



General Assembly

2019-2020 Executive Team Election Packet

2019-2020 NDSA Executive Team Election Packet

Name: Taylor Toso	Phone Number:
NDUS Institution(s): UND	Majors/Minors: Political Science
Anticipated Graduation Date: May 2022	Length of NDSA Involvement: One year (attended every meeting)
For which position(s) are you applying?	
President [<input type="checkbox"/>]	Vice President of Finance and Operations [<input type="checkbox"/>]
Vice President of Communication [<input type="checkbox"/>]	Vice President of Governmental Affairs [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>]
Council Chief [<input type="checkbox"/>]	
<i>Have you spoken with the current officer about this role?</i> [Yes]	
List other organizations/obligations you will commit to while holding this position:	
<p>I am a full-time student in the Honors Program at UND. I will be working this summer (employer TBD). I will be serving in a leadership role for the Students for Sustainability Club during the 2019-2020 school year.</p>	
Describe your qualifications for this position. Refer to the position's description. What additional skills do you possess that would make you a valued addition to the team?	
<p>One responsibility of the VP of Govt Affairs is to further NDSA's legislative goals and views on relevant government policy. As the Director of Governmental Affairs, I have been active in assisting with this responsibility throughout my first year of NDSA. I worked with the current VP of Govt Affairs to plan and facilitate NDSA's first Higher Education Social, collaborated with NDSA members on a number of resolutions passed by the General Assembly, and wrote an open letter for NDSA directed towards legislators.</p> <p>The VP of Govt Affairs must also work to ensure all students have an opportunity to voice their concerns. This is something I am very concerned about, and during my work as a director I've reached out directly to each of our 11 delegations for input and feedback.</p> <p>Finally, the person holding any role on the Executive Team should be dedicated to NDSA. I believe this is a strength of mine because I've invested a lot of time and effort into various projects throughout the year (some of which I discussed previously). I've worked voluntarily during holiday breaks from school in order to ensure the success of these projects. I care deeply about the interests of ND's students and strive to be a strong advocate for them.</p>	
What are some goals you have regarding this position? How would you propose you execute those goals?	
<p>Moving into a non-legislative year, I believe we need to keep up the progress we've made as an organization. I aim to maintain and strengthen the relationships we've made with key state policymakers by keeping in periodic communication with them and finding new opportunities for collaboration.</p>	



General Assembly

2019-2020 Executive Team Election Packet

I've always been passionate about promoting civic engagement among youth, so Objective 1 under Goal 2 in the 2019-2023 Strategic Plan is of strong interest to me. One idea I have for this is to identify civic leadership opportunities before NDSA's monthly meetings and provide them to delegates in SLAC. I'd also love to push for our student voting guide to be made available on all campuses.

As Director of Governmental Affairs, I have come to appreciate the power of delegation and student leadership. Serving students in this role has been a wonderful opportunity, and I plan on providing other students with chances to grow. The Strategic Plan calls for connecting students with opportunities for professional development, and I would continue to use the Director system we have to empower future students and make NDSA's operations more efficient.

How would you advance the vision, mission, values, goals, and objectives articulated within NDSA's 2019-2023 Strategic Plan? In other words, what would you do to support the 2019-2020 Executive Team as it seeks to execute the Strategic Plan?

If elected, I will work hard to be a transparent and empowering leader and cultivate an open atmosphere for students to voice their concerns. I fully expect the 2019-2020 Executive Team to meet soon after elections. I would ensure all executive members are on the same page on the vision, mission, and values of the Strategic Plan. I think it would be wise to examine each of the goals and objectives individually and see where each executive member's responsibilities, interests, and capabilities overlap in order to prioritize and strategize efficiently.