

Shirmeen Ahmad - Student Body President Candidate

Hello there, my name is Shirmeen Ahmad. I am a junior Journalism and Political Science major here at Eastern. I got involved with Student Government within the first week of my freshman year. I started off as a Student Senator sitting on the Student Affairs and University Enhancement committees. In August of 2013, I became the Academic Affairs committee chair where I worked with my committee to organize a trivia night and pilot a program called Mid-term Mania which encouraged students to raise their grades. This year I am serving as the Student Vice President for Academic Affairs. In this position, I have served on different committees such as Faculty Senate and the Council on Academic Affairs to bring student input and perspectives in the different decisions the faculty and administration are making. I worked with the Student Deans to help create Student Advisory Boards and to put on a scholarship fair for the students. I was also in charge of creating events where students could come interact with the President.

If elected Student Body President, my main goal will be to create a stronger campus unity by creating productive communication pathways between students, faculty, administrations, and the media. This will allow more information to be spread across campus and lead to more participation. Another goal I have is to address diversity on a constant basis allowing students and faculty to be more educated on the topics they are unsure of and to be more immersed in the differences that are present throughout campus. I want the students' voices to be heard so they that you can get the most out of your collegiate career and the best way to do that is to listen and reach out so that every voice is heard.



Catie Witt - Executive Vice President Candidate

As a student of Eastern Illinois University, I have learned the value of being involved in the organizations around me, and have been very fortunate in my experience thus far. In my short time at Eastern, I feel that I have taken full advantage of every opportunity that has been presented to me. When I had the chance to participate in the Student Action Team (SAT) my freshman year I quickly found my drive. I am passionate about having our voices heard, not only here at EIU, but in Springfield when speaking with legislators. I am passionate about taking full advantage of our right to vote and instilling that in the values of my peers. Serving as Executive Vice President for the first time this past semester I have learned a lot about the different responsibilities and expectations of this position.

The Student Action Team is important to me and I am determined to see it be successful. I, along with the other executive members and the senators, have been working tremendously hard to prepare for our trip to Springfield. I truly care about the voices of my peers and I will support and confront the problems that the students of EIU have on different issues. With my knowledge from this position this past semester, I feel that I can take the experience and only improve from here on out. One of my goals I want to accomplish before I graduate is to make a positive impact on and off EIU's campus. If re-elected Executive Vice President, I feel that I will be that much closer to leaving my paw print on EIU.



Courtney Sage - Vice President of Student Affairs Candidate

When we arrive at Eastern Illinois University, we are told, you are EIU! This phrase has remained with me throughout my time here. Through my involvement in Student Government, I have learned that not only are we EIU, EIU is us. As student leaders, it is our responsibility to promote our school and remind students why we are proud to be at this university. As Speaker of the Senate, I strive to foster this idea in the minds of the student body. This is the exact message I wish to further instill through the position of Vice

President of Student Affairs. I will work tirelessly to create a sense of unity among the EIU student body. If elected, I will place an emphasis on fostering this united relationship through a Year of the Panther campaign. This spirited campaign will be year-round promotion of pride in Eastern Illinois University. By planning events involving the City of Charleston, this campaign will also stimulate community and campus unity. By working closely with the University Enhancement committee, I will work to implement the plan of action to build a panther statue on our campus. It is a privilege to be a student at a school that offers so many opportunities for growth and leadership. I am proud to be an EIU Panther, as well as a member of such a rewarding organization like Student Government. I believe I am the best candidate for Vice President of Student Affairs. My love for EIU drives me to help create a more cohesive community between EIU and the Charleston community, as well as instill in students the pride that EIU is a part of each of us!



Derek Pierce - Vice President of Student Affairs Candidate

Hello my name is Derek Pierce and I am running for the office of Vice President of Student Affairs. First, I'll give you a little background on myself. I am a Finance major with minors in Accounting and Operation and Supply Chain Management. I came to Eastern Illinois University because I loved the campus environment and knew that this school was a place where there was a club or organization that could match any interest a student wanted to pursue, and if for some reason they couldn't find their particular niche, then they were free to create a new group on campus. If elected as the next Vice President of Student Affairs, I hope to meet with every RSO that our school offers and try to help them increase involvement and membership.

My goal is to form a tight relationship with the RSO's and establish a joint effort so that students can easily find the location, time, and

date of each RSO's meeting and/or events. In addition, I would like to establish a new search engine on EIU's website that could pair incoming student's interests with the different RSO options so students can be aware of the organizations on campus that share their passions and goals. With my time so far at Eastern Illinois University I currently am a Student Senator, Student Action Team member, Tour Guide, Lumpkin School of Business Student Ambassador, participant in the Emerging Leaders Program, member of the Student Publications Board, and a pledge for the Sigma Chi Fraternity. Once again, my name is Derek Pierce and I look forward to serving my fellow peers and striving to increase campus involvement.



Stephen Simpson - Vice President of Academic Affairs Candidate

Being admitted into Eastern Illinois University has definitely been an honor. My way of showing EIU that I care is by being a student leader. I am involved with several organizations on campus; however being a member of student government is the most rewarding. As a student leader, I have the ability to shape multiple individuals and guide them along their way. Being so involved with many different registered student organizations has exposed me to campus diversity. If elected as Vice President of Academic Affairs, I plan on creating a series of events through out the semester to help all students prevail in their academic work. EIU has a lot to offer its students and I want to insure those resources are being utilized. I believe being admitted through the Gateway Program and currently working in the TRiO office, gives me core qualifications for this position. I would also like to bridge any gaps between the student body and faculty by creating a cohesive relationship. Fostering this relationship allows students and faculty to grow further and collaborate on issues that may arise in the classroom, such as miscommunication or diversity issues.