2017-2018
SGA SENATOR CANDIDATES
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Pamela Ashwood - Arlington, TX

Hi! My name is Pamela Ashwood and my ultimate goal as senator is to voice the wants and needs of the student body to the Senate. I advocate for:

- increased access to student government representatives and an open dialogue between the student body and their senators,
- better parking systems,
- better student awareness of programs and services like tutoring services, therapy sessions, healthcare, etc., that UNT provides,
- increased awareness of campus events and alerts to major news/current events,
- more quiet area/zones allocated for the purpose of studying,
- the implementation of suggestions/concern boxes in residence halls and in the union,
- and lastly, a brighter and safer campus.

Luis Avila - Morelia, Michoacan, MX

My name is Luis Avila and I am a Communications major with a focus on quantum imagination and a minor in gender studies and psychology. With my position in the senate, I will do my best to not only create a better academic setting for our students but make it a place where 'the educated are free'. I was born in central Mexico and grew up in the neighborhood of Oak Cliff. I have led teams in everything from social media in regards to helping a state representative get elected, to helping the Dallas Urban Debate Alliance. With my platform with SGA and UNT, I will do my best to continue the traditions of education and togetherness UNT has honored as part of their foundation. As a student color, there needs to be a shift in the way things are run to better the condition of livability and safety regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, able-bodiedness, etc. As the student body, we have it in our hands to create a campus that sets the standard for universities across the nation.

Emily Bell - Ft. Worth, TX

In coming to the University of North Texas I felt the urge to be a student leader and be active on campus. I was a transfer student, and had the unique experience of coming to this school and seeing the pride students have for it from an outsiders view. I now share that pride, and would love to have the opportunity to not only serve in the Student Government Association, but also gain knowledge in a position of SGA and help the students of UNT to the absolute best of my ability. I believe that one of SGA's main purposes here on campus is to represent the student body in a respectable and unwavering spirit and be a continual resource for the students of the University of North Texas. I do not want to be a part of the Student Government Association to simply hold a position or to have something to put on a resume, I want to actively serve this campus and be proud of what I do here. When I look back I want to remember the people I met, how I grew, and hopefully how I changed this school for the better for future students.

Misaki Collins - Irving, TX

Hello! I am Misaki Collins, a sophomore double majoring in Political Science and Integrative studies. I am currently serving as a Senator for the College of Arts and Sciences, the Secretary of the Senate, and the SGA Representative for the Union Board of Directors. I am also an Eagle Ambassador, the President of the Eagle Angels and a member of IGNITE.

I wish to be reelected as a Senator for College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences to continue serving UNT students. I want to help better our university in any capacity that I can. I also hope to help increase the presence of the Student Government Association on campus and be a voice for all students at the University of North Texas.

Shameless Plug: I would LOVE to speak to you! If you have anything you want to talk about come see me in the SGA office, Union 344 on Wednesdays from 11:00am-12:00pm. I hope to see you there!

LaTourica Lewis - Dallas, TX

Hello my name is LaTourica Lewis. I’m a Junior majoring in Integrative Studies. Thank you for considering my candidacy as a 2017-2018 Student Government Association Senator. My mission is to help make the University of North Texas a great place for you to attend. I plan to assist out-of state students in getting the correct information regarding qualifications for in state tuition. I also believe in keeping student government transparent to the student body and letting them know that we are here to help them. So getting out of the office and into the colleges and speaking to students about their concerns.
My name is Samanta Matamoros, I am a second semester Freshman and Theatre major at the University of North Texas. When speaking to students at UNT in regards to how SGA is perceived, there seems to always be a common theme. Although SGA tries to emphasize engagement, many senators give students their office hours, which makes the student reach out to SGA instead. Additionally, posting senators’ office hours online has continued to prove ineffective; it’s my goal to reach out to UNT students outside of the office. Due to the experience and networking I’ve gained from within my major and organizations I’m involved in, I am confident I can engage with a large demographic of students. I have already begun brainstorming legislation ideas that would benefit freshmen residents, work-study recipients, and students looking to work on campus. I would also like to create a mentoring program to help first generation minority students. I believe it’s important for first generation students to have mentors who can resonate with them. Launching a program like this through SGA could be an opportunity to reach out to smaller organizations as opposed to better known organizations and potentially broaden SGA’s engagement and collaboration.

Kelly Phommachanh - Amarillo, TX

This past year, I had the honor of serving my fellow UNT students as an SGA Senator in the College of Arts & Sciences. Not only did this position give me the opportunity to connect with students all across campus, but it was also an eye opening learning experience that expanded my knowledge about the campus as a whole. I now see the impact I can make at UNT and the community as a first generation Asian American woman of Laotian descent.

As I now run for my second term in the senate for the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences, I have realized that many things need to be addressed and changed. At UNT, we pride ourselves in being “diverse”, but I believe we need to show it through advocacy and solidarity. With the implementation of various multicultural programs that bring in both large and small student organizations, international students, the LGBTQ community, and many more. This will not only bring a sense of inclusivity and cohesion, but also bridge the gap by breaking presumed stereotypes. It’s time to be more than just a bystander during times of hardship by building the true diverse community we’d like to see at UNT.

Gabrielle Tilley - Hurst, TX

“For the 2017-2018 school year I plan to represent the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. My overarching goal as Senator is to help students have the best college experience. Specifically, I will help protect students and their rights, I will make sure students along with their property feel welcome here, and I will work with other Senators and campus leaders to effectively improve the communication between students and organizations. I look forward to participating in the safety checks that the Senators do, this way I can identify any safety issues around campus and immediately address them as safety is my first priority. I will safeguard the freedom of UNT students to be diverse and outspoken, because no student should feel afraid to express their opinions. I will focus on the issue of limited parking and ensure that should a student choose to bring their car to school, they have a place to park it without having to pay for extra parking expenses after already purchasing a pass. Next year I would also like to get students connected the best way I can, and truly make sure that each individual knows how much support this University has to offer.”

Jordan Villarreal - Grand Prairie, TX

“Together, we can fight for a SGA that works for all of us. As your senator, I will be a dedicated vanguard for entire student body, and I will keep the next administration’s feet to the fire so that they work for the majority of the university, not just a select few well-connected groups.

Together, we can fight for a cohesive and attentive student government that will work to solve the problems that affect you the most. We can fight to help those with limited dining options, and we can collaborate with Dining Services to look into cost-effective ways to prevent financially-strapped students from going hungry. We can fight to open up our SGA, and we will introduce legislation to make our SGA more accountable, attantive, and available to the student body. We must work with Transportation Services to see how we can alleviate the parking issues, for both commuters and residents, so that nobody has an issue receiving the education they are deserved.

Jace M. Zett - Carthage, TX

“My name is Jace Zett and I am a psychology major, the president of KA, and an undergraduate research assistant. I am running for a seat in the Senate because I love UNT, I love the people that go here, and I am passionate about improving the lives of my classmates. My platform can be simplified into 3 basic points:

I will strive for total transparency between the school, the SGA, and the students. In order to achieve this, I will have an open door policy with my social media and email.

Transportation and parking has been an issue at UNT since prior to my enrollment. My goal is for the problem to be dealt with before I graduate.

Recent political issues have left us with a heavily divided campus. My goal is a campus where our diversity is celebrated and our differences are reconciled. That doesn’t mean that we will all agree on hotly debated topics, it means that we have discussions where we respect each other and everyone has a platform to share their thoughts.
Angel Miranda - Dallas, TX

Growing up in an underprivileged community, led me to attend an underprivileged high school with many talented students, who wanted to pursue a post-secondary degree in the sciences. Seeing the struggles that the science department in my high school had to overcome because of their lack of funding, made me more passionate about wanting to make a change within the department for myself and constituents. And I did. Serving on a committee that brought a bioacademy to my school that allowed students to graduate with a health care certification such as EMT or PCT. I will work ten times harder to make the College of Science one of the most thriving departments at UNT with my strong focus on values, commitment and leadership.

Ram Prasanna - Highland Village, TX

Ram Prasanna plans to run on the following factors: (1) bridging unity across the colleges, (2) bringing a more comfortable atmosphere on campus, (3) probe student body more efficiently and more thoroughly.

Ram Prasanna wants to connect the different colleges and college entities through sponsored programs through SGA. This can be efficiently done through communication of the different SGA senators along with the help of college administrators. This can result in a more cohesive student body.

Ram Prasanna wants to bring a more comfortable atmosphere on campus. There can be measures that are taken that increase the activities in high volume, high traffic areas such as the library mall, the student union and Willis library. These activities are but not limited to social programs, volunteering opportunities, and scholarship opportunities.

Jamel Wara - Frisco, TX

Working for the benefit of others; This has always been a passion of mine that I started in High School but I look forward to bringing to UNT’s SGA. As your College of Sciences senator, I will reach out and not only listen to the needs/concerns of my fellow students, but I will make your voice heard. As your senator, I am here for you, that means that you can and should come to me for any concerns, ideas or questions that you may have. I want to make your time here at UNT a memorable one for you, and with your help I can turn my passion into a job that lets me make our home an even better place.

Vote Jamel Wara,
For College of Sciences Senator.

Teresa Aguayo - Ft. Worth, TX

I’m a current senator for the College of Business and I am running for reelection. During my time in the senate, I have met and worked with many different types of people and organizations. Although I had a few set backs, I never let it affect my dedication to the college. Besides SGA, I currently serve on the executive board for the American Marketing Association. Working frequently with business students, I’ve had a chance to build valuable relationships and insight on the issues these students face everyday. UNT is 20.7% Hispanic or Latinx. As president of the Hispanic Student Association, I am a leader within the community and have the perspective and experience needed to help our school go in the direction that many students need it to. The students I’ve been representing and dedicating my resources to the most have been our most underrepresented cohorts of students on campus such as students who have DACA or are undocumented. Every student feel should feel safe to pursue their education regardless of their status. As an ally to many groups I want to ensure UNT continues to be the diverse and supportive campus it is.

Trevor Dondrea - Double Oak, TX

I am currently a sophomore in the College of Business here at UNT. While much of what SGA does is behind the scenes, I believe that increasing SGA’s visibility and presence on campus will help stoke more student interest in getting involved with SGA and utilizing the facilities it has to offer. For example, I'd like to design and create a pocket student constitution for distribution amongst the student body. This pocket constitution would include all articles, sections, and sub-sections of both the constitution and bylaws. In addition, I want to revise and edit unclear and under-utilized sections of our student constitution and bylaws to make communication and interaction with SGA more approachable and less complicated. I would also like to see more aggressive marketing of SGA meetings, with more indicators of the time, place, and subject matter of the meetings. The Student Government Association is ultimately a service organization for and governed by the student body, and I want to ensure that SGA is both approachable for and accountable to my peers and fellow classmates.
Mauricio Robles - Denton, TX

As a Freshman Intern for SGA, I have been a first-row spectator of everything SGA has done this academic year. Though people say that SGA is better than previous years, I firmly believe that the SGA senate, especially the College of Business senators, can do more to improve the college experience of their constituents. I would like to become a senator because I know I will make changes to better the college experience of the students in the CoB. I have many plans of my own, plus an extensive list of things I can work on in collaboration with the other CoB senators.

After talking to an extensive number of students in the College of Business, I have come to the conclusion that some of their top concerns are the lack of study areas in the BLB, the lack of parking close to the BLB, and how the BLB feels very "Business-students Exclusive" for other students taking classes there. These are just a few of the many things that the students from the college of business are concerned about. As a senator I will work hard every week to improve their lives and the lives of the whole student body.

Daniel Roosa - Keller, TX

I'm a sophomore here at UNT and I'm planning to declare my major in business economics this coming fall. My goal is to gain knowledge of leadership and learning skills that will allow for me to succeed in the business field. If elected, I plan to fully serve this in the college of business who elected in me by giving them a voice in student government. I want to make Our college and the university better in the way that you all want to see it. Regardless of who you support, make sure to come out and vote!

Blake Stephens - Austin, TX

I want to build my campaign on the idea of preserving our campus. UNT, in all its beauty, is 126 and growing, and has many older buildings and therefore, run-down amenities. Being a student of the College of Business, I realize how important and beneficial having a brand new building has been. Having this amazing building has shown me that all aspects of campus need to be kept up to date in order to ensure every student enjoys the benefits of well-maintained facilities. An example of these "run-down" amenities are the old and broken bathrooms in Willis Library, the slow and weak amount of water students experience during their showers at Kerr, and the multiple facets of issues at older classroom buildings such as Crumley Hall. In order to make each students experience at UNT the best, the things that should work well need to be fixed. Continuing to have outdated or broken amenities will only upset our students and keep our campus from being the best it can be.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Natalie Belokin - Denton, TX

In fall 2017, I will be a junior in the College of Education looking to make an impact through student government. The first thing I will accomplish as senator will be to bring frequent résumé workshops to the college as well as Dress for Success and career fairs. I also want to create info sessions and eventually a course specifically addressing how to prepare and study for Teacher Certification exams. If elected, my last major goal will be to partner with College of Education Advising to create an online anonymous suggestion box for students to submit ideas they have for courses, the college, the campus, or anything else they would like to see UNT improve upon.

Alex Kaloki - Mansfield, TX

I am driven to help the students in the College of Education reach the goals that they have set of for themselves.
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (CONT.)

Gabriel Mondragon - Irving, TX
I am running for senate because I believe that every student at the University of North Texas is valuable, and that their success is our success. I also believe that the creation of a diverse and inclusive community at the university is essential to further ensure the success of all students. I believe that it is the responsibility of the Student Government Association to represent and address all students and their concerns. If elected I would make it my mission to ensure that all students feel heard, included, and that they know that we as a community want them to succeed.

COLLEGE OF MERCH. HOSP. & TOURISM

Navya Kaur - Flower Mound, TX
As a senator in the Spring 2017 session, I have recognized some key points of growth that I would like to address. With the immense amount of scope and talent amongst the UNT student body, I would like to offer more resources for professional development, particularly in CMHT and eventually across campus. I want to propose legislation that fosters networking, mentorship, and direct industry interaction for students across a multitude of fields. College is truly the first step towards your career, so as senator, I will ensure that students are well prepared and excited about their future ahead.

Lindsey Lotze - Denton, TX
I had the pleasure of serving as the Senator for the College of Merchandising, Hospitality and Tourism for the 2016-2017 term. This position gave me the opportunity to act upon the questions and concerns of the constituents within my college and work together to find solutions that will impact students across campus. As a Merchandising and Digital Retailing double major, I truly believe that UNT offers one of the strongest programs in the country to grow some of the most diverse talent. I work diligently to position myself as someone that is approachable within my college in order to be a resource to students who want their opinions voiced. I am constantly relaying student feedback to the Associate Dean and our faculty members in order to collaborate and resolve issues that may have arisen. If elected, I promise to continue to devote a fervent effort towards making sure that every voice within my college is heard.

Mikah Oliver - Frankston, TX
As a senator, I plan on making campus a better, more enjoyable environment for students. Most of my experiences on campus have been great, though there are issues that I plan to address. One instance that I have not enjoyed are the on-campus E-rides. The idea of the E-rides is great, yet they’re ineffective for most students to get around campus quickly at late hours. First hand experiences have taught me not to take the E-ride if I am needing to get somewhere quickly at night. With a wait of 30 minutes or more, this is a major inconvenience for many. This can either be solved by more rounds though the high traffic areas like Kerr, Crumley, or Victory hall. Another problem which needs to be address are the dining halls at night. This is something that many students have complained about because they have jobs which they can’t eat at night without going off-campus. Yes, there is the option of going to Fuzzy’s Tacos, but I feel that dining halls should be open for students, at least until 11 or 12 pm. I hope that these plans are feasible, and can be fixed, creating a more functional college experience.
**Abisola Adeyemi - Ft. Worth, TX**

I am running to represent College of PACS at all levels. I want to get departments involved and also promote and exhibit school of PACS to other students. I want to get everyone involved in programs and agendas that will be beneficial to them. I would also like to lobby Alumni's of the PACS school to reach out to current students and impact some of their knowledge to them. I want to inject a fresh attitude and idea into the Student government union.

**Roni Fraser - San Antonio, TX**

My name is Roni Fraser and I am running for re-election as senator for the College of Public Affairs and Community Service. I am currently involved in Zeta Tau Alpha, Panhellenic, Alternative Service Breaks and G-Force Mentoring. My goals for the college would be to provide a social media hub for students so that they could assess information about registration, times for advisors, conferences, and well and PACS clubs and community service offerings. This would not only market PACS to the university and other universities about our activities but serve the student population better. I also would like to see more events targeted at PACS students specifically. I believe offering service learning programs and events partnering with faculty and staff can offer opportunities to network that otherwise students would not get to experience. Overall for SGA, I would like to bring it to students that have never heard it before. Regardless of what type of student you identify with, SGA can help you and serve you to make you college experience as best as possible. You should re-elect me as your PACS senator because I will be the listening ear and do my best to fix the real issues.

**Isaiah Williams - Converse, TX**

My mission is SGA has three objectives, inclusion, innovation, and inspiration. I want to personally take a stance against the Univeristy of North Texas low retention rates, especially for minority's. As a SGA senator, I would be able to influence policy and funds to direct towards graduating our students. I would work with Dr. Harold Woodard on accomplishing these many things.

**MAYBORN SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM**

**Abisola Adeyemi - Ft. Worth, TX**

Hi there!

My name is Abisola, you can call me Abi, if you’d like. I am a Junior transfer student, and this is my second semester here. I love this school; I love being here. In the past, I didn’t really get involved with organizations, because I felt as though I had nothing to bring to the table. It took me a while to awaken to my true essence and truth within. I believe part of my mission here on earth is to serve those around me. I desire to serve my peers, and I believe this is the perfect opportunity. I like to describe myself as charismatic, compassionate and down to earth. I have the ability to connect to everyone and everything around me. If I am given the opportunity to serve Mayborn’s School of Journalism as Senator, I will make sure all issues and concerns of my peers and faculty come to light. I will make myself accessible for those around me, my peers will know and understand that I am here for them and their needs. I will serve as a connector between the students and SGA, so we can continue to progress as one.

**Brooke Parent - Rockwall, TX**

My name is Brooke Parent and I am a freshman majoring in Journalism with a concentration in Public Relations. As your Senator for the Mayborn School of Journalism, it would be my goal to represent every student regardless of your major, beliefs, or involvement at UNT. One area of improvement I will focus on is increasing the integration of Mayborn and the Honors College, specifically by creating more journalism honors courses. Currently, there are no honors classes offered within the School of Journalism; I would like to see multiple courses offered for each of the different concentrations. Furthermore, I will increase awareness of the many advantages of the Honors College among my peers, such as priority registration and access to special events. Regardless of Honors affiliation, I will work towards the benefit of all Journalism students. This year, I had the privilege of serving as a Freshman Intern for the Student Government Association, as well as being a sister of the Chi Omega Sorority, and mentoring an elementary student through Mentor Denton. I hope that I can combine my experience both in and out of SGA, to serve you best as your Mayborn School of Journalism Senator.
**COLLEGE OF VISUAL ARTS & DESIGN**

**Nicolet Nathan - Dallas, TX**

My name is Nicolet Nathan; I am a Sophomore and a fashion design major. I would love the opportunity to represent the College of Visual Arts and Design as a Student Government Senator. As an art major, one issue I have noticed is how art supplies can be very expensive for the students. I have also noticed that when former students leave the program or finish a class, these supplies often aren't used again. I would like to start an art pantry for those who are in need of art supplies. It would be supported by donations from students who are done with their art supplies to help out those who will need it for future classes. If elected as your Senator, I will represent and be a voice for each and every student in the College of Visual Arts and Design. I will work alongside the other Senators of SGA to ensure that the student body here at UNT is heard. I intend to help and assist our University create more opportunities and resources necessary to allow each student to succeed. It would be an absolute honor to serve as your College of Visual Arts and Design Senator.

**Kierstan Osborn - Belton, TX**

Hello! My name is Kierstan Osborn and I’m running confident in my ability to be a Senator for the College of Visual Arts & Design. I’m entering my sophomore year as a visual arts major with a photography concentration, however, I will work to assist and advocate for students from every art department. My focus as Senator will be helping CVAD students become more integrated throughout all areas of campus. I will achieve this through: 
- Incorporating students’ work throughout everyday campus life. This would be accomplished by advertising Lightwell Gallery to where non-CVAD students become aware of the wonderfully crafted artwork we’ve created.
- Giving CVAD students an opportunity to contribute and advertise their work throughout campus. A key example would be having CVAD students design the layout of permanent, material campus maps throughout UNT. I will be the voice for those either too busy or too nervous to voice their opinions. As all CVAD students know, art is an outlet that helps us daily, and we would not be where we are now without it. As James Whistler once said “An Artist is not paid for his labor but for his Vision.” Please consider me for Senator: Os-born for this!

**TEXAS ACADEMY OF ARTS & SCIENCES**

**Sven Lohse - Allen, TX**

TAMS has long been isolated within the general UNT structure. Because of this, many of the TAMS clubs miss out on tens of thousands of dollars from Student Activity Fees in the form of Eagle’s Nest Funding and Raupe Travel Grants. My goal is to integrate TAMS more into the general UNT structure so that TAMS organizations can gain full access to most if not ALL university resources while STILL maintaining a degree of independence concerning our own affairs. As the current SGA Senator, I have been working on three different plans that will allow us to achieve this goal. To bring these plans to fruition I have also been building up the necessary connections within the university to achieve these goals. If you re-elect me as the SGA Senator for TAMS I can continue working directly on our issues, instead of reestablishing these integral connections. If you are still unsure about whether I am the right candidate or not, understand that the math is clear and the numbers indicate that 4.28171817154 will be your lucky number. I hope that all of you will support me, the Svenator, in an effort to lead TAMS to a Greener and Brighter Future!

**Garrett Gu, Allen, TX**

I plan to continue most of the policies of my predecessor, Sven Lohse, to ensure that the TAMS community experiences no sudden changes. I plan to create a platform that will allow each and every TAMS student to make their voices heard and to participate in the decision-making process. I will also work toward making late-night walks safer for TAMS students and toward increasing TAMS representation in UNT events.

**Jeffrey Wang, McKinney, TX**

The Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science deserves a more prominent position in UNT and should be treated with equal bearing as other UNT functions. My focus is to support UNT initiatives that require an increase in cost per semester hours while also ensuring that UNT promotes cost-saving measures. At the same time, I intend to take more steps to advance student rights on campus.
Stephen Garcia - Mansfield, TX

My name is Stephen Garcia and I am running to be elected as the Honor’s College Senator in the Student Government Association. I am 23 years old, and a veteran of the US Marine Corps. I joined the Marines shortly after graduating high school and came to UNT after finishing my enlistment. I am currently a Theatre major and will be a sophomore for the 2017-2018 year. My first year at UNT has been amazing, we have a great sense of community and traditions that would make any student want to be a part of. As a Senator I would love to keep these going, and serve the interests of the student body. I believe at our university everyone has a voice, and sometimes that voice is not always heard. If elected I will consistently seek out the needs of our students and do everything I can to best represent them. I believe my military and life experience would help me fulfill the duties required of a Senator and make me a good candidate to represent the students of UNT.

Amy Rios - Flower Mound, TX

Hi I'm Amy and I'm the current Spring 2017 Honors College Senator! I am a Business student, been part of the Honors College since I was a freshman and want to go to law school to be a corporate lawyer! I am involved in various student organizations and have been involved in various leadership positions within Greek life! I feel like I could represent the Honors College well because I understand what it's like to be an honors students and know the wants and needs that honors students have! My goal as a senator is to continue to bring a voice to the wants and needs of Honors Students and help make the Honors College and UNT as whole an even better place in the years to come. If selected as a senator for next year, I will do everything I can to help you!

Rachel Shafer - Rockwall, TX

My name is Rachel and I’m running to be an Honors College Senator. I am from Rockwall Texas and I am an International Studies major with a minor in Arabic.

A few issues on campus I will work to solve if elected to Senate are:

- extending dining hall hours to accommodate students with hectic class and work schedules
- continue working towards expanding honors course offerings
- improving resources available to students applying to graduate school
- improving access to information concerning bus routes
- continually addressing concerns of students through outreach and tabling

In my role as an SGA freshman intern, I gained valuable experience attending SGA meetings, assisting in the legislative process and shadowing SGA executives. Additionally, I am also a member of college democrats, an Alternative Service break participant, and a Multicultural Scholar.