

2023-2024 CAMPAIGN PLATFORM

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Hey UofR community! This platform is a testament to the conversations and work that has been done to build a vision for campus that brings in everyone. These accomplishments represent a joint mission from a future strong and united Students' Association to tackle some of the most pressing issues on campus.

Thank you UofR! Throughout our time as President and Vice-President we want to make sure that we stay true to the message in which you voted for. Always feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns!

**Sincerely,
Daniel and Elijah**

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PLAN!

Core Issues

- Administrative Transparency
- Prioritizing Underrepresented Voices
- Rebuilding a Strong Legislative Branch
- Internal SA Committee Reform
- Housing
- Dining
- Academic Affairs
- PubSafe/Title IX Accountability
- UHS/UCC
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- Community Engagement
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Creating a Stronger Coalition

- Student Org Reps on Presidential Advisory Committee
- Connecting With Other Student Advocacy and Planning Groups
- Being a Better Resource For All Student Organizations

Connecting to the Student Body

- Expanding the PR team
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- SA Elected Official Visibility
- Reimagining Ruth Merrill

OUR PLAN

CORE ISSUES

ADMINISTRATIVE TRANSPARENCY

- **Seeing Budgetary Allocations**

We deserve to know how our tuition money is appropriated to the varying AS&E departments. We deserve to know when funding for essential services does not increase with an increase in size to the student body. **We will relentlessly advocate on all administrative levels to see budgetary information and for student voices to become part of this important process.** Administrators alone cannot rely merely on statistics, studies, and faculty. Student knowledge on what areas are most important for their health, education, and experience are vital in ensuring productive budgets for all.

- **Seeing Our Administrators**

We should see our administrators more than once a year in Starbucks. **We will push administrators to be more visible at student organized campus events, programs, and activities.** Without pushing themselves to experience campus life and the student perspective, why should they expect us to be ok with them thinking they know what we need from our college experience?

- **Clear Access to Strategic Planning**

On all levels, the Administration has made it clear that the Strategic Plan represents a “desire to support the people of the University of Rochester in their quest to frame and solve the greatest challenges of the future, without limitations.” We know that the people solving the greatest challenges of the future will be us as the next generation of researchers, scientists, community organizers, industry leaders, and educators. Selective student input is not enough in making sure that the path forward for the University is successful and equitable. **We will call for more than just greater input on the strategic plan, but to become active contributors in the decisions and allocations that affect the education, health, and experience of students.**

- **Increasing Student Representation on Committees and Decision-Making Bodies**

Student representation and input should be seen as one of the most important factors to include on any decision-making body as an administrator. **We will make sure to**

smoothly coordinate the allocation of Senators and other SA Representatives to the standing committees in which we already have guaranteed positions, while working to expand our influence within other areas of the University that matter.

- **Using Our Experience**

We both know that our names are known throughout Administration and other Departments. We have both built constructive relationships with administrators in which they know that **we are there to produce meaningful solutions**, while having one thing also clear: **we do not work for them.**

- **Alumni Donation Review Board**

This year has shown us that students should be involved in all aspects of past donors bringing projects into the school. Sometimes these projects are beautiful and innovative additions to campus and should be greatly appreciated and pushed for. Other times, such as with the faith-based projects, student concern should be taken with much further weight before contracts are solidified. Concerns on these projects are incredibly valid and should be taken further than just “listening” from administration. Third-party influence and control over campus spaces is *concerning*. Non-secular and non-interfaith religious spaces being created on campus is *concerning*. The lack of understanding of the systematic reasons in which other faiths do not have an equal donor pool is *concerning*. **We will call for the creation of a joint Alumni Donation Review Board to insert student input directly into the development of projects to identify if a given project will equitably benefit the student body.**

PRIORITIZING UNDERREPRESENTED VOICES

- **Equitable Representation on PAC**

We realize that making sure that the makeup of our institution is represented in the Presidential Advisory Council is not enough. For too long the University has not realized the disproportionate effects that their policies and actions have had on our minority communities and have been complacent of the harmful effects that these policies and actions still have on members of our student community today. Through the institution of self-chosen representation of identity-based and cultural organizations on PAC ([see further](#)) we can ensure that all voices are heard and that we as the Students’ Association can stand for all students. **We promise to assess at the beginning of the year the makeup of the Presidential Advisory Council made of self-chosen representation and applicant-based members alongside the DEI Committee to ensure that we have a diverse selection of voices, backgrounds, and experiences.**

- **Institution of Executive Taskforce**

There are many issues that may arise where we know that us as President and Vice-President will not be enough to represent the experiences of the student body. We are ready to have the important conversations needed to build and achieve solutions for students. **To ensure that we will be able to effectively and equitably address crises, injustices, and inequity on campus, we will build into the executive role the ability to construct Executive Taskforces**, bringing together student leaders and members of SA to discuss issues and experiences as well as the solutions that must be met to tackle these challenges and call for meaningful change.

- **Expanded Hiring and Tenure of POC and Underrepresented Faculty**

A stated core belief of the strategic plan states that it will further their “commitment to actionable and accountable growth in diversity, equity, inclusion, access, and justice”. Administration has claimed to care about this issue with too little action in their mission for equitable hiring. **We plan to work with many campus leaders to demand action on all university levels to increase representation of POC and Underrepresented Faculty in all academic fields.**

- **Increasing Affinity-Based Housing Availability**

By giving affinity groups the ability to build a physical community space, it has allowed for the further development of stronger relationships between the student body and the many identities and interests that are within. **We will advocate for all affinity-based groups and Greek organizations to have equal access to the process of acquiring and maintaining a physical community space.**

- **Supporting Queer Students**

We are seeing both domestically and abroad a drastic increase in transphobic and homophobic legislation targeting all aspects of queer life and safety. **We must ensure that the school remains a safe space for all queer students, as well as ensure that the support system is in place for queer students that cannot return home due to fear of safety or discrimination.** We are also now admitting a new generation of students from some areas of the nation and world that have not had exposure to positive queer education. **We will call for an increase in queer education and experiential learning during orientation as well as the expansion of LGBTQ+ support and activities throughout the year.**

- **Cultural Holidays**

It has been far too long since the administration promised to address the lack of acknowledgment and respect for students celebrating cultural holidays. There are too few

administrators pushing for this and far too stagnant of developments from a committee still being formalized. **We promise to continuously advocate for and insert ourselves into the development of a concrete plan to support students during their celebrations.**

REBUILDING A STRONG LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

- Building a Coalition of Future Senators Who Care

In the most un-cliché of terms - this campaign is not about us. During our time in the Senate we have been disheartened by the lack of motivation and action in those in which are elected to serve the student body. The Senate this year has been far too unproductive and too many Senators have been unable to undertake the role. In fact, *almost every piece of legislation* in the Senate has either Daniel's name on it, Elijah's name on it, or both. We know that if we are to accomplish the platform in which we are laying in front of all of you, we need those in all branches of SA government to deeply care about uplifting the student voice and experience. For this aspect of our platform **we have already prepared during our campaign a coalition of candidates that we know have the passion to take on these projects and fight for students at all costs.** This alone cannot be enough, we must in the fall work to make sure we secure an Elections Coordinator more quickly to be able to have a larger and more competitive selection of candidates for our legislative body.

- Maintaining Close Relationship with Legislative Leadership

Building a strong structure for advocacy is essential for a successful term. Upon the selection of the speaker by the members of the upcoming Senate, **we commit to building a productive relationship with the Speaker and Legislative Leadership** to ensure that the legislative and executive branches can work together to ensure that the state of SA is strong.

- Working to Ensure Supported and Well Trained Chairs

One thing that must occur for a productive year in the SA government is to be able to hit the ground running. Everyone only has *one year* to implement their vision for campus. We believe that this year was by far too inefficient in training and supporting our chairs in their roles, creating a shorter window for well-coordinated action. Daniel has already taken action to make sure that we have more supported chairs next year by writing, sponsoring, and passing a piece of legislation requiring chairs to write transitional documents for their successor. **At the start of the term we will coordinate with the Speaker to ensure the selection process for legislative and executive leaders runs smoothly and that well-structured training for said leaders will prepare us for a more productive term.**

- **Creation of Monthly Executive/Speaker/Chairs Leadership Meeting**

A forefront of this campaign is connecting groups that we feel *long ago* should have been connected. Our committees advocacy work, our chairs, and their relationships with the executive branch are far too disconnected from each other especially when there are so many intersecting issues on campus surrounding Campus Life, International Student Affairs, DEI, and Academic Affairs. **We will work with Legislative Leadership to coordinate monthly meetings with chairs to learn more about the committees' work and to see how they connect with executive initiatives.**

INTERNAL SA COMMITTEE REFORM

- **Creation of a Housing and Dining Committee**

Our campus is entering an ever-increasing wave of infrastructure issues with no clear solutions being offered by administration. Two years ago, the Students' Association decided that it was best in the name of efficiency to combine all non-academic student issues into one mega-committee that is known as "Campus Life". Although this year's inaugural committee has been able to do great work in some areas for students, it has become clear that there is not a system in place that can properly address all of the many issues that Campus Life is required to cover. This leaves many vital services left unrepresented from student advocacy. **We plan to advocate for the establishment of a Housing and Dining Committee.** This newly created committee will cover all issues pertaining to housing, dining, and facilities, and will allow for a more focused and informed approach to addressing the problems arising in these departments from ever-growing class sizes. This will allow the Campus Life Committee to better focus on advocating tirelessly for the many other vital services on campus such as DPS, Title IX, UHS, UCC, and Transportation.

HOUSING

- **Call Out Administration's Response to Housing Crisis**

We are witnessing through our years at the UofR a relatively massive influx in the size of our student body. By the time that our current Sophomore class graduates, we will be hundreds of students larger than the time in which our Junior class began their first year. The mitigating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic left significantly uneven class sizes that are now only beginning to even out at an increased number of students than pre-pandemic. These issues have made housing increasingly difficult to find and acquire, whether it be on or off campus. The short-term solutions thus far being presented by administration have been inadequate with this growing problem, and too often draw upon options that are far off campus and more expensive. Off campus housing in the 19th ward

has become an extremely difficult endeavor to maneuver, and there has been far too little done to keep back the gentrifying effects of the university on the surrounding community. **We will call out administrators** for the lack of urgency to address this issue **and push for student involvement in quickly developing better short-term and equitable long-term solutions** for housing to meet the needs of our larger student body.

- **Instating Fair RA Payment**

Progress is being made in making the pay for our amazing RAs better suited to the tireless amount of work that comes with the job, but more can be done. We want to work with RAs to help tell ResLife what they might feel they can't say to their employer: **we deserve more**. During his time as a Senator, Daniel also worked with the Office of Financial Aid to better understand the ins and outs of the Financial Aid system. **We must make sure that the new increases in the RA grants are also beneficial for middle and lower income students** who are paying for a large percentage of their bill.

- **Ensure Productive RA Training**

Time and time again we hear that the current training structure of RAs spends too much time on unproductive and sometimes downright problematic material. **We will work alongside RAs to ensure that ResLife better listens to their feedback** on what materials they found most useful in ensuring the safety of their residents.

DINING

- **Dining Plan Freedom**

The University quite often believes that based on where you live they know how much you cook versus go to a dining hall. After living on campus for a while, anyone can come to the realization that those that want to cook do so and those that want to utilize dining halls do that. Too often students are forced to spend thousands of extra dollars on declining dollars that aren't going to change back into real money. We also know people in Slater or Gale that eat food from their dorm way more than someone from Anderson or Wilder, while even with differing student to kitchen ratios still having kitchens that are not overcrowded. The evidence is clear: our current system should not discriminate on the basis of upperclassmen residence halls and upperclassmen should have the option of smaller meal plans. **Us attending the University should not mean they should force us to always use their dining halls or overpriced convenience store.**

- **Increasing Dietary Options Campus-Wide**

Those who are gluten-free, halal, kosher, vegan, vegetarian, or have allergies have the short stick when it comes to options on campus. **We will work to expand dietary options campus-wide** with more options **in both dining halls and Hillside Market.**

- **Meal Availability Throughout Religious Holidays**

Over the past year in the Senate, Elijah has worked alongside the Muslim Students' Association and Dining Services to create a plan to provide meals during fasting holidays. This has been implemented throughout Ramadan and has allowed better access to quality Halal meals and to-go options during the holiday's observance. In our term, **we will build on this policy to make it a permanent responsibility of Dining Services.** In addition to making this policy permanent, we will expand the policy to apply for all **students of any faith that require dining accommodations during religious observances.**

- **Securing Transportation for Our Dining Staff**

Following a redesign of their system map a few years ago, RTS removed our bus stop on campus at Rush Rhees Library, impacting the ability for students, faculty, and staff to commute to and from their homes throughout the Rochester area. An impact of the lack of access to campus for staff has been the limitations of when dining facilities can be open. 2am Pit runs and Late Nite Douggie are impossible to bring back if we cannot ensure that our dining staff has close, safe, and reliable transportation to return home. **We will work directly with University leadership and if so the City of Rochester to push RTS to reinstate the stop that our University community rightfully needs.**

- **Returning Dining Access to Pre-Pandemic Hours**

Something that goes hand-in-hand with securing a fair and safe transportation for our Dining Staff is the ability to reestablish our dining hours to their pre-pandemic state. **We will work to reinstate late night dining options at the Pit and Douglass Dining Hall.**

- **Decreasing Prices at Hillside**

It's not uncommon that a student must ridiculously spend twice as much on something at Hillside than they would someplace off campus. Hillside Market is one of the only accessible places on campus where students can buy food and other necessities they would be able to find in a store. There is currently very little storage at Hillside, requiring market management to order in very small quantities. This forces them to not only purchase goods at the same price that you or I would pay at Wegmans, but mark the product up even more. To help combat this problem, **we will use our connections within Dining to collaborate on a way for Hillside to use existing storage space within Danforth,** allowing them to store more and for us to **pay less.** Besides pushing for more storage space, we will create an initiative for **University control of Hillside Market.** By assuming control of Hillside, we will be able to cater to students' needs more, lower costs, and operate more transparently. **Hillside as it exists currently is not a campus service, it's a business– it's time to change that.**

- **Reassessing the University's Relationship with Aramark**

The University has a complex and controversial relationship with the Aramark Corporation. Harvest Table, the Dining Service provider, is a subsidiary of Aramark, which for a long time has been a company that has employed prison labor and other unethical business practices. This is something we as a university should not tolerate. With the contract coming into renewal in the near future, **we will work with Dining Services to push for the creation of an in-house service provider, allowing us to end our relationship with Aramark.** This would bring cheaper dining options, the utilization of our service worker union, and a more sustainable system.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

- **Overload Policy & Academic Freedom**

The institution of the Course Overload Policy has caused undue stress and difficulties for students trying to plan out their upcoming semester. By creating a separate period one month after registration day to register for a fifth class, students are forced to prioritize important classes that they need in order to stay on track to graduate. This policy was rolled out too hastily with far too little student input. Over the past year, Daniel has worked to mitigate the large impact that this policy is having on students by advocating for upperclassmen prioritization in the later registration date and information to be sent out to students to ensure that they were as ready as they could be for the stressful change. **We will continue advocating for a pathway for the allowance to register for five classes on registration day, and will push relentlessly for students to have the most say in their educational experience.**

- **New Course Catalog**

Over the past year in the Academic Affairs Committee, Daniel has been calling for a more inclusive and informational course catalog. This project has made significant progress and is currently in development. **We will continue pushing for this project to incorporate important planning tools, such as access to course syllabi and schedules.**

- **Latin Honors**

Our latin honors system is *crazy*. The university demands absolute perfection to achieve summa cum laude, separating us apart from almost every other peer institution. With the amount of times we have heard the term “toxic meliora” thrown around in meetings for administration to use as justification for their policies, we would love to hear them justify how this system does not promote a toxic and unhealthy learning environment. **We will call for a reevaluation of our latin honors system to be more representative of the ability of students.**

- **Return of Graduation to Eastman Quad**

We can all recall President Mangelsdorf during convocation telling us “that we will both start and end our journey on this quad”. Sadly, our seniors no longer are getting the opportunity to graduate in by far the most memorable, meaningful, and picturesque setting on campus. Beyond this, Fauver Stadium presents health concerns due to the lack of shade and the heat produced from the turf. The evidence is clear that we as students prefer to graduate on Eastman Quad. **We will work alongside next year’s Senior Class Council to advocate for the return of graduation to where it should rightfully be.**

PUBSAFE/TITLE IX ACCOUNTABILITY

- **Ensuring the Success of the Public Safety Student Advisory Board**

This past year, SA has strengthened the Public Safety Student Advisory Board. This board has existed in different forms over the years, but it can serve as a valuable tool for students to be able to advocate for their concerns and oversee the conduct of Public Safety. **We will call for the board to have structural power in the department’s decision making process.**

- **Advocating for the Full Public Release of Margolis Healy Report**

This year a study was conducted on the current status of our public safety system. It is absolutely necessary that this report be made fully public so that the university can be held accountable for fixing issues presented. **We will call for the full release of the Margolis Healy report without redactions to the campus community. We will make sure that students are aware of this report and that conversations are held on its findings.**

- **Calling Out Poor Response to Title IX Cases and Ensuring Support Systems**

I think that most of us know someone who has had a negative or sometimes rather unsupportive experience from the Title IX office. **We promise to keep Title IX accountable and work to ensure that all students are given their legally provided protections.** Furthermore, leaving the Title IX process should not leave any student without a support system. **We will work to help build a proper support system that students can go to for resources, support, and help for anyone that has experienced sexual harassment or discrimination.**

UHS/UCC

- **Holding Administration Accountable to Lack of Needed Student Healthcare**

Our incoming first year classes are bigger and bigger every year, and the University is doing nothing to keep up with our growing size in how we provide healthcare to students.

We will push the administration to allocate more resources to growing healthcare services, because as more students pay, more money should go to maintain the services we provide. We will also hold administration accountable by **calling out their inaction** towards providing these vital services and communicating with students on admins' failures if they occur.

- **Counseling System that Meets the Needs of Students**

Due to an inability to ensure ample staffing of UCC in addition to a consistent increase in enrollment, the University is **systematically failing students who deserve mental health resources**. With a growing student body, the University Counseling Center should grow with it, but in reality it has shrunk in size. **We will call on the administration to increase the number of counseling staff we employ**. While doing this, there would be a unique opportunity to **utilize more equitable hiring practices as the department grows so that a more diverse staff can be hired** which would allow more students to feel comfortable and represented.

- **Reproductive Healthcare and Access to Contraceptives**

Students pay \$756 per year as a mandatory health fee, and the University subsequently not providing ample and easy access to contraceptives and reproductive healthcare is a massive failure on behalf of the University. First and foremost on this issue, **continuing the work that has been done this past year** by groups like College Feminists, SDS, and parts of SA leadership to advocate for OB-GYN access for all undergraduate students is a main goal of ours. Second, **we will ensure the implementation of a free contraceptive access** vending machine that is planned to go into effect so that access to reproductive healthcare and contraceptives is free, anonymous, and available to all students at all hours.

DISABILITY RESOURCES/ODR

- **Accommodation Training for TAs**

Under current ODR policy, professors are allowed to oversee themselves the accommodation needs of their students. In many cases, TAs that have not received training on providing accommodations are placed in charge of proctoring exams for students who need a separate location for testing. **We will call for mandatory paid training for TAs that are placed in charge of proctoring examinations for**

accommodated students to ensure that every student is guaranteed to have their legally guaranteed rights safeguarded.

- **Advocating for Larger Testing Space**

Not only has the student body increased in recent years, but also the amount of mental health related academic accommodations. With this leaves an inadequately small and overwhelmed testing space for students who need a separate location for taking exams.

We will push for a larger testing space and for administration to assess the growing demand of the Office of Disability Resources.

- **Reliable Elevators**

Issues with elevators such as in Wilder or Anderson earlier this year weren't just scary for all students, but an alarming lack of accessibility for students that must rely on these services. These events had far too slow of a response and presented an overwhelmingly lack of concern to students' fears. "Quick fixes" and check-ins from outsourcers have allowed issues to persist. **We will call for a thorough review of all elevators on campus.**

- **Making Sure Campus Expansion is Accessible**

In every plan for a new project on campus, accessibility should be a number one priority. We will make sure that **all new campus expansions and improvements are accessible and inclusive.**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- **Getting More Students Into the Community**

With so many activities and events happening on campus, many students can accidentally find themselves not leaving for long periods of time. The campus bubble causes many to forget the very important and amazing community in which we are surrounded by.

Alongside the Secretary of Community Engagement, we will work to advocate for school sponsored events, such as through WCSA, Roc Tix, or Class Councils, that can more deeply connect us as a student body to the community.

- **Community-Engaged Learning**

The Community-Engaged Learning Program from CCE has provided an opportunity for education that pops the bubble of campus and helps build students' relationships with the city. **We will work to expand community-engaged courses in all areas of the university.** Providing students no matter if they are in the Humanities or Natural Sciences the opportunity to see how their studies can better the community is vital in preparing us for our future roles in our own communities.

- **Building a Relationship with the 19th Ward Community Association**

Building a relationship with the 19th Ward Community Association is essential to ensure that university policy is not causing more harm than good. We should work alongside the Association to advocate for policy that supports the importance and well-being of the 19th Ward community.

- **Genesee St. Reconstruction Project**

Over the upcoming years the City of Rochester will finalize and execute a plan to renovate and revamp Genesee St. which exists directly across the bridge. **We promise to follow along closely with updates from this project and give input on ensuring a safer and better street design.**

SUSTAINABILITY

- **Ensuring SA Input and Involvement in Long-Term Sustainability Plan**

It has been stated that sustainability will play an important role in the strategic plan. Student involvement is crucial in this process to make sure that our long-term sustainability plan is strong enough to ensure that we are leaving the future generations of students a place where they can survive and succeed. **We will advocate for the Secretary of Sustainability to have an active role in the development and execution of the long-term sustainability plan.**

- **Ensuring Growth and Success of the Sustainability Coalition**

An amazing project that has arisen from this year's term is the development of the Sustainability Coalition. This group of our varying sustainability advocacy clubs and organizations will have a space to unite and advocate for better policy in our university. **We will ensure the support, growth, and expansion of this important coalition.**

- **Growing Compost Initiatives and Better Waste Management Systems**

Proper waste management is extremely important to the sustainability concerns of the University and how we impact our environment– and composting is part of that. Our campus has bins for garbage and recycling everywhere, but compost bins can be found pretty much nowhere. It's time for this to change. **We will work with Dining, Facilities, Team Green, EcoReps, and other aspects of the University to create and expand a campus-wide composting initiative.**

- **Investigating the University's Investments in Energy**

An important step made by the university was to halt any future investments in fossil fuel and non-renewable energies. This still leaves the question of our current investments in energy. **We will call for the University to evaluate and halt any investments in these destructive industries.** As an institution that is building the next generation of scholars, they should be passionate about ensuring that the next generation's world is livable.

- **Calling the University to Take a Stance on RG&E**

Like most institutions and properties in the Rochester area, the University relies on Rochester Gas and Electric (RG&E) as their energy provider. RG&E is a massive, for-profit corporation, which uses natural gas and other nonrenewable resources to provide energy. A plan that has been brought up by other stakeholders in the city is to turn away from RG&E and towards a public utility, which would make the service more affordable, reliable, renewable, and economically beneficial. As an extremely large energy-user and stakeholder in the city, **we will call for the administration to take a stance on RG&E, and advocate for a public utility.**

CREATING A STRONGER COALITION

STUDENT ORG REPS ON PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- We have so many amazing organizations fighting for a more fair and equitable campus. We want to ensure that those with this mission can be amplified using the advocacy powers that can be utilized in the Students' Association. By expanding and re-envisioning the Presidential Advisory Council, we can do so by making sure that our diverse and expansive group of student leaders have their voices heard by administration. **We promise** in the first weeks post-election to reach out to all identity-based and cultural organizations on campus and invite them **to send their own nominees to an expanded Presidential Advisory Council.** We know that we are not the ones that should choose who can represent their organization. By adding these additional voices while also utilizing the current application-based structure to ensure intersectional identities are present, we believe this re-envisionment will create a powerful taskforce to address issues on campus from every perspective.

CONNECTING WITH OTHER STUDENT ADVOCACY AND PLANNING GROUPS

- **Uniting all University of Rochester Students' Associations**

Up to this day, there is no requirement of SA to communicate with the multiple Student Governments that exist within the University. Currently in the Senate we are spearheading a project to pass legislation to mandate the SA President to maintain

communications with the Eastmans' Student Association. During our administration **we promise to grow the relationships with Eastman and AS&E Graduate Students' Association to create a stronger front for tackling University-wide issues.**

- **Ensuring Intercollegiate Collaboration**

At the forefront of both of our times as Senators has been expanding the Students' Association's relationships with the Student Governments of the Rochester area. These relationships have allowed us to see potentially better systems already in place and functioning. During our time in the Senate we have passed a piece of legislation that requires the President to engage in intercollegiate collaboration to strengthen these idea-sharing relationships that will allow for better solutions for all UofR students. **We have both personally seen the usefulness of these relationships, and promise during our time in office to go above and beyond to cement these connections for the future.**

BEING A BETTER RESOURCE FOR ALL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- From Advisor issues to scheduling space conflicts, student organizations should have an easier time connecting with SA in hopes of systematically addressing the issue. At the beginning of our term, **we promise to provide an SA contact within the appropriate committee to all student organizations** to make sure that their concerns and issues are resolved, allowing them to focus on their personal missions and goals.

CONNECTING TO THE STUDENT BODY

EXPANDING THE PR TEAM

- **Restructuring PPM for the Public Relations Executive Team**

As it is, the Public Relations Team in the Executive Branch could utilize a lot more help to expand the ways of communication with the student body. **We will expand the PR team to include more positions and a wider scope of responsibilities.** Changing the current structure and removing the bureaucracy in the SA guiding documents will make it less complicated and **easier for information to be made available to the student body.**

- **Expanded events and responsibilities of team**

In addition to the expansion of the team and the positions within it, we also will increase the scope of their responsibilities. **We will utilize this expanded team to communicate more and staff new initiatives such as weekly campus tabling.** This seems like a lofty goal, but given the capabilities SA has, it is extremely doable and an essential way to connect with the student body. Weekly tabling will be held around popular locations

around campus such as Starbucks, Hirst Lounge, Rush Rhees, etc. Events like these are great examples of how the new team with the help of Senators and other elected officials can engage with students, provide resources, and gauge opinions on campus issues.

SA NEWSLETTER

- **Reevaluate What is Most Important for Students to Know**

The SA Newsletter is a very important part of how information is relayed to students on current important problems and projects SA is working on. The newsletter as it stands is not sent out strategically and with some information that students really do not need. We will change the newsletter so that it is **sent out when needed, easier to read, and has more pertinent information to students' needs**. When important things happen on campus or in the community, **students shouldn't have to wait a month for a newsletter to be ready**—focusing more PR attention to newsletters and making them more relevant will help keep us informed and united.

TOWNHALLS

- **Well-Advertised and Consistent Townhalls**

Townhalls are a crucial part of how we as SA can listen to the concern and needs of students. Townhalls as they stand are not held in a consistent manner, and have a track record of poor attendance and communication about them. **We will make townhalls more frequent, and consistent, as well as utilizing our new communication outlets like frequent newsletters, tabling, and videos, to make sure they are well advertised and attended.**

- **Make Sure Townhalls Are Pertinent to Campus Issues**

Townhalls should be a regularly scheduled part of our communication with the student body. However, when pertinent issues arise, it is important that we create a space for students' feelings and concerns to be heard. **We will ensure that townhalls are spaces for students to express feelings and call for action that needs to be taken by SA and administration.**

ELECTED OFFICIAL VISIBILITY

- In the current system, we can have Senators elected who are involved in no campus activities or engage in student life. **We will advocate to institute a policy requiring Senators to attend at least five student organization events a semester, three of which must be from a cultural or identity-based organization.** Members of the Students' Association should be an invested part of our campus community.

REIMAGINING RUTH MERRILL

- We want a space on campus that is built *by students for students*. Ruth Merrill, a space designed for student organizations, is too far designed for student organization *storage* rather than *collaboration*. We will advocate for the transformation of the Ruth Merrill Center into a student *organizing* space by redesigning the layout, making it more collaborative, and building in spaces for input to SA and our leaders.