Irvin D. Reid Honors College at Wayne State University, majoring in Political Science and minoring in Business Administration. When I am not on campus, I work at a nationally recognized full-service law firm as an Administrative Assistant since I have always had a passion for the practice of law. I am now taking that passion and using it to go to law school and to become an attorney in the near future. I am originally from West Bloomfield and commute to campus, but now consider the city of Detroit to be my new amazing and unique home. I also love Detroit sports I am also a huge (hopeful) Pistons fan. I pride myself on my academic work and was thrilled to recently make the Dean's List after my first semester in college.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I am interested in running for Student Senate because I believe that Wayne State University is a world-class institution, on par with the other big universities in the state. I hope to raise awareness on this fact so that more students can have pride for their school and be #WarriorStrong. Since I am a commuter, I know issues that many other commuters have to deal with and believe I can help improve these issues, especially around broken parking lot elevators. I also plan to highlight student engagement so that more students can voice their concerns to the Student Senate. One idea to do this is by improving the website. The Student Senate also has a lot of institutional power, and I hope to use this power to stop tuition from increasing. Finally, I was inspired by my brother who was previously the President of the Student Senate to run for this position. I saw first hand all the positive change we can create and hope to continue to make the student body proud.



Waleed Eliwat
Class standing: Junior
Major: Biochemistry

Biography:

Waleed Eliwat is a second-year student at Wayne State University pursuing a Biochemistry degree and hopes to attend medical school in the future. He is often called a self-starter, a risk-taker, and an overall fun guy by his supervisors, peers, and friends. He is currently a Resident Advisor in The Towers Residential Suites on the international students floor, treasurer of the American Chemical Society, and president of the Magic the Gathering Club. In his free time he enjoys giving back to the community. He is a Site Leader for the Alternative Spring Break Detroit program where he coordinates volunteer opportunities, learning dialogues, and arts & culture events in the Detroit area. Over the summer he volunteers at North Star Reach, a summer camp for children with extreme medical conditions that typically would not be able to attend an overnight camp. From these diverse experiences he has honed skills of conflict resolution, time-management, building inclusive communities, and empathetic leadership. As a Student Senate General Body Member he plans to utilize these skills to hear the needs of our student population and address concerns in a productive way to improve the safety, inclusivity, and comfort of our Warriors.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

Wayne State University is an urban campus like no other in the nation. Our 150 acre central campus attempts to provide the traditional college experience, but this culture tends to underserve our large commuter population. Waleed's initial interest in Student Senate came from observing a high need in the community for inclusive representation of nonresidential students. When you elect Waleed Eliwat to student senate, he will ensure that students who commute are represented when it comes to improving campus life. This includes advocating for fair parking fees, comfortable places on campus, affordable meal plans, the expansion of campus partnerships to include non-residential students, and an increase in the safety of students with better nighttime lighting on the walkways to parking structures and inner campus. Waleed aims to represent the diverse general population of Wayne State to give our full 27,000 students a voice in a dialogue they otherwise risk being omitted from.



Ali Fakhri
Class standing: Freshman
Major: Public Health Honors

Biography:

None given

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

None given



Resma Gadde
 Class standing: Senior
 Major: Nutrition

Biography:
 Hello! My name is Resma Gadde, an undergraduate student here at WSU. I am a nutrition major with a psychology minor in hopes to pursue my dream of becoming a neurosurgeon. On my free time, I love to dance, hang out with friends and watch Grey's Anatomy. I have served in the Senate previously and truly enjoyed seeing all my hard work and spent time pay off! I hope to do so again this year, by showing even more accomplishments!

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?
 Hey everyone! I am running for Wayne State University's Senate because I believe I have what it takes to make the University better and increase a student's success here at WSU. I am a very passionate student whether it is academics or extracurriculars and will do whatever it takes to strive and accomplish my goal. I have served on the Student Senate for a year already, and have learned so much as well as help accomplish so much in so little time. I hope to do so once again! This university has shaped me to be the better person I am today by helping me improve my skills and now, I hope to use these skills and give back as much as I have gained from this University for the second time.



Bhavna Guduguntla
 Class standing: Senior
 Major: Public Health

Biography:
 Bhavna Guduguntla is currently a junior in the Honors College and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She is a part of the MedStart program at Wayne State, and is majoring in Public Health with minors in Global Studies and Biological Sciences. She also currently serves as the Co-President of GlobeMed, a student run non-profit partnered with a grassroots organization in New Delhi, India that is geared toward raising awareness of global health issues, resolving disparities in health equity, and empowering women and children. With a passion for research and discovery, Bhavna also works in a neurosurgery lab at the Wayne State School of Medicine. Ultimately, Bhavna hopes to become a global-health-orientated physician focused on both the macro- and micro-level aspects of healthcare.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?
 As a passionate, vocal activist, I am running for Student Senate to represent my peers and a school I have become so proud to attend. As a senate member, I will be a part of an organization through which I can advocate for students who may otherwise feel unrepresented. Additionally, I aspire to reduce the difference between upperclassmen and lowerclassmen tuition rates and increase inclusion on campus, especially to incoming freshman, as an effort to decrease Wayne State's drop out rate, and the Student Senate is a powerful platform through which I can accomplish these goals.



Nourhan Hamadi
 Class standing: Junior
 Major: Public Health

Biography:
 Nourhan Hamadi is a junior undergraduate student studying Public Health and Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies with a Pre-Med focus. While serving as Student Senate President during the 2017-2018 term, she was also active in extracurriculars through her participation and leadership in organizations like the Lebanese Student Association, Wayne State University's Commission on the Status of Women (COSW), the Arab American Women's Business Council, and as an intern at Planned Parenthood. During the 2017-2018 Student Senate term, Nourhan has advocated for many changes to occur at WSU. These changes include --but are not limited to-- the implementation of feminine hygiene product availability in women's and gender inclusive restrooms, student input on advising, more flexibility in class scheduling, increasing methods to alert students of safety concerns and precautionary actions, the creation of a Middle Eastern/North African racial category on all Wayne State University documents, suicide prevention initiatives, and the overall rejuvenation of the University's bus system. She is dedicated to research minority women's reproductive health care education and access, fetal brain development, women's access to quality prenatal care, and diversity/bias within the healthcare workforce.

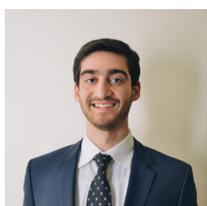
Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?
 This is not just another election. The Student Senate has been through too much to increase student success to turn back now. We have come too far to abandon the change we fought for these past few months; the work we have collectively passionately strived for is too powerful to allow for discontinuation. It is far more than an "interest," it has become a major part of my everyday life to speak for student triumph.



Bilal Hammoud
 Class standing: Junior
 Major: Psychology

Biography:
 My Name is Bilal Hammoud, I am pursuing the Behavioral and Connective Neuroscience program here at Wayne State University. I am involved in a diverse array of student organizations and provide community outreach for all of Detroit. I enjoy rock climbing at the Rec, Singing with the Wayne State Choir, Dancing at Swing Club, and Volunteering with Sigma Pi. Wayne State has become apart of who I am and I would be honored to Represent it.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?
 Over the years I have become very involved on Wayne State Universities campus and have become apart of the diverse communities that it offers. Through these organizations and communities I have seen the growth and potential in our amazing University and I would like to be a catalyst for that progress. Through Student Senate I plan to work closely with students and staff to provide a greater campus life and community for all.



Abdul Harris
 Class standing: Junior
 Major: Psychology

Biography:
 Abdul Harris is a current Junior at Wayne State University. He is pursuing a major in Psychology with a minor in biology and history. Abdul wishes to represent the study body to the best of his abilities - as done in the past - and will continue to fight for the voice of students to be heard, both on and off campus.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?
 I am interested in running for senate because I wish to continue my service to the University that has given so much to me. I have a multitude of bright ideas I wish to bring to the Senate, and look for the students to provide me the ability to represent them once again so I can bring the change so many wish to see at Wayne State.



Dalia Ibrahim
Class standing: Junior
Major: Political Science & Peace and Conflict Studies

Biography:
 Dalia Ibrahim is junior who currently serves as the Vice President and Irvin D. Reid Honors Representative on Senate. Previously she has served as Treasurer, SAFB member, and Committee Chair. During the 2016-2017, she worked diligently to collect and expand women's resources on campus including access to feminine hygiene products and adequate accommodations for nursing mothers. This year, she worked to understand and tackle the disparity in black-white graduation rates. In addition to Student Senate, Dalia is actively involved in many student organizations on campus. She is the founder and President of Detroit Community Assistance Program (DCAP), a group dedicated to alleviating the symptoms of homelessness specifically in and around Detroit. She is also a Resident Advisor in Atchison Hall where she works side by side with students to ensure their academic and person well-being.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?
 I am interested in running for Student Senate because I believe it is incredibly important to create a diverse and inclusive environment that caters to our students' successes.



Abid Imam
Class standing: Sophomore
Major: Chemical Engineering

Biography:
 Abid Imam is a committed student at Wayne state university who is interested in achieving academic excellence. He is a well rounded person with experiences abroad in addition to being a sport enthusiast. He has interest in basketball, swimming and much more. Furthermore, he loves helping others around him succeed as he does so himself. Lastly, he will do anything to do what is just and achieve what is best in the interest of the university and its community.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?
 I am interested in being a part of the senate because I am a person who likes to be part of change. I am a person who wants to be a part of Wayne states history. Also, i would like to have the experience of being part of this team so that i can give back to the community in whatever way that I can.



Jakylia Johnson
Class standing: Junior
Major: Public Affairs

Biography:
 I am a transfer student from Schoolcraft College, where I earned an Associates in Business. I am currently studying public affairs at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. I am an African American woman, who aspires to be a politician.

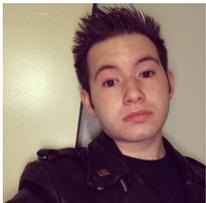
Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?
 I am interested in running for Student Senate because I want to represent the African American minority at Wayne State University. I want to make sure that we are not left out in the decision making. Being that I am also a transfer student, I want to provide better transitioning programs for transfer students so that they can feel more comfortable here. Becoming a part of a government in any way, shape, or form, has been my dream. I want to help people and create more/better opportunities for minorities and women.



Paul Jones
Class standing: Junior
Major: Urban Studies

Biography:
 I'm a native Detroitier passionate about urban planning, community development, and politics. Since beginning at Wayne State in 2015, I've been involved in hall council, RHA, and other student orgs related to my major. I became a Resident Advisor in the Fall 2016 semester which has allowed me to build community in housing at WSU and push for better policies and programming for residents on campus. Since March of 2016, I have held the position of Urban Government Intern in the City of Detroit's Planning & Development Department. I have been a part of various neighborhood revitalization efforts like the Islandview Greater Villages Neighborhood Plan, and I cherish the opportunity to work alongside Detroiters while building project management and community engagement skills. All these experiences have made me incredibly proud to be a Warrior. Being a student at Wayne State has been a unique experience that has taught me a lot about myself and others. I would like to be a part of Senate to give back and be a voice to my fellow Warriors who mean so much to me.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?
 I'm interested in running for Student Senate because I have unique perspective, skills, and experiences that would be valuable for Senate and the WSU student body. Wayne State students deserve a Senate that continues to push the university to be greater and to become the institution Warriors deserve. My background in housing and city government give me a thorough understanding of how to work with teams and get things done. I'm excited for the opportunity, with your vote, to bring these things to WSU's Student Senate.



Henry Kennedy-Cobb
Class standing: Junior
Major: Political Science

Biography:
 I was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan, but I have lived in the Metro-Detroit area for most of my life. My house is a union home, with my mom being a member of the MEA. In high school I was a member of both the Legislative Debate and Quiz Bowl teams, and I received several awards for both. While at Wayne State, I was a member of Atchison's Hall Council for a year. I am currently a punk rock radio host on Wayne's own WAYN station as well as treasurer of the Libertarian Socialist Alliance.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?
 I am running for student senate to fight for democracy at home and to represent the ideals and values of the Libertarian Socialist Alliance on Student Senate. To that end, my principal goals are: freezing tuition increases, providing diverse and higher quality dining options, designating smoking areas on campus, and creating a memorial for Michigan's veterans of the Spanish Civil War. I cite Jesus Christ, Karl Marx, Tony Benn, and Salvador Allende as my political inspirations.



Ryan Laith

Class standing: Senior

Major: Biology

Biography:

Ryan Laith is a Senior at Wayne State University. He is pursuing a degree in Biology. Ryan has shown dedication to advancing the standard of life for WSU students. Laith has held the position of Director of Community Affairs and Senator at Large during the 2016-2017 term. As a Senator, Ryan led Mental Health Awareness week which included events such as Big Talk, Meet the CAPS team, "You're Worth it Day" and Puppy Therapy. In the past, Ryan Laith has advocated for an increase in counselors and to shrink the minimum 16 week wait for counselling. Ryan has also served on the FSST committee and is also the appointed to the Board of Governor's Academic Affairs Committee. There he has effectively represented the diverse student body.

Ryan is active in Wayne State's campus as a former Peer Mentor since 2015, Orientation Leader, and SI Leader. Ryan is passionate about helping students succeed.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

Ryan Laith is interested in advancing student success and the standard of life for all students. Ryan is interested in further advancing the academic success of student through by advancing the learning communities, namely Peer Mentoring, creating a Peer 2 Peer Mentorship program, and by taking the stigma away from mental health issues.



Lynn Losh

Class standing: Graduate Student

Major: English

Biography:

Lynn Losh is a graduate student in the English program, focusing on literary and cultural studies. She received her B.A. in Communication from Wayne State in 2016. After receiving her MA, she plans to pursue her PhD. with goal of becoming a university professor. Lynn works part-time at United Parcel Service, which helped her achieve a Graduate Professional Scholarship for the 2017-2018 school year. In her free time, Lynn enjoys photography, reading, community activism, and spending quality time with friends and family. Besides school and work, Lynn is involved with animal rescue and has adopted two dogs and three cats.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

As a student who has spent most of her scholarly years at Wayne State, I would like to give back to the community that has given me so much. As a member of the Student Senate, I would make sure to represent the students best interests, and focus on making the campus safe for every student. I would fight to improve student services, stand up for student rights and safety, fight to make Wayne State a sanctuary campus, and to increase financial aid.



Courtney Mansor

Class standing: Junior

Major: Psychology

Biography:

I'm just a college student doing my best to help as many people as possible.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I would like to help make a difference to our campus, by recognizing the concerns of the students and try to make life easier for all of us.



Rexhinaldo Nazarko

Class standing: Sophomore

Major: Political Science

Biography:

Hello, my name is Rexhinaldo Nazarko. I am a current second year at Wayne State University majoring in Political Science and Global Studies. I am 20 years old, and currently reside in Detroit Michigan. I come from an immigrant family, and was raised moving around different European countries until fate eventually brought me here, amongst a great Wayne State community. I look forward to academic development, challenging discourse, and memorable times here.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I care very deeply about the development of our school, and the performance of our student body. As a Warrior University we should strive for the top. By running for Senate, I plan to contribute to student life, increase student involvement on campus, and improve the experience of each attendee of this school.



K.M. Rahman

Class standing: Sophomore

Major: Computer Science

Biography:

My name is KM Rahman and I am a sophomore majoring in Computer Science. I am a Bengali Muslim American that just happened to be born in Japan. I was raised in Troy, Michigan but have been living in Detroit for 2 years in Yousif B. Ghafari Hall. I am Wayne State's Kaplan Student Brand Ambassador working to expand my network and influence. Furthermore, I am part of Alpha Kappa Psi and the Indian Student Association where I have developed profound long-lasting relations. My hobbies include creating Hip-Hop music, coding, gaming, and writing daily journal entries. When I am not doing those things, I love to spend time with my family and friends.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I am running for student senate to change the culture of housing and dining on campus as well as to implement a new system to reach out to unknowing students about what and how they can make a change to Wayne State. Wayne State's Housing & Residential life needs a lot of work. Most students don't want to stay in campus housing anymore due to new restrictions regarding guest policy and expenses. Students are opting to live off campus, where they are allowed more freedom and are paying less rent. If Wayne States Housing imitated these other apartment buildings just outside of campus, then students will have an incentive to live here all while bringing Wayne State's student community closer. The new Anthony Wayne apartments are also outrageously expensive for any normal almost-broke college student to live in. All these new regulations and expenses must be reviewed and changed to restore Wayne's on-campus community and culture. Students are also upset with the fact that a 24-hour dine-in/carry-out restaurant is non-existent on campus. Having late night Grille Work open only until 2 A.M. does not satisfy any hungry college student and poses a serious threat to wandering students who venture outside of campus after hours looking for something to eat. If I am elected to Student Senate, I will propose and fight for ideas of having better housing policies and new dining options so students can make the most out of Wayne State. I also want to introduce a longer consultation time for students that want to attend CAPS because currently the program has limited hours and many students are not able to go because of coinciding class schedules. Moreover, as a Bengali Muslim American, I also want to be able to represent the South Asian and Muslim community on campus because I believe that there is a lack of diversity and inclusion for many campus-related activities.



Alice Santana

Class standing: Junior

Major: Communication Sciences and Disorders

Biography:

Alice Santana is a Junior majoring in Communication Sciences and Disorders. She is minoring in Latin American Studies and African American Studies. She plans on getting her Master's in Speech-Language Pathology, ultimately working as a Speech Language Pathologist. Santana is fluent in Spanish and identifies as Latina. She is greatly involved with the Latinx community on campus and outside. She hopes to provide help and adequate care for her community and other minority groups within the Detroit area now as an undergrad and in her career. Overall, Alice is goal-oriented, always looking to seek knowledge, and is committed to working diligently in order to reach our common goals.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I am interested in running for Senate to be the voice for minorities, the on-campus community, and our entire diverse student body. 4% of the student body identifies as Latino and as a collective feel as if there is not enough representation within our campus community. One of my goals is to advocate for underrepresented groups on campus and provide them with resources to graduate within an adequate amount of time and getting the most out of their education here at Wayne. Another priority is the on-campus community. As a student from out of state with no family in Michigan, I can share that at times it is difficult to go to school without the direct support of my parents. I have realized that because of this, our mental health is sometimes at risk. It is important to me that others don't have to have to compromise their mental health for an education away from home. With this being said, I hope to bring awareness to these risks and make Wayne State feel more like a second home for those who are living away from their loved ones. I ultimately want to find and provide the resources for overall student success.



Trina Schulz

Class standing: Junior

Major: Psychology

Biography:

Hello, I'm Trina! I am a junior psychology major. I have commuted and lived at Wayne State as a resident advisor. I also work in a developmental psychology research lab. In my free time I sing, spend time with friends, and make puns.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I am interested in running for Student Senate so that I can advocate for you! I have been involved with senate for the past 2 years. It is important to me that your voice is heard and that when there are issues that affect you, Wayne State's administration takes proper action. I have served on various project groups including the CAPS group where we successfully lobbied the administration to provide funding for more counselors. This year I want continue to resolve issues regarding the student center including catering and food regulations, numbers of power outlets, general maintenance issues, and inclusive restrooms. It would be my honor to serve Wayne State University in furthering students in their pursuit of a meaningful and life-changing education.



Kenan Sinan

Class standing: Junior

Major: Biological Sciences & Public Health

Biography:

Hello Friends, my name is Kenan Sinan and I am currently a Junior at Wayne State University double majoring in Public Health and Biological Sciences. As of now, I am on the pre-med track and wish to pursue a career as an Ophthalmologist. When I am not studying, I usually resort to talking politics with friends or watching sports. My main extracurriculars include working as an undergraduate assistant at the Medical School and volunteering as a navigator at the Karmanos Cancer Center. If I had to pick one role model in my life it would be my father. My father's perseverance and patience through tough times has influenced me in different ways. I've learned the importance of never being content and to always strive for improvement.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

My time at Wayne so far has been nothing but fascinating. I take pride in being a Warrior. I aspire to be a member of student senate because I want to actively help Wayne State improve in all aspects. A few ideas I have include improving the WIFI on campus and possibly introducing healthier food options. In addition, over the past summer I interned for Abdul El-Sayed, who is the former Executive Director of the Detroit Health Department and a nominee for Governor of Michigan. Interning at the "Abdul For Michigan" campaign taught me a great deal about the political process. In addition, it allowed me to understand the importance of contributing to the democratic decision making process.



Rama Wahbeh

Class standing: Sophomore

Major: Philosophy

Biography:

I am currently studying Philosophy at Wayne State University as a sophomore. I am the president of Philosophy Club, a part of DCAP (Detroit Community Assistance Program), a member of Students for Justice in Palestine, a part of Community of Scholars, and a member of Swing club. I worked as an Orientation leader in the summer where I welcomed all incoming students and helped them with the advice they needed.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I am interested in running for Student Senate because I want to be able to give students a direct voice for their needs. I want to help them get all the supplies they need with the easiest and fastest approach as well as provide ideas that would insure their success.



Mazen Zamzam

Class standing: Sophomore

Major: Biology and Public Health

Biography:

Mazen Zamzam is a Sophomore studying Biology and Public Health. Although Mazen's yet to decide he is considering being an Oncologist in the near future. After losing his grandmother to cancer at a young age, Mazen knew that he wants to enter the Health Sciences field. In High School Mazen would shadow many Physicians and volunteer over the summer in a clinic overseas in Egypt and would be fascinated by the pursuit of knowledge needed for the Medical field. From these many experiences, Mazen understood and learned the amount of handwork needed to succeed not only in the Medical field, but rather in any field.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

After spending two years at Wayne State, Mazen's love for Wayne State as well as the city of Detroit has definitely increased. Mazen hopes to continue to represent the voices of his peers, as well as increase the communication between the Student Senate and the students. As a Sophomore, Mazen hopes to continue to represent his class' concerns and represent underclassmen at Wayne State. Mazen hopes to make the Student Senate more well known and have them to do as much as they can for the students. One of Mazen's main goals for Student Senate is to continue his pursuit to create a used book website, where WSU students can post any books they are selling.

STUDENT SENATE 2018-19 CANDIDATES

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Candidates



Winston Balmaceda

Class standing: Sophomore

Major: East Asian Studies and Anthropology

Biography:

I'm a 20 year old East Asian studies and Anthropology major, my focus is in Mandarin Chinese. I'm Latinx and I work as an intern at a social justice non-profit, and a Resident Advisor in Chatsworth. I hope to one day become a translator and work in either Nicaragua or China.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I have a desire for positive change on campus and hope to see this campus become its best self. Within the past year so many incidents have occurred and I myself felt that the way these situations were handled created a culture of uncertainty on this campus. I hope that I can have a voice in the student senate that reflects on my work in social justice.



Javed Khan

Class standing: Senior

Major: B.S Nutrition & Food Science and Minor in Biology

Biography:

My name is Javed Khan, I am in my Senior year at Wayne State University studying to receive a Bachelors of Science in Nutrition and Food Science and Biology. Currently I am the President of BSA, Co-President of McSA and treasurer of Future Pediatrics. My plan for the future is to become a doctor and specialize in cardiology as I would also like to help people around me. This summer, I visited Bangladesh for 3 weeks and was able to see the living conditions of many Bengalis. I had the opportunity to volunteer at National Heart Institute Hospital. It was very devastating to see their condition. Many of the patients lacked beds and were sleeping on the floor. Due to lack of money, many patients could not receive medical attention and were mistreated by the doctors and nurses. When I left the hospital that day I knew I wanted to be a doctor, so I can not only help the people in Michigan but also go back and volunteer to treat patients who cannot afford it. My dad made all his patients smile even when they are sick. I hope I can be a great doctor like he was. Outside of school, I'm currently doing research on diabetes, cancer and HIV at Wayne State University. I enjoy playing volleyball, basketball, soccer and any outdoor activities.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I want to become more involved in my school and my community. I want to help a certain group of people that are near and dear to my heart that would be disenfranchised or at risk students. I feel I have special skills to help them, because I'm one of them. I want to be a leader and leave behind a great impact on WSU. My desire to make a difference is my strongest strength. My goal is to get students' voices heard. I would like to see activities for students to participate in. I would also like to help as much as I possibly can for the students.



Nader Rayyan

Class standing: Junior

Major: Biology

Biography:

Nader Rayyan is a third year student at Wayne State. He is a member of the Wayne State Fencing team, the treasurer of The Foundation of Medical Relief of Children, and a Crestwood Rowing coach. He enjoys the campus's many events like poetry slams, Mock Rock, and Talent Shows, Theatre shows, political discussions, and many others. He came to Wayne State to study biology in hopes to become a physician one day. Even though his major is biology he tries to study any and everything he can so he can do well and do good.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

Student senate plays an important role in student's lives as being ambassadors to Wayne State. Their goal is to represent the students and push for changes that are a concern to the students. My goal is to help my fellow students get the best education they can. I want to represent my student body and make our school a better place for everyone.



Kristian Rice

Class standing: Junior

Major: Public Health/ Sociology

Biography:

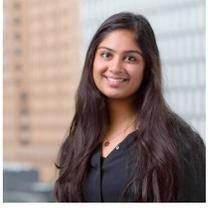
I am a Detroit native through and through, and service is my lifestyle. As a 23 year old, African American woman, I have learned that service should always start with where you are from. I attended Detroit Public Schools my whole life as well as obtained my Associate's Degree from Wayne County Community College District. Subsequently, I served one year in an AmeriCorps program called City Year, where I mentored, coached, and tutored talented youth at a Detroit Public School. I am also a big sister at home, where I aim to be a good example for my siblings, family members, and community. In other words, I love the 313 and I know that a city as great as Detroit provides monumental opportunities for those who are willing to help. My city served me as a child, and for as long as I live, I will make it a personal goal to continually give back and to let my light shine. Among many reasons, these are a few for why I am running for the Student Senate.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I believe that in order to become a leader, you must meet two requirements: you have to first experience being led and, secondly, you must embark upon opportunities to lead. In essence, that is exactly what I am doing. I am interested in running for Student Senate because I not only want to develop my leadership skills, but I would also like to work with others to create a more inclusive environment on campus. I hope that I will be able to collaborate with colleagues across campus, as well as help make the college experience for present and future students better.

STUDENT SENATE 2018-19 CANDIDATES

Mike Ilitch School of Business Candidate



Biography:

Leadership and involvement was initially a way for me to stay busy and out of trouble on campus. However, I have found that there is so much to learn and so much to offer from student organizations.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

This past year at Senate has been both rewarding and eye opening. I was able to make differences but also see how much there is for us to work on and change for the better of the school and the students.

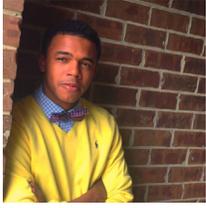
Anchita Sanam

Class standing: Junior

Major: Finance

STUDENT SENATE 2018-19 CANDIDATES

College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts Candidates



Cameron Sanders

Class standing: Freshman

Major: Journalism & Political Science

Biography:

I am freshman here at Wayne State majoring in Journalism and Political Science. I helped found and am currently the President of NextGen America, a student organization focused on getting students more political aware and involved in order to make active changes in the community. I also am a member of the Journalism Institute for Media Diversity, a honors learning community for driven media professionals. I truly enjoy volunteering as I have worked with both Christ Harvest Community and St. Pat's Senior Center in bettering the community.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I want to be part of Wayne State Student Senate to help bring about positive change campus. As a freshman I believe I can offer a great representation of first year students. I would try improve Wayne State University through Student Senate be working to make a safe environment for anyone who may feel threatened because of possible intimidation or the non-inclusive views of other students. Two goals I will pursue if elected would be to raise awareness of any sexual assault or other types of violence on campus and help those effected find necessary services while also striving to end the occurrence of these crimes. Also want to help creative study majors, have more of a voice on campus.



Isaac Weiss

Class standing: Sophomore/
Junior

Major: Instrumental Music Education

Biography:

Isaac Weiss is a member of the Irvin D. Reid Honors College, vice president of the Jewish Student Organization (JSO), and secretary of the Detroit Community Assistance Program (DCAP). Privileged to grow up in a homeschooling family with plenty of free time to pursue his passions, he is a multi-instrumentalist as well as an avid bibliophile, and believes strongly in the values he was raised with, including service to the community and people in less fortunate circumstances; honesty, coolheadedness, and conflict resolution; and everyone's value to the world and capacity to succeed.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

As a friend and collaborator of current senators, I'm aware of the Student Senate's past accomplishments and its potential to, with a strong team, accomplish even more. I bring to the table a drive to make both myself and the world around me the best that they can possibly be. In my experience with other organizations, I've found I can help form a consensus when it seems out of reach, or come up with the essential twist to an idea to make it workable; I believe I can effectively serve the campus community, and because of that I welcome the chance to take up that responsibility.

STUDENT SENATE 2018-19 CANDIDATES

College of Nursing Candidates



Theodora Ziai

Class standing: Senior

Major: Nursing

Biography:

This is my last semester in the Nursing School as an undergraduate student. After my graduation this coming May I will be transferring to Graduate School at WSU to pursue an advanced degree in higher education. I served as the College of Nursing Representative for Student Senate for the 2017-2018 academic year. I am also actively involved on Campus and have served as an Orientation Leader and currently a Peer Mentor for VIP Community.

Why are you interested in running for Student Senate?

I served as the College of Nursing Representative for 2017-2018 academic year and would like to continue the amazing work student senate has been doing so far. Quality of education for every student is the goal and that is what motivated me to run for Senate.