

THE ARGONAUT'S

ASUI

SPRING 2016

VOTING GUIDE

[VOTING TAKES PLACE APRIL 4-6 via email ballot]

CANDIDATES



BALLOT INITIATIVES



VOTING INFORMATION

Behind the scenes

ASUI spring elections coordinators talk strategy

Jessica Gee
Argonaut

Running an ASUI election is not as simple as it may seem, said elections coordinators Brianna Larson.

Larson, who became an elections coordinator this semester, said she's had a hectic schedule the past two weeks. As a former ASUI senator, she said moving to the executive side of ASUI has given her a new perspective on the organization.

"Switching over to this side of campaigning has definitely been a challenge," Larson said. "It's interesting and I like it because you get to see the inner workings of campaigns instead of just tunnel vision on what you're doing. I think the reward of putting good people on senate is going to outweigh the difficulties of my role."

Larson said she and Brown have split the duties of elections coordinator, with Larson taking over responsibilities related to policy.

"I'm collecting the receipts because there's a limit on how much candidates can spend on campaigns, so I'm regulating that to make sure they aren't going over the limit," Larson said.

She said the system is largely honor-based, where coordinators ask candidates to follow the rules and to keep an eye out for their peers to do so as well.

"If we can't trust them to follow the rules as a candidate, then we can't trust them to be in the role that they're running for," Larson said.

Larson said so far she has not run into any problems with candidates and hopes the rest of campaigning continues on the



Alex Brizee | Argonaut

Senators look over the agenda at the ASUI meeting Wednesday. Voting for ASUI positions opens Monday.

same path.

One change Larson said they have made this election season is the way they announce the winning candidates. She said this is an attempt to make the process more exciting, since she said in past elections announcing the new senators has been bland.

Announcing the winners will still occur in the rotunda of the Idaho Commons, however Larson said she didn't want to give away any spoilers.

"It is a big deal who wins the

election, and we want to make it feel like you've accomplished something when you get it," Larson said. "They know they have accomplished something, but we want them to feel like we celebrate the fact that they're becoming a part of ASUI."

Brown has been an elections coordinator since fall 2015 and said this election season has been much more manageable with the help of Larson. Brown said during this year's fall election there was a lot of work condensed into two

weeks, so the extra hands during the spring election process have been beneficial.

While Larson oversees policies, Brown said she handles communicating with candidates and running forums.

Brown said this election season has been running smoothly so far, but there aren't as many candidates running for ASUI as she had hoped.

"We base it a lot off of voter participation as well and last fall we had a great turnout for

voters," Brown said. "We're hoping to see the same kind of turnout this spring."

She said one notable change she and Larson have made this season is the inclusion of a presidential debate.

"I think it would be something people are interested in," Brown said. "We're trying to be more enthusiastic about the process."

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CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

Karstetter/Botello



Courtesy | Austin Karstetter

President: Austin Karstetter, Senior
 Major: Organizational science and international studies
 Living group: Phi Gamma Delta
Vice President: Cruz Botello, Sophomore
 Major: Sociology with a criminology emphasis
 Living group: Phi Gamma Delta

Platform

One of the biggest tasks we want to take on in our Vandal community is the revival of "Vandal Taxi." This service would reduce risk, improve the connection between students and the city of Moscow and it would come back without the funding issues that lead to its original downfall. We have already initiated conversations with the City of Moscow and have a solution to reallocating funds within ASUI in order to make this possible. Vandal Taxi would be available on the weekends to promote safe and frequent travel for students who enjoy getting

out into the community. One thing we hold in high regards is efficiency in the way ASUI operates. We will address these essentials by reevaluating programs within ASUI that will save money for the students that can be efficiently used elsewhere. Transparency has improved significantly this year. Austin has worked in ASUI this year and brought back Waffle Wednesday. We want to continue to make sure ASUI frequently has free events that are available for students to voice their concerns on issues facing campus. These are just a few ideas we bring to the table to improve the student experience. Go Vandals!

Miller/MacDonald



Courtesy | Rachael Miller

President: Rachael Miller, Senior
 Major: Political science and public relations
 Living group: Alpha Phi
Vice President: McKenzie MacDonald, Junior
 Major: Political science and economics
 Living group: LLCs, pledging Alpha Gamma Delta

About Us

We are both serving as ASUI Senators; Rachael is currently the Senate President Pro-Tempore. We have worked together on encouraging instructors to post grades on BbLearn and on re-districting the ASUI Senate by college. We are very passionate about and dedicated to our service to students on and off campus. Our efforts as senators have been focused around improving the representation of all student voices and we will continue that effort as president and vice president.

Platform

Affordability: We will make higher education more affordable to students by working to keep tuition as low as possible. We will advocate for better state funding and making every effort to be transparent about where each dollar of student fees and tuition is being spent.

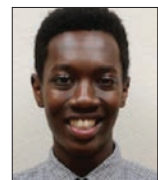
Renovation: We will renovate, expand and streamline the infrastructure and resources, like student spaces and online platforms that influence the campus community and student success.

Collaboration: We will be responsive to and representative of the student voice to affect policy within ASUI among campus offices and to the administration.

ASUI SENATE CANDIDATES

DANNY BUGINGO

*Freshman
Theophilus Tower
Computer Science, French,
International Studies*



Bugingo

I'm a journalist, programmer, rapper and current ASUI senator, and I want to fix advising. Right now, my adviser is the person I go to to choose my classes every semester — and they should be more than that. When I'm struggling in a class or wondering if I am in the right major, I want my adviser to be someone I am encouraged to turn to for advice. I will work with other senators and the administration to create a system where people can choose who they want advising them, and have a knowledgeable guide throughout their college experience. I'll be handing out copies of the official campaign mixtape on Monday the 28th — be ready.

SETH BERRYHILL

*Freshman
Theophilus Tower
Mechanical Engineering*



Berryhill

There are 200 clubs on campus, are you a part of one? In senate I plan to streamline the process for joining and starting student clubs and organizations, while pushing teachers to bring clubs into the classroom to increase extracurricular involvement and learning within the university. Do you have an interest or hobby that you think would be more fun in a group setting? I started The Drone Zone, a hobby aircraft club, and was amazed at the paperwork and hassle. I hope to work towards a setting where students are encouraged to be more involved in clubs and it is easy to do so, so they can benefit more from all of the amazing resources present in the school. Vote Seth Berryhill.

HALEIGH SIMS-DOUGLAS

*Senior
LLCs
Secondary Education*



Sims-Douglas

Hello, my name is Haleigh Sims-Douglas and I am running for ASUI Senate. I was born and raised in Boise, Idaho and I am currently in my third year at the University of Idaho. I am studying Secondary Education with emphases in English, Math and French and am so excited to be a teacher one day! My running mate, Nina Rydalch, and I are running with the platform of Sustainability, Education, and Community. Sustainability, to do our part in keeping our community and our world in great shape for current and future generations. Education, to improve the communications between students and professors and keep the amazing education we're receiving meaningful and accessible. Community, to bring the Vandal family closer together between Greek life, residence life, those who live off campus and the rich community that the campus is the very heart of through community service and integration. Together we can make the University of Idaho and Moscow an even better place to call home!

NINA RYDALCH

*Freshman
Theophilus Tower
International Studies,
Spanish*

I am running for ASUI Senate with my running mate Haleigh Sims-Douglas. We have three key points to our platform: sustainability, education and community. For sustainability, we aim to make sustainable practices more convenient for students by increasing the number of recycling bins and working closely with the Sustainability Center. For education we plan to ensure better communication between teachers and students and keep our education, the best offered in Idaho, meaningful and accessible. Finally, with community we will foster interaction between members of our Vandal Family, including Greek Life, Residence Life, those living off-campus and the Moscow community through increased community service opportunities and integration. Together we will make the University of Idaho and the city of Moscow a place we can be proud to call our home.

MATTIE CUPPS

*Senior
Kappa Delta
Chemical engineering*



Cupps

My name is Mattie Cupps and I am re-running for the position of ASUI senator. I am from Boise, Idaho, and I am currently a third year in chemical engineering. I have held many leadership positions in the past which have ranged from team type situations to organizing programs and I am currently an ASUI senator. It is important to me that all students are represented by ASUI senators and students' voices are heard. My goal as a senator is to raise the voices of those students who are often underrepresented. It is also important to me that students have ample study space. Currently, the University of Idaho does not provide enough study rooms and study environments for students who want to study on campus. It is my goal to increase the amount of study spaces present on campus so students can better focus on academics. I am excited to be a part of representing the student body of this university and hope you consider voting for me.

RORY BUTCHER

*Freshman
Beta Theta Pi
Journalism and Mass Media*



Butcher

My name is Rory Butcher and I am running for the position ASUI Senator for the Spring 2016 election! I am a freshman from Eagle, Idaho. I currently hold several leadership positions within my fraternity, Beta Theta Pi, but am actively seeking to become more involved in our campus. If elected I will work to ensure the efficiency and thoughtfulness needed to provide the best resources, facilities and opportunities to all Vandal students and staff. Ultimately, my goal is to help lead University of Idaho into a time of growth and communal well-being that hopefully any and everyone can get behind. Go Vandals!

ZACHARY SPENCE

*Junior
Off-campus
Computer Science*



Spence

My name is Zachary Spence and I am re-running for the position of ASUI Senator. I am a second year student majoring in Computer Science Major with a History minor hailing from Deary, Idaho. Rather than focusing on specific projects, I felt that it was more important that I campaign on specific values: Justice, Service, and Communication. Justice is so important in today's world—not merely in the halls of Congress, but also at the University of Idaho. I want to re-evaluate ASUI's judicial systems, work to improve the current judicial organization and provide for the more efficient implementation of justice. Service is also important and is often a value forgotten by elected officials; elected officials are elected to serve not to rule. I want to improve ASUI's data gathering systems, find ways to generate more student input and feedback and work to address student concerns and needs. Finally, Communication is incredibly important. ASUI can do incredible work but if no one knows that then ASUI has failed. I want to strengthen the outreach of ASUI, improve polling and increase surveys and work with ASUI Communications Board to improve the mediums of communication between ASUI and the students it serves. Once again my values are: Justice, Service and Communication.

SAM BALAS

*Sophomore
Alpha Kappa Lambda
Broadcasting*



Balas

Sam Balas loves long walks on the beach and governmental politics. He is currently on track to graduate with a major in Broadcasting with a minor in International Studies. He dreams of one day traveling the world, helping those in third world countries or other disadvantaged peoples in starting film production companies. In essence he wants to give a voice to those that have none. He is a sophomore in college but a newbie to The University of Idaho, having transferred from the Colorado Film School last fall. He is from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho and cannot wait to spend an entire summer sunbathing by the lake. He is running for senator because he believes that the school will benefit from his positive attitudes, his leadership experience and the strong passion for success. Whether it be on the film set as a director or on his fraternity's executive board as a newly initiated member, Sam has constantly been thrust into difficult leadership situations where he has thrived. In short, he is ready to represent you as your ASUI senator.

Senate bios cont.

AUSTIN JENKINS

*Freshman
Phi Gamma Delta
Business Accounting*

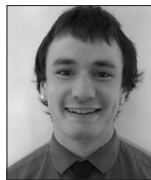


Jenkins

Hello, my name is Austin Jenkins and I am from Meridian, Idaho. My running mate for the elections is Nathan Kofmehl. We are running for the position of ASUI senator. I am currently a freshman majoring in Business Accounting. I would like to run for the position of senator because I want to be involved on campus. All throughout high school I have participated in congressional debate and I want to further it here as an ASUI senator. My goal, if elected, is to promote student involvement around campus. I would do this by promoting student organizations and clubs. Students will have more of a voice about changes going on around campus and a broader sense of a community at the university.

NATHAN KOFMEHL

*Freshman
Phi Gamma Delta
International Studies, Business
Operations Management*



Kofmehl

Hello my name is Nathan Kofmehl and I am from Coeur D' Alene Idaho. I am a freshman double majoring in International Studies and Business Operations Management. I am running for ASUI Senate. I enjoy hanging out outside and love skiing. I am running with Austin Jenkins. My goal is to influence more students to participate in university organizations and allow students to have more of a voice in all of the organizations throughout the university.

JORDAN KIZER

*Junior
Off-campus
Political Science*



Kizer

I am a non-traditional student in my second year studying political science. Put simply, non-traditional means that I didn't take the standard route to college. After graduating high school, I spent six years living and working in Moscow. I met my wife Emily here and we began attending the University of Idaho shortly thereafter. I spent the fall semester in Peru learning Spanish, studying international relations, and collecting data for a psychology paper. I currently work at the ITS Help Desk, where my passion is empowering others with the tools they need to pursue their goals. I want to bring that passion to the ASUI senate. My experience puts me in a unique position to understand students of different backgrounds and represent their diverse needs.

Right now students have to speak with a senator directly to express their needs. My goal as senator would be to establish a stronger connection between ASUI and the student body. I would do this by creating tools like an email address and corresponding hashtag that students could use to communicate their needs to ASUI. Students shouldn't have to know a senator personally to make their voice heard.

Addition to the ballot

Ballot initiative seeks to amend ASUI constitution

Jessica Gee
Argonaut

Along with the candidates running for ASUI president, vice president and senate, there will be an additional ballot asking students to vote on an amendment to the ASUI constitution.

ASUI Elections Coordinator Brianna Larson said the ASUI Constitution currently requires a certain level of voter turnout to make any changes to the constitution, making amending the constitution difficult. The proposed amendment would eliminate the requirement that 25 percent of the student body must vote to amend the constitution.

"We want the majority of however many people vote to be able to change it instead of having to get, for example,

2,400 people to vote to change anything," Larson said.

Larson said she wrote this document with former ASUI Vice President Sarah Vetsmany when she was a senator last spring. Larson said the bill passed then, but due to technical difficulties it was not introduced on the fall election candidate ballots.

ASUI Director of Policy Nick Wren said the irony of this vote is that ASUI still needs 25 percent of the student body to vote in order to remove the 25 percent requirement.

"There might be a few constitutional amendments coming up in terms of redistricting senate and this bill was passed last senate and for one reason or another this didn't actually go on the ballot last fall," Wren said. "I think it was held for this election with the hopes that this constitutional amendment will get a 25 percent voter turnout."

Wren said the requirement was es-

tablished in 2002 and since then there has only been four changes to the ASUI constitution. Wren said in recent history only 5 to 6 percent of the student body votes on proposed constitutional amendments, with the highest turnout being 22 percent.

"I really am in support of this amendment because this enables ASUI to bring about change when it feels it's necessary," Wren said. "Changing the constitution is no small matter and the fact that it has been done four times in the last 14 or 15 years is something to really think about."

He said this modification would not change the process in which the constitution is amended. Changes would still have to be approved of by ASUI senate and UI students.

"Amendments still have to go through all the usual processes, so it's still a rigorous process," Wren said. "Once these documents are in resolution form, that

means they've spent weeks being talked about in committee meetings or task forces. Especially with constitutional amendments, they are something ASUI never takes lightly."

The reason behind including the amendment proposal on the spring elections ballot is to reach as many voters as possible, Wren said.

He said voter turnout is largely dependent on the candidates running and how competitive the race is, which is why this is an ideal ballot to include the amendment on. Wren said if students vote to pass this bill, it will likely go into effect the coming fall, depending on how the document is written.

"I'm not sure that this will necessarily make the constitution more flexible," Wren said. "I think it is going to help future ASUI administration to have the chance to make important changes."

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Swaying Vandal voters

ASUI candidates talk about the issues at first open forum

Jessica Gee
Argonaut

At the first open forum of the spring 2016 ASUI elections season, ASUI senatorial and presidential candidates introduced their platforms and intentions for their position.

In addition to the forum, a majority of candidates have also made their campaigns present on social media and some have visited living groups around campus. The open forum on Tuesday gave the candidates the chance to elaborate on key issues to an audience of Vandals in the Idaho Commons food court.

Presidential candidate Rachael Miller and her running mate McKenzie MacDonald were present at the Tuesday forum, as were ASUI senate candidates

Danny Buggingo, Seth Berryhill, Jordan Kizer, Nathan Kofmehl and Austin Jenkins. Election Coordinators Brianna Larson and Bailey Brown moderated the forum.

Larson asked Miller how ASUI could help increase student enrollment at UI. Miller said increasing enrollment at UI is important as to avoid an increase in tuition that would account for the absence of students. She said one way the university can increase enrollment is by assisting students who are applying for scholarships and providing more scholarship opportunities.

When Larson asked the candidates what offices or programs they would give \$1 million if they could, MacDonald said she would like to see the funding go toward tutoring. She said when considering the values of a university, students and education should come first and improving tutoring would help students achieve

their academic goals.

Senate candidates were asked what sets them apart from their fellow candidates.

Current ASUI Sen. Danny Buggingo, who is running for re-election, said he has a different perspective on campus issues since he is triple majoring in computer science, French and international studies. He said this gives him the opportunity to talk about student concerns from a diverse group of the student population.

Seth Berryhill said his strong initiative to be involved in the Vandal community is what makes him unique. He said an example of this initiative is the club he and Buggingo established called the Drone Zone to create and fly drones.

Jordan Kizer called himself a “non-traditional” student because instead of attending college directly after high school, he worked for six years and spent time studying abroad in Peru. This diverse

background is what he says gives him the skills and experience to be a successful ASUI senator.

Nathan Kofmehl said his leadership skills and ability to set high goals give him an advantage over the other candidates. He said he is dedicated to UI and has already been active on campus through community service and university events.

Austin Jenkins, Kofmehl’s running mate, said he has also been involved with community service and has experience from being a part of his high school debate team. He said his understanding and plans to improve procedures in ASUI is what distinguishes him from other candidates.

Editor’s note: Danny Buggingo is an Argonaut columnist and former reporter.

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Candidates featured at forum

The second ASUI election forum allowed candidates to address their values

Jessica Gee
Argonaut

At the second forum March 23, ASUI candidates were given the opportunity to explain their values.

Presidential candidate Rachael Miller and her running mate McKenzie MacDonald attended the forum, as well as senatorial candidates Seth Berryhill and Jordan Kizer. Election Coordinators Bailey Brown and Brianna Larson moderated the debate.

All candidates were asked two questions during the event. Brown began the discussion by asking candidates to explain how they would stay involved on campus

if not elected into the position.

“Even if I was not elected to ASUI I’d still seek to represent student interests and goals as well as encourage students to participate in clubs,” Berryhill said.

Berryhill said he would want to be active in raising student awareness of on campus resources, such as the Writing Center and Career Center.

Kizer said his goal would be to work with students who wanted to be more involved on campus.

“Part of my platform involves helping students being more connected to campus and being more connected to the people on campus,” Kizer said.

Kizer said his platform also includes student communication with ASUI, which he said he hopes to improve by establishing an email address where students could directly contact senators.

Miller said since she is currently the ASUI Senate Pro Tempore and her

running mate is a current ASUI senator, they would continue working hard on projects they have already been involved in.

“As senators it’s our goal to accurately represent the student voice, especially communicating student concerns to faculty or upper administration,” MacDonald said. “Being able to continue to do that in our senate roles is still very important to us and we will continue to be involved with ASUI.”

Brown asked the candidates to elaborate on ways ASUI can encourage students to attend more campus events.

“One thing we can do to get students to attend more campus events would be advertising them more at the university,” Miller said. “Also getting more students to use OrgSync and make sure events are posted on there more regularly.”

Miller said she would also like to determine which events specific groups of

students are passionate about and advertise those events to the groups who hold a particular interest.

Kizer also said he would like to see an improved advertising strategy on OrgSync to encourage student participation in events.

“I’d also want to increase the amount of advertising for off-campus students more about events that might interest them,” Kizer said.

Berryhill said, “I believe one of the places we are lacking is students actually knowing about events. It would be great if students were given a way through polling to decide on the best way for them to find out about events.”

Berryhill said the poll would give students the opportunity to decide for themselves what events are important to them.

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ASUI ELECTIONS

University of Idaho

★ 2016 ★

**VOTE VIA VANDALMAIL
FOR SENATE & PRESIDENT / VICE PRESIDENT
APRIL 4, 5, 6**

