

THE ARGONAUT'S

# ASUI

*SPRING 2015*

## VOTING GUIDE

[VOTING TAKES PLACE APRIL 6-8 via email ballot]

CANDIDATES



BALLOT INITIATIVES



VOTING INFORMATION

# An inclusive election

*How, where, when to vote in ASUI election*

**Corrin Bond**  
Argonaut

Election season has rolled around again, but this time students can look forward to some changes in the conventional voting system, ASUI Elections Coordinator James Morrell said.

"We have made changes to the system so that voting is a more accessible and inclusive experience," Morrell said. "It's an online system where students can vote either on campus or at home."

According to Alysha Van Zante, ASUI communications board chair, students will receive personalized ballots through their Vandal email accounts, allowing them to login to a secured voting forum.

Van Zante said voting opens 8 a.m. Monday and will close 5 p.m. Friday.

This year's election includes 10 candidates running for eight open senate seats and three pairs of president and vice president candidates.

The two main changes to the voting system are how students are able to receive ballots directly to their Vandal email accounts and the automatic reminder

emails sent out to students who have not voted throughout the course of the week, Van Zante said.

"With this program, we are able to remove students that have already voted from the system and send out reminders to those who have not cast their vote," she said. "We hope this will be easier and more accessible to students, especially those that live off campus."

In addition to voting online, Morrell said there will be tables 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Wednesday in the Idaho Commons where students may also vote.

Morrell said students have the opportunity to enter a drawing to win a KindleFire HD6 as an incentive to voting.

"After a student votes, a quick link will appear on the page," he said. "It takes you to the place where you can then enter information into the drawing for the prize."

Morrell said although there is a voting incentive offered to students every year, this year's raffle has been made more inclusive.

"The prize for the previous elections drawing was also a KindleFire, but last year you had to vote in the Commons to be eligible for the drawing," he said. "This year, you can vote from any location and choose whether

you'd like to enter the raffle or not."

Beyond the physical incentive of the KindleFire, Morrell said he views voting as a crucial event on campus.

"Voting is important, because these candidates are going to represent the student body," Morrell said. "We try incentivizing voting and make more inclusive systems like this to ensure as many student voices as possible are being heard."

Morrell said to help students know more about who is running, the candidates will spend the week before voting making one last campaign push.

"If students don't know much about the candidates, now is the time to be asking questions about their goals," Morrell said. "All week, candidates will be tabling in the Commons to not only encourage voting, but also to explain their platforms to students."

Van Zante said she hopes the changes made to this year's voting system will encourage more students from a variety of different backgrounds to vote.

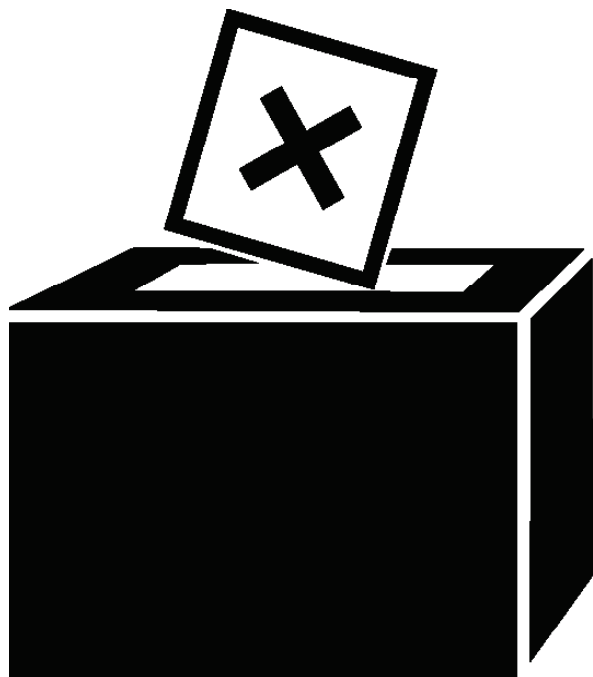
"We hope for a high voter turnout from a diverse range of people," she said. "Voting is so important, because we want students to use their vote to support people who will advocate for them in the best way."

*Corrin Bond can be reached at  
arg-news@uidaho.edu*



Morrell

## Vandal Entertainment seeks student feedback



*Music taste, event preferences to appear as ballot initiatives*

**Hannah Shirley**  
Argonaut

Five initiatives will appear on the 2015 ASUI spring elections ballot, said ASUI Elections Coordinator James Morrell, and all five questions posed come from Vandal Entertainment.

Students will be polled on what kind of music they think is the most popular at the University of Idaho, which types of entertainment they'd like to see more of on campus, how much they're willing to pay for Finals Fest tickets, what events they are most likely to attend and how they usually hear about Vandal Entertainment events.

"I think the ballot questions are a

great representation of the students' interests," Morrell said. "Hopefully they will generate new ideas for future events."

Although ASUI has sought feedback on issues and policies from students through ballot initiatives in the past, ASUI Director of Communications Alysha Van Zante said there was nothing ASUI felt they needed to gather student feedback on at this time.

"We've done quite a few individual polls during the election cycles," Van Zante said. "Ballot initiatives are a good way to reach students, but we've been working on stuff much earlier in the semester, so we've already asked their opinions and gathered feedback, and gotten a pretty good response already."

Van Zante said that if a student still wishes to give feedback to ASUI, there are several avenues to do so.

All members of ASUI have their contact information listed on the UI webpage, and students are always welcome to visit the ASUI offices on the third floor of the Idaho Commons, where they can meet with senators or leave feedback in their mailboxes.

Students can also offer anonymous feedback on their ballots, where a field will be available to leave whatever comments they'd like.

"We definitely get a lot of feedback throughout the year, and have made changes based on that feedback," Van Zante said.

*Hannah Shirley  
can be reached at  
arg-news@uidaho.edu*

# CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

## Fisher/Cramer



**President:** Nate Fisher, junior

Major: Political Science, Agriculture Economics  
Living group: Beta Theta Pi

**Vice President:** Katie Cramer, junior

Major: Early Childhood Development, Education  
Living Group: Delta Gamma

### Platform

**Stability** — Regarding stability, we are addressing the high turnover rate within student government and the large learning curve that comes with the new job duties. Our continued leadership allows for an immediate start on new and existing projects at the beginning of the year.

**Safety** — The safety component includes two aspects: continuing work with current programs such as Green Dot, It's On Us and I Got Your Back, and expanding medical amnesty into the City of Moscow.

**Student spaces** — With the recent name change of the SUB to the Bruce M. Pitman Center, we notice that students are losing their space. This year, we were guaranteed space in the Idaho Commons and we were successful in transitioning existing funding into future plans for a student lounge. More work is needed, however, to develop and implement this project.

## Cowan/Holman



**President:** Max Cowan, senior

Major: International Studies, Chemistry  
Living group: Off-campus

**Vice President:** Stetson Holman, junior

Major: Political Science  
Living Group: Alpha Kappa Lamda

### Platform

We have a plan to address the issues that affect students the most: quality, cost and campus life.

First, we will take steps to improve the classroom experience at the University of Idaho. This means ensuring that classrooms are comfortable and up-to-date, professors are required to post grades online and dead-week policies regarding no testing are properly enforced.

Second, we will work to maintain the cost of higher education. By advocating for state funding, working with administration to control rising tuition and streamlining the scholarship application process, we can help make college affordable for students.

Third, we will strengthen the campus community. Through addressing the problem of sexual assault, supporting student driven activities and promoting events we can build a stronger Vandal family.

## Gonzalez/Dolezal



**President:** Alejandra "Vivi" Gonzalez, senior

Major: Political Science  
Living group: Off-campus

**Vice President:** Izaiah Dolezal, sophomore

Major: Sociology, International Studies, Spanish  
Living Group: Theta Chi/Off-campus

### Platform

**Leadership** — It is our goal to use the significant power that ASUI holds to push for policies and to create policies that affect higher education.

**Sustainability**— UI has set a goal to reach carbon neutrality by 2030. We plan to work collaboratively with the Sustainability Center and the community to make significant changes and advancements to reach the goal.

**Allocation of Funds** — Our goal is to ensure that the offices or departments that provide the most opportunities for leadership and involvement receive the resources they need to continue offering high quality support to students.

**Enrollment** — President Staben wants to increase enrollment by 50 percent in the next decade. We plan to work hand-in-hand with him to achieve this goal. We want to work more closely with the student infrastructure that is already in place to help with recruitment.

# ASUI SENATE CANDIDATES

## ZACHARY SPENCE

*Sophomore  
Off-campus  
Computer Science*



Spence

The University of Idaho has the highest academics in the state, yet it is seen as a party school. As senator, I would work to change this through assessing student concerns, sponsoring legislation to address those concerns and working with staff to emphasize the university's academic performance and tradition.

As fellow students at the University of Idaho, everyone should be treated fairly, regardless of living status. As senator, I would work to change this through active involvement on the redistricting committee, assessing whether the change is a solution and looking for other solutions based on student concerns.

University of Idaho policy is that first-year students must live on campus. While there are exemptions, the impression is everyone must live on the university campus the first year. As campus living is expensive, this is difficult. As senator, I would promote change by legislation, working with staff and assessing student concerns and support.

## KAILEY HOLT

*Junior  
Delta Delta Delta  
Accounting, Finance*



Holt

Katelin and myself have four key pieces to our platform. Our first is pedestrian safety throughout campus. With so many pedestrian commuters on our campus, we will be exploring the idea of acquiring the "Safe

Walk Signals" that are spread throughout WSU's campus.

The second piece of our platform is increasing support for Vandal Athletics and events. Increasing marketing efforts for these events will make them more attractive for not only current students but prospective students as well.

Creating a Student Union space is the third piece of our platform. With the renaming of the SUB to the Bruce Pitman Center, we want to ensure there's a space for students to call their own.

The final piece of our platform is increasing effectiveness and efficiency within ASUI. As current members of ASUI, we look forward to digging deeper into how we can be more successful as a governing body.

## KATELIN BARTLES

*Junior  
Kappa Kappa Gamma  
Business Marketing*



Bartles

Kailey Holt and I have four key pieces to our platform. Our first is pedestrian safety throughout campus. With so many pedestrian commuters on our campus, we will be exploring the idea of acquiring the "Safe

Walk Signals" that are spread throughout WSU's campus.

The second piece of our platform is increasing support for Vandal Athletics and events. Increasing marketing efforts for these events will make them more attractive for not only current students but prospective students as well.

Creating a Student Union space is the third piece of our platform. With the renaming of the SUB to the Bruce Pitman Center, we want to ensure there's a space for students to call their own.

The final piece of our platform is increasing effectiveness and efficiency within ASUI. As current members of ASUI, we look forward to digging deeper into how we can be more successful as a governing body.

## KATE RICART

*Junior  
Kappa Delta  
Studio Art and Design*



Ricart

As a current senator up for reelection, I have divided my platform into three components, the first of which is building a Vandal community. I want to host events that focus on our common denomi-

nator: we are all Vandals. I would do this by hosting events, such as the current one I am coordinating, the ASUI Arts and Music Festival, which showcases Vandal talents, or fun recreation events, like a snowman building competition.

The second part is representing student needs for the library remodel. I want to make sure students have a space to quietly work, while also making the library a more open, updated and inviting space for students.

The last part is strengthening the senate to be more inclusive. I want to create a new kind of online polling system that would reach all of our off-campus students as well as the on-campus living groups.

## AUSTIN BLACKER

*Sophomore  
Off-campus/Delta Chi  
Operations Management  
and Marketing*



Blacker

I am running for a position within ASUI Senate along with my running mate Lauren Markuson. Our campaign platforms consist of campus safety, student space and enrollment. The University of

Idaho has always been an extremely safe place for students to thrive. If elected, we plan to keep it this way by continuing to work on the It's On Us campaign, as well as working on other ways to improve safety on campus, such as improving the Safe Walk system and implementing a Vandal taxi system.

Student space is very scarce on the UI campus and with growing needs for administrative spaces, there is little room left for students.

Enrollment numbers have also slowly decreased over the past few years, and we plan to work closely with administration to return the University of Idaho to a desired destination for many people entering into their post-secondary education.

## LAUREN MARKUSON

*Sophomore  
Kappa Kappa  
Gamma  
Political Science  
and International  
Studies*



Markuson

I am running for the position of ASUI Senator with my running mate Austin Blacker. Our platform centers on increasing campus safety, promoting student spaces and improving the University of

Idaho's enrollment.

Our campus has been a safe environment to thrive and receive an education. We would like to keep this one of the best assets of the university. We will promote use of Safe Walk and continue to advance the "It's On Us" campaign.

Student spaces are lacking on the University of Idaho campus and we need to create spaces strictly for students, rather than administration.

Working with the administration to help increase enrollment will bring more funds to the university which will ultimately help keep tuition costs low. A vote for us is a vote to improve campus safety, promote student spaces and increase enrollment.

## SHELBY BURKHART

*Freshman  
Kappa Alpha Theta  
Biology*



Burkhardt

The first tier of my platform is more inclusive student involvement. The senate is elected for the students by the students and their voice is the primary purpose for this position. I would facilitate student ideas through surveying, open

forums, and social media.

My next tier is funds management. Why are we spending money on activities students are not attending? We need to put this money back in the power of the students because they deserve a say in where their money goes and what it is being used for.

Finally, we should utilize more involvement with the Moscow community. SYNC was a great way to introduce students into volunteering with the community and more programs like this should be introduced throughout the year.

# Senate candidates continued

## MARK LEITNER

*Freshman  
Theta Chi  
Marketing*



Leitner

The first piece of our platform, student involvement, is important as we are a campus full of students. One of the main reasons for my desire to run is to become involved with the university.

The second piece is our funds. Where do they go? It is important for students to have a say in what their tuition goes towards as well as letting them know.

Lastly, more community involvement should take place with the students. ASUI should implement something else similar to SYNC for the spring semester at the very least to build more bonds between the surrounding community and the campus community.

## ARAN BURKE

*Sophomore  
Gault residence/Pi Kappa Phi  
Physics and Math*



Burke

Campus Unification — I would like to work with large organizations such as IFC, RHA, Panhellenic and large organizations that incorporate lots of off campus students to have delegates sit in on each other's meeting

and work together to make larger, more inclusive events.

Infrastructure — I would like to create a committee to work with parking to make sure they are meeting students' needs by doing things like creating more available parking to students and spending less on enforcement and more on making better parking. I would also like to see ASUI involved in the return of the Moscow-Pullman bus.

Safety — I would like to work with current ASUI leadership including Joe Madsen and others on medical amnesty in Moscow. Finally I would like to work on a 'Safe Ride' system in Moscow, an organization that students could call on weekends to be picked up, no questions asked.

## JOE MADSEN

*Junior  
Alpha Kappa Lambda  
Political Science*



Madsen

Fellow Vandals, I am seeking reelection in upcoming ASUI spring election and am excited to share with you some ideas within my platform.

The first component of my platform is an increased electronic presence for ASUI. I would like to see monitors with daily updated news feeds in the new student space as well as entrances to major buildings on campus.

The second change I would like to see is to utilize VandalSync, or to utilize an existing electronic platform like VandalWeb to conduct polls. Polling in the past has been conducted during an event and has yielded very small sample sizes, which do not accurately reflect the student voice.

Lastly, if reelected I will establish a Student Affairs Commission that will strive to improve the student experience here at the University of Idaho. The SAC will ideally be a joint student-faculty group that will pursue student-oriented initiatives.



Amber Emery | Argonaut

Current ASUI President Nate Fisher and running mate Katie Cramer answer a question from the audience at the first open forum of the election season on March 25.

# Just getting started

*First open forum sets spring election cycle in motion*

**Amber Emery**  
Argonaut

Three pairs of candidates running for ASUI president and vice president presented their campaign platforms alongside six ASUI senate candidates in the Idaho Commons March 25, effectively kicking off the 2015 spring election cycle.

ASUI Elections Coordinator James Morrell said he thought the first open forum went well, considering the bustling atmosphere of the Commons during the mid-afternoon lunch rush.

"I'm happy with today's open forum," Morrell said. "I thought all of the candidates represented themselves well and I think it was a good start to the election."

The three duos of candidates running for president and vice president represented at the open forum include Nate Fisher and Katie Cramer, Max Cowan and Stetson Holman and Alejandra "Vivi" Gonzalez and Izaiah Dolezal. The senate candidates include Kailey Holt, Joe Madsen, Mark Leitner, Shelby Burkhart and Aran Burke.

Sophomore physics and statistics major Burke said while he is new to ASUI, he believes he can make a difference for students as a senator because he brings different ideas to the table.

"I would not only want to better represent Greek life, residence halls and off-campus students, but bring them closer together," Burke said. "I'd like to see if they can get representatives to sit in on each other's meetings and use that to create more student programming for the whole campus."

Burke said he would also like to work with UI Parking and Transportation Services to see if there can be leniency for on-campus parking during late afternoon hours. He said he would like to see ASUI involved with the Moscow-Pullman bus project and work to implement a program called Safe Ride.

"To have a no questions asked ride service on weekends for students throughout Moscow would help bring down drunk driving accidents," Burke said.

Fisher, current ASUI president, said a major reason is he running for reelection is because he believes the learning curve for new ASUI officials often impedes progress from being made. He said because he's already become acquainted for the position, he can get right to work if he's reelected.

"Some of this institutional memory can be regained," Fisher said. "We can keep some of the momentum and carry forward easily."

Running mate Cramer, who has served two terms in the ASUI Senate, said two key components of their campaign are improving safety and ensuring student spaces.

Current ASUI senator Madsen said

if reelected he would work to establish a student-faculty committee to improve relations among students and their instructors, as well as streamline and find creative ways to use UI's current infrastructure to get students more involved on campus.

Holt, current ASUI director of finance, said she is running for senate to better the student experience.

She said if elected she would work on pedestrian safety by implementing safewalk signals, a safety device used at Washington State University. Holt said she would also like to promote the Vandal Culture, ensure the Bruce Pitman Center and other places on campus are student spaces and make sure ASUI is working as an effective representative for the student body.

Cowan, former ASUI president, said he has experience in advocating for keeping the costs of higher education down and would like to continue that work in ASUI.

"We also need to maintain the cost of higher education through more state-funded scholarships and through maintaining the dedicated student activity fee," Cowan said.

Holman said he and Cowan would like to improve the student experience from inside the classroom by ensuring instructors are following UI policy and not making out-of-bound decisions at the detriment of students.

"We can have teachers not introduce new material during dead week," Holman

To view video coverage of the March 25 open forum, visit The Argonaut's YouTube channel.

Other open forum coverage can be found on [uiargonaut.com](http://uiargonaut.com)

said. "We'd also like to work to require that teachers post grades online."

Senate running mates Leitner and Burkhart said their main focus is student involvement, which can be accomplished through inclusivity and more active, effective advertising of student activities and events.

"All of the posters and promotions for Finals Fest, it should be like that for every event," Leitner said.

The two would also work to better connect the Moscow community with UI students, Burkhart said.

Presidential candidate Gonzalez is a former ASUI senator and ASUI current director of Diversity Affairs. She said she would use her leadership abilities and move the university forward in terms of sustainability, resources and enrollment.

"For example, the university has goals to reach carbon neutrality by 2030," Gonzalez said. "We would work proactively in reaching these goals."

Running mate Dolezal said the Vandal experience can be enriched through an increase of participation among student organizations and individual students in general.

"ASUI holds power — a lot of power — more power than a lot of student governments around the country," Dolezal said. "We would have more people speak up and get involved."

Amber Emery can be reached at [arg-news@uidaho.edu](mailto:arg-news@uidaho.edu)



**ASUI**  
**ELECTIONS**

University of Idaho

★ 2015 ★

BE BOLD

---

*Vote via  
Vandalmail*

ballot will be sent to your inbox

---

APRIL 6, 7, 8

---

BE AUTOMATICALLY ENTERED TO WIN  
A KINDLE FIRE 6D