

2014 Candidate Election Profiles

03/19/2014

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Below are the candidate profiles.

Kristin P. Anderson (President w/ Jackie French)

Why are you running for this position?

Since arriving at the University of Tampa, Student Government has been influential in shaping my collegiate experience. From the very first involvement conference I knew I wanted to be a part of this amazing organization and be able to create positive change across the entire UT campus.

My freshman year I volunteered to chair the Social Concerns Committee. This experience allowed me to meet a myriad of different campus leaders. Together we formulated the most pressing issues we had experienced on campus and decided to create a resolution for the one which seemed most prevalent. The committee and I worked closely with Breathe Easy UT to start the initiative towards a smoke free campus and what has now come to fruition as designated smoking zones. This was my first real taste of leadership and impact at UT.

Following my term as Social Concerns Committee Chair I was encouraged to run for a loftier position. I opted to run for Speaker of the Assembly hoping that my work with student organizations through the Office of Student Leadership and Engagement would allow me to be able to better communicate with all students involved in SG. Upon winning that election I was excited at the possibility of what my sophomore year would hold. Over the summer it became even better when I received a call from the current SG President elect asking if I would accept the appointment of Student Government Vice President. I frankly didn't even know that the President elect knew who I was so I was honored to be asked to work alongside him and be transitioned by the Vice President elect. My year as Vice President was filled with many great improvements across campus.

Improving relationships with various offices, meal and facilities issues, and library hours all were tackled by the 2012-2013 administration. I was able to work side by side with juniors and seniors who had a love and dedication to UT. They pushed me to better myself as a student leader and to realize that each UT student has a different and unique perception of student life.

So why am I choosing to run for Student Government President? I would argue part of my decision to run is my own selfish love for Student Government and the people I have met through it. I have a great bond with the students I have worked with and the staff and administration I have been able to work alongside. But the larger part of my

decision stems from the fact that I love UT. I have never been prouder to call this campus my alma mater and to live and learn on a campus with such diversity, leadership, and innovation. I am running because I want to give back to a school that has given so much to me.

Why should someone vote for you?

I would ask a student to vote for myself and my running mate, Jacqueline French (Jacki), because between the two of us we have six years of Student Government Experience. Both Jacki and I have a long list of things we would like to accomplish or at least start improving as President and Vice President.

Some of our initiatives include things we have both previously worked on and have the tenacity to follow through with and plan to complete.

- Improved Campus Hours for Labs, Library, and Campus Dining

- Sustainability Initiatives and Improvements across Campus

- Continue to Build and Foster Relationships with Administration and Various Campus Offices

- Continue to Boost School Spirit and Engage Students

My running mate and I have worked together for the past three years and are prepared to devote whatever time and resources necessary to improving student life. We don't want to make blank promises but rather ensure student concerns are receiving ample attention. One of our biggest goals is to be transparent and allow students to see the progress we can and will make.

What separates you from your fellow candidates?

Truly what will separate me are my dependability and the initiative I take to put ideas into motion. When and if I say I'm going to complete something, I do and I try to always complete it to the best of my ability. I have learned a lot through my on campus job and leadership positions and I know the people and resources I need to seek out in order to address student concerns. Jacki and I are prepared to make the 2014-2015 academic year one of the best UT's student body has ever seen...but not without the help of our amazing UT students and staff!

*Candidates for President & Vice President: Please list ALL previous Student Government Experience

- Social Concerns Committee Chairman 2011-2012

- Vice President of Student Government 2012-2013

-Judicial Advisory Board Member 2013-2014

Jackie French (Vice President w/ Kristin Anderson)

Why are you running for this position?

After three years in our University of Tampa Student Government this is the only place I would rather be for my senior year of college. Coming into the university as a freshman, running for Freshman Senator and winning was one of my biggest and most inspiring accomplishments. Being a part of Student Government for my entire first year was my second biggest accomplishment. I am still close friends with many of the individuals I met during my time there and I have been able to see many great changes come from Student Government during my involvement. With the knowledge I have gained from my hard work put in and time spent with so many great students I would be honored to serve for one final year and make the biggest impact I have ever made on our University of Tampa campus through Student Government. After all, this is our school, our time, and our lives. Let's make it count.

As the creator of The University of Tampa Campus Senate Suggestion Page, which is going on its third year of submissions, I have been able to hear many suggestions from various students on what we should do to make this campus great. Keeping every individual post in mind here are some of the changes Kristin and I would like to bring to the campus for the 2014-2015 school year.

Some changes I would like to bring to the table as the Vice President of Student Government include:

- Renovation of the University of Tampa library including added spaces for group and individual studying.
- This past year senator Katelyn Edwards and I met with Black Casper (owner of The Oxford Exchange) and provided him with a tour of the library as a proposal for the Board of Trustees to invest in creating an space within our campus library that resembles an area similar to the Oxford Exchange. Java Bar included.
- More sustainable initiatives with and throughout the campus, included, yet not limited to:
 - Creating a sustainability fund to spread across organizations such as the EPC, SEAC, Tri Beta, UT Entrepreneurs Sustainability Board, among others.
 - Creating a sustainable committee underneath the Student Government Body
 - Providing the University of Tampa student body with a future green house where students may partake in gardening, agricultural experimentation, and developments in aquaculture and bio mimicry for some examples.
 - Bringing more organic and nutritional food items to student body to enjoy health and wellness not only in food items, but also in exercise classes including yoga, as well as, meditation.

- Extended hours in all areas of campus life, included, yet not limited to:
 - Longer library hours
 - Longer on campus dining hours
 - Longer computer lab hours

- Improved campus dining
 - Advanced meal options
 - Larger meal selections
 - Themed dining nights

- Better Athletics and Student Body Spirit (including the initiative for a football team)
 (The University of Tampa used to have a football team back in the day and the program was shut down once the Tampa Bay Buccaneers came onto the scene. Now given that Tampa has experienced tremendous growth not only in university attendance, but also in the general Tampa community Kristin and I believe this would be a great time to put forward the proposal of a University of Tampa football team. We are talking much larger than just intermural here.)
 - Increased student body spirit
 - Better halftime shows at every sporting event
 - Enhanced giveaways and interactive themed events
 - More attention given to student athletes and how their college lives and schedules are affected by being a college athlete.
 - More attention given to student athletes families and involving them in our athletic functions
 - Increased involvement from the Tampa community in our athletics

- Increased attention given to student parking
 - More lax rules given to student parking in relation to the lack of spaces available
 - Fair treatment towards students with parking tickets
 - Lower ticket fares

Increased student social themed events and money allotted to hosting events like this.
 (Some examples would include the White Party Student Government put on this year)

- Greek Life
 - Increased recognition given to Greek life and all the great things Greek organizations bring to the university.
 - More social events put on by the university for Greek life so all chapters may attend and have a chance to get to know one another.

We would like to propose either free taxi rides for students, or a transportation system created specifically for UT Students.

More intriguing and entertaining general assemblies where every single student present is able to take away something from the gathering.

More entertaining and interactive leadership retreats.

More involved chairs to engage the general assembly members and bring forward substantial initiatives that University of Tampa Students as inspired to bring about.

Why should someone vote for you?

Because we're here to get s*** done.

What separates you from your fellow candidates?

One of Kristin and I's goals atmosphere wise for Student Government next year is to curate an environment where every single student and every single student organization is treated fairly in all areas by both students involved in Student Government and university faculty and staff alike. Every single organization from Student Productions to UT Entrepreneurs, to Investment Club, to the United Nations organization are all important parts of our campus community and starting off the 2014-2015 school year one of the first things Kristin and I will make sure to do is set the tone for every individual involved. Every senator, executive member, JAB member, Cabinet member, and Student Government Chair will know and understand their purpose for being a part of the organization, which is to objectively help each student and student organization fulfill the goals and missions they have for making the University of Tampa campus not only better, but more exciting, invigorating, fulfilling, and diversified.

With this being said, one thing I believe will set me a part from other candidates is my background. I come from a small town in Naples, Florida and am a first generation college student. I learned from my father, a small business owner, what it means to work hard for what you got and as my granddad used to always say, always make sure to "cover my ass". With a potently independent, and admirable mother and a humble and hard working father I have been lucky enough to learn what it means to be self sufficient and to always understand the bigger picture behind most of the things we do throughout our day. With the life experiences I have been granted, I understand the importance of kind gestures given to even strangers, and the closeness all of us as University of Tampa students share whether we know it, or not. We all know what it feels like to stress for an exam, we all know what it feels like to get a parking ticket, we all know what it feels like to go to our first athletics games, and we all know what it feels like to spend our first night studying instead of going out. All in all, I feel lucky to be here with every single one of you and if it was my choice, I'd have events on campus daily where every student could meet someone new all the time. Since we all share one very important thing in common. The fact that we are all University of Tampa students.

Previous SG Experience:

Freshman Senator (2011-2012)

Campus Senator (2012-2013)

Campus Senator (2013-2014)

Creator of the Campus Senate Suggestion Page (2011-2014)

Winner of Senator of the Semester for the Fall 2013 Semester

Robyn Hurrell (President w/ Kyle Benus)

Why are you running for this position?

I am running for the position of Student Government president purely to better this university. Throughout my time in Student Government and my involvement in other organizations, I have learned that the best suggestions and ideas on how to better our university come directly from the student body. If elected Student Government President I would make sure that the ideas, suggestions and concerns of the student body were heard and acted upon.

Why should someone vote for you?

Besides my passion, dedication and true devotion to The University of Tampa and Student Government, I believe that I would be an ideal Student Government President because of my experiences within multiple organizations on campus and various internships I've completed. I am committed to being the best at what I do, and will persevere with any problem until it has been solved. My time management skills, leadership experiences, and drive to better the university are just a few of the many attributes of why I would make the ideal Student Government president.

What separates you from your fellow candidates?

My passion for The University of Tampa and dedication to Student Government is what sets me apart from my fellow candidates. The moment I stepped foot on UT's campus I knew this was the school for me and since that day I have had nothing but praise for this university and the diverse spectrum of students it attracts. My love and enthusiasm for this school is what makes me the ideal candidate for the position of Student Government President, as I will be sure to exemplify my passion on a daily basis if elected. My freshman year I was elected freshman senator and have since been serving as the sophomore senator for the 2013-2014 academic year. My eagerness to participate in SG elections during my first few weeks of school and the two years I have spent with Student Government hopefully show my true dedication to this organization.

Kyle Benus (Vice President w/ Robyn Hurrell)

The main reason, I'm running for Student Government Vice President is that I want the opportunity to make changes to UT that will benefit student's everyday life. I truly want

to gain students trust and ensure them that I am on their side. I will listen to any suggestions that students may come to me with and make a difference as fast as possible.

Students should vote for me because I have always served the University of Tampa to the best of my abilities. I believe, if students elect you to a position, you should do everything humanly possible to do the job as best as it can be done. There's no room for shortcuts, no room to quit, just you and the people you work for.

Determination and getting what needs to be done are two things that separate me from my fellow candidates. A famous golfer, Ken Venturi once said: "I don't believe you have to be better than everybody else. I believe you have to be better than you ever thought you could be." I am willing to put every second, every minute, and every hour of my time into this position. I truly want to not only benefit the student body but also the University of Tampa.

Jake Van Loon (Speaker of the Assembly)

Why are you running for this position?

I am running for Speaker of the Assembly because of my desire to serve, contribute and communicate with the UT Campus as a whole.

I first became involved with campus organizations and offices through joining my Fraternity, an organization I owe many things to. I owe it my skills of collaboration, organizational and systems thinking as well the desire to see results from what I am working on.

During my sophomore year, see two paths available to me. One is an internal track of involvement, where I would be climbing the ladder within my own chapter. I will never cease to be an active member of my chapter, but I am excited and motivated to take an external track of involvement and serve the campus community as a whole. The desire to serve the University that has treated me so well over these last two years, brought me to the overarching organizations, namely Student Government.

Student Government as a whole has intrigued me for many months now. As a Student Coordinator in the Office Student Leadership and Engagement and an Executive member of my own organization, I have been in and out of the Student Government office and General Assemblies throughout this past academic year. As time commitments pile up on top of each other, I find myself searching for the positions that cause the most benefit per hour of work. Every hour spent working for Student Government will improve our campus community better and create results the Student Government administration can be proud of.

The specific position of Speaker of an Assembly is a position that plays well to my strengths and would also offer me challenges to improve myself.

After running council of presidents meetings, involvement conferences and five days of events for Greek Week I believe that my ability to running large rooms is second to none. I remain cognizant of the inputs of others and am well practiced in boiling down what is being given to me into a tangible result.

On the flip side of the public speaking and relations is the tedious preparation and progress that needs to occur before and after general assemblies. As a business and writing student, as well as student employee has taught me that attention to details and timing are the only ways to cause meaningful change.

Why should someone vote for you?

When someone casts a vote for me for Speaker of the Assembly, they are going to get a lot more than an over-enthused blonde boy. I pride myself as a very extraverted person that puts a lot of effort in being introspective.

Voters would be putting someone into this position that has fantastic people skills, both face to face and in-front of large groups.

Voters would also be getting a speaker of the assembly with in depth knowledge of his own strengths, weaknesses and work styles. I have had the opportunity to take personality and work group tests since coming to college.

Voters would be getting an influential and results based worker. The influential side of me engages in conversations with people to learn their motivations. Since I run off the energy of people around me, I do my best to engage crowds in conversation to inspire them to be more involved and productive.

I do like to engage in conversation and brainstorm ideas, however, voters would also get a very results-based worker. As a results-based worker, I become satisfied with my progress by the completion of small tangible steps toward a goal. This being so, a vote for me is assurance in a speaker of the Assembly that will only be content with progression in our campus community.

What sets you apart from other candidates?

What sets me apart from other candidates is my experience in life, in large- scale campus organizations and the classroom. Class and campus service are important aspects, but pale in comparison to life experience. Some of the best students and campus servants lack the perspective and ability to survive under pressure.

By the time elections have taken place, I will have just turned 21. To many this is still a very young age. However, before the age of 21, I will have lived in a foreign country for half a year, been financially independent and a coordinator for a community of close to a thousand people. Between high school and college I lived for six months in Rio de

Janeiro, Brazil. While I was there I learned a new language, commuted to impoverished areas to volunteer, avoided muggings and survived being shot at. Also over last summer, I opted to stay in Tampa to work and take classes. During that time, I worked to pay for my own rent, bills and food while living in a dilapidated house. Financial independence taught me how to plan ahead and to deal with disaster. It would be hard to find a 21 year old that can be calmer under-pressure.

I have not yet finished my second year in college, but in that time I have spent more time in meetings and workstations, setting, striving and achieving group goals than the average college senior. What I don't have in years, I have made up in hours of work. All that experience is what sets me apart from the candidates.

In the classroom I am pursuing a dual major in Business and Writing. This combination continually sharpens my skills in business process and the management of information. While my pursuit of writing gives me new tools of concise communication, which makes me well rounded and experienced for this position.

Bayete' Stevens (Sophomore Senator)

Why are you running for this position?

I am running for this position because I know it requires dedication from a person who listens to the people and can be a voice for the people. I have been publically speaking since middle school so I have no problem speaking up for the issues that trouble people here at the University of Tampa. Although politics is not for everyone, everyone has an opinion on how they want this school to be run during their four years here. I will bridge the gap between an individual's ideas and Student Government. I will be the voice of the people.

Why should someone vote for you?

Someone should vote for me because I am the best choice to represent the student body in Student Government. I am an outgoing, down to earth, goal-driven, well-spoken individual who interacts with the public and listens to what people have to say. People should vote for me because they need someone who will make sure their voice is heard loud and clear in Student Government. All I ask is that the student body of the University of Tampa allow me to provide them with what they really need, a voice.

What separates you from your fellow candidates?

What separates me from my fellow candidates is my genuine, down to earth personality. As this position calls upon me to be a leader, I can lead in a way that others feel that I can always be approached as if I were their close friend. Others may intimidate in their quest to gain votes however my goal is to make the University of

Tampa as comfortable as possible. As I have stated before, the people of the University of Tampa need a voice and I am that voice.

Jimmy Uteg III (Sophomore Senator)

Why are you running for the position?

I want to be the leader that students seek out when they want a problem, not only heard, but solved. Due to my previous experience with the University of Tampa's Student Government, I believe that I have the skills and knowledge needed to be the best representative for the sophomore class.

Why should someone vote for you?

I have proved myself to be able to stand up in Senate and bring forth my classes' problems and ideas. Not only have I brought them up, I have made sure that they are of importance in the Senate and that my fellow classmates are represented correctly.

What separates you from your fellow candidates?

I not only try to meet as many students as possible, but I make sure to ask and listen to their problems and try to better the students' situations in all cases. I am continually thinking outside the box and trying to create a better campus for us all.

Daniela Ramirez (Junior Senator)

I am running for this position because I find myself as a great integration to the student government as I can contribute my leadership, confidence, creativity and reliability to the vast skills the student government already has.

People should vote for me because if they need a voice in the student government they could count on me to present their problems forward and try to resolve any issues that causes conflict to the students. Not only will they be able to approach me with issues but also I find that myself have great ideas to help better the university environment and the college experience for the students.

What separate me from any other competitor as I said above are my skills. Not only those mention above but also I'm also responsible, determined and charismatic which I believe any representative should have.

Lia Quinones (Junior Senator)

I have chosen to run for Junior Senator because I want to represent my class by having an active role contributing to the bettering of the University of Tampa. I am proud to be a UT Spartan, and it has come to the point in my college career where I want to put my effort and hard work into Student Government so that I can give back to the college that has already given me so much.

A student should vote for me to become a member of the Senate because of my love and passion for this university. I truly care about the progress of our school, and would like to take on the responsibility to do my part and give my input for future changes. When I commit to a task or a position, I commit 110%, and I don't stop diligently working until the job is complete. I am also open-minded, and learn from other's opinions and perspectives. I would be a great asset to the Student Government Team and Senate.

At the University so far, I have been involved in various organizations and have held several leadership roles. For my sorority, I have served as the Chief Administrative officer and the New Member Director. I am also the Academic Affairs Chairwoman for the UT Honors Council. These experiences have educated me on how to be a better team player, manage my time wisely, and put the needs of others before mine. While holding these roles, I also volunteer in my community, strive for academic excellence, and also focus on growing into a better person every day.

Abby Paterson (Senior Senator)

I am running for senior senator because I had such an amazing experience representing the junior class this past year. I really have gotten a feel for the importance of having an individual opinion and vocalizing it, but also being able to compromise for the best interest of the student body at the end of a debate. Working with this diverse group of people has really helped me to base and stand by my opinions of what my represented class would like to see. I have learned so much about the formal process and have seen, first hand, the weight of each decision we make. I would love the opportunity to be a part of this group again.

I think I am a great candidate for this position because I have the prior experience needed to be an effective representative for the senior class. I know how the senate processions work and already appreciate the responsibility that comes with this position. I am a huge ambassador for the university and enjoy spreading my pride with other students. I am extremely involved in various organizations and am well connected to a large portion of the senior class because of prior involvements. I have participated in everything from athletics and ResLife to Unicef and academic honor societies, and feel this gives me an advantage in representing the senior class as a whole.

I constantly wear a smile. I am so grateful to be here and you can see it on my face

every day. I am one of our school's biggest advocates, and have had an amazing three years here so far. This is why I am so invested in seeing our school reach it's highest potential. I genuinely want students to have a rich and unique experience and want the best for the senior class. This makes people feel comfortable voicing their concerns to me, which in my eyes, is the most important thing when representing a body of individuals.

Michael Catipovic (Senior Senator)

Why are you running for this position? !

I am running for the position of Senior Senator because this is a position that requires a student who can

act objectively to vote on behalf of the students who are graduating in 2015. While at UT, I have been

elected as the Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior Senator. Throughout the years serving on Senate, I have

gained a better understanding of the inner-workings of Student Government which has allowed me to be

well-versed with the rules and guidelines set forth in the constitution and bylaws. Ultimately, this better

understanding has allowed me to make informed votes so that each individual or organization that

requests the assistance of SG is held to an equal and unbiased standard. More specifically, as the Senior

Senator, we are responsible for organizing the senior class gift; a unique gift which will be left to UT on

behalf of all Seniors that will act as our legacy to the campus. My prior service on Senate has made me

aware of the planning and outreach to the senior class that is necessary in order to secure a gift that is

meaningful and representative of those who are graduating. Obtaining the position of Senior Senator will

allow me to utilize my past experiences in both SG and other organizations to continue to make a

difference for my fellow classmates. !!

Why should someone vote for you? !

As a Senator, the position requires one to act on behalf of both the class that they are elected to represent

and the entire student body. I have learned that in order for one to successfully perform this task, they

must be in-tune with the voice of the student body and be willing to act upon the desires of the students

rather than pushing their own opinions. A way to be in-tune is done through extracurriculars; I have

integrated myself within many other campus organizations that have allowed me to interact with those

who I might not ordinarily meet throughout my daily routine of class and work. Some of my other notable

positions include a Resident Assistant, vice president of Alpha Epsilon Delta (the pre-professional honors

society), vice president of DRIVE UT (car club), Diplomat, Student Productions Concert Board member,

Honors student, and a general member in many other clubs. These involvements have provided me with

the unique opportunity to gain a strong sense of what the student-body requires and desires. While the

Senate position demands one who is a hard-worker and fairly involved on campus, it also requires an

individual, like myself, who is enthusiastic, out-going, and conscious of how their behaviors reflect the

job they have been elected for. The goal of my involvement, especially Student Government, is to make a

difference on campus that will allow the student body to get the most out of their experience at UT. !!

What separates you from your fellow candidates? !

I feel that perhaps it is best for each candidate to have a different resume when running for such a position

as a Senator. While there are two positions for Senior Senator, I believe that the two individuals

occupying those positions should be substantially different from each other in terms of involvement and

their approach to handle situations. It is ultimately the differences between those who are elected that can

create a composite voice of the class they are chosen to represent. While our campus is fairly small, still,

it is not possible for one person to know each and every student. The key to creating an effective senate is

by electing individuals who have reaches to different groups of students on campus and who both posses

the same determination for a better campus. An outgoing and charismatic Senator is needed to compile

the information from the students to determine what they desire, and so that improvements can be made.

However, while it is necessary to have different candidates, the way in which I rise above my fellow

candidates is with my three prior years of experience in which I have learned many aspects of SG that can

only be learned through exposure and experience. While the SG constitution and bylaws outline the

stipulations a senator must be familiar with, there are some situations that cannot be resolved by solely

relying on the written regulations. In order to handle such situations, my experience allows me to provide

a fair assessment on the basis of what we have determined previously so that we may uphold a standard in

our voting process. As senators, we must be objective and provide an equal level of treatment even when

the situations are unique and extraordinary. Ultimately, my experience, unique campus involvements, and

my outgoing personality make me an ideal candidate for a position that requires a strong relationship with

the study body.

Kyle McGee (Campus Wide Senator)

Why are you running for this position?

I am running for Campus-Wide Senator to use my skills and experiences to make a difference to the University of Tampa. I am running because I want to help the incoming freshmen develop school spirit and get involved on campus. I want to make sure all circumstances are taken into consideration when decisions are being made when it comes to voting. My goals are to further expose SG to the UT community, and present it as a medium for student involvement. I want to be the voice of the people and the start of something new.

Why should someone vote for you?

People should vote for me because I believe in equality and honesty. As a member of senate I will try my best to hear all the ideas of the student body and make sure they are all taken into consideration when making decisions. Also I have a passion for fairness and everyone opinion should be heard and analyzed no matter who you are.

What separates you from your fellow candidates?

My previous experiences and jobs not only give me an advantage when it comes to planning but, a large network. Also I not only know a lot of students on campus, but I have close bonds with my faculty and staff.

Jacob Mackey

Why are you running for this position?

To be a senator is to be someone who possess the ability to give each individual student a voice over how funding is appropriated, and what is in their best interest. I

want to be a campus-wide senator and be able to get to know students from all corners of campus and know the organizations better, and therefore better appropriate the funding. Working with a dynamic group of senators to accomplish goals is another aspect that I believe will be very enjoyable. Representing the student body is an honor that I hope to attain.

Why should someone vote for you?

I find myself to be a very open person, and perceptive to the needs of those around me. I feel as though individuals are comfortable talking to me and that I communicate effectively. Having such qualities in a senator is very key because organizations must feel comfortable approaching the group, and be reassured that when asked questions it is simply to better understand where the funds are being appropriated and not scrutinizing their efforts. I sense that I possess the qualities of a good leader which would benefit the campus extremely well.

What separates you from your fellow candidates?

Being involved on campus in many different forms has given me the ability to see the multifaceted needs of a University of Tampa student and organization. I recognize the needs of Greek Life, Intramural sports, and academic based organizations which makes UT such a wonderful place to go. Coming from a diverse co-curricular background, I feel this aspect separates me and puts all organizations on an even playing field.