

Student Government 2020 Candidate Guide

The following are your candidates for the Spring 2020 Student Government election. Please take the time to read about who they are and why they are running. Sections are broken up by position, and those within each section are in alphabetical order.

Presidential Candidates

Andrew Trenne

Running Mate: Arnavee Maltare

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

I am currently a Junior studying Political Science with a minor in History and Business law. I have been involved in many different organizations across campus such as Pre-Law Society, United Nations Club, Residence Hall Association (RHA) and Student Government. My previous leadership positions include Residential Life Senator during the 85th Student Government, RHA President and now currently am the Student Government Vice President.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am choosing to run for President of the Student Government because I truly believe that the work that has happened this year cannot and should not stop. I have seen over this past year that the Student Government and the Student Body as a whole are better represented by strong leadership to the administration. Without strong leadership, we as students are weakened by our inability to strongly advocate and push for issues facing students. Over this past year, Student Government has gone above the normal bar of advocating for students' needs by actually going to the capital to advocate and lobby legislators about textbook affordability, international student healthcare, the new academic building and food, and housing insecurity. As a person who was heavily involved in the planning, we saw our issues as students be heard and no longer ignored, and if I am President, I will continue to bring our concerns to the front and see change. We are at a crucial point as a student body where there are a lot of reforms happening. With things like common bell, Cultural Contribution Scholarship (CSS) changes, Student Fees changes and new buildings being planned we need capable leadership to guide the students through this time and to truly take their voices to ensure that whatever this university does is ALWAYS centered around student success and student needs.

Dhaval Bhakta

Running Mate: Marilyn Allen

The Maverick Movement

Biography

"I farm so I can help feed you and other people who probably need this grain more than us." These were the words said by my dad while growing up on a small farm in India. Moving to the US at The University of Toledo, I was surrounded by various opportunities that help me develop and give back to the community. I had an opportunity to be a resident advisor, a president, a student ambassador and an inclusion champion at the University of Toledo. However, the important lesson that UT taught me was about servant leadership. Through my organization called "Team Dhaval", we did a lot of leadership and volunteer events that are listed below. All those experiences taught me to be a better servant leader. The reason why I do service is the gratitude I gain from helping the community grow. I am a big community guy. That's why I chose to be a resident advisor as well. I like seeing individuals grow. And coming from a farming family I think I get from the farms. I remember the joy of planting the seed and with strenuous effort seeing it grow into a plant was the best thing ever. After transferring to Minnesota State University last semester, I learned about the community engagement office and the programs that they put forth. I volunteered with my floor at various showcases the office put forth for the Mankato community that included us playing Fortnite with kids, doing different dances or just participating in the events that are geared towards making children laugh. In the future, I want to work for a firm that has a huge community focus. I am a junior majoring in business. I want to continue my passion for community service by impacting individuals positively in different ways.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I believe I can make a difference and can positively impact the Maverick community. With this vision my team and I have in mind, we will empower diversity, development, and devotion through the student government. We have a fantastic team of amazing leaders that have servant leadership at their heart. With this level of commitment, we can definitely raise the bar of scholarship and leadership at MSU. Student Government is the organization that has the influence to bring the change. And with unity, we will make it happen!

Vice Presidential Candidates

Arnavee Maltare (Vee)

Running Mate: Andrew Trenne

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Arnavee Maltare, I am currently a Junior in Minnesota State University Mankato pursuing by bachelor's degree in Management information Systems and Finance. I am currently serving the 87th Student Government, as Senator at-Large (2019-20), I am also the President of Student Association of India and Bridges International for the current Year. I am also the Campus Coordinator for a Non-Profit Organization "Students United". I also serve as the Chair for the "Library and the Bookstore Advisory Committee." For the past years, I have been actively involved in different RSO's and worked towards the betterment of Minnesota State University. For the year 2018-19, I have served as the Business Manager for the Student Events Team, Community Engagement Officer (CEO) for the International Student Association, and Student Advisor for the Student Association of India. Other than all this, I am a member of a program called Women In Global Leadership, and I have been peer Mentoring the International Students for the past 2 years. I will continue to work and serve the Minnesota State University and System, to above and beyond my abilities.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I have been involved with Student Government for past 2 years (Directly and Indirectly), I have always said that I can serve the students and help them at any position I am at, but over the time I have realized that if I am directly related to the organization I work for that makes a greater difference, and I do want to be the person who makes a greater impact on the students of Minnesota State University. In the Current year, the Student Government has surely worked more than what was expected and have shown their results, running for this position would enable me to continue the work for which the groundwork was already done. This has been a great year and we have accomplished most of the things we have worked on, and If me and Andrew get elected for the next year, we will continue to work on the projects, for the betterment of the School and the Students. Over all the years I have worked at every level of RSO and I have learned a lot about how the system works, I have been able to understand what issues do the students face, in different areas. If I get elected, I would make sure these Issues are resolved and make sure the student Voices are heard. Being closely involved with the student Government has made me realize that a lot has been done, and a lot needs to be done , it is an everyday process to work on the things and make sure everything runs smoothly, for the current year we have already been able to set the bars high and I want to make sure this continues the next year too. Student Government has worked on a lot of things like the common Bell schedule, textbook affordability, Cultural Contribution Scholarship and there's a long list. Running for the elections would enable me to make another list of the things that are achievable for the year 2020-2021 and make sure Students are our first and the Foremost priority.

Marilyn Allen

Running Mate: Dhaval Bhakta

The Maverick Movement

Biography

Hello! My name is Marilyn Allen and I am running for Student Government Vice President with the Maverick Movement party. I am an American Indian Studies major with a minor in business law. I am hoping to pursue Law School in the Twin Studies in the tribal law field. I am an enrolled tribal member of the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe and am from Flandreau, SD. Growing up there, I developed an appreciation for diversity through living on the reservation and going to the public school there. I learned leadership skills by being a youth representative for my tribe touring the White House where I met U.S. officials such as the then President Obama, Vice President Biden, U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, and U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan. Through meeting them, I learned the dedication of hard work and perseverance of being a leader of a diverse nation. These qualities helped me develop a mindset of diversity, development, and devotion, which we, The Maverick Movement, have expressed as our mission to bring to campus. A few things I have done on campus are being a member of the Cross-Country team, founding the Owaci Okodakiciye (powwow committee) RSO, holding the position of Vice President for the Native American Student Association, and finally, being a mentor for American Indian Education in District 77 for high school students. Recently, I also had the opportunity to compete at the National Diversity Case Competition in Bloomington, Indiana where my team and I placed 4th; being the highest placing the College of Business at MNSU has ever had.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I have experience in leadership through founding and being the president of the Owaci Okodakiciye powwow committee RSO and being Vice President of the Native American Student Association. I am ready to move forward with bringing more developmental change on campus and creating a more diverse environment in the university for my peers.

College of Allied Health & Nursing Senator Candidates

Elijah Pitchford

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

I am a hardworking and determined student who wants to see the best from this school. As a student, athlete, and active person in the community I strive to see everything elevate with me time here at Minnesota State University.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I think as a sports management major we have a unique way of looking at the college and can bring that viewpoint to the the senate and to the things I choose to pursue.

Gretchen Bygd

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

Sophomore with a 3.87 GPA Involved on campus with Student Government, Young Life, and NSSLHA. Enjoys volunteering and dedicating time to campus activities.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am running because I want to continue to advocate for students. It's important for each student to be heard and supported throughout campus.

College of Social & Behavioral Sciences Senator Candidates

Jack Wheeler

The Maverick Movement

Biography

I am a hard-working student who is extremely involved on campus. Besides being in the honors program, I am also a part of the Greek community. More specifically I am in Sigma Chi, a fraternity that promotes friendship, justice and learning. I want to take the same ideals that I have learned from being a part of this wonderful community and apply them to other areas on campus.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am running for this position because we need more Greek representation within student government. Currently all of the senators do not necessarily have the perspective that I have within Greek life.

Rediet Abera

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

I am a sophomore international student double majoring in Psychology and Child Development. I am currently the President of Ethiopian Student Association, this helped me to have a good experience in leadership.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am running for this position because I believe I can work with the student government to help international students and domestic students have get all the information's about jobs and Internships. I am an international student and I barely know about the opportunities I have on my hand regarding jobs and internships. So, updating students about the opportunities they have before they graduate will make them figure out what they are interest is and where they would like to work for the future.

Youssef

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

Youssef Elsaadi, 20 years of age. Seeking a degree in Political Science with an emphasis of International Relations and a Business Administration Minor. Born in Lebanon with Palestinian origins. Fluent in Arabic and English. Involved in Res Life activities and several on campus events. Involved in Women in Politics, the treasure of United Nations and International Relations Club (UNIR) and an Ex MUN delegate.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

My major falls under this department that I am running for which I believe I can bring the students of this department together meeting their demands and having their voice heard.

Student Body At-Large Senator Candidates

Muhtasim Yasar

The Maverick Movement

Biography

I am an international student born and raised in Bangladesh in a military family. Growing up, I was always very active and curious. I had the opportunity to move around the world and know a lot about different countries. On my first year in USA, I graduated High School in Rhode Island and then moved to New York to pursue higher education. I lived in NY for four years where I obtained my Associates Degree in Business Administration and gained work experience. Following, I came to MNSU to obtain my bachelor's degree in Financial Economics. Besides my academics and on-campus employment, I am involved in a business fraternity ΔΣΠ and Bangladeshi Students Organization. Always looking forward to my next experience.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am running for the position of Senator at large. My goal is to make an impact on our Diversity and Development and overall, convey my devotion to the community in MNSU. I believe that with my current insight about Economics, Leadership, Management and Governing, I would be able to make proper utilization of my knowledge and create the best possible impact in our student and campus community with the said position.

Reauna Stiff

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

I am an off-campus student double majoring in political science and mass media. During the 2020-21 school year I will be in my third year as an MNSU student. My majors stem from my deep interest in politics and journalism. I have always been fascinated with government and politics. Over the years this has led me to wonder how I can influence people's lives for the better by using my passions. In the future I see myself working at different levels of government, possibly being a policymaker. After graduating from MNSU I am interested in joining social justice initiatives and helping impoverished and underrepresented communities. All of my passions led me to join Student Government my sophomore year. This resulted in me becoming senator. While in this position my job was to legislate for, service, and work to change issues I may see for my constituency. From serving as a senator I have seen directly how important student voices are in higher education. The traces of our opinions and ideas will leave a positive legacy at MNSU and future students for years to come.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

Over the years I have learned that leadership is almost synonymous with service. As a leader I realize the importance of making students' time at MNSU and throughout higher education both comfortable as

well as educational. I now know that the big ideas I have discovered within myself will have an impact on someone, somewhere at our school and in our world. My time at MNSU has given me an excitement to serve students and find ways to help others benefit from what I have learned. Because of this, I am running to be an At-Large Senator. In this role I would have the opportunity to hear student concerns and dive right into tending to them. I would like the ability to serve any and every student concern I hear which I could do as an At-Large senator. Like many students, my time at MNSU has made me eager to obtain my degree and find ways to help others benefit from what I have learned in the process. So far, Student Government has given me the platform and confidence to work for changes I want to see; I believe this work can be expanded as an At-Large Senator.

Simale Kadir

The Maverick Movement

Biography

I am a first-year student majoring in Accounting with a minor in Psychology. I plan to attend law school after getting my bachelor's degree to pursue a career as corporate lawyer. I was born and raised in Kenya before I moved here in 5th grade. I am very passionate about helping those in need and trying to make anyone's better to the best of my ability. I have two amazing younger sisters who mean the world to me. Family is the most important thing to me, growing up my family instilled having respect of others and being kind to everyone I come in contact with and to this day they stayed with me.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am running for this position to make a positive impact on the student experience at MNSU. As a first student I made sure I was involved in many different organizations on campus such as NABA, BSU, ASA and many other. With getting involved on-campus, I met a lot of great people, learned more about MSU and grew a lot as person. Running for this position I will have a chance to broaden my leadership skills and make a difference in my environment.

Zahara Osman

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Zahara. I'm currently a Sophomore studying Aviation Professional Flight. I am involved in the Student Events Team and Campus Kitchen. I am passionate about serving our community, advocating for students, and improving diversity.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I'm running because I want to make positive changes in MNSU and help my party advocate to the administration to meet the needs of our students so that everyone can have the best college experience possible.

College of Science, Engineering, and Technology Senator Candidates

Afnan Husain

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Afnan Husain. I am majoring in Computer Science with a minor in Mathematics and German. I am currently a liaison for the Student Association of India, an Honors student, and a Learning Community Coordinator.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I want to be able to give back to the community. What better way to give back than being part of an organization that helps me ensure I can make changes for the better of the community. Especially if it is the CSET community, since I am experiencing what they are by being in the college.

Camila Bejarano

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Camila Bejarano and, I am from Colombia, Bogotá. I am currently in my third year pursuing a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering at MNSU. Since I started my education at MNSU, I have done multiple volunteer activities where I have been able to share my culture. Firstly, at Vine Faith in Action, I was able to connect and work with elders by helping them to build upon their ability to speak, read, write, and understand English. In addition to that, events like Pedal Past Poverty taught me to be supportive, to become a team player, and to encourage and motivate the people. At the International Festival, I shared my culture through children's activities such as crafts and games. I was able to play with kids and people from around the world and shared different traditions from each other's cultures. I have been able to share my culture and lived experiences through these volunteering activities. Moreover, I have learned how to become familiar with the needs that a customer wants and requires. I worked as a PIC (Person in Charge) at the restaurant "Panda Express", where some of my duties included, but were not limited to, answering customers' questions, handling problems and resolving guest complaints promptly and professionally. I assisted in coaching and motivating employees and communicated positively with the staff and co-workers. In addition to this experience, I have gained communication and teamwork skills being part of the Society of Women Engineering. It allows us to create events like SWE Think Like an Engineer, where we interact with high school girl. Our main outcomes were that the girls seek challenges in the world, that they can resolve problems while they are promoting cooperation and team building, also that they identify community needs. I believe this experience in different outreach events and jobs has allowed me to create a place where I can connect to the community and make it a better place.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

My main goals during my engineering program are to become a remarkable student while I am helping the students in the STEM fields. Growing up, I witnessed the work my father did as a Civil Engineer, which impacted numerous lives and communities in my home country, Colombia. This inspired me to pursue a career in Civil Engineering, just like my dad. However, unlike him, I moved abroad to pursue this dream, which was possible thanks to my parents' hard work and support. They imparted in me a sense of dedication and determination that I have transferred to my academic life. Thus, my goal is to never settle for less. Every day, I strive to become an exceptional student, and I do so because I want to acknowledge my family's hard work by excelling at my studies, given the high value they place on education. Growing in my home country, Colombia, I was able to see inequality first-hand. It influenced my decision to study Civil Engineering since I witnessed underprivileged communities experience said challenges. Therefore, running for College of Science, Engineering & Technology Senator will allow me to follow my dream of helping the STEM field and make it a better program for the university and the future students. I would also like to overcome the challenges and the students' complaints that the program is facing right now. Since a young age, I have been interested in having a positive impact on the world and creating a difference in the community. I hope my career, experience, and skills will help me accomplish my professional dream. I believe having this opportunity will provide me more time devoted to studying and learning. I can also commit more time to charitable activities and student organizations on campus. All these benefits could, in turn, lead to improved academic performance and help the community.

Ian Ssuna

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Ian Kasagga Ssuna and I am currently a Junior pursuing a degree in Health Informatics. I moved to Minnesota from Uganda in 2015 when I was 16 years ago. In the past, I had the opportunity to be Vice-president of Student Body Affairs prior to starting here at MNSU. As a student at MNSU I have been a Student Ambassador, held 2 positions on a Community Council, and have been a Community Advisor for two years, first in McElroy and now Preska. I have also had the opportunity to embark on a fun, interactive and personally developing student retreat to Camp Omega that taught me how to be a better leader not only to myself, but also my peers.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

First and foremost, as an African student, I have faced numerous hardships and difficulties pursuing my degree due to the structure of courses and professor expectations of students within CSET. One such challenge is that unlike most of our peers that have had forms of exposure or experience to numerous factors such as high-level programming languages and immersive scientific and research and development programs, students that matured outside of the United States did not have opportunities like other students. Thus, learning course material is exceptionally difficult because students are expected to have familiarity with concepts, but fall behind due to their lack of exposure. Within this

position, my goal is to advocate for students facing similar challenges and difficulties that may be less comfortable with speaking up and relaying their challenges. In addition, I am looking for an opportunity to challenge myself. Since my time at MNSU began, I have been on a pursuit to enhance not only my personal and professional skills, but also my interpersonal skills. With this opportunity, I would be able to further push and develop my current skills, but also enhance them through actively performing my respective duties, collaborating effectively with a team, and being the best version of myself.

Junsoo Seo

The Maverick Movement

Biography

Hi, my name is Junsoo. I am a sophomore and my major is Statistics. Also, I am working as a math and statistics tutor at MNSU. I am in the Statistics club and KSA club as a treasurer. I really like to get involved in this community.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I really enjoy being a part of this community. Also, I really love this university and its students. So, I really want to help people by becoming CSET senator. I believe this is a position I can use to improve the school and CSET department. I will try my best to work hard and get stuff done.

Khiap Keonangphane

The Maverick Movement

Biography

My name is Khiap Keonangphane, I was born in Minneapolis MN. I am a Jr majoring in Information technology and minoring in International relations. Love to play and watch soccer, work on cars, and hang with the boys.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I chose to run for student government because this school was my first choice, my sister had the same major as me and graduated already with a full time job making six figures. I notice this school puts a lot of effort in helping their fellow students. I would love to be a part of this wonderful campus.

Lelti Asgedom

Independent

Biography

Born in 03/03/2000 in Ethiopia Biochemistry major Sophomore.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I want to play a role in making better changes for creating a better environment for every student. Listen and respond to students' needs.

Nedu

Independent

Biography

My name is Chinedu Godswill Emedo, 2016 - 2017 I was the PRO of African student in near east university. I love to meet new people.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I want to use the name I have created to stand for my other student am well known on campus for the right thing.

Prerna Somaiya

The Maverick Movement

Biography

Hello, Namaste, আসসালামুআলাইকম, Hallo, ٱ, Hola! My name is Prerna Somaiya and I am a Junior majoring in Information Systems. I am running for the senate of College of Science, Engineering, and Technology with the Maverick Movement Party. I believe in provision of equal opportunities, representation and understanding of the members from every community. In coherence with these beliefs I have served as a Maverick Global Ambassador, Lead Peer Mentor (during Fall 2019 Orientation), and Vice President (of Student Association of India) in the previous years. As far as the leadership experience, I have served as the Vice President of Student Association of India. I previously I have taken charge of different organizations in their difficult times I have led and changed the fortunes of them from changing it from failures to tremendous success.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

In this modern global economy, STEM skills are a central element of a well-rounded education. Therefore, as a Senator of College of Science, Engineering and Technology, this position will help me represent the voice of students from Minnesota State University, Mankato to the administration.

College of Arts & Humanities Senator Candidates

Caitlin Trabant

The Maverick Movement

Biography

Caitlin is currently a sophomore at MNSU and is an English Studies major and a Technical Communications minor. She actively competes and travels with the Maverick Speech and Debate team. Her post college aspirations are to become a production editor in the publishing industry.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I'm a big believer in that every student attending MNSU deserving a voice. I wish to use my position to advocate for the needs of others. I love helping others and want to use this opportunity to stand up for students and provide the best college experience possible. The Arts and Humanities program is a wonderful program that I'd be honored to represent.

Emma Catherine Gabbert

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

Emma Gabbert is a sophomore with a major in Mass Media and a double minor in Political Science and Marketing. She started working for CSU Communications in September 2019 as the Public Relations Assistant. She has been involved with media since high school where she was a member of her high school news and video production team. At Minnesota State Mankato, she is involved in Her Campus MNSU, Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA), College Democrats and is currently the Co-Social Media Marketing Manager for IGNITE MNSU: Women in Politics. Her dream job is to be the Public Relations Director for a political campaign or the Public Relations Manager at a corporation in the Twin Cities or Washington D.C.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I want to run for the college of arts and humanities senator because I have a passion for involvement, creativity and real-world experience. For the 2020-2021 school year, my main project will be integrating students majoring in mass media and film & media studies into video production at the university, currently run by the information technology (IT) department. When I was in high school, I was on my school's TV news program, EVT.V. I learned production and information technology knowledge that I would have never learned in the classroom. In the media field, I have learned that they expect you to be a jack-of-all-trades in media skills. That includes video production, web development, film editing, camera operation, studio management, and media technology in general (cameras, microphones, headsets, tech directing, teleprompters, etc.) The mass media major at Minnesota State Mankato is primarily focused on public relations and building valuable writing skills. And while these are vital in the corporate communications field, the media job market ranges from screenwriters to media production

at a news station. Because media students at Minnesota State Mankato don't learn video production experience, I know several people that have transferred to another university, (mainly St. Cloud State), to gain newsroom experience. To keep students at the university, I plan to integrate mass media (known as mass communication in the 2020-2021 school year), and film studies majors into the video production team, which is currently run by IT. Mass Media and Film & Studies students should be offered this opportunity to gain this valuable experience in video production. As a CAH Senator, I will be available to answer questions almost 24/7 through social media or in-person meetings in the student government office.

Frank Vondra

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

Frank Vondra is a junior from Park River, North Dakota. He is double majoring in Music Industry and Theatre Design (Sound). Frank is a graduate of Park River High School, as well as a transfer student coming from Bismarck State College, where he earned an Associate of Applied Science in Digital Audio production. He was also heavily involved in theatre while at Bismarck State and was on drama club, as well as a student employee for the music department. At MNSU, Frank has been RHA representative since his first semester, and is a member of Maverick Atheist/Agnostic Secular Students, and most recently Residential Life senator. Frank is a multi-instrumentalist, being able to play bass, keyboards, guitar and drums. He frequently does sound design for community theaters. For his work and efforts, Frank has received an RHA spotlight award, two certificates of merit at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF), where he also won First Place Regional Sound Design in 2017. He was also selected as Outstanding Digital Audio Student at Bismarck State College in 2016. Frank also enjoys gaming, reading and discussing history, cooking, and collecting vinyl records. He is the youngest of three siblings and is an uncle to five nephews and 3 nieces, and has a cat named Whiskey.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

As both a music and a theatre major, as well as someone who deeply admires all forms of art, I would be passionate in my efforts to represent the College of Arts and Humanities, as they are effectively my life. Additionally, I love to help others, especially fellow artists and I feel I could be of more help as a senator than I am currently.

Tyler Mata

Independent

Biography

I hold a four years of college experience in a wide variety of degrees. The strongest major declared is Communication Studies. I am an excellent communicator and have an intuitive personality which helps me to discover people's needs. In addition, I am flexible, enjoy travel, and am highly organized. I have a strong background in advanced public speaking, philosophy, business management, strong marketing skills, advanced keyboarding skills, and many more disciplines that will help me excel in the I would love the opportunity to put these skills to work to increase your bottom newest Specialist. I am a swift study and already possess a large knowledge of insurance terms as well as information on the business/marketing industry and know I can make a positive contribution.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I know with my experience in life that I can bring strong outlook to continue to build a strong/healthy foundation for Minnesota State University, Mankato.

College of Business Senator Candidates

Awais Qarni

The Maverick Movement

Biography

I am an international business major in my junior year. I am a goal-oriented person with extraordinary communication skills. I am a complete definition of extrovert with passion and courage in hand. Righteousness, ethical, and disciplined are some of the traits I find in my personality. I love sports, hanging out and being able to maintain the temperance in all aspects of life.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am very passionate about the voices of the students, encouraging students to be a part of student government, and advocating for students on the student council level as well as on the student caucus level, and leading into the Legislative process. I am enthusiastic about serving students, obtaining their needs, and listening to any suggestions that students may have. I believe that all students should know what is going on in their student council and I urge all students to come and sit in on our meetings. I also would like to work on more campus improvements and sustainability programs.

David Alimo

The Maverick Movement

Biography

An individual who wants the best for all

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I want to choose this position because I want to have an impact on the students that attend MSU. I want to show students that we have a lot of resources available to help them succeed and my job would be showing them how to properly reach out and attain those resources that are there for them.

Jaydon Dickey

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

Hello Everyone! My name is Jaydon Dickey and I am going to be a Junior Accounting Student here at Minnesota State University, Mankato. Some background information about me is that I will be a previous College of Business Senator under the 87th Student Government senate. Some other leadership roles I have been a part of is RHA (Residence Hall Association) as I was an executive board member for that governing body. RHA is a student government for students that are living on campus and really allows students to gain that leadership experience. I like to say that I have climbed the ladder

for student leadership and will continue to climb that ladder. I have not only served in these governing positions to be a leader for the students, but I have also served as an OPA (Orientation Peer Assistant) over the summer, which I helped first-year students, international students, and transfer students get familiar with MSU as well as help them plan their academic schedule for either fall or spring semester as a College of Business student. Lastly, those that are more familiar with the College of Business and recognize the student leaders in that college, you might know me for being Accounting Club President for 2020. This opportunity allows me to network with employers around the state and let them come to MSU to tell accounting students, or students that are interested in accounting fields, about their company/firm, and offer students internships or summer experience programs. Thank you for reading a little brief Biography about my student leadership background, I hope you make an educated vote when it comes to student government elections and I look forward to networking with you in the future as I am a College of Business student leader and will continue to strive on serving the College of Business students as much as possible.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am choosing to re-run for this position as I have felt that the duties of this semester I have set forward have not been carried out and should continue on to the next academic year. I want to work closely with the Dean of the College of Business to focus in more on getting our own building for the College of Business, as we are one of the biggest college programs here at MSU. This building will also help when it comes to demolishing Armstrong Hall as it will allow for more offices and classrooms for other colleges to move into Morris Hall. Next, I want to continue to work and improve on the Stangler Internship Program, as it is very essential for College of Business students to obtain an internship experience before they graduate with their bachelor's, master's, or doctorate degrees. With the department of Luke Howk, our official Director for Corporate Partnerships and Professional Development, I want to work closely with the College of Business Faculty to see if there can be a way for students to have an influence on the new hiring for that position. In addition, I feel that there needs to be more educating for Internships due to this COVID-19 situation, that I will be primarily focusing in on advocating for internship seminars for college of business students to have a better understanding of how the internship process looks, how to look like a full-time student while taking an internship so that you don't have to accrue interest on your loans, and how to professionally prepare for those interviews. Lastly, I want to work with the College of Business faculty on a welcome back week event or something like that title. This event would be primarily for the College of Business students or students that are interested in the College of Business, but we would also be inclusive to all rather than be exclusive. This event would allow College of Business student leaders to network with anyone interested or in the College of Business to learn about different RSO, events, or organizations that the College of Business puts together for them to enjoy or join. This opportunity would allow the College of Business student leaders to grow their RSO's and have a better retention rate than in the past. Thank you for reading why I feel it is important that I return to the 88th student body senate and I hope that you consider voting for me as College of Business Senator.

Manav Mendonça

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

I was born and raised to a family of Indian ethnicity in Hong Kong. Being raised in a community with such a diverse population, I was able to be exposed to a lot of rich culture and traditions which broadened my outlook on life, whilst also giving me a plethora of valuable skills, with inclusion to my open-mindedness, interpersonal and language speaking skills. I took affinity to the business world at an early stage, having taken part in many real-world experiences back home – some quite similar to programs offered by MNSU's College of Business. My passion for business brought me to the footsteps of Minnesota State University, Mankato at the age of 16, where I now am currently working on completing a double degree in Business Management and Marketing with a minor in Entrepreneurship and Innovation and certificate in Business Analytics.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I believe that the Student Government is the perfect opportunity for students to give back to a campus that continuously provides. It allows for students to take a step out of their comfort zones to be the voice that represents a population that has similar opinions, values and beliefs as themselves. I have chosen to run for the College of Business Senator position as, having been an active member in its community, I can truly represent the needs and wants that the students have, allowing me to come up with new opportunities and creative solutions to programs, resources and the likes, so as to further enhance and set each of the students up for success.

College of Graduate Studies Senator Candidates

Jack Truman

Independent

Biography

First year MFA candidate in Acting, MSU Theatre department; 35 year veteran of film, television and stage; award-winning filmmaker. 2006 Democratic nominee for Missouri's 7th Congressional district. Award-winning filmmaker, actor, writer and speaker. Bachelor's degree in Business from Missouri Southern State University.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

To help my fellow students on campus.

Lauren Brandmeier

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

Hi! My name is Lauren. I'm from Milwaukee, Wisconsin and am a first-year graduate student in the Technical Communications program with an expected graduation of May 2021. I'm also an English department teaching assistant, so I teach a section of English 101 every semester. I'm currently involved on campus as one of two Graduate Studies student senators and as president of the Graduate Student Association. I came straight to graduate school from undergrad, where I was an English & Writing major with a minor in music. An interesting thing that not many people know about me is that I am a classically trained pianist and have been playing since second grade (about 16 years)! In undergrad, I was super involved on campus. I completed four seasons of NCAA Division III Women's Swimming and co-captained my last season. I also did fun things like working as Editor-in-Chief on a publication project for a book of poetry and collaborating with other musicians on campus to perform 45-minute solo recitals my junior and senior years. This fall, I'll be applying to PhD programs around the country and hopefully moving on from MSU to complete a PhD in either English Literature or Rhetoric & Composition. I love teaching and I have a strong passion for helping people learn how to write, which has inspired me to work towards becoming a college professor. I could talk forever about my favorite athleisure brands and how different the weather is in Mankato compared to Milwaukee (yes, it's Lake Michigan that makes the difference, and I swear by this!). Some of my favorite hobbies are baking muffins, going to spin classes, and bothering my brothers via FaceTime.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

Honestly, the hardest part of grad school is meeting other people on campus. I came to Mankato knowing no one but being a part of student government has allowed me to meet so many wonderful and driven people who inspire me every day. I love being able to get to know other grad students and talk about what we can do to make campus a better place for everyone. I would like to continue my

position as Graduate Studies student senator because I want to keep advocating for other students who might be having a hard time adjusting to a new campus, new schedule, and new place. I want to continue to create spaces for students where they can network, make friends, and connect with other students and our surrounding community, and I know that I can continue making a positive difference on campus if I am reelected to this role.

Noor Salim

The Maverick Movement

Biography

My name is Noor I have earned a Bachelor of Science in Community Health Education from Minnesota State University, Mankato and I am currently the African American Affairs Graduate Assistant at Minnesota State University. I want to be the voice for all student that are perusing master's degrees. My hobbies are golf, excising and learning new languages.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

To represent all students and make it inclusive.

Patrick Flynn

Independent

Biography

I'm a non-traditional student, who while obtaining my Bachelor's in IT (with a minor in political science) here at MNSU, began my graduate degree during my senior year (aka this year). I've lived on campus the whole time I've been here, in McElroy, Preska, Sears, and Preska again, and went to NACURH in Arizona during the summer of 2018, as part of a delegation representing MNSU. I've maintained a good GPA here, while working for both the library at the Tech Desk, and driving the Red Eye Shuttle. I have been known to jump in to help others at a moment's notice, be it to help a floor mate figure out why their fan isn't working, changing a flat tire, fixing a laptop, or picking up the cost of a meal for a stranger who is a bit short (hunger sucks - I've been there).

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I'm running because after 4 years here, and pushing hard for changes at the committee and RHA levels, want to be part of making much larger changes here at MNSU. Some of the issues of interest to me hereat MNSU is vendor contract transparency, the experience of non-traditional students seeking a traditional college experience (such as myself), lately have been putting time into thinking about protections against punishment for students, who act in good faith in reporting something, end up inadvertently violating the technical rules put forth by student conduct policies, with no intentions to do harm. These protections currently only exist for requests medical or police assistance. With how current policies are written, it discourages reporting technical vulnerabilities and the like, instead putting those

who choose to report it at risk for allegedly exploiting the very same vulnerabilities. I also have an unending inner drive to make things better here at MNSU, and to help those around me. It is my hope that I would be able to make a difference to people who otherwise wouldn't get a voice – particularly students who might not be having the best time here at MNSU, but keep to themselves as a result. While I may be running as a graduate student, and many of these issues may seem unimportant to you now, it is my hope that graduate students can become recognized as the leaders that we are to all students at MNSU - graduate, undergraduate, non-degree seeking, or even senior citizen - can look to for guidance, leadership, and as role models.

College of Education Senator Candidates

Sarvesh

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

Hello, my name is Sarvesh Parte and I am from India. I am a Senior, majoring in Aviation Professional Flight. Initially, I started my journey as a Mechanical Engineer in MNSU later on, realized that I have more interest in flying and traveling compared to mechanics.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I know a lot of students who need help in the college of education department and I think as a senior I have a bit of experience which I can use to help them. As you can see my major falls under the Department, College of Education. This can be a great advantage for the students and me, just in case, they need help in something specific.

Off-Campus Senator Candidates

Abbas Khan

The Maverick Movement

Biography

Hello!! My name is Abbas Khan and I'm running for Student Government Off-Campus Senator. I am a junior pursuing Marketing major in College of Business here in Minnesota State University, Mankato. I'm an international student from Pakistan. I believe in taking lead when it comes to figuring out initiatives that are for the greater good, which is why I have been consistent with my representation of the institutions that I was a part of (secondary, higher secondary education and even at MNSU; as an active member of PSA).

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

Moving from dorms Preska to off-campus housing was a stark change for me, marked with various issues on a daily basis. This personal experience brought on a realization of the issues and problems that students face residing in communities that are off campus. Hence this position will help me advocate and possibly resolve student issues living off-campus.

Andrew Weinzierl

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

Entering my senior year as a student at Minnesota State University, Mankato, I've been engaged in Student Affairs for my entire college career. I was involved in the Residence Hall Association as the Programming Communications Coordinator, Students United as Legislative Specialist, and am currently serving as an off-campus Senator and PR & Marketing Coordinator for Student Government. I've also served two summers as an Orientation Peer Assistant (OPA). In my current Student Government role, I've advocated for civic engagement in the 2020 Presidential Nomination Primary and 2020 Census by forming an Ad-Hoc Civic Engagement Mobilization Committee which will run through the 2020 Presidential Election and focusing on promoting the importance of civic engagement among college students, who generally exhibit lower levels of engagement compared to older generations. Another major project has been the Maverick Gaming Community, which started in the spring of 2019, which brings gamers together for events and the advancement of eSports at the University.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I'm re-running for off-campus Senator in Student Government because I believe that my previous experience in the position will be helpful in the nurturing of a new Student Government leadership. I have also invested a lot of time in my current projects that will be aided by my continuance in the position through the end of 2020, when I graduate in the fall semester. My knowledge about the internal workings of University Administration will allow me to advocate on behalf of my constituents.

Ansu

The Maverick Movement

Biography

I am a Pre-Nursing Major, originally from Liberia/ West Africa. I currently serve as President of Liberian Students Association at MSU, Mankato.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

To help improve and provide access for off-campus students.

Asaka Shimizu

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Asaka Shimizu, I am currently a Junior at Minnesota State University, Mankato pursuing my bachelor's degree in Marketing and minor in Entrepreneurship and Innovation. I am currently involved in the Japanese Intercultural Association as Treasurer. For the year 2017 Fall to 2018 Spring, I was also involved in the community council as a Treasurer while also living in the dormitory. I have been working for the Center for English Language Programs as an Undergraduate assistant by helping Intensive English Program students. In addition, I have served as a peer mentor multiple times during the orientation for international students.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

These two upcoming semesters are my last semesters as an undergraduate student and I want to help students learn more about different cultures. This desire also comes from my experiences as a member of both the Japanese Intercultural Association and CELP. Being involved in JIA and CELP allowed me to support numerous students, and these opportunities inspired me to run for Student Government and help even more students.

Cat Nelson

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

Hey there! I'm Cat Nelson, and I'm a senior majoring in law enforcement and gender & women's studies with a minor in alcohol & drug studies, and I am on track to graduate Spring 2021. I graduated from Eden Prairie High School in 2016. Throughout my time at MSU, I've been involved in many different campus and community organizations. During my first year, I served as my floor representative in the Residence Hall Association (RHA) and attended MACURH, the RHA leadership conference for the Midwest. I joined my sorority, Alpha Chi Omega, in August 2017. I served on the Panhellenic Council in Fall 2018 as the Vice President of Risk Management, where I was able to grow and hone my passion for

community safety and responsible event planning. In 2019, I was the Panhellenic Council President, and through this position I was able to foster friendships and build relationships with many people in Student Government, including working with President Anisa Omar on her food drive for Campus Cupboard. During 2020, I am honored to be serving as the chapter president of Alpha Chi Omega, the organization that has become my home away from home and brought me some of my best friends.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am running for Off Campus Senator because I believe that I have the drive, the dedication, and the skills to be able to exceed expectations in this position. My first focus would be to work with John Bulcock, the Assistant Director of Off-Campus Housing, Greek Life, and Student Activities, as well as the City of Mankato's inspectors and CADA, to provide resources for students living or interested in living off campus to ensure their safety in their potential residences. I have a passion for safety, and I believe that having a safe place to live is a key piece of the foundation of strong academic performance. Safety has many different forms, and I would want to be all-encompassing to provide resources for housing that does not meet building code, unsafe or abusive roommate situations, and students experiencing domestic violence in their living situation. I would want to poll the student body to gather input on the current bus routes, to determine areas that may benefit students if a bus route were to be added, and any additional feedback about the transportation options available to students. Finally, I would want to work with The Panhellenic President and the Interfraternity Council President, as well as John Bulcock and the incoming graduate advisor of Fraternity & Sorority Life to be a voice in the discussion of the Greek Housing Initiative. Fraternity houses are currently considered off-campus residences, and I would want to work closely with each fraternity chapter president, chapter risk management chair, and the Interfraternity Council Vice President of Risk Management to ensure that their homes and events are as safe as possible. I love this campus and this community with my entire heart. I have found friendships here that will last a lifetime, and I truly believe that the school spirit of Mankato can be felt with every game day, every campus event, every homecoming, and in the connections we all have with one another. Serving this community as the Off-Campus Senator would be an honor, and I look forward to continuing to give back to the community who has given me so much!

Freeman N. Moma

The Maverick Movement

Biography

My name is Freeman Moma, I am an international student from the Democratic Republic of Congo. I am a junior in Electronic Engineering Technology. I enjoy watching movies, socializing, listening to music and for a fact I am learning how to play guitar.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I have chosen this position because I have been living off campus for 3 years and I know how difficult it is for off-campus students to socialize with other students the way it is for those living on-campus, therefore I think this position will give me an opportunity to help others by sharing my experience and my knowledge of living off-campus.

Kavin Atmakur

The Maverick Movement

Biography

This is Kavin Atmakur, I am an international student here at MNSU from India and I'm majoring in Computer Engineering and I'm a sophomore.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I think there are more things to do in my particular position for people who live off-campus like me, we face a few problems that can be solved by the student government's proposal and that need to be heard and solved.

Margarita Ruiz

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

Hello, my name is Margarita Ruiz. I am the daughter of Mexican immigrants, a first generation Mexican American student majoring in Sociology and minoring in Political Science. I am very passionate about issues such as immigrant rights and wealth inequality. I hope to combine those two passions and be able to help immigrant workers as a union organizer.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

Student government is in need of someone with a background in Sociology, with which I can provide insight as to how actions will affect students of all backgrounds, not just those viewed as the default or the majority. I am the kind of person who isn't afraid to take a stand against inequity and hope to bring that kind of passion to student government.

Muhammad Hammad

The Maverick Movement

Biography

My name is Muhammad Hammad, enrolled in Construction Management in Class of 2023.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

The reason why I am interested in this position is because I have been part of student governments before. It is an exceptional experience and a good way to work for the student community, off-campus and also learn more about work ethic and personal growth.

Naqibul Ahmed Mahboob

The Maverick Movement

Biography

I am a Junior and my major is Graphic Design (previously it was civil engineering). I am from Bangladesh, but I was raised my whole life in Qatar. I am 21 years old. I have an elder brother and elder sister. They both are doctors. My dad was an electrical engineer but now he is retired. My mom is a home maker.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am running for this position with hopefulness to succeed with MNSU students' problems and concerns. I was also facing some problems too, so I decided to run for student government. The main problems are, broken roads, bus doesn't stop enough by the bus stops (I faced this problem a lot), along with lot of other issues. I am hoping that if I am able to run this position, I can able to make the problems solvable. Also, I know leadership is important and my president has excellent leadership.

Paula Bejarano

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Paula Bejarano and I am from Colombia. Currently, I am a student at Minnesota State University Mankato, majoring in Computer Engineering. I received an offer to play college tennis at MSU. I represented MSU while playing singles and doubles matches throughout the season against several universities and teams. Moreover, I was part of the Latino Student Wellness Program and Chicano Latin-American Association, I participated in events that foster unity among students and programs that support Latinos and create cultural awareness among students. I volunteered in the Adult Learning Center at VINE Faith in Action in Mankato. I worked as a Literacy Educator Volunteer, helping refugee elders and other literacy-challenged adults improve reading and writing skills. Furthermore, I am the Event Coordinator and Board Member of Society of Women Engineers. In this role, I volunteer and attend programs that can help with networking opportunists and career advice for students. Likewise, empower and encourage women to pursue a career in this path.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

My personal goals have been shaped by my childhood experiences. I grew up in an undeveloped country, and I witnessed how underprivileged communities endured restricted access to common resources due to corruption. This experience shaped my personal and professional goals. I decided to see it as an opportunity for growth since it taught me the value of solidarity and justice. As a computer engineer, I desire to help disadvantaged communities obtain proper access to digital resources. Specifically, I would like to help young children in low-income communities by providing them with adequate access to technology and common resources. I am a hard worker and committed student, and I plan on implementing the skills that have helped me succeed in my life. I am hopeful that my passion for equality, will allow me to become an agent of change and help those most in need.

Radit Mahmud

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

I am Radit Mahmud, I am an International Student from Bangladesh, I am sophomore here at Minnesota State University, Mankato studying International Relation major. I have been involved with many nonprofit organizations which worked at national level back in Bangladesh. I have served as the Organizing Secretary of Youth's Voice (An NGO in Bangladesh). I want to learn and grow as a proud Maverick.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I enjoy working for a greater cause than an individual itself, working along with people from different cultures and countries surely will result in polishing my growth and make me a great leader someday. This is just my first step towards a bigger dream that I have for myself and that is serve as Member of Parliament back in my home country Bangladesh.

Steven Ovrait

The Maverick Movement

Biography

I am a senior student studying biotechnology. I've had a very fun time at MNSU so far. I've been involved in a couple of organizations on campus including Residential life; being a CA for 2 years, a one year orientation peer assistant, a tutor working with high school students and also a Fundraising assistant raising money for scholarships. With these experiences I've been fortunate enough to gain a lot of experience with working with people and associating with great minds. I'm optimistic and always looking forward to getting myself out there to make as much impact as I can

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I'm choosing to run for an off-campus senator to make an impact in the lives of students, by advocating necessary needs that are voiced out by students and help to promote an atmosphere where needful resources are catered for in order to create a campus atmosphere that connects with main campus.

Uzair

The Maverick Movement

Biography

My name is Muhammad Uzair Usman and I am currently enrolled in Mechanical Engineering in Class of 2023.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I want to run for this position because I have been part of student governments in the past and have had an interest in working for my colleagues to make their experience better both on-campus, and off-campus. Working for the College of Science and Engineering will make me learn more about my Teachers, Professors and also have my own personal growth.

Win Vuong

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

I am currently a junior studying biochemistry with a minor in mathematics. I have been involved with multiple RSOs on campus such as Hmong Student Association, ASME, and currently in the Sigma Chi fraternity for my third year. While being in Sigma Chi, I have been in a few leadership positions such as community service, PR/ Marketing, and currently the pledge educator.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am running for off-campus senator because I am a student that has been living off-campus for the past two school years and would like to advocate for students that live off-campus. I would like to work with a great group of people of the student government, that has been doing really well advocating for the student body this past year. With a strong leadership group, we are able to keep pushing to fix issues that still affect the students of MSU and would love to be part of that.

Zachary Wickman

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

I am in my junior year here at MNSU. I was born and raised in Mankato and graduated from Mankato East High School in 2017. In high school I played football, ran track, and occasionally golfed on the weekends. My senior year of high school I took an AP Government class and was instantly intrigued by the world of politics and government, and it was since then that I knew what I wanted to do, I wanted to be a politician. After high school, attending MNSU wasn't where I envisioned going to. However, once I had the opportunity to go on a campus tour I immediately fell in love with our university. As a freshman in Fall 2017, I joined the fraternity Phi Kappa Psi, which has aided me tremendously in developing myself into a gentleman of character and moral excellence. During my time in college I've had the opportunity to meet many people and form many connections, and now running as a Student Senator I hope I can use those connections to be a voice for advancing everyone's shared interests on our campus.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am currently a double major in Political Science and Urban and Regional Studies. Someday, I hope to get a job within the government, and being a Student Senator would give me an amazing opportunity to further develop my experience and knowledge for my future profession. Additionally, I am proud to be a student at MNSU and I can see no better way to serve my university. Furthermore, I hope to ensure that the university continues to successfully develop and that I as a Senator will be able to provide a voice for all students to be heard on issues that may be affecting them. Specifically, regarding the off-campus Student Senator position in which I'm running for, I believe there are issues that need to be addressed that our students face every day; issues such as food insecurity, affordable housing, access to transportation, and so many others. Using the connections I've built throughout my three years on our campus, I believe we will be able to combat these issues head on, and make off-campus life for everyone, the best it can be.

Residential Life Senator Candidates

Audrey Hopwood

The Maverick Movement

Biography

Hello, I'm Audrey Hopwood running for Residential Life senator with The Maverick Movement. I grew up in Champlin, MN with both my parents and little brother. As I was growing up my parents had taught me a lot. My mom always had taught me the importance of education and especially reading and how to always keep educating yourself, and that learning never stops. My dad owns a small business and he taught me the importance of being a leader, learning, and working hard. My little brother has also taught me the importance of being present and not just being there. Together they have taught me the importance of family, how we have each other's backs, and how we work together as one unit. They are my foundation and what has built me as who I am today. At Minnesota State University, Mankato my major is Biology Pre-Dental with a Technical Communication Minor. Being a junior in college my involvements here consist of being a Community Advisor for Preska (CA), Track & Field athlete, as well as being involved with a couple of clubs which are, Black Student Union, Stem Alliance, and RHA. I also want to be soon a part of Student Government.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I'm choosing to run for Residential Life senator with The Maverick Movement, because at Minnesota State University, Mankato being a Community Advisor in the Residential Life gives me an inside look on how students adjust once they get to college. As well as already being a leader to the on-campus student community gives them an already familiar face to look up to as a leader and someone to talk to. Coming from a tight niched family I can understand how hard it can be to adjust to a new environment and community that will be a part of you while continuing your education. I want to be that leader that people can come to knowing I will be there for them as a student and as a person, someone that is willing to help, listen, care, and achieve what they need as a student to be academically successful. I believe that college is already hard enough for people to adjust to and I want to be that person to make it easier. Knowing that when students choose our college they are knowing when they live in our Residential Halls students are aware that they will be accepted into our community with open arms. As for upcoming freshmen or returning students knowing they have a supporter and an outlet by their side, and to know that if they don't feel safe because of not having their right accessibility needs, or because of a racial stigmas there may be, or just the fact someone may not be educated about things that has to do with race, or other diversity's that people may have would mean that our school is not giving attention to the importance of that for people to succeed. Everyone is different in their own way but doesn't mean that they should be treated in a way that dehumanizes them for being who they are. I believe that when people come to our college it should be a safe haven with acceptance of open arms no matter what diversity they bring, because you don't know the amount of unacceptance people receive every day for just being how they are. As for students living on campus, they know that I will be being a senator and a leader this will be a place of comfort, safety, community, and family to students. As a college we are not another on the list for our people that don't get accepted, we are a community

that accepts all. I want to make sure that the students that come to our college or returns on campus know that there is someone here that is fighting for everything that will achieve their academic success, and whatever else they bring to our campus to make our school better and not something that they should feel they need to hide or be ashamed of, and I will be that person that can provide that support, positivity, acceptance, and inclusiveness they need to achieve there educational goals while they are here.

Brian Swancutt

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

Hi! My name is Brian Swancutt, and I'm running to be your Residential Life Senator for the 2020-2021 school year! I will be entering next fall as a junior with a major in social work and minors in psychology and political science! I currently serve as your Legislative Affairs Coordinator and have had the honor and pleasure of planning the first ever MSU Mankato Lobby Day at the State Capitol! I also currently serve as a Residential Life Senator. I look forward to meeting to you all and look forward to continuing to be your champion in the Student Senate!

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am choosing to run for this position because I want to help solve issues that are affecting the residents who live here on campus. While they do have the Residence Hall Association to take care of some of their issues, there are larger and more complex issues that RHA is unable to address (mostly because they have enough in their plates already). As a Residential Life Senator, I will seek out these complex issues, bring them to the attention of the Senate, and work to resolve them to the best of my ability.

David Watts

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is David Watts, I am currently studying to be an Accountant through the College of Business. In the past, I have been involved in many student ran organizations such as; the Residence Hall Association (RHA), the National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH), Accounting Club, and Student Government. In each of these organizations, I have focused on fine-tuning my leadership skills while also representing my fellow students. As part of the RHA executive board (the school year 2019-2020), we focused on many of the issue's students faced when living on campus, while also facilitating each floor/building with the ability to represent themselves on a school-wide level. It is extremely important to me when it comes to representing students especially those who might not be able to. Every voice matters and without them change couldn't be possible. Leadership plays a big role in this and being part of NRHH for the last year has really helped me accomplish this. NRHH has changed the way I view leadership and the importance it is to recognize those who go above and beyond. Being a good leader isn't always taking

the wheel and putting a group in the right direction. Sometimes a good leader is someone who can take a step down and listen to what the group truly wants while also empowering those group members to overcome the problems they may face. Without NRHH I don't think I could have made this change to my leadership style on my own. This change is huge especially when it comes to representing students. For instance, if you can't take a moment to listen to the people you represent and gauge what they need, how could you ever represent them fairly. Understanding the needs of students is something I think I have been able to accomplish in both RHA and NRHH. As a member of the Accounting Club as well as the Treasurer I have seen the possibilities that are available when you have a connection between students and employers. I have made numerous connections with firms that have come in and spoken to the Accounting Club that I don't think I could make anywhere else. Which I think will be helpful anywhere I will go and I'm thankful for that. And finally, Student Government. For Spring 2020 I was voted in by the senate to fill one of the College of Business vacancies. Since being voted in I began throwing around the idea of personal student business cards that could be handed out at college career fairs and networking events to get business students names out there. I also have been given the opportunity to attend COSBO meetings which meet once a month to gather input, bounce ideas and connect with Dean Flannery, faculty members and student leaders in the college. In these meetings, I've brought to attention I want to work towards student engagement and how I am working towards this now is by starting the brainstorming process with many of the connections I've made through the COSBO meetings of a yearly welcome week event to be head at the beginning of each school year. I've heard that other colleges do something like this and it is something I would love to give a try.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am running for Residential Life Senator because I feel my past experiences in residential life, as well as the connections I have established, have enabled me to better advocate for all residents. For the past year, I have been the CAM chair for RHA, and through my experiences being on the executive board, I am able to work for the betterment of all residents if elected. I have lived on campus for the past couple of years, and so having the experiences these past years will allow me to fix problems. Electing me will ensure all student voices are heard in not only the decision-making process in Residential Life but also across campus.

Drake Russell

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

Drake Russell is a Zoology major going from his Freshman to Sophomore year. His interests include art, photography, gemology, enjoying and making music, and working with animals. His involvement on campus includes the RHA, NRHH, Native American Student Association (NASA), and the MNSU pow wow committee. He is also a clarinet in the Maverick Machine. In his free time besides studying, he likes painting, sewing, cleaning, as well as going for walks whether it be a long walk on the beach, or a short stroll in the forest. Some of his absolute favorite things include strawberry candy, sunset colors, and polaroids.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

It's important for students to voice their concerns for themselves and others such as colleagues, in order to make the residence halls and campus a better environment, as well as being able to come together and form ideas and projects beneficial to all.

Kara Svercl

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

Hi! My name is Kara Svercl and I am going to be a sophomore next fall. I am a social work and pre-law major. On campus I am involved with the Residence Hall Association, Student Government, and the Campus Kitchen. I have loved getting involved on campus and getting to meet so many new people. One of my favorite things to do at Mankato is to cheer on the Mavs at hockey games. I am already counting down the days until next season when I have no doubt we'll go all the way to the Frozen Four. Over the course of the year, I have really thrown myself into Student Government and learned so much as a result. If elected I intend to continue working on food and housing insecurity initiatives and increasing voter participation in the dorms. I hope you have a strong rest of the semester and consider voting for me for the Residential Life Senator position!

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I want to be re-elected as a Residential Life Senator because I am dedicated to improving the residence communities and campus as a whole. This past year I worked tirelessly to ensure the voices of people who live in the residence communities were being heard by the senate and administration. After learning how widespread food insecurity is on campus, I successfully advocated for a meal swipe donation program to be implemented on campus to help address food insecurity. I also became the chair of the Student Basic Needs committee where we discussed future initiatives to help students experiencing housing insecurity. Additionally, I hold a position on the Residence Hall Association executive board, so I am very in tune to the concerns of people in the residence communities and have experience working with administrators to problem solve. I don't feel like my work is done in the residence communities and hope that through this position I have the opportunity to continue improving the experience of living on campus.

Ryan Walfoort

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

I was raised by a single mother and grew up in apartments all over the Twin Cities metro. My mother worked hard to provide for my two older brothers and me. She put in long hours in demanding customer service roles to provide a better life for us. She's a strong woman who showed me that determination and perseverance could help overcome many of life's obstacles. Like my mom, I also

attended a local community college while working different jobs to supplement student loans that I took out to pay for my schooling. I graduated from Inver Hills Community College in 2019, and transferred to Minnesota State University, Mankato in the Fall of that year. I am pursuing a bachelor's degree in political science, and I intend on attending graduate school for public policy. I have been honored to serve as your senator for Residential Life since filling a vacancy this Spring. I have worked alongside passionate students that are excited to engage the campus community around census and civic engagement this year. It is crucial, now more than ever, that every student's voice is heard leading up to the 2020 election. I currently serve on Student Government's civic engagement committee and have been grateful to have the opportunity to assist in spreading awareness of the 2020 census, in addition to the voting process leading up to this year's election. I also serve as a representative for on-campus students in our Residence Hall Association where I help to voice the concerns and opinions of students in the residence community. Lastly, I am overjoyed to have chosen Minnesota State Mankato as my transfer school. My family has always had Maverick pride, and both of my brothers are alumni of the University. I am proud to be a student here and look forward to representing your interests in Student Government. Go Mavericks!

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am running for reelection to continue representing Residential Life interests in Student Government. I believe through advocacy and determination, we can make college affordable, accessible and livable for our campus community. It is my duty as your senator to ensure that every student's voice is heard, and their concerns met with decisive action. I promise to meet students where they are at, and to advocate for their interests in Student Government from a civically grounded perspective. I look forward to bringing my insight as a member of the Residence Hall Association, and as a fellow on-campus student to the job every day. I'm also running for this position so that we continue to progress on educating students about the 2020 election and census. As a member of the Civic Engagement Mobilization Committee, I have tabled and dedicated office hours to making sure every student is counted and their voices are heard. I promise to work hard to engage the campus community this election season on the issues that matter the most to them such as college affordability, accessibility and safety. During these turbulent times, I believe we can work together to overcome the uncertainty by working together to create a better future as one Minnesota State Mankato.

Newspaper Board Candidates

Ayush Sharma

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Ayush Sharma, I am a Sophomore majoring in Aviation Management at Minnesota State University Mankato. I have been actively working for Student Association of India and I have been sub-coordinator and coordinator consecutively for 2 years. I have also been actively working for the International Students Association, I have worked as a Coordinator for a program called Countries of the week (that was started by Arnavee Maltare when she served as the CEO of ISA). I have been volunteering for the Signature nights around the campus under KCISS and have been working as an active volunteer and make an impact as much as I can.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

Running for the newspaper board would give me an option to work on the areas that the student would want to see in the newspaper and how can they increase the number of their readers. Overall, I want to be the person who works on the betterment of the school, and make sure that the student voices are heard.

Katlin Sannan

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Katlin Sannan, I am currently a Junior majoring in Psychology at Minnesota State University Mankato. I have served the Minnesota State University's Tennis Team for the year 2017-2019. I have actively volunteered with the Tennis team like rake the town, St. Judes Children's Hospital and many more. I have also worked as a model for Fashion photography Club (FCP) Mankato. I plan to work for the boards I am applying for under student government and make sure students are heard.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I have served the tennis team for 2.5 years and I feel like I have information and the experience to work in that area, including that I have a personal experience in understanding the issues that students might face. The newspaper works on sports feed a lot, I would work to make sure that they get enough content to write and inform the students more about the school sports and keep the maverick spirit.

Naqibul Ahmed Mahboob

The Maverick Movement

Biography

I am a Junior and my major is Graphic Design (previously it was civil engineering). I am from Bangladesh, but I was raised my whole life in Qatar. I am 21 years old. I have an elder brother and elder sister. They both are doctors. My dad was an electrical engineer but now he is retired. My mom is a home maker.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am running for this position with hopefulness to succeed with MNSU students' problems and concerns. I was also facing some problems too, so I decided to run for student government. The main problems are, broken roads, bus doesn't stop enough by the bus stops (I faced this problem a lot), along with lot of other issues. I am hoping that if I am able to run this position, I can able to make the problems solvable. Also, I know leadership is important and my president has excellent leadership.

Prerna Somaiya

The Maverick Movement

Biography

Hello, Namaste, আসসালামুআলাইকম, Hallo, ﺎﻟﻠﻪ, Hola! My name is Prerna Somaiya and I am a Junior majoring in Information Systems. I am running for the senate of College of Science, Engineering, and Technology with the Maverick Movement Party. I believe in provision of equal opportunities, representation and understanding of the members from every community. In coherence with these beliefs I have served as a Maverick Global Ambassador, Lead Peer Mentor (during Fall 2019 Orientation), and Vice President (of Student Association of India) in the previous years. As far as the leadership experience, I have served as the Vice President of Student Association of India. I previously I have taken charge of different organizations in their difficult times I have led and changed the fortunes of them from changing it from failures to tremendous success.

Sourabh Hanumant

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Sourabh Hanumant, I am currently a Junior majoring in Art BFA - Graphic Design at Minnesota State University, Mankato. For the past 3 years, I have been the Graphic Designer for Student Association of India. I have been actively working for the International Students Association and was the campaign Manager for Arnavee and Dominik for the International Student Association elections. I have worked for the Science and Engineering fair. I have been the coordinator for the Signature nights around the campus under KCISS.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am from College of Arts and Humanities, running for the newspaper board would give me an option to work for betterment of the newspaper and how can they increase the number of their readers. I would also try to work on the issues that students might face towards the media that has been around the campus. I also feel that it would be a great opportunity to learn from the people around me and who I would work with.

Centennial Student Union Board Candidates

Afnan Husain

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Afnan Husain. I am majoring in Computer Science with a minor in Mathematics and German. I am currently a liaison for the Student Association of India, an Honors student, and a Learning Community Coordinator.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I want to be able to give back to the community. What better way to give back than being part of an organization that helps me ensure I can make changes for the better of the community.

Allison Allen

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Allison, my major is Elementary Education, and this is my third year at Minnesota State University, Mankato. Throughout my three years here, I have spent much of my time being involved with the Student Government. I am currently the Chair of the Centennial Student Union Board, the secretary of the Academic Affairs Committee, and I am a member of the Ethics and Standards Committee. I am also a Student Ambassador where I am given the opportunity to provide tours of campus and to be a positive representative of our University.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am running for this position within Student Government because I am currently the chair of this board, and I would love to continue my leadership within the board and the Student Government in general. Having been involved in Student Government for the past three years, I have developed many close relationships and have found a home within this organization that I take pride in representing.

Emma Catherine Gabbert

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

Emma Gabbert is a sophomore with a major in Mass Media and a double minor in Political Science and Marketing. She started working for CSU Communications in September 2019 as the Public Relations Assistant. She has been involved with media since high school where she was a member of her high school news and video production team. At Minnesota State Mankato, she is involved in Her Campus MNSU, Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA), College Democrats and is currently the Co-Social Media Marketing Manager for IGNITE MNSU: Women in Politics. Her dream job is to be the Public Relations Director for a political campaign or the Public Relations Manager at a corporation in the Twin Cities or Washington D.C.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I want to run for the Centennial Student Union Board because as the Public Relations Assistant, I can recognize strengths and weaknesses within the CSU that most people would not normally know about. My core values are inclusion, equality, opportunity, dedication, and involvement. As the Public Relations Assistant, I have gained real-world experience that I could not receive anywhere else. I believe I can use obstacles I have overcome to my advantage as a Centennial Student Union Board Member.

Eniola Quadri

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Eniola Quadri, I am a junior in Minnesota State University Mankato pursuing a bachelor's degree in Information Technology and a minor in Mathematics. Currently, I am the event coordinator for the African Student Association; organizing and planning events like African Night, Battle of the sexes. I have been very active on-campus and I enjoy being involved in school activities. I won the International Student Royalty 2018 competition; I got to showcase my talent and answered some political questions. On my first semester, I joined the peer mentor and student ambassador, gaining more public service experience. I am also a member of the national society of black engineers, leadership U, Women in STEM.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I believe this is a big opportunity to help the teamwork towards goals.

Lelti Asgedom

Independent

Biography

Born in 03/03/2000 in Ethiopia Biochemistry major Sophomore.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I want to play a role in making better changes for creating a better environment for every student. Listen and respond to students' needs.

Manav Mendonça

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

I was born and raised to a family of Indian ethnicity in Hong Kong. Being raised in a community with such a diverse population, I was able to be exposed to a lot of rich culture and traditions which broadened my outlook on life, whilst also giving me a plethora of valuable skills, with inclusion to my open-mindedness, interpersonal and language speaking skills. I took affinity to the business world at an early stage, having taken part in many real-world experiences back home – some quite similar to programs offered by MNSU's College of Business. My passion for business brought me to the footsteps of Minnesota State University, Mankato at the age of 16, where I now am currently working on completing a double degree in Business Management and Marketing with a minor in Entrepreneurship and Innovation and certificate in Business Analytics.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I believe that the Student Government is the perfect opportunity for students to give back to a campus that continuously provides. It allows for students to take a step out of their comfort zones to be the voice that represents a population that has similar opinions, values and beliefs as themselves.

Muhammad Hammad

The Maverick Movement

Biography

My name is Muhammad Hammad, enrolled in Construction Management in Class of 2023.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

The reason why I am interested in this position is because I have been part of student governments before. It is an exceptional experience and a good way to work for the student community, off-campus and also learn more about work ethic and personal growth.

Muhtasim Yasar

The Maverick Movement

Biography

I am an international student born and raised in Bangladesh in a military family. Growing up, I was always very active and curious. I had the opportunity to move around the world and know a lot about different countries. On my first year in USA, I graduated High School in Rhode Island and then moved to New York to pursue higher education. I lived in NY for four years where I obtained my Associates Degree in Business Administration and gained work experience. Following, I came to MNSU to obtain my bachelor's degree in Financial Economics. Besides my academics and on-campus employment, I am involved in a business fraternity ΔΣΠ and Bangladeshi Students Organization. Always looking forward to my next experience.

Naqibul Ahmed Mahboob

The Maverick Movement

Biography

I am a Junior and my major is Graphic Design (previously it was civil engineering). I am from Bangladesh, but I was raised my whole life in Qatar. I am 21 years old. I have an elder brother and elder sister. They both are doctors. My dad was an electrical engineer but now he is retired. My mom is a home maker.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am running for this position with hopefulness to succeed with MNSU students' problems and concerns. I was also facing some problems too, so I decided to run for student government. The main problems are, broken roads, bus doesn't stop enough by the bus stops (I faced this problem a lot), along with lot of other issues. I am hoping that if I am able to run this position, I can able to make the problems solvable. Also, I know leadership is important and my president has excellent leadership.

Nedu

Independent

Biography

My name is Chinedu Godswill Emedo, 2016 - 2017 I was the PRO of African student in near east university. I love to meet new people.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I want to use the name I have created to stand for my other student am well known on campus for the right thing.

Prerna Somaiya

The Maverick Movement

Biography

Hello, Namaste, আসসালামুআলাইকম, Hallo, ﷲ, Hola! My name is Prerna Somaiya and I am a Junior majoring in Information Systems. I am running for the senate of College of Science, Engineering, and Technology with the Maverick Movement Party. I believe in provision of equal opportunities, representation and understanding of the members from every community. In coherence with these beliefs I have served as a Maverick Global Ambassador, Lead Peer Mentor (during Fall 2019 Orientation), and Vice President (of Student Association of India) in the previous years. As far as the leadership experience, I have served as the Vice President of Student Association of India. I previously I have taken charge of different organizations in their difficult times I have led and changed the fortunes of them from changing it from failures to tremendous success.

Radit Mahmud

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

I am Radit Mahmud, I am an International Student from Bangladesh, I am sophomore here at Minnesota State University, Mankato studying International Relation major. I have been involved with many nonprofit organizations which worked at national level back in Bangladesh. I have served as the Organizing Secretary of Youth's Voice (An NGO in Bangladesh). I want to learn and grow as a proud Maverick.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I enjoy working for a greater cause than an individual itself, working along with people from different cultures and countries surely will result in polishing my growth and make me a great leader someday. This is just my first step towards a bigger dream that I have for myself and that is serve as Member of Parliament back in my home country Bangladesh.

Uzair

The Maverick Movement

Biography

My name is Muhammad Uzair Usman and I am currently enrolled in Mechanical Engineering in Class of 2023.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I want to run for this position because I have been part of student governments in the past and have had an interest in working for my colleagues to make their experience better both on-campus, and off-campus. Working for the College of Science and Engineering will make me learn more about my Teachers, Professors and also have my own personal growth.

Zahara Osman

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Zahara. I'm currently a Sophomore studying Aviation Professional Flight. I am involved in the Student Events Team and Campus Kitchen. I am passionate about serving our community, advocating for students, and improving diversity.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I'm running because I want to make positive changes in MNSU and help my party advocate to the administration to meet the needs of our students so that everyone can have the best college experience possible.

Athletic Fee Advisory Board Candidates

Ayush Sharma

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Ayush Sharma, I am a Sophomore majoring in Aviation Management at Minnesota State University Mankato. I have been actively working for Student Association of India and I have been sub-coordinator and coordinator consecutively for 2 years. I have also been actively working for the International Students Association, I have worked as a Coordinator for a program called Countries of the week (that was started by Arnavee Maltare when she served as the CEO of ISA). I have been volunteering for the Signature nights around the campus under KCISS and have been working as an active volunteer and make an impact as much as I can.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I think, our school has made alot of positive changes in the area of sports, I want to make sure we keep up the same progress and work for the betterment of our campus, I want to work and learn more about it. Overall, I want to be the person who works on the betterment of the school, and make sure that the student voices are heard.

Elijah Pitchford

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

I am a hardworking and determined student who wants to see the best from this school. As a student, athlete, and active person in the community I strive to see everything elevate with me time here at Minnesota State University.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I think as a sports management major we have a unique way of looking at the college and can bring that viewpoint to the the senate and to the things I choose to pursue.

Katlin Sannan

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Katlin Sannan, I am currently a Junior majoring in Psychology at Minnesota State University Mankato. I have served the Minnesota State University's Tennis Team for the year 2017-2019. I have actively volunteered with the Tennis team like rake the town, St. Judes Children's Hospital and many

more. I have also worked as a model for Fashion photography Club (FCP) Mankato. I plan to work for the boards I am applying for under student government and make sure students are heard.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I have served the tennis team for 2.5 years and I feel like I have information and the experience to work in that area, including that I have a personal experience in understanding the issues that students might face. I believe if I get in the Athletic fee advisory board I would be able to work on the areas, that might need improvement or make sure to get things done.

Prerna Somaiya

The Maverick Movement

Biography

Hello, Namaste, আসসালামুআলাইকম, Hallo, ٱ, Hola! My name is Prerna Somaiya and I am a Junior majoring in Information Systems. I am running for the senate of College of Science, Engineering, and Technology with the Maverick Movement Party. I believe in provision of equal opportunities, representation and understanding of the members from every community. In coherence with these beliefs I have served as a Maverick Global Ambassador, Lead Peer Mentor (during Fall 2019 Orientation), and Vice President (of Student Association of India) in the previous years. As far as the leadership experience, I have served as the Vice President of Student Association of India. I previously I have taken charge of different organizations in their difficult times I have led and changed the fortunes of them from changing it from failures to tremendous success.

Sourabh Hanumant

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Sourabh Hanumant, I am currently a Junior majoring in Art BFA - Graphic Design at Minnesota State University, Mankato. For the past 3 years, I have been the Graphic Designer for Student Association of India. I have been actively working for the International Students Association and was the campaign Manager for Arnavee and Dominik for the International Student Association elections. I have worked for the Science and Engineering fair. I have been the coordinator for the Signature nights around the campus under KCISS.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I believe that our school does a great job with the sports area, I would want to see the school progress and work more towards the athletic areas and keep up with the maverick spirit.

Student Health Services Advisory Board Candidates

Ayush Sharma

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Ayush Sharma, I am a Sophomore majoring in Aviation Management at Minnesota State University Mankato. I have been actively working for Student Association of India and I have been sub-coordinator and coordinator consecutively for 2 years. I have also been actively working for the International Students Association, I have worked as a Coordinator for a program called Countries of the week (that was started by Arnavee Maltare when she served as the CEO of ISA). I have been volunteering for the Signature nights around the campus under KCISS and have been working as an active volunteer and make an impact as much as I can.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

As an International Student I have realized that it is not only me but also a lot of other students who think healthcare is a big issue to work on. I feel like if I run for this position, I would be able to work and make an impact for the students in a greater way as much as I can. Overall, I want to be the person who works on the betterment of the school, and make sure that the student voices are heard.

Eniola Quadri

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Eniola Quadri, I am a junior in Minnesota State University Mankato pursuing a bachelor's degree in Information Technology and a minor in Mathematics. Currently, I am the event coordinator for the African Student Association; organizing and planning events like African Night, Battle of the sexes. I have been very active on-campus and I enjoy being involved in school activities. I won the International Student Royalty 2018 competition; I got to showcase my talent and answered some political questions. On my first semester, I joined the peer mentor and student ambassador, gaining more public service experience. I am also a member of the national society of black engineers, leadership U, Women in STEM.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I currently live on campus and I have decided to run for this position because I am interested in contribution to the public. I believe this is a big opportunity to help the teamwork towards goals.

Katlin Sannan

Empowering Mavericks

Biography

My name is Katlin Sannan, I am currently a Junior majoring in Psychology at Minnesota State University Mankato. I have served the Minnesota State University's Tennis Team for the year 2017-2019. I have actively volunteered with the Tennis team like rake the town, St. Judes Children's Hospital and many more. I have also worked as a model for Fashion photography Club (FCP) Mankato. I plan to work for the boards I am applying for under student government and make sure students are heard.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I have served the tennis team for 2.5 years and I feel like I have information and the experience to work in that area, including that I have a personal experience in understanding the issues that students might face. I have personal experiences with the healthcare system that makes me credible to work for the students and make sure their voices are heard. I want to be impactful to the students

Lelti Asgedom

Independent

Biography

Born in 03/03/2000 in Ethiopia Biochemistry major Sophomore.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I want to play a role in making better changes for creating a better environment for every student. Listen and respond to students' needs.

Muhammad Hammad

The Maverick Movement

Biography

My name is Muhammad Hammad, enrolled in Construction Management in Class of 2023.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

The reason why I am interested in this position is because I have been part of student governments before. It is an exceptional experience and a good way to work for the student community, off-campus and also learn more about work ethic and personal growth.

Naqibul Ahmed Mahboob

The Maverick Movement

Biography

I am a Junior and my major is Graphic Design (previously it was civil engineering). I am from Bangladesh, but I was raised my whole life in Qatar. I am 21 years old. I have an elder brother and elder sister. They both are doctors. My dad was an electrical engineer but now he is retired. My mom is a home maker.

Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I am running for this position with hopefulness to succeed with MNSU students' problems and concerns. I was also facing some problems too, so I decided to run for student government. The main problems are, broken roads, bus doesn't stop enough by the bus stops (I faced this problem a lot), along with lot of other issues. I am hoping that if I am able to run this position, I can able to make the problems solvable. Also, I know leadership is important and my president has excellent leadership.

Prerna Somaiya

Empowering Mavericks

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Why are you choosing to run for this position?

I plan to run for this position because I feel like health care is an important topic and as an international student it is a matter of great concern. I want to make an impact by working for healthcare and make sure student voices are heard.

Steven Ovraiti

The Maverick Movement

Biography

I am a senior student studying biotechnology. I've had a very fun time at MNSU so far. I've been involved in a couple of organizations on campus including Residential life; being a CA for 2 years, a one year orientation peer assistant, a tutor working with high school students and also a Fundraising assistant raising money for scholarships. With these experiences I've been fortunate enough to gain a lot of experience with working with people and associating with great minds. I'm optimistic and always looking forward to getting myself out there to make as much impact as I can