

# HUMANS OF SGA Stories

## Sam Weber

**S**am Weber is a second year Junior here at the University of North Texas, majoring in Marketing and minoring in Communication. He is from Cypress, Texas, which is a suburb of Houston. His journey of how he ended up at UNT is very sporadic and unlikely, but it ultimately worked out in the best way.



"My parents separated when I was very young, so growing up it was just me, and my mom. I have one sister, who is 15 years older than me, and actually is the whole reason I came to UNT. My sister and I always had a deep connection, beginning when my Mom allowed my sister (Samantha) named me (Samuel) after herself. Growing up I always wanted to be like my sister and follow in her footsteps, however, she came to UNT and was heavily involved to the extent that she had to give up Panhellenic President to become SGA Vice President. Living in my sister's shadow was the major reason I never wanted to come to UNT. I applied just to appease her, with my sights set on moving to LA and attending either USC or UCLA. As the college applications process took its toll, I found myself receiving rejection letters from numerous colleges including UCLA, USC, and UT, even though I exceeded their GPA and campus involvement requirements. I never thought I would come to UNT until I took my tour and discovered this wonderful campus community. As soon as I stepped foot on this campus, it felt like home. I knew that this was the campus for me, and I feel like my campus involvement has reflected that.

My campus footprint is that I want to leave behind a legacy of campus involvement through servant leadership. Every single organization that I am apart of or am interested

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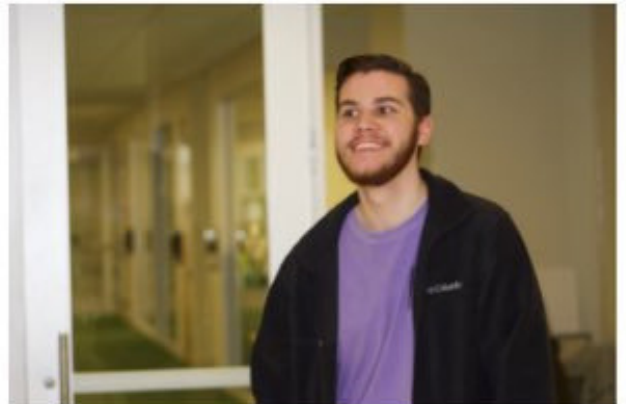
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in arises from a desire to help and benefit others. I truly am passionate about helping students and work tirelessly to ensure that other students appreciate and feel welcomed on this campus in the same way that I did from the very first day that I stepped on this campus. I want to inspire others to push through the pressures of school and work to help others by spreading kindness through

small acts on a daily basis. I think that we all have struggles that we go through in our lives that are unknown to others, and that we can help others without even knowing by just smiling to someone, giving a compliment, or holding a door open. I know for me personally, I have dealt with anxiety and depression, and it always makes me feel better on tough days when I am achieving something through hard work and spreading positivity. I try to give my full energy and passion to everything I do, and I take pride in working hard and taking a “no days off” approach to my campus involvement.

Currently, I have the pleasure of being in multiple organizations, which each provide me with different ways to serve students and work to benefit the overall campus. I currently serve on the executive board for the University Program Council as the Spirit Coordinator. Within that position, I work to provide innovative and relevant programming and events that are free to students and enrich their appreciation for UNT and the overall campus community. I get to serve students within this role by providing fun and stress relieving events that allow students to take a break from the daily stressors they are experiencing. I am involved with the Student Government Association, in which I serve as the Lead Senator for the College of Business.

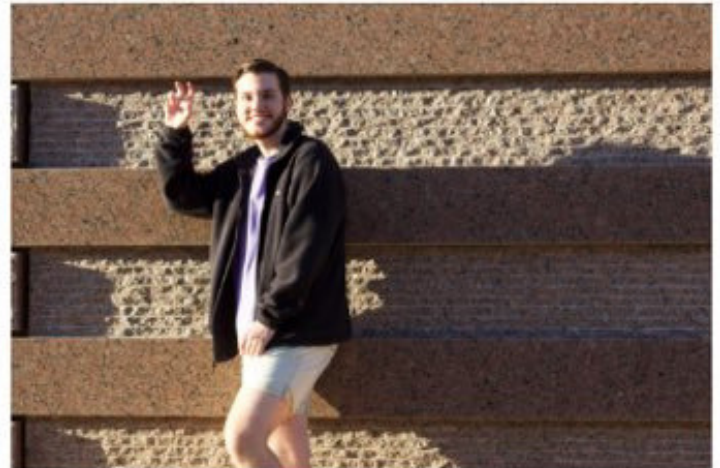


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This role allows me to serve my constituents by proposing legislation that enacts change to provide solutions to issues that other students feel need to be addressed. I also serve as a Student Alumni Ambassador, which allows me to network with alumni and important campus figures in order to ensure that alumni remain connected to their campus and feel included in the ever-changing UNT community. This position allows me to serve the overall university by helping to maintain a positive image of the university and ensuring that we are helping UNT to grow by strengthening the overall alumni base. In the last semester, I also had the pleasure of serving on the executive board of the Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity as Chapter Secretary, which allowed me to serve my brothers by ensuring accurate records for overall chapter operations.

In the future, I want to work in some capacity with either advertising or sales, but my campus involvement journey these past two years has led me to truly discover my passion for people and helping others. I would love to work for some sort of non-profit organization for some period and help them with marketing and promotional materials. Looking at who I was before I came to college and became involved, I think I have completely changed and grown with numerous skills. I have become exponentially better at numerous communication skills, conflict management, time management, and just the broad skill of knowing how to talk to people. I think that I am much more outgoing and not afraid to put myself out there and am better at marketing myself, which is ultimately the most important skill to have for any career path.



My advice for students looking to get involved would be to keep an open mind and be confident. The difference between a student such as myself, who is involved in various organizations and a student with no campus involvement is simply the desire to apply for positions and make changes on campus.

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Any role or position that I have been in has started with me wanting to do something and then me just doing it. Applying for organizations and positions can be a daunting task for students. I know that when I first applied for the SGA Intern Program during my first semester, I was terrified and very insecure about my skills and abilities. We often are our own hardest critics and diminish our talents and skills when thinking about campus involvement, however, we are capable of so much more than we think! A lot of the skills that I feel I have developed through being involved have been present for years within my personality, however, I just needed the platform and opportunity to hone these skills and help students. Another important aspect of campus involvement is being open and flexible. If you had told me two years ago that I would be doing all I am now, I never would have believed you because I had a very narrow mindset of what I was capable of. However, through numerous applications and rejections, working to find out my passions and which organizations allowed me to channel my passions, I feel like I have truly found my purpose at UNT, which is to help others. So for anyone looking to get involved, don't be afraid to put yourself out there, find what you are passionate about, and know that you have the most important thing you need to make an impact, yourself!"

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