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NEWS | Unopposed

Four USUSA candidates campaign against ... themselves?

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STUDENT LIFE | Oscars 2017

Statesman movie reviewer predicts who he thinks will take home the gold trophies.

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SPORTS | Rising star

Men's basketball freshman Sam Merrill is making a name for himself with the Aggies.

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# 'MY WORST NIGHTMARE'

## Further accusations levied against Torrey Green



PHOTO BY Matt Halton

Annaleece Merrill, a sophomore at USU, said she was physically assaulted in January 2016 by former Aggie football player Torrey Green in retaliation for refusing his sexual advances.

*Trigger warning: This story involves detailed descriptions of sexual violence.*

**By Alison Berg**  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

In December 2015, former Utah State University football player Torrey Green became Annaleece Merrill's nightmare.

That March, Merrill matched with Green on the dating app Tinder. At first, Merrill said, their interactions were "nothing out of the ordinary," other than the fact that she was underage and pregnant, which he knew.

Merrill was 17 at the time, "so that was kind of creepy because that means his age settings were set to underage girls," she said.

Green messaged her daily on the app asking for her phone number and after several months of his persistence, she gave it to him — right before she moved back to her home in Northern California for the summer.

When Merrill returned to Logan in August 2015 to continue school at USU, Green knew she had turned 18 and began to ask her for sexual pictures of herself. He also consistently asked her to meet up with him, but she refused to do either one for four months.

In December, Merrill grew tired of Green's constant contact, so she "broke down" and met him at his apartment. However, she said she repeatedly told him she did not want to engage in sexual acts with him.

As soon as she walked into his North Logan apartment, she said he locked the door and ignored her requests.

She said the two were watching television when Green began kissing her and trying to

pull her clothes off. She said she told him she "wasn't going to do anything with you, did I not make myself clear?"

Nonetheless, Merrill said he refused to acknowledge her repeated pleas that his actions were not OK.

He was "really upset and I got scared that he was getting so angry," she said. So she fought back.

Grabbing the pressure point on his bicep, Merrill said she told him, "You do not vget to touch me."

Although her actions were in self-defense, Merrill said Green grew agitated and threw her on the floor, yelling that she had "no right to be such a tease."

Horrified, Merrill said she sat on the floor for a few moments before she ran out the door and to her car as fast as she could.

"He didn't even know me and he thought it was OK to throw me on the floor — you don't get to throw ... girls on the floor," she said.

Merrill said Green asked her not to tell anyone what happened because his career was important to him.

"You don't get to do that. You don't get to say that because of your career we're not allowed to do anything about it," she said.

However, she refused to let the incident ruin her.

"My career is important to me. I'm not going to be an emotional wreck the rest of my life," she said.

Merrill said she chose not to report the incident because she felt like she did not have enough evidence against Green. Additionally, when she tried to get a restraining order against the man who had previously assaulted and im-

pregnated her, she felt the court blamed her for actions she did not have control over.

Merrill said she "was accused of being promiscuous," despite being only 17 years old.

She also did not report the incident to the university because she felt they would not have believed her or taken action.

Leslie, who requested to be named by a pseudonym, shared a similar story.

Leslie matched with Green on Tinder, but was nervous because "the word around town was watch out for Torrey Green and don't get involved with him," she said.

After they matched, Leslie said Green persistently invited her to his apartment. When she repeatedly denied his requests, he would yell at her over the phone and tell her he was going to pick her up anyway, she said. But to her relief, he never did.

Several months later, Leslie began attending parties Green also attended. She said she thought he was "nice and social," so she deemed it safe to accept one of his requests to go to his apartment.

Leslie and a friend were watching a movie with Green at his apartment when her original fears were solidified.

Green repeatedly offered Leslie alcohol, although she denied several times. He grew frustrated and "tried to physically pour it down my throat," she said.

However, to her surprise, Leslie and her friend left his apartment that night without issue.

"I could definitely see how he could be super aggressive and angry," she said. "I think since it was two-on-one, he let us go."

If she were alone with Green, Leslie said she thought the situation would have ended differ-

ently.

Although Merrill and Leslie did not report their experiences with Green, their stories reflect similarities between six of Green's seven sex crime charges.

One woman who brought charges against Green, identified in court documents as A.P., said she and Green matched on Tinder — and shortly afterward, she says Green raped her at her apartment.

A.P.'s experience speaks to Merrill's reasoning for not reporting the incident.

A.P. reportedly woke up the day after her assault with bruises, but even that wasn't enough to convince Utah State University and the Logan City Police Department to take action against Green.

"When I spoke to the detective, it almost seemed like he was attacking me," she said.

A.P. said she was bombarded with questions she felt weren't necessary, like, "What were you wearing?" and "Why did you let him in your apartment?"

A.P. said she canceled a follow-up appointment with the detective but made several attempts to reschedule and was never able.

She was the third woman to report Green's name to the police and, since then, six more women have come forward.

A.P. also did not report the incident to the university because she felt they would not have believed her or taken action.

Merrill and A.P. both said they wished they could encourage other women to report but they could not because they felt the system was not on their side.

"It almost made my situation worse," A.P. said.

see "Accusations" PAGE 7

# USUSA BLOTTER

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Notes from the USUSA meeting on Feb. 21. Meetings are held on Tuesdays at 5 p.m. in the Senate Chambers located in the Taggart Student Center, and are open to all students.

1. The USUSA mental health bill passed through the House and is now moving to the Senate. The bill would declare a mental health crisis on all higher education campuses in Utah.

2. The Academic Senate is working with administration to pass a "no test week." In November, they reported that President Noelle Cockett was in favor of this movement.

3. The family of Erik Gray, a former USU student who recently passed away, has been chosen to be the recipient of the service auction on April 20.

4. USUSA will be evaluating their budgets within the next month. They will be discussing increasing the Spirit Squad budget, among other things.

5. The Executive Council meeting has been moved to 5:15 p.m. next Tuesday — it is normally held at 5:00 on Tuesdays. This meeting is open to the public.

6. USUSA election debates begin next week.

# Unopposed

## Some USUSA candidates won't be campaigning like the others



Todd Brown



Jakob Ambuehl



Bridget Baldwin



Brendon Brady

By Alison Berg  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

By now, the majority of Utah State University students have probably seen the plethora of social media posts representing candidates running for USU Student Association (USUSA) positions for the 2017-2018 academic school year.

Within the next two weeks, candidates will begin passing out flyers, campaigning from A-frames across campus and competing in debates — all in hopes of convincing students to vote for them.

However, four Executive Council candidates will be taking a "lighter approach" to the campaign process because they are running unopposed.

Brendon Brady, the unopposed Student Alumni Association (SAA) vice presidential candidate, said he was not surprised when he heard no one would be challenging his

candidacy.

"SAA is one of those branches of USUSA where people kind of have to know what it is to get involved, so no one really had shown interest from our group this year," Brady said.

Rather than campaign for his victory in the election, Brady said he is using the allotted campaign weeks to make students aware of SAA.

Brady said he thinks a lot of students do not know what SAA does, so he "wants to make SAA bigger and more well known on campus, because we do give people cool opportunities and we try to help them get jobs when they graduate."

While Brady anticipated his candidacy outcome, other candidates were surprised to find out they were running without opponents.

Bridget Baldwin, the unopposed student advocate vice presidential candidate, said she was "super surprised" when she heard the news.

"I feel like it's such an important position in USUSA, so I'm just as shocked as everyone else," she said.

Baldwin said her campaign manager told potential opponents the two would be running an "intense campaign," but still encouraged others to run.

"I guess it scared them off," Baldwin joked.

Baldwin also said she thinks others decided not to run for the position because Matthew Clewett, the current student advocate vice president, originally planned to run again.

"I kind of got lucky because people didn't want to run against him," Baldwin said, adding that she thinks Clewett has done a "great job."

Similarly, Jakob Ambuehl, the athletics and campus recreation vice presidential candidate, said he was "shocked" when he found out he was running unopposed.

Ambuehl said he heard three people were running against him in the beginning of the semester, so he was "completely prepared and

ready to have that competition."

However, Ambuehl said he is still focusing on the campaign process as if he faced opponents.

"I am still worried because people can write in and I want people to vote for who's best for each position," Ambuehl said.

Todd Brown, the 2017-2018 service vice presidential candidate — who also currently holds the position — said he was surprised to hear the news because "there have been a lot of people that have been involved in the service center that I thought would do a great job," he said.

All four candidates said they have already begun thinking about goals they hope to achieve during their time on the executive council, and they plan to use the next few weeks to begin working toward those goals and receive feedback from students.

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# A STATE IN CRISIS

## Lobbying for mental health made difficult by lack of funding

By Morgan Pratt  
OPINION CONTENT MANAGER

Utah's facing a mental health emergency.

The state ranks tenth in the nation for the most suicides per capita and fifth in the nation for youth suicides per capita.

That mental health dilemma lurks in college students' day-to-day lives across the state.

Utah State University's Counseling and Psychological Services is backed up — it takes anywhere between four to six weeks to get an appointment.

Students are killing themselves. In the 2015 academic year, over 100 college students attempted suicide.

"Tragically, fifteen of those higher education students were successful," said Rep. Edward Redd (R).

To address the anxiety, depression and suicides, Aggies lobbied the Utah State



Erik Olson, Bridget Baldwin and Molly Van Engelenhoven discuss USUSA's mental health resolution with Senator Brian Shiozawa (R) at the Utah State Capitol on Feb. 17, 2017.

see "Lobbying" PAGE 7



PHOTO BY Morgan Pratt

# PREDICTIONS FOR THE OSCARS

By Keith Ariaz  
STUDENT LIFE WRITER

It's hard to believe that at the end of this week the 89th annual Academy Awards, or the Oscars as they're more commonly referred to, will take place. It's the biggest event of the year for movies and my personal Super Bowl. I'd be lying if I said I don't spend every morning shower practicing my acceptance speech, which is probably why I'm always late to my ASL class. With the Oscars just days away I thought I'd chime in with my opinion on who I think will be taking home the gold come Sunday night.

## Actor in a supporting role:

Mahershala Ali - "Moonlight"  
Jeff Bridges - "Hell or High Water"  
Lucas Hedges - "Manchester by the Sea"  
Dev Patel - "Lion"  
Michael Shannon - "Nocturnal Animals"

I would honestly love nothing more than to see Lucas Hedges take home the Oscar. He gave a fantastic performance in "Manchester by the Sea" and was easily one of the best performances of the year. Watching him on-screen was almost like magic because we were watching a star being born right before our eyes and you just knew that this kid was going to be big one day. With that being said though, it's no secret that the Oscar will be going to Mahershala Ali this year. He's won every award in this category this year and to be honest, he deserves it. He gave the type of performance that you can't help but remember even after he's left the screen.

## Actress in a supporting role:

Viola Davis - "Fences"  
Naomie Harris - "Moonlight"  
Nicole Kidman - "Lion"  
Octavia Spencer - "Hidden Figures"  
Michelle Williams - "Manchester by the Sea"

This one is really no contest either. Honestly it's the only category I'd say already has it's

guaranteed winner. Viola Davis has this in the bag and the other women nominated have absolutely no chance at winning. Not only has she won every single award this year for this category, but she also gave 2016 best female performance in general. I honestly have no idea why



GRAPHIC BY Emmalee Olsen

she isn't in the category for lead actress. Ms. Davis gave us one of the most stunning and powerful performances any of us have ever seen. She's always been a solid performer but "Fences" really showed us/reminded us that Viola Davis is currently one of the best working actresses in Hollywood. The only other woman nominated this year who has any chance of beating her is Michelle Williams for her heart-breaking, tear inducing, realistic performance in "Manchester by the Sea." If Davis was competing in lead actress then Williams would be

taking home the gold that night. Both women have been nominated three times so they both deserve it. I think Williams is overdue for an Oscar herself but like I said, Davis is the clear winner.

## Actor in a lead role:

Casey Affleck - "Manchester by the Sea"  
Andrew Garfield - "Hacksaw Ridge"  
Ryan Gosling - "La La Land"  
Viggo Mortensen - "Captain Fantastic"  
Denzel Washington - "Fences"

This one is probably the toughest decision of the night. As cool as it'd be to see Spiderman win an Oscar, everyone knows it's going to be between Casey Affleck, Ryan Gosling and Denzel Washington. I honestly have no idea who

will take it home. During November's Golden Globes ceremony both Affleck and Gosling won the award for best actor in their respective categories. Then during last month's Screen Actors Guild awards, which is the best predictor for who will take home the Oscar, Washington won surprising everyone including himself.

Who do I think should win? Affleck. He easily gave the performance of the year not just for a male actor, but any actor in general. It was the most honest, raw and realistic portrayal of a grief stricken man we've probably ever seen on screen, at least in the past decade. But with the Oscars receiving so much heat last year for having zero African-American actors nominated last year and Affleck being caught up in an alleged sexual abuse scandal, there is a good chance Washington will be taking home his third academy award, which slightly disappoints me. Don't get me wrong, I think Denzel is a great actor and I'm a huge fan of his. He did a splendid job in "Fences" and gave what was probably his best performance since "Training Day," but Affleck definitely deserves the award this year. I guess I can answer this by saying Affleck should win this but Washington will probably end up winning. I can always hope for a miracle though!

## Actress in a leading role:

Isabelle Huppert - "Elle"  
Ruth Negga - "Loving"  
Natalie Portman - "Jackie"  
Emma Stone - "La La Land"  
Meryl Streep - "Florence Foster Jenkins"

Meryl Streep is the best actress to have ever walked this planet. We all know that. But we also know her being nominated this year was just so the academy could fill out their roster. Like the supporting actress category, this category also has a clear winner with Emma Stone being favored to win.

## Read the rest at usstatesman.com

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# Buildings of USU: The Wellsville farms

By Shelby Stoor and Alina Haws  
STUDENT LIFE WRITERS

Utah State University was originally started as a land grant agricultural school in 1888. In 1957, USU officially removed agricultural college from the title.

Today, many students do not realize what a large role agriculture continues to play at our university.

The agricultural spirit of USU is kept alive through the animal, dairy and veterinary science facilities located in Wellsville. The Caine Dairy Teaching and Research Center and the South Farm research center allow ag students to obtain valuable hands-on experience in their undergraduate years.

The facilities offer beef production, equine science, spider silk goats, animal cloning and more opportunities for students to learn from their experiences working with the animals. One of the most popular products of these facilities is USU's beloved Aggie ice cream.

Whether you are a fan of Aggie blue mint or crazy about Aggie bull tracks, the USU Creamery

has a flavor for everyone. It is no surprise that these creamy concoctions are a big hit among those with a connection to campus.

"I love Aggie ice cream. They have the best flavors ever," said Angela Strong, a senior at USU. "I feel like Aggie ice cream is authentic and has sentimental value for me personally and for other people in the valley."

The cream that is used to make Aggie ice cream comes directly from USU's very own dairy cows. Just a few miles up Highway 89, the Caine Dairy Teaching and Research Center offers not only cream, but also classes and educational research opportunities for USU students.

"I don't think a lot of people know that USU has its own dairy cows," Strong said. "I feel like a lot of people come here and don't even know that this is an agricultural school."

These facilities are one of the best kept secrets of USU. Not many students outside of the agriculture and applied science programs are familiar with what goes on at these facilities. Though many students wear the title of "Aggie" with pride it can be easy to forget that the term is rooted in the historical beginnings of USU as an agricultural college.

The dairy cows at Caine Dairy not only provide USU students with ice cream, but they play a crucial role in helping ADVS majors learn the ins and outs of running a dairy farm. Breeding, dairy cow health and raising calves are only a few of the lessons taught through hands-on experience at the Caine Dairy.

Dairy cows are not the only cows on campus. Just a few miles down the road, South Farm is home to a large herd of beef cows. Doctor Sweat, a USU graduate and veterinarian explained some of the versatile roles that beef cows play on the farm.

"A lot of the beef cows are primarily used for teaching beef production classes," he said. "There's meat classes and carcass judging classes. So they'll come and look at the cows before they are butchered and will grade them according to how they look on the hoof. Then they'll go into the harvest facility and see how they look on the rack so they can evaluate how they did judging them before."

Sweat also said that some of the beef cows are used as show steers while others are currently being used for a privately funded cloning research project.

As loyal as USU Aggies are to Big Blue and all

his cow friend counterparts, there is room at South Farm for more than just beef and dairy cows. Equine science majors have the opportunity to get out of the four corners of the classroom and saddle up for a more hands-on experience. These students learn how to ride, manage and stable horses. In the spring, the new colts brought to South Farm get broken in by USU students.

"There's breeding classes, riding classes, reproduction classes and just all kinds of things. There's also the English and Western equestrian teams that meet out here and the rodeo team practices in the arena." Sweat said. "There aren't any other equine programs as good in Utah."

A recent addition to the South Farm curriculum is the equine assisted therapy course. Taught by Michelle Weeds, this new program gives physically and mentally disabled people an opportunity to come and ride horses.

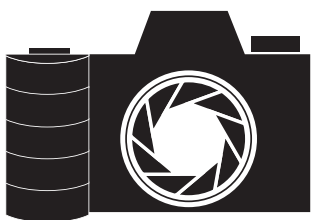
Katie Bresnahan, a veterinary student, has spent a lot of her time at USU out at the facilities in Wellsville.

"As part of the vet program, we spend a lot of time out at South Farm. We have a lot of different classes and labs that are held out there. We

see "Farm" PAGE 4



PHOTO BY Ethan Babcock



# PHOTOGRAPHER

## SPOTLIGHT



“This is Old Faithful in action! I took this picture when I went on a trip to Yellowstone with my roommates and my neighbors!

— *Tim Carpenter, Statesman Photographer*

### “Farm” FROM PAGE 3

have our principles of surgery labs and classes out there as well,” Bresnahan said. “We learn how to scrub in, surgical techniques, suturing and even more. Whenever the school has surgeries that they are doing on animals that are being used for research, we will go out and assist in those.”

Bresnahan has taken a variety of classes at the farm during her time here at USU.

“I took a horse production class in my undergrad. We got to do everything from grooming the horses to cleaning the stalls. We learned anatomy and identifying things on horses,” Bresnahan said. “I got to do a swine production class which was cool because I didn’t know anything about pigs. We got to take care of the moms, feed them, manage their pregnancy and take care of the babies. You got to learn about the theory and business side in class and then go out and actually do it.”

Bresnahan’s favorite part of working out at

the farm is working in the surgery labs.

“I love everything to do with the surgeries and the hands-on experience that I get to have. Since we have a small program, we get a lot of one-on-one time with the doctors. It’s been awesome to be able to develop surgical technique,” she said.

Bresnahan feels that USU’s title as the number one agricultural school in the nation is fitting because of the opportunities students have to gain hands on experience.

“I think we are the number one ag school for a lot of reasons. South Farm helps a lot because there are so many resources right at our fingertips. As an undergrad, I was able to get involved with things I had never experienced before,” she said. “I don’t have a large animal background. I didn’t grow up on a farm. I got that experience through clubs and classes here at USU. I think it’s instrumental that we have the hands-on opportunities that we do. You can’t just talk about agriculture. You have to do it in order to understand it.”

Jessie Hadfield, president of the Animal Sci-

ence Club at USU, said she has loved the opportunities that she and other students have had at South Farm.

“I’ve really enjoyed the opportunity to work with the animals. They are constantly working to add new facilities. It’s nice to get out of the classroom and get hands-on experiences,” she said.

The Animal Science Club spends a great deal of time out at the farm through their meetings and activities.

“The two biggest events we have are at South Farm. We do our club-calf sale in November. We start as early as September working with the calves until the sale. In the spring, we will have a lamb clinic where we will do showmanship workshops and then will have a sale,” Hadfield said.

“Students need the opportunity to get as much live animal experience as they can because when they leave USU that’s what an employer will be expecting. They’re expecting them to have handling experience and know how to run the facil-

ities,” she said. “That’s the most beneficial thing we have about South Farm. Students can work animals and be a part of the slaughtering process. I think the hands on experience that you’ll never get in the classroom is what makes South Farm so important.”

Without the Caine Dairy and South Farm, the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences would not be as widely respected as it currently is. USU is the top agricultural school in the nation. That title comes from all of the incredibly dedicated students, faculty and staff who love agriculture and work to keep the program thriving.

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PHOTO BY **Ethan Babcock**

USU students ride horses in the indoor facilities at South Farm, a part of the USU Logan campus in Wellsville, Utah.



S

SPORTS

# THE FULFILLMENT OF A DREAM

## Sam Merrill's journey to Utah State



PHOTO BY Matt Halton

Utah State's Sam Merrill matches up against San Diego State's Trey Kell. The Aggies fell 66-62 at home and Merrill ended the game with 12 points.

By Taylor Emerson  
SPORTS EDITOR

Sam Merrill knew what it meant to be an Aggie long before he ever attended Utah State.

His father, John, and mother, Jenny, are both graduates of the university. His sister, Molli, played soccer for USU from 2008-11 and was an assistant coach with the team from 2012-15. From the day he was born, Merrill has been surrounded by Aggie memorabilia – shirts, hats, jerseys, posters and pins. Those trinkets can still be found at his family home in Bountiful to this day. As a child, Merrill attended numerous Utah State men's basketball games with his grandfather, Reed. They always sat in the same seats together – Section B, Row 7 – just a handful of chairs away from the hardwood that Merrill would eventually come to roam.

He knows this university.

And now, as a member of the Utah State men's basketball team himself, Merrill looks right at home in the Spectrum.

"I grew up an Aggie fan," Merrill said. "It was always a dream of mine to play here. For me, it's an unbelievable opportunity to see that dream come true."

In 12 games since supplanting teammate Shane Rector for the starting two-guard spot, Merrill has averaged 10.9 points, 3.5 assists and 3.6 rebounds per game, all while giving up just 1.3 turnovers per contest. He has twice led the team in scoring this year – first against

Boise State on Feb. 4, then again on Feb. 14 versus San Diego State – and on one occasion, against Fresno State on Jan. 28, he led the team in rebounds. In conference play, the true freshman ranks first on the team for total steals (17) and assists (49), while among the team's guards he ranks first in 3-point shooting percentage (45 percent) and free-throw percentage (89 percent).

With all of that aside, however, Merrill never came to Utah State with an expectation to start right away – especially as a true freshman. The 20-year-old acknowledged the veteran leadership the Aggies already possessed in Rector, senior wing Jalen Moore and junior guard Julion Pearre. He was also well aware of fellow true freshman, Koby McEwen's talents and skills. By his own admission, Merrill returned from an LDS mission to Nicaragua in June overweight and out of basketball shape as well.

He knew he would have to put in a lot of work to even have a chance at the starting rotation.

But that's not to say that was his goal.

"I just wanted to do anything I could to help this team win," Merrill said. "That was my mentality then, and that's still how I feel to this day."

That mentality caught the eye of Utah State head coach Tim Duryea.

"He's an unselfish player," said the second-year head coach. "He has an innate ability to elevate the play of those around him; and that's hard to find in a player."

For Merrill, the opportunity to start was, and continues to be, a "humbling experience," but the 6-foot-4 guard has seen the spotlight before.

In high school, Merrill was a three-year starter for Bountiful and even led the Braves to a 4A state title in his senior season back in 2014. But much like his career with the Aggies, Merrill's hard work and determination wasn't initially met with opportunity.

Merrill began his sophomore season with Bountiful on the bench, but at the halfway point of the season he was given his chance to start. In that year, he only averaged 6.5 points per game and 2.6 assists.

However, former Utah State assistant coach Chris Jones took note of the young player's talents and decided to submit him an offer that following summer. Merrill committed soon after.

"I don't think he even hesitated," said Lynn Lloyd, Merrill's AAU coach of 12 years. "He was always going to play for the Aggies, no matter what. No one could talk him out of it."

In his junior campaign, Merrill soared. He averaged 18.3 points, 6.8 rebounds, 5.4 assists and 2.2 steals per game en route to being named first-team all-state by both the Deseret News and Salt Lake Tribune, as well as being awarded the Region 6 MVP. A deep playoff run ensued, but a last-second half-court heave from Aggie teammate and then-Sky View player, Jalen Moore, ended the Brave's playoff dreams despite a 35-point outing for Merrill.

"I remember that shot all too well," Merrill said.

A resurgent senior season followed, as Merrill averaged 15.8 points, 7.4 assists, 4.6 rebounds and 2.3 steals per game. He also scored 20 or more points six times and hit double digits in all but one contest.

For his high school career numbers, Merrill attracted the interest of several instate schools and a handful of Mountain West institutions. But most impressively, Stanford and Princeton reached out to Merrill in an effort to peel him away from his Utah State commitment.

But, he remained steadfast.

"I don't know if I'm smart enough for the Ivy Leagues anyway," Merrill said.

Merrill noted he already has his eyes set on an NCAA title, or at least as close as he and the Aggies can get to one. For Duryea, Merrill's goal is far from farfetched.

"I believe he can be one of the best players who will ever play for Utah State," Duryea said. "He has all of the tools and the work ethic to do so. I'm certainly glad he's playing for us, rather than against us."

As for his decision to place Merrill in the starting rotation.

"Absolutely no regrets," Duryea said. "He's only proved me right so far."

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[@TaylorJEmerson](https://twitter.com/TaylorJEmerson)

# THIS SATURDAY MEN'S BASKETBALL

VS.  
AIR FORCE  
7:00 PM



SENIOR  
NIGHT



PHOTO BY Kyle Todecheene

Sophomore Madison Ward performs her beam routine at a home meet against Boise State on Feb. 17. The Aggies fell 196.700 to 196.300.

## Aggie gymnastics tied for 20th in national RQS rankings

By Daniel Hansen  
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

The Utah State Women's Gymnastics team continues to move up the Regional Qualifying Score (RQS) rankings. After debuting at 24th in the first week of the rankings announced Monday, the Aggies have now moved into a tie for 20th in the nation with a team average of 195.595.

"It's such an honor to be ranked in the top 25," said sophomore Madison Ward. "We've all been working so hard during the preseason up until now, and to see that our hard work is paying off is great."

The Aggies have had two excellent showings to propel their move up the polls, scoring a 196.300 and a 195.700 in meets against Boise State and UCLA, respectively.

The RQS rankings are determined by a team's top six scores of the regular season, three of which must be away from home. The high score is then eliminated and the remaining five scores are averaged to obtain a team's RQS score.

"All the hard work in transforming Utah State gymnastics over the past three years is coming to fruition," said head coach Nadalie Walsh.

"We are focused on continuing to improve and keep competing well so we can hang onto, or hopefully increase this ranking, over the second half of the season."

The gymnastics team is not only ranked in the Top 25 of the overall rankings, but are also in the Top 25 of each individual event. The Aggies currently rank 25th nationally on both beam and vault, while ranking a respective 20th and 16th on floor and bars.

This is the first time the Aggies have cracked the Top 25 rankings at this point of the season since February of 2007.

Madison Ward was also ranked nationally among floor gymnasts. Her RQS score 9.880 places her 17th nationally.

"I am so grateful for all of my coaches throughout the years that have helped get me to where I am today," Ward said. "Floor is my favorite event, so to be tied for 17th nationally is a huge accomplishment to me."

The gymnastics team next faces a quad meet hosted by No. 15 Nebraska this Saturday at 6 pm. No. 20 California and Southeastern Missouri will also compete.

— [daniel.b.hansen@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:daniel.b.hansen@aggiemail.usu.edu)

[@TheGrandDanny](https://twitter.com/TheGrandDanny)

## Aggies hold on late in home victory

By Paige Cavaness  
SENIOR SPORTS WRITER

Utah State women's basketball defeated the San Jose State Spartans Wednesday night 82-78 in Logan. Just one home game away from the conference tournament, the Aggies extended their home record to 11-4, fifth in the conference.

The game was close until an Aggie run opened a 20-point lead with four minutes left in the first half. Credit for that lead goes mostly to Deja Mason, who scored 10 points and tallied six rebounds, and Rachel Brewster, who had 16 points in the opening half.

The biggest threat to the Aggies on the night was the Spartans' Dezz Ramos, who scored 20 of her team's 33 first-half points.

The Aggies saw the first signs of trouble in the third quarter when a strong Spartan performance on the board forced a two-and-a-half minute scoring drought. That dry spell allowed the USU lead to dwindle to just 10 at the end of the third quarter. San Jose State completed the comeback around the six-minute mark of the final stanza thanks to a 3-pointer from Ramos.

The score wobbled between a one and two point difference for the next three minutes until two hook shots from under

the basket from freshman Hailey Bassett gave the Aggies to a 73-68 lead. During those three minutes and following, the Spartans saw a 4:33 scoring drought, highlighted by leading scorer Ramos's 0-4 shooting performance in that time.

With under a minute to go, it remained a two-possession game until Olivia West made it to the foul line and sunk both shots to give the Aggies a 77-69 lead.

A Spartan 3-pointer brought it to 77-72 with 41 seconds to go. Olivia West got to the line in a bonus situation and made both her shots, but SJSU's Taylor Turney followed up with a made jump shot and extra point due to a foul by Eliza West.

Brewster got to the line shortly after and made both her shots, bringing the lead to 81-75, but Ramos cut that to 81-78 with a 3-pointer with 12 seconds left in the game.

Eliza West scored the last point of the game at the line and solidified a USU victory 82-78.

Overall the Aggies out-rebounded San Jose State 52-39. Brewster led the team with 22 points and Ramos led the game with 37 points.

— [paige.cav@hotmail.com](mailto:paige.cav@hotmail.com)

[@sportsPaige94](https://twitter.com/sportsPaige94)



PHOTOS BY Chantelle McCall

(Above) Sophomore center Deja Mason passes around a Spartan defender. (Below) Sophomore guard Rachel Brewster drives against the Spartan defender.

**"Accusations" FROM PAGE 1**

"We live in a culture where it's the woman's fault."

James Swink, the Cache County attorney, said in a press conference that of the nine women who reported their incidents, one chose not to move forward with prosecution and another did not have enough evidence to prove a charge.

However, charges were not filed against Green until July 2016, when The Salt Lake Tribune published the allegations.

Since then, Green has been charged with seven counts of sex crimes, and his NFL career ended when he was cut after the allegations were revealed.

Green is currently being held in the Cache County Jail. His hearing will take place from March 29-31, when Judge Brian Cannell will hear arguments from Green's attorney, Skye Lazaro, and Cache County Prosecutor Spencer Walsh.

If Green is found guilty of all seven charges, he faces a maximum penalty of life in prison.

— [alisonberg28@gmail.com](mailto:alisonberg28@gmail.com)  
 @Alison\_Berg

If you have experienced a sexual assault, resources are available.

The Utah State University Sexual Assault and Anti-Violence Information office can be contacted at 435-797-1510

The Citizens Against Physical and Sexual Abuse, a community resource, can be contacted at 435-753-2500



Merrill is the tenth woman to come forward with accusations against Green. However, she did not report her case to the police and Green is not facing charges related to this incident. PHOTO BY Matt Halton

**"Lobbying" FROM PAGE 2**

Legislature to officially declare a mental health crisis across the state for all public college students last Friday. They fought to pass House Concurrent Resolution 16, sponsored by Rep. Edward Redd, by sitting down and meeting with legislators and raising awareness about the issue.

Molly Van Engelenhoven, Utah State University Student Association Natural resources senator, informed Senator Brian Shiozawa (R) about the bill.

"It takes anywhere between four to six weeks to get counselor at USU," Van Engelenhoven said.

"How long?" asked Shiozawa, as he scribbled notes on his yellow note-taking pad.

"Four to six," Van Engelenhoven said. "For me, I've dealt with depression, anxiety and suicide since I was 12... I'm honestly really glad to be here because for a long while I didn't want to be."

Van Engelenhoven said the only way she was able to get past her mental health issues during her time at USU was by going to see a counselor, even though it wasn't a USU counselor. The wait is just too long.

Redd said he initially wanted the mental health resolution to address the lack of therapists at USU.

"But then we get down here and the budget is like... it's not there," he said.

The state budget, which is divvied up during the legislative session, is made up of money

from taxes. The more economic growth the state experiences the year before, the more extra funding legislators can allocate.

But there wasn't a lot of growth in the state, so there's not a lot of extra money, which means the state can't help fund extra therapists for college students.

"If you can't hire new people right this minute, what else can you do in the meantime?" Redd asked.

Other than the limited budget, Redd said another challenge the resolution faces is in raising awareness about the problem and addressing the stigma as a problem. Once politicians are aware of the mental health issues, then they can start asking "What can we do?"

"But if you don't speak up about issues you're facing, how can legislators know how to help you?" Redd said.

Another issue with the resolution is it doesn't enact long-lasting change, said Ty Aller, USUSA graduate senator. Aller is also a counselor in the local area. He's one of the people who spearheaded the mental health movement a couple of years ago.

If passed, the resolution offers two solutions. First, it would raise awareness about the state of Utah's mental health; second, it would create a council that's dedicated to facilitating conversations regarding mental health. For example, if USU has a really successful mental health campaign — like Mental Health Week — the resolution would allow other higher education institutions to copy, share and



PHOTO BY Morgan Pratt, a counselor.

Molly Van Engelenhoven, USU's college of natural resources senator, says she was only able to get past her mental health issues by seeing a counselor.

cultivate ideas that address the mental health crisis.

"It's a complicated issue where there's no one silver bullet," Aller said.

The biggest issue is, Utah's mental health emergency doesn't just impact college students — Utahns from all walks of life are also facing this crisis.

"I actually lost my best friend to suicide when I was in high school," said Rachael Fresh, the USUSA student alumni vice president. "I'm coming up on the fifth year anniversary and it's very much on the surface."

Even though it was hard for her to lose her

best friend, Fresh turned that pain into a passion — she wants to confront mental health problems.

"Now to see it happening in the state is the most amazing thing," she said. "Being here is a dream come true."

The resolution is expected to be voted on the Senate in the coming weeks. After that, it's expected to be signed into law by Gov. Gary Herbert.

—[morgan.pratt.robinson@gmail.com](mailto:morgan.pratt.robinson@gmail.com)

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**(Not) Desperate for love**

My Valentine's Day date was a book. Not just any book. This was a book I found at a little bookstore. It wrapped in brown paper and had a short bio written on it that gave me a vague idea of what it was going to be about. It was a blind date with a book.

For some reason, I love the idea of a blind date book. It encouraged me to pick something from the shelf I normally wouldn't choose. That book now has a special place in my heart thanks to the adventure it took me on and the way I found it. There's something exciting about the idea of curling up by myself on Valentine's Day with a bag of popcorn and a warm blanket, just to read.

It's also so comforting to take that time to be by myself on a day that seems so stressful otherwise.

Valentine's Day has become such a big deal. There's so much social pressure to be romantic and if you don't do anything, you're seen as a cheapskate or not caring enough. It was a big deal even in elementary school when we decorated boxes for treats and cards that had little messages written on them and every person in the class needed to get one so they didn't feel left out.

Now, couples are expected to give each other chocolate, flowers or expensive gifts, and go out to fancy restaurants where tons of other couples are doing the same thing. There's also this stigma labeling those who don't have dates for Feb 14 as unwanted, ugly or lonely people. It's either that or they're strong independent people making a statement.

I honestly find the idea of this holiday absurd.

I get it. In a college setting where everyone is so busy with school, Valentine's Day is a great opportunity to spend time with that special someone and show them how much you care. But in a culture so oriented toward finding a forever partner and creating a family, it's also a reminder for single people that they haven't found that special someone yet.

I've known people who would worry about why they weren't in a relationship yet. Was there something wrong with them? Were they giving off the wrong vibes? Are they not

attractive enough, or smart enough or witty enough? These worries always get worse this time of year as everyone is scrambling to make date plans.

The thing is, maybe you just aren't in that stage of life right now. Okay, so you haven't found the love of your life yet. That doesn't mean you won't, someday. But this also doesn't mean that you need to settle for the first person who shows interest in you because you don't know when your next opportunity will be.

That is not what I want from my life. I may be perpetually single, but I don't feel like I'm failing at living just because I don't have a significant other in my life. I have other priorities, like school, work, me. Sure, it would be nice to have someone to go with me to the movies, or surprise me with flowers or food, but I'm not desperately searching to fill a void in my life.

I'm okay with being alone. I like being alone, being me. I also like spending time with friends and making connections with others without the stress of trying to learning if I'm romantically compatible with someone.

That doesn't mean I don't want to date and get married. I do. I'm just not worried I haven't found someone I want to share such a large part of my life with yet. It will happen, eventually. But for now, I'm still learning who I am and what I want from life. That's what my 20s are for after all, right?

For all of you single people out there, wondering why you were alone this Valentine's Day. Don't worry. It's just a day that has been commercialized far beyond its pagan and historical origins which people use as an excuse to remind their loved ones of their feelings. Other than that, it's just a day. Love and relationships, friends and family, they are what matter and they don't depend on the days of the calendar year.

— *Miranda Lorenc is a strong, independent young woman who's also a big nerd that likes books and video games. She is a senior double majoring in biology and English technical communication.*

*lormialor@gmail.com*

*The following letters to the editor were written in response to another letter submitted on Tuesday regarding whether or not USU students should voice their dissenting opinions about members of the LGBT community.*

**We should feel safe**

As USU students we should feel safe to come to class

In the case of LGBTQ individuals feeling "safe" has not been the norm. What Chelsea advocated for is a return to the "norm". A norm that advocates for the discrimination of people based on who they are. she is coming from a perspective of always being in the majority, and now that equality is finally gaining momentum she feels threatened. Furthermore, she is advocating against a core principle of this country, a separation of church and state. Those core beliefs that she mentions are firmly based in religion and therefore have no merit in a state facility or in the law system of the United States of America. I have always been perplexed as to why people feel that they need to impose their religious beliefs on everyone else (I am a heterosexual male, the bible tells me that I should be a heterosexual male, therefore everyone should be a heterosexual male and we should stone those who are not). LGBTQ activists are not asking you to be gay or to be bi or lesbian they are simply asking you to accept them for who they are. Whether you agree with their lifestyle or not is not the point. You have your right to believe whatever you want but you do not have the right to suppress others. People should be free to choose how they want to live their lives without the fear that others are going to persecute them for it. Some may believe that LGBTQ lifestyles are morally wrong but that does not give them the right to oppress them. I think what the writer of "As USU students we should feel safe to disagree in class, right?" fundamentally does not understand is that

members of the LGBTQ community have lived in fear for generations. They are only now finding the courage to stand up for not only their beliefs but their rights as individuals. I don't know where the author got her 60% figure but the fact that we are even talking about this issue in class tells me that the percentage of students who disagree with being "welcoming and tolerant" to those in the LGBTQ community is much less than 60%. In fact, by claiming this fact she is in effect trying to use peer pressure to initiate a response from a greater number of students who oppose any form of acceptance of LGBTQ students by inferring that her beliefs are in fact in the majority (which since tolerance of LGBTQ people is still as issue is most likely the case). In addition, she is publicly shaming people for being accepting and welcoming to new ideas and praising those who won't even come to the table. The LGBTQ community has been "STANDING" for something that isn't popular for a long time and even still have trouble being welcomed, accepted, and even tolerated in schools, in public, and in the world. Continuing to support the authors rhetoric only continues to hurt good people and separate communities. It's time to be more accepting and open to other people, cultures, and Identities. You can believe what you want but please don't dismiss something purely because you disagree with it. Take a minute listen and try to understand where the other person is coming from before racing to judge and condemn.

— *Bret N. Mossman*

**Tolerate. Let's listen**

Dear author,  
I believe you misinterpreted the LGBTQA representative's goal of speaking to your class. I'll admit I wasn't there, but you said yourself the representative wanted to speak to the class about "how to be more welcoming and tolerant of those of all different sexual preferences and orientations". Assuming that is all the representative talked about, I don't see how you and your like-minded classmates were pressured into giving up your personal values. Being asked to be welcoming and tolerant towards somebody who goes against your beliefs and values is not asking you to change who you are and it is not asking you to agree with them; it is asking you to be a decent human being towards your fellow decent human beings. Standing up for your beliefs and values when they are being directly attacked is one thing, but being asked to be respectful towards someone who lives a different life than you is not an attack. We're simply asking you to be tolerant.

tol-er-ate: allow the existence, occurrence, or practice of (something that one does not necessarily like or agree with) without interference.

From your fellow decent human being,  
— *Rhiannon Bottemer*



Letters can be hand-delivered or mailed to The Statesman the TSC, Room 311, or can be emailed to [statesman@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:statesman@aggiemail.usu.edu), or click [www.utahstatesman.com](http://www.utahstatesman.com) for more letter guidelines and a box to submit letters.

I was concerned by a recent letter to the editor shaming fellow students for walking out of a presentation on being "tolerant of those [with] different sexual preferences and orientations." I understand that LGBTQA issues can be divisive and emotional, and I wholeheartedly respect the right of students to have differing opinions. However, a couple of problems stand out in this letter to the editor.

First of all, what's so scary about being tolerant of sexual minorities? While I wasn't present during the presentation mentioned in the letter, but I doubt students were being forced to condone behavior they feel uncomfortable with (if they were, that would be a different matter). LGBTQA people often face issues of bullying and not feeling accepted. Suicide is also a real problem in the LGBTQA community, especially in Utah. While you may not agree with the way LGBTQA people live, you can give them your empathy and compassion. You can maintain your personal values while also acknowledging the validity of other people's desire for respect and understanding.

Part of the university experience is encountering new perspectives and ways of life, some of which you may not support. But living with people you disagree with is part of life. The author of the letter is right—you should voice your opinion politely, but you should also listen and realize that self-righteousness won't get you very far. Walking out of the room every time you hear something you disagree with or that makes you uncomfortable will only polarize our community. Let's listen to each other instead.

— *Anders Hart*



# B

## BACKBURNER

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## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23

**National Banana Bread Day**  
The Hub, ABCB, Luke's Cafe on the Quad  
Free, 7 a.m.

**Utah Quilt Guild 40th Anniversary Exhibition**  
Brigham City Museum  
Free, 11 a.m.

**Overcoming Writers Block**  
Utah State University  
Free, 12:30 p.m.

**An Evening of British Song**  
USU Performance Hall  
Free, 7:30 p.m.

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24

**Utah Quilt Guild 40th Anniversary Exhibition**  
Brigham City Museum  
Free, 11 a.m.

**Hardware Ranch WMA Sleigh Rides**  
Hardware Ranch  
\$3-\$5, 10 a.m.

**Better Teeth for Tijuana Hypnotist Charity Event**  
USU Business Building #215  
\$4-\$9, 7 p.m.

**Wind Orchestra & Symphonic Band Concert**  
Morgan Theatre  
Free, 7:30 p.m.

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

**February Market**  
Warehouse  
Free, 10 a.m.

**Music Therapy Open House**  
Thomas Edison Charter School  
Free, 1 p.m.

**USU Men's Basketball**  
Dee Glen Smith Spectrum  
\$7-\$40, 7 p.m.

**The Atlas Grove**  
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\$8, 7 p.m.

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

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*Candidate profiles are the work of the candidates themselves and have been left in their original form.*

# PRESIDENT

**RACHAEL FRESH – JUNIOR**  
COMMUNICATION STUDIES



**PLATFORM:** I will impact our University by utilizing our diversity to educate and unite our Aggies to improve their health, safety, and happiness.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- USUSA VP of Student Alumni (2016-2017)
- USUSA Mental Health Committee Member (2016-2017)
- Student Affairs Student Advisory Board Member (2016-2017)
- USUSA President’s Cabinet (2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016)
- USUSA Aggie Blue Leadership Conference Facilitator/Committee Member (2014, 2016)

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Create a Mental Health Awareness and Sexual Assault Prevention education plan. Organizations will be rewarded for becoming QPR and Bystander trained.
- Increase Diversity within the USUSA leadership by reconstructing the President’s Cabinet to allow Clubs and Organizations to hold a specified seat.
- Provide an opportunity for freshmen to join a group designated to learning about the opportunities at Utah State.

**SAWYER HEMSLEY – SENIOR**  
COMMUNICATION STUDIES



**PLATFORM:** We are “Golden Together” as we increase involvement/officer visibility, improve resources for mental health and sexual assault, raise awareness of inclusivity and diversity and create the leaders of our future!

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- USUSA Student Events VP & The Statesman’s 50 Most Influential People (2015-2016)
- Started, operated and sold the company label EMBR (2015-2016)
- A-Team (2013-2015)
- USUSA President’s Cabinet (2013-2014)
- Preston High School Student Body President (2009-2010)

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Revamp ‘Get Involved’ Campaign: Involvement ambassadors, restructure info booth, install digital calendar, advance USU Events App.
- Increase Officer Visibility: Facebook/Instagram live streams, bi-weekly town hall meetings, and ‘Know Your Officer’ events.
- Advocate to Advance Mental Health/Sexual Assault Awareness Campaigns: Start speaker series, promote Crisis Text Line.
- Launch Campus Inclusivity/Diversity Campaign: Advocate for all student minority groups, initiate inclusivity/diversity team.
- Implement a Leadership Development Program: Create leadership opportunities, provide experiential learning and skill training.

### **MICHAEL SCOTT PETERS – JUNIOR** INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS + MARKETING



**PLATFORM:** As President, I will advance student health, advocate equality, increase idea sharing, promote events, and enrich the cultural experience. Together, we will help everyone belong in the Aggie family!

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- President's Cabinet Representative (USUSA Experience)
- A-Team Peer Mentor (Student Empowerment)
- Huntsman Scholar (Policy Advancement)
- Diversity Cabinet Advocate (Campus Inclusion)
- Business Ambassador (Opportunity Promotion)

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Advance Mental Health Services & Awareness: We will sponsor Mental Health Awareness Week and collaborate with the State Legislature.
- Advocate Equality: We will create a community where sexual assault is not tolerated and survivors are supported.
- Increase Idea Sharing: We will host "Parfaits with the President" to improve relations between USUSA officers and the student body.
- Promote Student Events: We will revamp the USU Mobile App to publicize events and encourage involvement.
- Enrich the Cultural Experience: We will recognize students through the President's Scholarship Program for helping #EveryoneBelong.

## ATHLETICS + CAMPUS REC. VP

### **JAKOB AMBUEHL – JUNIOR** RELIGIOUS STUDIES



**PLATFORM:** Unite the student body through athletic and campus recreational activities to instill school spirit, better the game day experience, and exemplify what it means to be an Aggie family.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Current Social Media Director for the Hurd Committee 2016-2017
- Current USU Athletics Fee Board Member 2016-2017
- Recipient of the President's Award in the Hurd Committee 2015-2016
- Hurd Committee Member of the year 2015-2016
- The one and only Living Scotsman

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Bridge the gap between the student body and USU Athletics.
- Create a game day atmosphere that compels our fan base to come to games, whether we win or lose.
- Increase student attendance at women's sports.
- Grow the relationships between student athletes and the student body and allow them to interact more.
- Streamline the Hurd Committee and continue to build up its professionalism.

# EXECUTIVE VP

**BLAKE HARMS – JUNIOR**  
COMMUNICATION STUDIES + POLITICAL SCIENCE



**PLATFORM:** Vote for ideas not looks!

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Undergraduate Teaching Fellow -- Public Speech
- A-Team Peer Mentor
- Director of Education & Outreach Student Alumni Association
- Merrill Scholar -- Political Science
- USUSA Volunteer since 2012

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Work with the faculty senate to create policy mandating diversity training for all recruiting and orientation groups.
- Create a quasi-mentor program in connection with SAA that would connect students with Alumni working in their field of interest.
- Fix waitlist policy by creating a ‘grass-roots’ system to organize additional sections for courses in high-demand.
- Advocate for a paradigm shift in how USUSA leaders use their volunteers’ time.
- Use faculty senate networks to incentivize ‘real-world’ coursework. (i.e. Dr Lyons mock senate class).

**DALLIN JOHNSON – JUNIOR**  
ECONOMICS + INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS



**PLATFORM:** As Executive VP, I will be a passionate advocate for pushing forward mental health initiatives, building cohesiveness between our colleges, and expanding learning opportunities outside the classroom.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Executive, organizational, and involvement experience as President of USUSA’s Blue Crew.
- Academic experience in the College of Science and the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business.
- Budgeting experience as Finance VP of USU’s Sigma Phi Epsilon chapter.
- Volunteer, research, and policy experience in the Huntsman Scholars program.
- Managerial experience as co-founder of an employment seminar in Newcastle, South Africa.

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Be a passionate advocate for mental health awareness and initiatives.
- Build stronger cohesiveness between colleges, clubs, and organizations.
- Expand learning opportunities outside the classroom.
- Cultivate a positive, welcoming culture within USUSA.
- Support the President in pushing forward his/her initiatives.

# ELECTIONS SCHEDULE

## PRIMARY ELECTIONS

Monday, February 27th 7:00 am-Tuesday, February 28th at 3:00 pm

## FINAL ELECTIONS

Wednesday, March 1st 7:00 am-Thursday, March 2nd 8:00 pm

## NEWLY ELECTED OFFICER ANNOUNCEMENT

Friday, March 3rd at 12:00 pm TSC Lounges

[VOTE.USU.EDU](http://VOTE.USU.EDU)



**USUSA**  
UtahStateUniversity.  
STUDENT ASSOCIATION



# ORGANIZATIONS + CAMPUS DIVERSITY VP

**GERALDINE DE LA MOTA – SENIOR  
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS**



**PLATFORM:** To create an environment where all the diverse groups on campus are known. To help them have an impact in our community and to set in motion the Diversity Newsletter.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- International Students Council Events Coordinator VP
- Diversity Cabinet Member
- Clubs Portal Web Director under USUSA
- Dominican Students Association Vice President
- Global Affairs Committee

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Unity between all USU Clubs & Organizations as a key to grow and develop their reach, membership and campus-awareness.
- Provide a variety of communication channels, significant resources and structured support to Clubs & Organizations.
- Instigate an environment of inclusion, nurturance and no discrimination with the International and Diversity communities.
- Set in motion a Diversity Newsletter as an outlet for Clubs & Organizations to present events and highlights to all Aggies.
- Build stronger relationships between Organizations, Diversity and USUSA Clubs by being a thorough, readily available resource.

**STEPHAINE COLLIER – JUNIOR  
LAW + CONSTITUTION**



**PLATFORM:** To bring together and more fully appreciate all forms of diversity be it race, religion, or culture and implement new ideas to strengthen student involvement throughout Utah State University.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- I come from a bilingual family and understand the importance of being united.
- I have maintained a 3.91 GPA while being a part of President’s Cabinet, Blue Crew, Traditions Committee, and CHASS council.
- I know that Utah sometimes has a stereotype and I want to break that.
- I know how to lead but I also know how to delegate and make everyone feel appreciated.

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- I will make the Portal for clubs more clear. Club leaders will be required to email members who click join on the portal.
- I will make club meetings more beneficial.
- I love that Luis has a diversity cabinet and I will continue this and strengthen the cabinet.
- I will have fundraisers to provide scholarships to students in clubs and organizations .
- The clubs, access and diversity are separate, I will unify them so that they may support each other.

**PAULINA RIVERA-SOTO – SOPHOMORE  
POLITICAL SCIENCE**



**PLATFORM:** I pledge to assure all students feel adequately represented. I hope to add to the Aggie experience by promoting diversity, tolerance, and respect throughout our campus and community.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Community advocate for inclusion of those with disabilities and STEM programs in high schools.
- As a female Hispanic who has grown up in this valley, I feel I am able to identify with many different groups of students.
- As Miss International (USU) I understand the importance of conducting myself in a professional and cordial manner at all times.
- Instructed students in Latin America on how to stimulate education in underrepresented communities.

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Combat stereotypes in order to counteract misconceptions about groups of students on campus.
- Encourage cooperation among student organizations to foster unity.
- Strengthen tolerance of differences by promoting a positive message about the importance of diversity.
- Increase awareness and visibility of organizations as a way to further student involvement.

**CHELSEA YOSHIKAWA – JUNIOR  
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS**



**PLATFORM:** I will meet the needs of diverse students by increasing resources and connecting students to organizations across campus by increasing visibility and accessibility of both diversity organizations and clubs.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- 2016-2017 USUSA Clubs and Organizations Activities Director.
- Elected Japanese American Ambassador Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) – Promotes international relations and diversity.
- USU Student Ambassador - Recruit and represent USU for prospective students.
- By working closely with the current USUSA Diversity VP I understand the position and know how I can make the biggest difference.
- Being a Japanese American student growing up outside of Utah, I understand and relate to the needs of diverse students.

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Initiate/organize an Alumni base for International Students to instill mentorship program and scholarship funding for students.
- Start biannual recruiting event for all diversity organizations for diversity to increase membership.
- Improve the Club Portal to be accessible to current students and work with A-Team to promote clubs to incoming students.
- Initiating Celebration of Diversity campaign and awareness to celebrate diversity of students and focus on accepting everyone
- Promoting and featuring an organization and event from USU each week through social media.

# STUDENT ADVOCATE VP

**BRIDGET BALDWIN – JUNIOR**  
**ENGLISH + POLITICAL SCIENCE**



**PLATFORM:** USU Students are first priority and deserve a voice actively advocating for them to USU Administration and Utah Lawmakers. I will diligently seek out and see to student concern.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Administrative Assistant to the Government Relations Council
- A-Team Peer Mentor
- Assistant Director of the Arts and Lectures Committee
- Involvement Coordinator on CHASS Council
- Utah State Legislative Intern

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Follow in the steps of past Student Advocate VPs to secure funding for better mental health treatment on campus.
- Actively seek out student needs. I will approach students through polls, town halls, and forums to better understand needs.
- Better represent student affairs and needs to USU Administration.
- Represent and voice diverse student interests to Utah lawmakers, both at the state and local level.

# SERVICE VP

**TODD BROWN – SOPHOMORE**  
**HUMAN MOVEMENT SCIENCE**



**PLATFORM:** I will allow USU students to experience the growth and change that comes from selfless service through effective advertising, networking, and new opportunities to create memorable and valuable college experiences.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- USUSA Service VP (16-17)
- Special Olympics Secretary (15-16)
- Best Buddies Activity Chair (15-16)
- Beards for Cancer Council Member (15-17)
- Aggie Blue Facilitator (2016).

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Promote the Service Center through effective advertising .
- Collaborate with more organizations around campus.
- Allow the Service Center to become an inviting environment and help students find where they are valued at Utah State.
- Bring back traditional service activities to help more students get involved in service.

# WHAT'S ON THE DOCKET?

BY KORTNI WELLS

Spring is in the air and so are the Utah State University Student Association elections for the 2017-18 school year. On the docket for the ballot are several different candidates with Platforms to improve Utah State, a new student fee, as well as constitutional changes placed before the students that will appear on the final ballot.

## CAPS Fee

One of the most important issues of consideration for Utah State students is a student fee increase for the Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) center. The Executive Council recently started its VOTE YES campaign.

"A new student fee was proposed and recently accepted by the fee board," said USUSA president Ashley Waddoups, "which will go directly to the student body for a vote on the final ballot."

Together with the President's Cabinet and the Government Relations Council, the Executive Council is seeking to educate students on the matter of mental health in our university, as well as at the state level. "Over the past few years, the CAPS center has been experiencing long wait times for students. These students facing anxiety and depression are waiting an intense time, four to six weeks, to be seen. There is simply not enough staff for the number of students seeking help," said Matthew Clewett, student advocate vice president.

This fee, if passed, will increase student fees by \$3.50 to help hire a new psychologist for CAPS. A team comprised of Waddoups, Clewett, graduate studies senator Ty Aller and many others composed a statewide resolution with Representative Ed Redd at the Utah State Capitol.

"The resolution just recently passed the House 72-0 and will be moving to the appropriate senate committee in the next week," Waddoups said.

With the seven full-time counselors and one part-time counselor at Utah State, and with the 18,000 students to whom the center is available, there simply aren't enough counselors to cover the growing mental health needs of the university.

Those who have committed all of their efforts to this process have learned much they feel is worth sharing with the entire student body.

"It's a fun process, being able to work on this resolution from the very beginning. Drafting a piece of legislation that means something to you as an individual and watching the process is a crazy feeling," Clewett said.

Although this fee won't be enough for the needs the Executive Council would like to meet, it is enough to cut wait times, even if by a little bit. "If students clearly take a stand and truly state that we are behind this issue and the Aggie family 100 percent and show that students are taken care of, this will resonate at a university, state and national level as well, which is what we are aiming for," Clewett said.

As students consider these changes and fees, the Executive Council offers encouragement. "This fee is a new student fee, which means that while on the ballot, it is still up to the students to decide, considering they are the ones that will be putting their money forward. Know what you are voting for. This is a fee that will be beneficial for our students. We encourage you to vote yes," Waddoups said.



## Initiatives:

There are three main initiatives that will be up to the discretion of the students, including a name change to the Arts and Lectures committee chair, a change in the way representatives are selected and some grammatical changes. These are three separate initiatives that students can vote on in this years USUSA election.

## Arts and Lectures Series:

The Arts and Lecture committee has developed into something a little bit more broad. In the past, members of the Caine College of the Arts directed the Arts and Lecture series but that partnership is no longer valid, which initiated the need for change.

"This title change reflects what they can do, but doesn't restrict what they can't do. It also allows for more creativity," said Ryan Jensen, the student events vice president.

The proposed name change from Arts and Lectures Director to "Series Director," will allow for the position title to accurately fit the job description.

"This will also allow the name change to be able to reflect what the position actually does now," said Linda Zimmerman, the di-

rector of the Student Involvement and Leadership Center.

## Regional campus representative:

USU's regional campuses are hoping to change the way their representatives are selected. Currently, each regional campus has vice presidents and representatives. This constitution change will move toward proposing that these positions become appointed positions instead of elected positions.

For 2017, the way representatives are chosen will remain the same but if this measure passes on the final ballot, further years will be affected.

## Grammatical Changes:

The proposed grammatical changes are simply to remain transparent and to keep the constitution up to date to reflect that.

"To someone looking at a ballot, confused on what these changes are about, and although they may not be huge, do the research behind them, make an informed decision, and make your vote count," Jensen said.

— kortni.marie.wells@aggie-mail.usu.edu

🐦 @kortniwells

# STUDENT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION VP

**BRENDON BRADY – JUNIOR**  
JOURNALISM



**PLATFORM:** I will work to create a successful college experience for students and always strive to make students into lifelong Aggies.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Current member of the SAA executive council
- Former member of the SAA traditions committee (2015-2016)
- Member of the President’s Cabinet (2015-2017)
- Current member of the CHaSS council

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Make SAA accessible to all students.
- Improve relations with other involvement groups on campus.
- Continue to collaborate with college senators and their councils.
- Solidify the student giving branch of SAA.
- Continue working on the new “Block A”.

# STUDENT EVENTS VP

**JOSEPH ARATARI – SOPHOMORE**  
UNDECLARED



**PLATFORM:** As student event VP I will fight to ensure student voices are heard by strengthening the volunteer and networking opportunities, so everyone finds their place in the Aggie Family.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Student Events Traditions Committee Member
- Student Alumni Association Social Media Director
- Aggie Blue Facilitator
- Student Events Activities Committee Member
- Active Volunteer within Student Events Office since day one of my Freshman Year

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Shape events around what students want and need to be able to feel a part of the Aggie Family.
- Give back to the students so they have opportunities to be involved by maintaining and strengthening the Student Events Office.
- Reestablish open meetings to create an environment where students and volunteers feel unified and connected to Utah State.
- Expand the outreach of Blue Crew within the university and to high schools as an organization for recruitment and volunteering.
- Create a council to unify diverse groups, organizations, and plan student events in order to ensure that all voices are heard.

**STERLING MARTIN – SOPHOMORE  
MARKETING**



**PLATFORM:** No longer will students have to be “in the loop” to know about events. Events and gatherings will be made public. Student Events Office will be for the students and their events.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Humble and willing to listen to the ideas of others.
- Good facilitator and leader of groups.
- Very well organized and time oriented.
- Social and outgoing.
- Always thinking of ways to improve.

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Partner student events office with on campus organization events.
- Bring more awareness and publicity to events put on by students through a weekly update calendar.
- Help collapse barriers by making events more inclusive.
- Unite the campus and its students through more regular simple activities.
- Facilitate involvement and leadership.

**KEATON WHITNEY – SOPHOMORE  
HUMAN MOVEMENT SCIENCE + EXERCISE SCIENCE**



**PLATFORM:** You are my Platform. You deserve complete access to events and involvement opportunities. Together we’ll bridge gaps between events, clubs, diversity, and Greek life. Let me “Connect U to USU.”

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Planned and directed all events, trainings, and typhoon cleanups for nearly 200 missionaries.
- Prepared and organized youth camps for over 200 teens.
- Ability to lead others in a humble and inclusive manner. Allowing everyone to have a part in creating something bigger.
- I am planning and detail oriented, and get a thrill by designing events and activities for others.
- I am passionate and have a deep drive to create better experience here at USU.

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Work with a team to create a central unit application, where all events and activities are posted.
- Customize an event and activity application to each individual student’s desires.
- Hold open campus meetings and incorporate student suggestion polls to put thoughts about events into action.
- Hold meetings with clubs, as well as fraternity and sorority life, to discuss involvement opportunities and marketing upcoming events.
- Create an informative environment to tailor your USU experience.

# DEBATES

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## Statesman Debate

Wednesday, March 1st

11:30 am

TSC Hub

## Presidents Debate

Wednesday, March 1st

6:00-7:00 pm

TSC Auditorium

[VOTE.USU.EDU](http://VOTE.USU.EDU)



**USUSA**  
UtahStateUniversity.  
STUDENT ASSOCIATION

# COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES + SOCIAL SCIENCE SENATOR

**GRANT BESS – JUNIOR**  
**HISTORY + ENGLISH SECONDARY EDUCATION**



**PLATFORM:** In the Humanities and Social Sciences, one thing is clear: We care about academics. Increased academic resources, activities, and working with existing clubs will help our College help us.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- CHASS Social Media Director
- Government Relations Council Member
- President’s Cabinet Member
- US Army Soldier
- Alpha Sigma Phi Sergeant at Arms

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Have more ongoing activities outside of “CHaSS Week”
- Facilitate more interaction between peers within similar fields of study planning career development opportunities.
- Work with existing clubs within the college to help students, by building a diverse council including members of existing clubs.
- Extend greater academic resources to students across majors, including advocating for the proposed Teaching and Learning Center.
- Work within the Academic Senate and Fee Board to limit increasing costs keeping fees low.

**JASON JERMAN – JUNIOR**  
**GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS + GERMAN**



**PLATFORM:** My vision is centered around the students as we continue to build upon our past and increase our involvement with events, clubs, and faculty to enhance our academic success.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- CHaSS Ambassador/Peer Advisor
- CHaSS Council Member
- LDSSA Council Member
- Positive attitude with an optimistic outlook on life.
- A love for Utah State University and its students.

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Provide opportunities for students and faculty to connect.
- Unify clubs and organization within the college.
- Execute an effective CHaSS week.
- Increase participation at college events.
- Offer added fundraiser events to support the Student-to-Student Scholarship.



# COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING SENATOR

**CLINT FERRIN – JUNIOR**  
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING



**PLATFORM:** As senator, I will increase cross-disciplinary collaboration between USU colleges. Additionally, I will enhance learning by informing students of opportunities beyond the classroom including clubs, undergraduate research, and professional conferences.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Current Vice President of the Engineering Council.
- Previous Director of the Advertising Committee for the Engineering Council.
- Received Space Dynamics Laboratory Student Scholar Award based on leadership, service, training, and a significant work project.
- Awarded the 2016 Outstanding Pre-Professional Award, representing all pre-professional electrical and computer engineers at USU.
- Participated in multiple undergraduate research projects.

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Promote collaboration between different colleges at USU.
- Increase availability of information concerning undergraduate research.
- Enhance visibility of engineering clubs.
- Establish an effective polling system for Engineering Students' opinions.
- Vote against unnecessary increases of existing and new student fees.

**ERIK OLSON – JUNIOR**  
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING



**PLATFORM:** Create a more meaningful USU experience for engineering students by advancing diversity of opportunity, empowering education, increasing student efficacy, and advancing egalitarian representation of departments.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- USU - Engineering Ambassador 2016/2017
- Arizona State University - Engineering Residential Council President
- Sigma Phi Epsilon - Vice President of Service
- American Nuclear Society - Vice President of Communications
- Ruck Leadership Institute Scholar

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Increase opportunities for diversified skills and growth via the empowerment of student organizations and professional societies.
- Implement forum for senior feedback of their educational experience.
- Increase opportunities for students to interact with the department heads and dean of the College.
- Utilize E-council to ensure that all departments are equally represented.
- Diversify professional development opportunities to better prepare and educate engineering students for their careers

**DALLIN POLSON – JUNIOR**  
**CIVIL ENGINEERING**



**PLATFORM:** As senator, I will strive to influence students to not just receive a degree, but an invaluable experience that will take them to places they aspire to be at.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Member of USU Steel Bridge Build Team, actively involved to help the Aggies take 1st in Regionals, and reach Nationals.
- Member of ANS, lobbied to the State Legislature to help grow awareness of the advantages of modern Nuclear Power.
- Summer Civil Engineering intern for Forsgren Associates.
- TA for ENGR 2270, supervised the students' success in the course.
- Volunteered two years to serve those in need in Milan, Italy

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Welcome students to speak to me with their concerns, so that I can act as their voice to the Dean, and the University.
- Continue to push Industry Tours, and help educate students to know what working as an engineer is really like
- I will work with the Dean and fight to maintain differential tuition as low as possible
- Install more electrical strips in the Engineering Building study room and increasing study area

**QUINNEY COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES SENATOR**

**REBECCA THOMAS – JUNIOR**  
**CONSERVATION + RESTORATION ECOLOGY**



**PLATFORM:** As the QCNR Senator my main focus would be to inspire a greater sense of unity between the students of the QCNR and the rest of USU.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Leadership experience with USUSA.
- Event planning experience.
- Excellent communication skills and reliable.

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Advocate for the beliefs and values of QCNR students in the Academic Senate.
- Increase University involvement in QCNR events, such as NR Week and the Loggers Ball.
- Encourage involvement of QCNR students in USUSA sponsored events and organizations.
- Partner with the USUSA Student Events office to strive for zero waste in future USUSA events.
- Create further transparency between USU students and the Fee Board.

# JON M. HUNTSMAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS SENATOR

**TESS ARNOLD – JUNIOR**  
**BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION + MARKETING**



**PLATFORM:** Open doors for Huntsman School of Business students by creating opportunities to explore passions, prepare for careers, and give back to the community. Our future is now.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Business Council Service Vice President
- Women in Business Association Club Business
- Huntsman Scholar, Fundamentals of Marketing TA, Global Learning Experience Asia, and Domo PR Intern.
- Big Brothers Big Sisters, Honors House RA, SAA Traditions Committee, Blue Goes Green Huntsman Representative.

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Explore-Establish business acumen elective course options, so students can explore passions and gain applicable business skills
- Prepare-Increase student engagement in Exploration Trips, Focused Fridays & Student Clubs to prepare students for future careers
- Develop-Work with faculty to expand resume, mock-interview, and professionalism workshops to help student development
- Collaborate-Work with leaders to foster collaboration and student engagement by posting club events to the Huntsman calendar
- Give-Work with the Service Center, other colleges, and Huntsman donors to create monthly hands-on service projects

**JACOB CLAYSON – SENIOR**  
**BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION + MARKETING**



**PLATFORM:** Actively advocate for student success, meaningful involvement, and higher academic achievement through facilitating opportunities and focusing on the Huntsman's four pillars: Ethical Leadership, Entrepreneurial Spirit, Analytical Rigor, and Global Vision.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- 2 years Snow College Ambassador, 2 years USU Ambassador.
- Interpersonal skills from working with freshmen and current students.
- Background in planning, budgeting, and executing events.
- Mentor to freshmen ambassadors.

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Expand Focus Friday's and off-campus career explorations.
- Start a weekly "Huntsman Study Hall".
- Increase club awareness, Huntsman Passport Events, and service in the community.
- Build a culture on the four pillars of Ethical Leadership, Entrepreneurial Spirit, Analytical Rigor, and Global Vision.
- Show the value in differential tuition and allocate college budget efficiently for effective change.

**CODY DAVIS – SENIOR**  
**BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**



**PLATFORM:** As Business Senator, I will promote the Huntsman Difference. I will accomplish this goal by increasing the value each student perceives that the Huntsman Business School delivers.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Member of the President’s Cabinet
- A-Team Peer Mentor
- College of Education Student Council
- Pre-Physical Therapy Club Presidency

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Increase focus on activities, service, the use of Huntsman Hall, and improving relationships with other colleges.
- Appoint Business Council Members to serve over each department to streamline communication between faculty and students.
- Create monthly meetings with club presidents to build communication and unity amongst clubs in the Huntsman School of Business.
- Invite students to have a Huntsman Experience by increasing student awareness of Focus Friday, Business Week, and other events.
- Improve marketing of club and college activiteis through weekly emails, the updated USU App, and other marketing resources.

**DILLON GUZZLE – JUNIOR**  
**FINANCE, MANAGEMENT INFO. SYSTEMS**



**PLATFORM:** By utilizing the many resources made available by the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business, we strive to pave the road to success for all its students.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- VP of Recruitment, Sigma Phi Epsilon
- VP of Recruitment, USU Interfraternity Council
- Participant in E-Club, Finance and Economics Club
- Volunteer - Best Buddies USU, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Loaves and Fishes
- Events Programming Associate, Strata Policy

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Create a personalized roadmap for students in all business majors and minors.
- Establish an Inter-Club Council for business school clubs.
- Create a page for students to find all club information.
- Increase startup interest through entrepreneur networking/info events.
- Continue to connect students with recruiting professionals through networking/info events.

**EMMA ECCLES JONES COLLEGE OF EDU. + HUMAN SERVICES SENATOR**

**JESSICA BARTHOLOMEW – JUNIOR  
SPECIAL EDUCATION**



**PLATFORM:** As senator, I will be accessible and eager to serve CEHS students, instill unity and support within the respected clubs and organizations and initiate improvements to this already prestigious college.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Vice President of Fundraising for Best Buddies USU
- Team Leader for Humanitarian Trip with Color my World in Nicaragua
- Member of Peer Leadership Team in Draper/Sandy Area
- Instructional Specialist for Mild-Moderate Special Needs Classroom at Woodruff Elementary
- Instructional Specialist for Post-High Special Needs Classroom at Logan High School

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Instill unity and support between the CEHS college and its clubs and organizations.
- Communicate concerns and ideas to the CEHS Dean and amplify the Dean’s vision for the college.
- Provide students with continued networking and involvement opportunities.
- Aide in implementing new student ideas and suggestions for improvement.
- Engage the students of CEHS with optimal learning opportunities.

**DEIDRA THOMAS – SOPHOMORE  
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION**



**PLATFORM:** To create pride for the College of Education and Human Services within each student by organizing more events, initiating more networking opportunities, and understanding student feedback to better our college.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- CEHS Student Events Vice President, TEAL Representative
- President’s Cabinet
- Blue Crew
- Arts and Lectures Committee
- Aggie Shuttle Fee Committee

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Create more opportunities for involvement within our college by holding more events and increasing opportunities for networking.
- Establish unity between each department.
- Increase student exposure to each department and major in CEHS.
- Obtain student feedback to implement new ideas and create a more welcoming environment.
- Construct a central calendar for students to find information about clubs and events.

# COLLEGE OF SCIENCE SENATOR

**TRAVIS DOWDLE – JUNIOR**  
**BIOCHEMISTRY**



**PLATFORM:** Provide environment for science students, fostering professional connections with faculty, support in studying, interactive programs and events, and continue the morale and reputation that our college has in the community.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- College of Science ambassador
- Undergraduate Teaching Fellow for Biology 1610 and Organic Chemistry
- Established rapport with the dean and other College of Science administrators.
- Transfer student from Idaho State University, two different school cultures allow me to bring a fresh perspective to USU.

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Work with College of Science and university administrators to extend library hours for dead week and finals week.
- Continue making the tradition of Science Week awesome.
- Maintain College of Science community relations through programs such as “Science Unwrapped”.
- Increase networking opportunities with professors for research and internships.

**HALEY SORENSEN – SENIOR**  
**HUMAN BIOLOGY**



**PLATFORM:** I aim to create an inclusive department that promotes science for everybody. I will connect science with other professional fields, and facilitate academic success.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Student of Science
- RA at the Living Learning Community
- Pharmacy Technician and familiar with medical and scientific fields outside of academia.
- Member of the Pre-Med club and Women in Business club.

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Make finding and applying for lab research opportunities easier.
- Create additional study resources for science classes outside of SI's and UTF hours for students who cannot attend scheduled supplemental study.
- Promote women in STEM and help to create an environment to help women succeed.
- Work with the Pre-Med advisors to create a comprehensive plan to prepare for medical school.
- Create a lecture series focused on the integration of science with other fields.

# COLLEGE OF AG. + APPLIED SCIENCES SENATOR

**KASSIDY CARNAHAN – SOPHOMORE**  
**FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCES EDUCATION**



**PLATFORM:** To enhance students' education experience by providing various tools to help them take advantage of opportunities available within CAAS where they can learn, grow, and develop.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- CAAS Council Administration Assistant.
- CAAS Office Assistant with knowledge of majors, events, and issues.
- Leadership experience with academic and non-academic committees.
- I am dependable, kind, and hard-working.

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Create more internship opportunities for students to experience a glimpse of what their future career may entail.
- Assist students in taking advantage of opportunities available to them within the CAAS.
- Increase student involvement by providing opportunities for students to expand their education outside of the classroom.
- Actively come out know students' concerns, desires, wants and needs to help improve their overall experience in the college.

**DEXTON LAKE – FRESHMAN**  
**PLANT SCIENCE**



**PLATFORM:** I will use my lifelong agricultural background to improve opportunities for CAAS students and advocate student involvement. I will be the senator for the students. Nothing more, nothing less.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Production agriculturalist on a farm and ranch
- FFA and student government president.
- Leader in council of Youth Disciplinary Courts.
- Created and increased agriculture education opportunities at the high school level.

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Deeper university accountability of mandatory student fees.
- Actively object and limit legislation that will not best benefit the college and its students.
- Re-establish the diversity of the college within the university.
- Increase awareness of undergraduate research and degree opportunities.
- Increase CAAS club recognition and involvement within the university.

**HEATHER LIEBER – JUNIOR**

**DIETETICS**



**PLATFORM:** While continuing in my position as CAAS Senator, I will cultivate a culture of proactive involvement, enjoyment, and excellence among CAAS students.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Current CAAS Senator
- A-Team Student Orientation Leader
- Miss USU Pageant First Runner-Up
- Dietetics Club Activities Chair
- Connections Peer Mentor

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Expand efforts to reach out to incoming and transfer students.
- Facilitate continual action and progression within Academic Senate initiatives.
- Implement continuity in CAAS leadership by keeping detailed reports to provide the next senator.
- Promote collaboration and unity among student leaders in the college.
- Increase awareness and accessibility of student resources.

**JOSEPH MONTOYA – JUNIOR**

**AGRICULTURE EDUCATION**



**PLATFORM:** I know getting involved in CAAS can be difficult at first. I will help students get involved so they discover and further their interests in degrees offered by the College.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Managed USU Student Organic Farm
- Worked as CASA in Logan juvenile court system
- Understanding of CAAS
- Organizational skills
- Perseverance and determination

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Increase visibility of college degrees.
- Increase visibility and participation in clubs that are part of the college.
- Increase involvement of clubs in the college on campus.
- Represent CAAS effectively in USUSA.



# GRADUATE STUDIES SENATOR

**ANUJ KHASGIWALA – GRADUATE  
COMPUTER SCIENCE**



**PLATFORM:** I will advocate for increasing funds for graduate research, scholarships, and awards. Improve graduate studies. Build better, more supportive, and vibrant life for graduate students.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Master of Science in Compute Science
- Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science
- Software Developer Java
- Help in learning new technical skills
- Indian Student Association Vice President

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Improve the teaching assistantship workshop.
- Help in learning new technical skills.
- Become bridge between graduate students, professor and department in any issues.
- Health Awareness Week.
- Provide all types of help required by students at any time.

**SAM POWELL– GRADUATE  
HUMAN RESOURCES**



**PLATFORM:** I will work to unify all graduate students by creating a simple communication system, promote the scholarship and research funds, and help recruit the next generation of graduate students.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- I am currently pursuing a Masters of Human Resources/MBA degree.
- I have experience in business management and operations through running my own business for four years.
- I completed my undergraduate degree in 2013 at USU.
- I am competent in working with others in a council setting, growing and developing organizations, and promoting student engagement.

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Bring the graduate students together through inter-college communication.
- Promote the USU graduate studies brand through outreach, recruiting, and communication.
- Protect and promote the graduate student scholarship and research funds.
- Help grad students integrate better into USU by promoting social events.
- Protect and promote the Jon M. Huntsman School brand and help other colleges attain the same notoriety.

# CAINE COLLEGE OF THE ARTS SENATOR

**SARINA MOUNTCASTLE – JUNIOR**  
MUSIC EDUCATION + GEN. ANTHROPOLOGY



**PLATFORM:** My vision is to see more collaboration between the departments, to establish a larger presence for the college across campus and the community, and build stronger relationships between students, professors, and administration.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Elementary school orchestra teacher
- USU Viola club president
- Dean's list for 5 semesters
- Member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars
- Member of the National Society of Leadership and Success

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Create more unity between all of the arts departments.
- Create more outreach programs within the University and the community.
- Work towards making more arts study abroad opportunities and internships.
- Work towards bridging the gap between administration and professors and the students.

**SIERRA WISE – SOPHOMORE**  
ART



**PLATFORM:** I aim to give arts students more opportunities to succeed through increasing internship opportunities, improving communication between students and faculty, and integrating entrepreneurship training to the arts curriculum.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Passion for the USU arts department
- Leadership experience
- Understanding of the unique challenges art students face
- Goal-oriented
- Able to organize events, complete tasks, and delegate appropriately

**GOALS/PLANS:**

- Increase internship opportunities across all disciplines.
- Integrate entrepreneurship training into art curriculum to increase job placement.
- Increase lines of communication between art students and faculty.
- Increase art student involvement in student events on campus.
- Destigmatize pursuing a degree in the arts.

# PRIMARY ELECTIONS ANNOUNCEMENT

Tuesday, February 28th at 5:00 pm

[VOTE.USU.EDU](http://VOTE.USU.EDU)



**USUSA**  
UtahStateUniversity.  
STUDENT ASSOCIATION