

WILLIAMS COLLEGE COUNCIL

FALL 2016 ELECTION PACKET FOR COLLEGE COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

ELECTION CALENDAR

Event	Date	Time
Meet the Candidates!	Monday, September 19	5:30 PM (Baxter Hall)
Polls Open	Thursday, September 22	4:00 PM
Polls Close	Sunday, September 25	8:00 PM
Results Released	Sunday, September 25	—

VOTING MECHANISM

All ballots will be sent to members of the student body via email. Please click on the link and submit your votes!

Williams utilizes instant run-off preferential proportional voting (IRV), also known as Single Transferable Voting. Instead of voting for a single candidate, as in traditional voting systems, voters instead rank each candidate in order of preference. A “1” is assigned to your top choice, a “2” to your second, and so on. Each voter is allowed to vote for their top four candidates, but may choose to vote for as few candidates as s/he chooses to.

In IRV, candidates win by meeting or surpassing the quota, which is the least number of votes needed to fill each position. Each top vote is assigned a value of 1. Once all votes are cast, the quota is reached using the formula $(N/(S+1))+1$, where N is defined as the number of top votes and S is the number of positions available.

Votes are tallied in different “counts,” or rounds. Each person’s top votes are tallied and transferred to each candidate. If a candidate receives the specified number of votes, s/he is elected. The excess value of the top votes will then be transferred to the voter’s second candidate and the next round commences. If a voter’s top choice does not win, his/her vote is transferred to his/ her second candidate. This continues until all candidates are selected.

If no candidate wins during on any given count, the candidate with the lowest number of votes will be eliminated. Each person who voted for this candidate will have their votes transferred to their next eligible candidate.

WILLIAMS COLLEGE COUNCIL

YOUR CANDIDATES FOR ARMSTRONG/PRATT REPRESENTATIVE



ALINA LIN

It was a typical Sunday. There I was, Calc 151 textbook open, calculator at the ready, pen in hand—dozing off on my bed. Amidst the muggy Mission air, I felt my body relax... and roll onto my calculator with a loud CRUNCH. Startled and groggy, I grabbed the device and tossed it onto my desk. Except, it didn't land on my desk. It tore through the wire mesh on my window, catapulted through the air, and landed on the dining hall window ledge next to a stunned guy eating brunch. Suddenly 3 other people appeared at the scene, staring upwards in bewilderment. Although I knew they couldn't see me, it still felt like many instances of awkward eye contact were had. Retrospectively, I'd like to dub my calculator retrieval the Armstrong/Pratt Walk of Shame—to me, that experience was uniquely "P4"—scrambling up and down 8 flights of stairs in flip-flops to retrieve a smushed calculator. Hey guys, I'm Alina, and while that was an extreme representation of a quirk of living in Armstrong/Pratt, you can be sure as A/P rep, I'll do my best to relay the interests, ideas and issues we have to the College Council. Living in P4 has not only allowed me to meet most of the Pratt entries, but also bond with members of Armstrong. I love randomly chatting with people I meet in the lobby, dining hall, or crooms/stairs, and I'm never disappointed by the times my A/P fam have helped me, or took the time to walk up to P4 to hang out! I want to be A/P rep. so that I can give back and help improve our freshman experience. I'd like to work with you and the College Council to improve any lacking areas, as well as introduce any new initiatives.



I have copious amounts of experience in leadership, liaising and event planning, having been a Prefect in high school, President of chartered clubs, and National Coordinator of New Zealand-wide NGOs Braveheart Youth and JustSpeak NZ. However, I feel my enthusiasm for community, my compassion for people and my innovation in terms of event creation are my outstanding qualities, and what ultimately would make me the most suitable for this role.

I am also excited to implement new ideas with the help of the CC and A/P students! A project I have in mind is a series of mixers with Frosh Quad students, as I feel there is a bit of a distance between the two freshman living sectors. Another idea would be the formation of A/P study groups, where those willing can be matched up with other people in A/P who have the same class to do homework together—this would be especially helpful for those in less populated/upper level classes. Introducing a more varied (e.g. including South American or Asian) dessert menu in Mission dining hall would also be a possible project. Those are only a few—I look forward to planning more of them with you all!

MELINDA KAN-DAPAAH

My name is Melinda Kan-Dapaah. I am 18 years old and was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania but spent majority of my life in Ghana. I spent my last two years of high school in a small boarding school in Maryland and currently spend majority of my school breaks with family in Greensboro, North Carolina, so now it is fair to say that I am also from North Carolina.

I want to be the first year representative for Armstrong / Pratt because, as cliché as this may sound, I believe that I have the qualities needed to be a strong and active freshman representative. My obsession with Williams and the class of 2020 drives me to help make a positive change in our Williams Community. I am diligent and perseverant in everything that I do that I will push to make my peers' suggestions and concerns heard. I will work hard to ensure that our problems can be solved. I also believe that my friendly and approachable nature will enable me to serve as a strong liaison between the first years and the administration as well as one that the first years can count on.



In high school, I served as my grade's dining hall representative and later as an honorary member of the entertainment committee. The job requirements for these two committees cannot be compared to that of a first year representative. However, they show my experience in representing my classmates and working to make sure that our views are welcomed. I attended a boarding school and so the quality of our meals, available opportunities and general life were important since we spent majority of our days living in school, like Williams. My classmates would give their suggestions on meal changes and concerns about the dining hall services, and I would present them to the dining hall committee. We came up with events that would encourage students to follow the rules in the dining hall and engage in social life at the dining halls, for example. Like Williams' ACE, I came up with weekend activities plans, listened to students' concerns and organized social events with the entertainment committee.

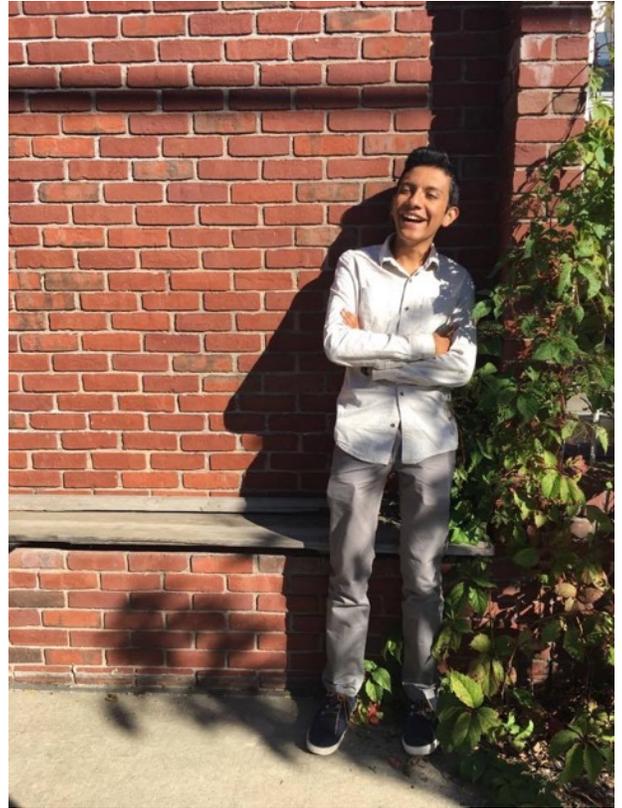
I want to create an environment where First years can be positive that they will have a voice. I am willing to keep my Armstrong/Pratt peers informed on the council's decisions and present their ideas to influence the council's decisions. I hope to create a stronger relationship between the First Years and the school's administration to ensure a better first year experience as well as help to promote student involvement on campus, especially among the First Years.

CARLOS CABRERA-LOMELÍ

I believe that the First Year representatives for the class of 2020 should break down any degree of separation between College Council and the First Year class. The core agenda of the First Year reps will be simply to address urgent issues in our First-Year existence that go unnoticed by the rest of the school. You know what these issues are, and it'd be my job to be in direct communication with all the entries to know what bothers you or makes you happy about your life on campus. . I love talking, so much that I forget to eat my food during lunch, that I will make sure I will get to meet with you, fetch you some fresh frozen yogurt from the dining hall and/or teach you how to dougie. Therefore, I make the promise that in my first two weeks as representative for the Armstrong-Dennett dorms, I will visit every single entry and check in with your entry. The great thing about me is that you don't have to come to me for something, because I'm already talking to you.

And my friends, I'm more than a visionary and former shampoo model. The fair winds of leadership have tested me throughout high school and I stand before you (well, not really, but imagine so). At SF University High School, I was co-president of Debate Club, taking the initiative of starting the first-ever debate intramural league and successfully collaborating with my co-presidents; president of Latinx United, opening the club's mission and goals for the year to a point where all members contributed and felt part of a great safe space for their identity in school; and I was a senior class representative in Student Council, pushing for an initiative for hammocks at school that had much greater success (the school agreed to a new student lounge and cafe) and was praised for my constant energy and outgoing nature.

Cheers to the Class of 2020 and Armstrong-



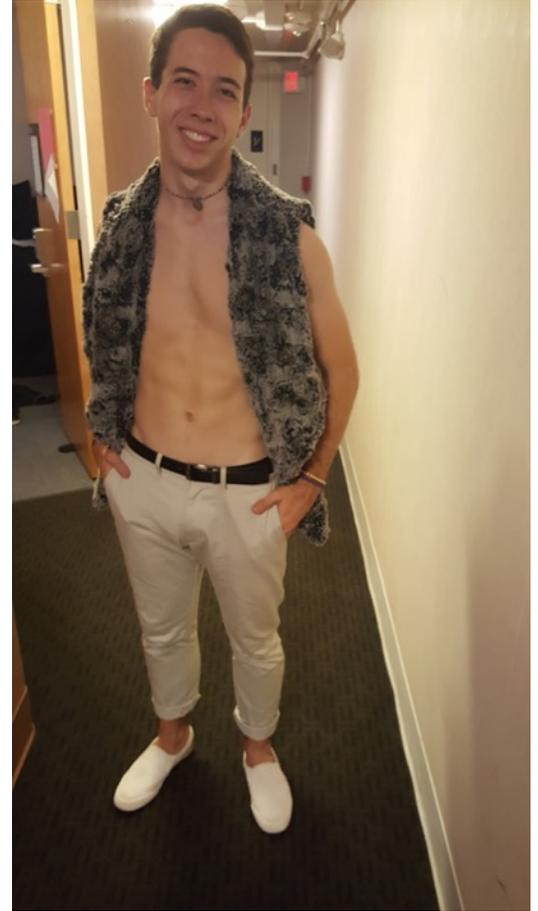
WILLIAMS COLLEGE COUNCIL

YOUR CANDIDATES FOR MILLS/DENNETT REPRESENTATIVE



SPENCER CARRILLO

I believe I'm the best candidate for this position not only due to my experience, but also due to my passion. In terms of leadership and representative experience, I have ample experience from my leadership activities in high school. These include, but aren't limited to, my experience as the president of Model United Nations, president of Debate, president of Academic Decathlon, founder of Science Olympiad as well as Cultural Power Ambassadors, and through my experience as Vice President and Treasurer of several other clubs. Additionally I was the president of my local chapter of Habitat for Humanity, and was certified as a Cultural Envoy of the People in Sino-American relations by the Chinese government. My experience in these positions makes me well suited for the representative position at hand, but I also have a passion for getting involved on our campus and reaching out to my fellow students and being a positive force in anyway I can. I believe this passion combined with my experience makes me a candidate who will very positively represent Mills and Dennet in the College Council



SYDNEY MYONG

Hey Mills-Dennett!

My name is Sydney Myong, and I would love to be a representative and a voice for you in College Council. I really do care about the community ;) The past few weeks on campus getting to know many of you has been an incredible opportunity. Not only are the classmates of MD the best of what this school has to offer in our born awesome class but also we are a clear depiction of what the Williams community is emblematic of, a diverse group of people with innovative ideas that I hope to represent for you in my work with College Council. The tight knit atmosphere of Williams should be taken advantage of because it is with your opinion and your ideas that will influence, create, and add to the amazing resources of this school. My past experience with admissions as a student rep and a student council member of my school in Chicago has allowed me the opportunity to navigate within "red tape", as well as build relationships and communicate with administration and fellow students. It would be such an honor to be your CC representative! Mission for life!



WILLIAMS COLLEGE COUNCIL

YOUR CANDIDATES FOR WILLIAMS HALL REPRESENTATIVE



BRANDON HILFER

Hi everyone! My name is Brandon Hilfer and I am running for Williams Hall Representative. I am from Chappaqua, NY, and am a prospective Music and Political Science Double Major. I am very excited to be a part of the Williams community!

I am running for College Council because I want to work with a group of individuals who, like myself, are passionate about making Williams as vibrant and dynamic as possible.

The College Council Mission Statement states that one of its most important functions includes "Giving students a voice regarding campus issues." I strongly agree with this undertaking. I know that without hearing the voices of constituents and bringing those ideas forth to College Council meetings, College Council would merely be a body passively pushing agendas. As Williams Hall Representative, I will make sure to represent the interests and voices of my constituents by making sure I am available to listen to any question, comment or concern.

I have experience with student government, serving four years on my high school's Student Council (including one year as Student Body Vice President). During my time on student government, I aimed to reach out to all voices by creating more opportunities for everyone to be heard. I spearheaded multiple initiatives with this goal in mind, such as implementing a new process for proposing speakers and school-wide programming, as well as creating a suggestion box for students to share ideas. I also worked closely with my administration to restructure my student government into an organization that more equally represented the interests of all members of my community.

I am dedicated, diligent, dependable and a proven leader. I am looking forward to serving my community. Thank you for your vote.



ANJALI PUROHIT

Hi!

My name is Anjali Purohit and I'm from Ann Arbor, Michigan. I live in Willy D, and if anyone ever needs a good workout, walk up to my room on the fourth floor and come hang. I am so excited to be here and it has been great getting to know many of you over the past couple of weeks. I would love to be your Willy Hall College Council Representative because I want to maximize our experiences here. I want to hear your ideas and translate them into action. I will make sure all of Willy's opinions are brought to light. I also think it is hugely important that there is an effective voice acting as a liaison between the faculty and students, and I hope to contribute to this.

I was involved with student government for four years in high school, and during my senior year I served as student council president. I also held leadership roles in various clubs and athletic teams. I hope to use my experience from back home, but more importantly learn from all of you. I want to work collaboratively with Willy frosh to make our first year awesome.

Even small changes can make big differences in our day to day life. I know that I can help to make these changes, and I look forward to making them with the best group of people right here at Willy. Everyone I talk to loves it here, and I can't wait to be able make this place even better than it already is.



ASHWIN DASGUPTA

My role as a representative is to, well, represent. That means, although I have my own ideas, my success will be measured not in how well I can get my own opinions across, but in how well I can gather, articulate and implement the ideas of everyone in Willy. I think I will be especially well suited for this role for a few reasons. For starters, I am genuinely interested in what people have to say by nature. I thoroughly enjoy striking up conversations with people who I don't know well and hearing what they have to say. I'm also very approachable and not someone that you will feel apprehensive about talking to whether you want to make your voice heard or just have a conversation. I also am also not the type of person to condescend the people I'm representing just because I have some fancy sounding position. People are smart as hell here, I don't think i've ever had to admit to being wrong about something more in my life than in my few weeks at Williams. I am someone who welcomes disagreements with open ears without letting things like pride get in the way of reaching the best possible conclusion, and I think at Williams being able to do that absolutely vital for this position. Once I have heard the ideas and views of the people I represent, I will also be capable in helping make them reality. Interning for a congressional campaign in high school (despite the fact that we took a fat L in the polls, gerrymandering sucks) taught me how important accurate representation of constituents is to an elected official. Working both for the government and in campaigns that expectedly had to conform with many government regulations has made me realize that bureaucracy can be a pain sometimes, but it also taught me that things get done incrementally and that no project or idea is too insignificant to be worked on. So, while i'm not going to pretend I can finesse a new snack bar in the basement of Willy, I can guarantee that I will do the most I can within the realm I can operate in. As the editor-in-chief of my school's newsmagazine, I learned how to balance the ideas of my 60 staff members, but I also learned to not be shy in making macro-level decisions with real consequences.



More than anything I love being here (and I hope we all do) and want to help out in any way I can. I look forward to meeting more of you over the year regardless of whether I get this position or not. Go Ephs.

ADLY TEMPLETON

Hello, I am Adly Templeton, and I want to be your representative in the College Council. I'd like to ask all of you a question. The question that I want to ask is very simple, yet incredibly important: what would you do to make this college a better place?

Some of you might have already thought about this question. Many of you already know your answer. Even so, most people don't take action. These problems aren't simple by any means. Even so, we already have the opportunity to create real change. This opportunity is the student government.

I want to run for College Council so that I am able to do my part in increasing student involvement in the operation of Williams college. I have more than enough of my own ideas, the little details that make a big difference. But that's not why I am running for College Council. I'm running because I want the students of the college to be more involved in student government. I'm running because I want to give a voice to all of the brilliant ideas that all of you have. I'm running because I want to change this college for the better. Thank you!



MARIA HEREDIA

Hello Everyone,

My name is Maria Heredia and I am currently a first year from New Orleans, Louisiana. I have always had a passion for student government as it is vital for a campus to accurately reflect its students' desires, morals, and perspectives. Williams quickly became more than just a college for me -- it has become my home where I feel comfortable. I would like to represent you on College Council so that as a student body, we can continue to make Williams a mirror image of our beliefs.

Throughout high school, I was apart of the Executive Board for four years and held the Student Body Vice President of Student Activities position my Junior year. My senior year I had the opportunity to be a State Officer for Louisiana Association of Student Council, in which I helped plan a state convention for over 1,000 students and acted as Junior Counselor at our annual summer leadership workshop for high school students. Not only was I involved in Student Government, but I also held leadership positions in Key Club International, the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Educations, and the Louisiana Youth Legislative Council. These experiences and positions are only a small representation of my involvement in my school, community, and state.

Getting the chance to serve on College Council would be a tremendous honor. As a representative on College Council I will strive to make our campus as cohesive and welcoming as can be.



WILLIAMS COLLEGE COUNCIL

YOUR CANDIDATES FOR SAGE HALL REPRESENTATIVE



CALEN FIREDANCING

The Class of 2020 brings a new diverse and robust voice to College Council. As Williams College continues to become a more inclusive institution, this class of freshmen has a powerful role for the next four years. As a representative for Sage Hall, I want to use my voice to ensure that every freshman is represented.

Fifty years ago, I wouldn't have been able to attend Williams. Born to a single mother in Los Angeles and growing up black and low-income in white neighborhoods and schools, I had little hopes of attending this caliber of institution. Now, as a Questbridge Scholar, U.S. Presidential Scholar, and Williams Tyng Scholar, my hopes have been actualized. That is why I want to make it my mission to continue to broaden and diversify the voices of this campus as your representative.

I went to a small charter school, where I was involved at every level of the academy. From organizing book drives and food drives to planning our prom, I got my hands dirty in every way that I could. I also brought change when it was necessary. When I saw that there was no outlet for public speaking, I put together the people and resources to found a Mock Trial team. When I found out about Questbridge, I not only became a scholar, but also mentored younger students to help them become scholars, and put together a guide to help my school navigate the process. As a representative here, I will bring this dedication and set of skills to help make this college the very best it can be.



VIJAY KADIYALA

My name is Vijay Kadiyala, and I am excited at the opportunity to run for Sage Hall Representative to the College Council. As requested by the CC, I have to talk about how I peaked in high school, and list all the ways I was involved and contributed as a student leader in the past four years. As the Vice President of Student Concerns at Greenwich High School, I devised a “concerns pipeline” through which students could voice concerns about all aspects of the school. I shared these concerns with school administrators, and worked to implement changes to technology, classes, and food. Prior to serving in this position, I was the technology chair for student government. I designed an after school activity in which students used iPads to play mentally-stimulating games with the elderly citizens of an assisted living facility. This program was a great success, and showed to me how working within a school government could effect meaningful change.



In all honesty, however, talking about my achievements in student government is boring and unimportant to the process of running for Williams College Council. I think that what makes me stand out is just how average I am. I’m spectacularly normal, and hope to do a lot of things on campus in a (hopefully) non-mediocre way. I have signed up for the beekeeping club because I like honey. I play in the concert band at Williams because it’ll jump start my heavy metal career. I sit on the bench for the JV soccer team because I like carrying water. I do homework because it’s supposedly important. Being such an average student makes me understand what our issues are at this school. I can translate this awareness and understanding into meaningful action.

If elected, I will work to share the concerns of all campus freshmen with the Council and school administrators. One idea I have is to devise a notifications system for freshmen that lists important information for us: resource center times and locations, club events, items on the academic calendar, and info regarding advising and counseling. Such a service would help freshmen manage the vast amount of new info that is shared with us every day. Another idea I have is to design a concerns ‘hotline’ that could enable students to voice a wide range of concerns regarding life here at Williams. Such a hotline, like the one I worked on in high school, would allow professors, the deans, staff, and students to work in tandem to improve our wonderful college.

The wise 2 Chainz once said, “I’m different, yeah I’m different”. Me, I am not different from any of you. I am an un-extraordinary student that wants to represent my peers. So I ask that you consider me, Vijay Kadiyala, as a worthy candidate for Sage Hall Representative to the Williams College Council.

MARIA HIDALGO ROMERO

Despite my short time here as a newly minted member of the Class of 2020, I know that I love Williams. Especially the Frosh Quad's Squad, shout out to our special Sage. Through representing Sage Hall on College Council, I will make Williams our own.

My name is Maria P. Hidalgo Romero, or just Maria, and here is why I'm qualified to represent you:

- Williams's Summer Humanities and Social Science Program, spent five weeks getting to know the campus • Had lunch with Deans of the College
- Participated in a Summer Writing Workshop, led by Director of Writing Programs Stephanie Dunson
- Volunteered at Veteran's Home in North Adams with CLiA



- First-Generation Student (fresh perspective on college life)
- Advisory Board Member of the non-profit Friends of the Gulf Gate Library, helped allocate \$250,000 in funds to community groups at the local library
- I'm prepared to transfer the expertise to help manage the \$400,000+ from Student Activity Tax

I want YOUR voice on College Council. Entries ABC, DEF vote Maria for SAGE Rep.

JANE PETERSEN

My name is Jane Petersen and I am from Ann Arbor, Michigan. I chose to attend Williams not only for its stellar academic reputation, but for the close knit community that grows at a small school. This is why I think institutions like College Council are important. This place is tiny, but wonderful. Because of the small population, the work that College Council does directly affects each individual peer as we all try to navigate our way through our lives and work here at Williams.

A few specific things I would like to do if I were lucky enough to be on college council would be to achieve more interconnectivity with Berkshire County and to take further steps toward a better environmental policy. As human beings, we all want to improve our surroundings and leave each place better than when we came to it.

As for previous experience, in high school I was president of the Young Democrats club, captain of the varsity tennis team, and treasurer of the Model United Nation. I was also a member of my school's hiring committee, where I interviewed candidates for the new principal of my high school, as well as several math teachers, so I have some experience helping at an administrative level.

If you made it to the end of this spiel, then thank you for your time and consideration, and I hope you consider me as your representative this school year! Now stop procrastinating and go finish that reading.

See you at the polls,
Jane



WILLIAMS COLLEGE COUNCIL

YOUR CANDIDATES FOR CLASS OF 2019 REPRESENTATIVE



LIZZY HIBBARD

Hello! I'm Lizzy, and I'm running for Class of 2019 Representative. A little bit about me: I'm from New York City and planning to double major in Political Science and Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies. At Williams, I'm on the Claiming Williams Steering Committee, part of the executive team for Kinetic, and I work at the Research Services desk in Sawyer.

I want to be your representative because I believe College Council can do more for students. Clearly people care about student government - 2 out of 3 students voted in the last election - and College Council has done some great work. However, I keep hearing the same frustrations from my fellow students, and I think College Council can be a part of the solution. As your College Council representative, I will work hard to find innovative ways to solve these persistent issues.



If elected as Class of 2019 Representative, some of the ideas I have to improve life at Williams are:

- Explore the possibility of introducing academic minors to Williams. In my experience, too many students feel pressured to double major. Minors would allow students to explore more classes while still focusing on subjects that are important to them.
- Work to expand eph points to Spring Street restaurants.
- Tackle the extra "costs per student" of taking a Winter Study on campus. It doesn't make sense that on top of tuition, Williams asks for additional payments for certain classes, especially because Winter Study is mandatory.
- Work with Dining Services to improve the labelling on food. Among other things: vegan and vegetarian dishes should have separate labelling, and it's too often unclear if dishes have meat in them.
- Push for a student on the Board of Trustees. Only students truly understand what it's like to be at Williams today; our opinion needs to be included.
- Work to create a cafe in the basement of Sawyer.

Williams is a fantastic place, but there is a lot of work still to be done. I would love to represent the class of 2019 to do that work.

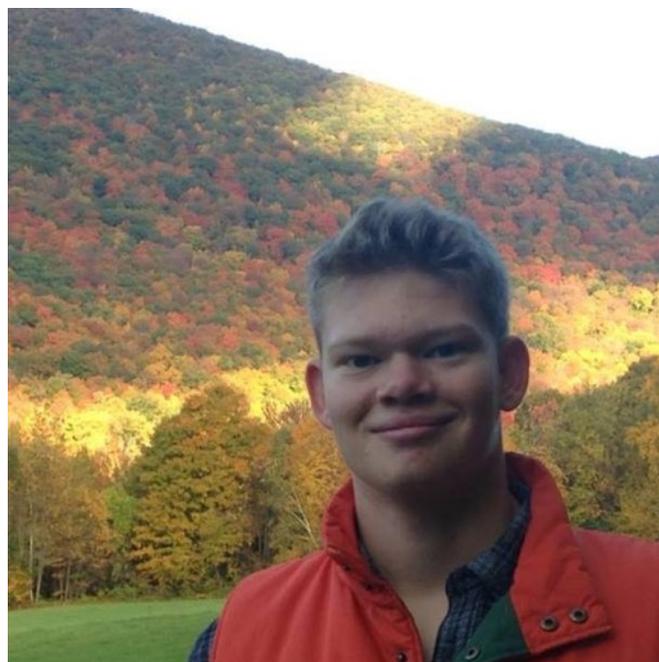
ZIEV DALSHIEM-KAHANE

Hi! My name is Ziev Dalsheim-Kahane. You've probably seen me around campus, but if not, look for the tall, goofy person who kind of looks like a younger, sexier Howard Stern. I've met many great people in my time at Williams, and I believe that they deserve a passionate representative. That's why I'm running for this position. I will represent the sophomore class, as well as all students at Williams, to make sure that College Council is accountable to the student body and continues to make improvements to the lives of our students and the school as a whole. I will take your ideas and make them reality by working with students, faculty, staff, and administrators. Most importantly, I will work to make the decision-making process at Williams more transparent by communicating with students and making sure there are more chances for open dialogue with the administration. I would appreciate the opportunity to serve you as a representative of the Class of 2019.



MICHAEL RURY

Hello- my name is Michael Rury and I'm running for Class of 2019 Representative. I'm doing so because I genuinely wish to improve the Williams experience for my peers. Like many Williams students, I am frequently perplexed by the policies of our great school. Questions abound: Why are there now marble slabs all over? Why have the trusty old dumbbells in lower Lassell been replaced by dumbbells which do the exact same thing with an added degree of inconvenience? What happens to the rest of the IBC root beer after you are given 3/4ths of the bottle at snackbar? These are the issues that define us, Class of 2019, and these are the issues I'm prepared to delve into. As your representative, I will fight for you, air your grievances, and work with you and the College to improve the Williams experience. Thank you for your consideration, and remember, it's a great day to be an Eph.



DANIEL DONAHUE

In all honesty it was only in my senior year of high school that I ever did any representing. Until then it had been a popularity or mobilization contest and I was not the coolest cat in high school. However, in the spring of 2015, the administration of my public charter school in Los Angeles maneuvered on the packed board of the school to give themselves a 30% raise with the increased budget we received that year, essentially freeze teacher salaries for the 10th year in a row that were still at recessionary levels, and attempt to change the school year schedule, all without any input from the students or teachers. When the teachers protested, the administration responded with a legal council. When the students inevitably heard this, many of us felt that our teachers and our school had been shortchanged by the move. We demonstrated in a series of sit ins that lasted several hours, were composed of over 1800 students and ended with a policeman barrier. I drafted and released a short set of demands that delivered the message of the protest in a more concrete way than just 1800 kids wanting to get out of class. Eventually, the administrations moves were rolled back and I am proud to say that I am a part of that legacy at my high school. You can actually watch the protest here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VVY5I27MPLU>



Regardless, what does this mean for my representation of you at Williams? I am an activist leader. Much of my previous activist work was based on fixing bad communication, so I want you to know exactly what is going on when you elect me. I want CC to work on letting its constituents know how they are being represented. I want to hear what you have to say and I think as a member of CC, I can do a superb job of hearing it and getting it done. Will it take thousands of people protesting to get the message through? Probably not. It might just take me, you and weekly outreach to hear your issues.

My platform is as follows:

I want environmentalism in our daily lives to be made easier. For example: better trash systems in the dorm, more compost locations, smarter lighting grids, etc.

I want to reform the laundry system. It's expensive, the payment system is clunky and the machines break often. I am confident we can do better.

I want to afford students opportunities to get involved outside of the Purple Bubble, with shuttles and vans to events and concerts in the Northeast.

I am a member of the Rugby Club, the Quartermaster to the Williams Surf Club, a huge environmentalist and a firm believer in micro-scale representation. This stuff matters to me.

ELIZABETH POULOS

Hi everyone my name is Elizabeth Poulos and I am a sophomore from Cleveland, Ohio (in the photo I'm the one on the right)! In this self-nom, I will try my best to introduce myself and tell you a bit about my experiences at Williams that I think will make my perspective valuable to the council. I am a proud Clevelander (#allin #gocavs #cavs7) and likely history major. I'm on a Kinetic Committee that focuses on police relations with the Berkshire community, and I'm also a Williams tour guide, meaning I am ok at walking backwards and talking about how the entry represents a "microcosm" of the Williams community. I was involved in student government in high school and I would like to be a part of College Council so I can help out with different projects aimed at making Williams a better place. I have heard a lot of solid ideas from friends and peers of mine, ideas that I think should be discussed and pursued, and I hope to be a voice for these ideas if elected (free laundry?). I am also on the Williams Committee on Campus Spaces and Institutional History and in our meetings we have spent a lot of time discussing the importance of allowing each place on campus to reflect our values as a school and understanding the nuance of student space, what students want of this space, and I hope that I could bring these conversations to College Council as well. I want to help make a more open discourse about improving our school and its institutions between students, administration and faculty, so that meaningful strides can be made, and I hope to do this if I am elected to College Council. Thank you!



ABEL ROMERO

I believe that a representative should act, for the most part, as a conduit for the needs and desires of their electorate. I take seriously the role of listener and problem solver--no representative can perceive the needs of their constituency through osmosis. I will be available for my fellow sophomores to hear concerns, feedback, and ideas; receptive and understanding in hearing their input; and motivated to reflect the priorities of our class and the whole student body in my actions.

The most compelling motivator I have in running for CC is to work towards creating equity, inclusivity, and solidarity amongst our student body. Though Williams is on the more diverse end of the scale compared to other institutions across the country, we still struggle to create an environment that accepts and supports all of its members. Building a collaborative intellectual community which provides academic and social support to everyone, and guarantees every member the full promise of individual development and freedom, does not end with the elimination of overt prejudice, or maintaining statistical diversity. For the sake of our companions who feel left behind, and those of us who must confront our own privilege, we must work harder to move our community forward together, as we continue along our journey and prepare to confront the challenges of the real world.

Further, I believe that the student body needs more representation within the institutions here at Williams. I support the movement to create an elected student representative position on the board of trustees, and I'll work to the best of my ability towards that goal.

Thank you for your time reading this, and your consideration in voting. Abel Romero



WILLIAMS COLLEGE COUNCIL

YOUR CANDIDATES FOR CLASS OF 2018 REPRESENTATIVE



MORGAN SPELLMAN

I am a Junior Political Science major who just transferred to Williams College this fall from Boston University. That being said, as a transfer, I am incredibly passionate about Williams College and the Williams College student body. Although, I do not know the ins and outs of the College Council first hand, and I cannot speak on how things worked in the past, I bring forth a new perspective and a willingness to learn and contribute.

At Boston University, I worked at the School of Law Dean's Office as an Office Assistant. In this position, I work at the front desk in the Dean's Office. I helped plan and coordinate events for the Dean such as meetings with students, faculty, and staff, order catering for the events, answer the phone, organize and scan files including confidential student and faculty reports, respond and compose emails, and much more. My boss, Stephanie Creag, pushed all of the student employees to develop heightened interpersonal skills and professional etiquette, which I have greatly benefited from. This summer I also worked as a Program Assistant in the Undergraduate Dean of Students Office at Boston University, where I worked the front desk, and formed a tight knit relationship with the Dean and the other staff in the Office. Moreover, our office planned a Midsummer Spree party for all the summer employees at Boston University (about 400 students attended). Freshman year, I rowed on the Varsity Women's Crew team. Moreover, I was involved in the Black Student Union, and was the secretary for the College Democrats Club. I am eager to bring the leadership and interpersonal skills I gained at Boston University to Williams as a Class of 2018 representative. I see this role as one that I can contribute to with my leadership and listening skills, but also greatly benefit from: it is a way for me to delve myself into the College, learn more about the College Council and Williams College as a whole, as well as what changes can be made, meet new people, and grow as a leader in a new environment.

From my leadership positions and jobs at Boston University, I have learned the value of working as part of a team, having enthusiasm for my work, working hard, and managing my time. These skills, combined with my coursework, past work experience, and outside perspective make me the perfect fit for the Class of 2018 representative position.



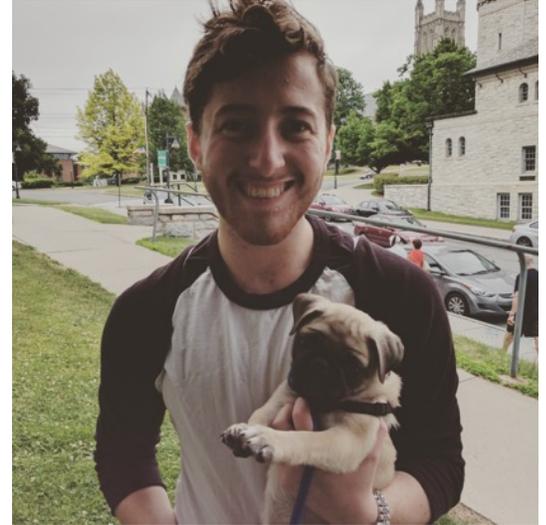
SAMUEL GOWEN

In my first two years at Williams I have had the distinct privilege of getting to know so many of you through several different areas. I am running for College Council because I know many of you who feel as if your voice may be unheard and that life on campus is changing in ways that you do not appreciate. I know that I would be the best candidate for this position because I will fight for changes that I believe need to be made, think thoughtfully about every proposal brought before the council and get to know the desires of as many of you as possible. It would be a true honor to serve as your representative and make sure Williams keeps moving forward.



TONY FITZGERALD

Hey all, my name is Tony and this fall I'd like to be your Class of 2018 College Council Representative. The biggest reason that I'm running is because I admire the diversity of interests in our campus community and I want to help facilitate the inception, development, and success of those robust and varied student groups. As a house coordinator for the past year, I've gained invaluable experience at community building and event planning that I would bring with me to CC. The greatest thing about Williams isn't our course catalog, facilities, nor esteemed faculty. It's the students and what they do here that makes this place what it is, and working to promote that will be my aim this Fall.



A specific initiative I'd like to pursue on CC is accessibility. Particularly in regard to the first year Class Representative positions. The notion that there should be one class rep each from Willy, Sage, AP, and MD seems totally arbitrary and needlessly restrictive. If you get the most votes you should win, regardless of which dorm some administrators placed you in over the summer. I would like to make CC available to everyone on campus, and that is where I would start.

WILLIAMS COLLEGE COUNCIL

YOUR CANDIDATES FOR CLASS OF 2017 REPRESENTATIVE



SOFIE PIETRANTONIO

Hello Class of 2017! My name is Sofie Pietrantonio and I would love the opportunity to represent you on College Council. I'm a Political Economy major and am excited about taking part in College Council during my last year on campus. I've been so lucky to spend the past three years at Williams and am hoping to give back to the community through my time on CC.

I was a JA last year and this taught me many lessons that would be applicable to a role on College Council. My experience working with the deans as well as numerous other resources across campus make me well equipped to represent our class. Additionally, as a member of the Women's Swim Team, I've learned how to work as part of a team and how to accomplish goals as part of a larger group.

I'm looking forward to potentially representing our class on CC and I would love nothing more than to have your support.



TRESSA PALCHECK

Hey everyone! I'm running for class representative because I want to make sure we can get the most out of Williams in our final year here. I would love to get to know more of you to find out things we can improve before we graduate. Let's make senior year great!



WILLIAMS COLLEGE COUNCIL

YOUR CANDIDATES FOR PARLIAMENTARIAN



ALLEGRA SIMON

Hi everyone! My name is Allegra, and I am a Class of 2018 History and Economics major. I am very excited to be running for Parliamentarian. Parliamentarian is a new position tasked with overseeing the smooth operation of College Council and interpreting the bylaws and Constitution. I believe that I have the necessary experience with CC and the knowledge of how Council should function to do this job effectively. I've served on CC every semester I've been on campus, holding the positions of Mills-Dennett Representative and Vice President for Academic Affairs.



In these roles, I've worked on revamping Free University, starting the Your 32 initiative, reducing food insecurity on campus, changing the salads at Grab and Go, and amending the CC Constitution to use gender neutral pronouns, just to name a few. Other projects of mine, such as a vending machine for health related products (especially with the closing of Hart's), and having phone/computer charger check-out in Paresky are still in the works, and I'd love to work on them as CC side projects if elected. All of these projects have allowed me to understand how much CC can do, how it works as an organization, and what its resources are. This is valuable knowledge for the Parliamentarian to have when facilitating CC's operations and interpreting its documents.

I am particularly excited to run for Parliamentarian this semester as the role takes shape. I believe I have the initiative and ideas to make the position meaningful. Just one of these is changing the voting platform that elections take place on, as our current system is extraordinarily confusing and difficult to operate. I'd also like to change the way meeting minutes and agendas are distributed to ensure that students know when topics of interest will be discussed or when administrators like President Falk and Dean Sandstrom will be attending.

I love CC, am excited about this position, and hope to be your first Parliamentarian!

WILLIAMS COLLEGE COUNCIL

YOUR CANDIDATES FOR ASSISTANT TREASURER



ANDRES VILLASMIL OCANDO

As a student of an impoverished background, I know all too well what it means to budget. Being an assistant treasurer would place me in a position where I would benefit from more experience and further sense of responsibility, but I could contribute my knowledge of accounting and my social skills for the betterment of the Williams College community. I have had multiple years of experience with accounting/bookkeeping while working under Titan HOA Management. I was treasurer of National Honor Society and of the Technology Student Association in my high school. I'm proud of my organizational skills, communication abilities, and tech savviness.



As an assistant treasurer and a part of the Financial Committee, I would hope to fulfill all the duties required of me and to learn of the processes/decisions necessary of a treasurer. Making new connections among the student body and gaining insight on the financial access of the over 300 clubs across campus are just a few reasons why I would like to experience being an assistant treasurer in the Williams College Council.

WILLIAMS COLLEGE COUNCIL

YOUR CANDIDATES FOR HONORARY DEGREES COMMITTEE



KEVIN SILVERMAN

If given the honor of being your representative on the Honorary Degrees Committee, I would have a blast. And why not? Bringing in wicked cool speakers with a compelling personal story or a sumptuous personality would be quite possibly the best end to mark our time at Williams. It's not enough to have a cookie cutter for our graduation speeches; we deserve one that fills us up with joy and/or motivates us to continue onto the next phase of our lives after our short time in Billsville. I want to help bring in a speaker who ends up going viral on YouTube and either reflects the best elements of the Williams community or inspires change within the ones lacking. To give a couple examples, why not bring in Cornel West, Bill Nye or someone like Williams 1998 Commencement speaker Yo-Yo Ma?

I am committed to bringing in a speaker that reflects the diversity and numerous eclectic personalities in our class. We deserve a commencement address that lives up to our class's dynamism.



TEDDY WEISS

I am running for the Honorary Degrees Committee because I believe it provides an outstanding opportunity for the Williams community to identify and select certain individuals who will enrich our community. Awarding an honorary degree is the highest level of recognition for influential ideas and achievements, and those who receive honorary degrees become lifelong members of the Williams family. As such, the decisions of the Honorary Degrees Committee have enduring consequences that can affect the college and its students. Serving on the Committee provides the opportunity to expand the number of voices and extend the range of opinions in our community. I believe the role is important, not only for these reasons but also because those students chosen to serve on the Committee should be committed to the prospect of using the role to engage with fellow students and solicit their ideas and opinions. It affords committee members the chance to connect the entire community to the process.



I believe I am the best candidate for the role because I have been involved in communities that have this rite of passage my entire life. Whether it was growing up on college campuses or being involved in the process at boarding school, I have seen how valuable it is to get nominations right. I have also seen the conflict and dissension that arises when the process is not conducted thoughtfully and people are not heard. I am deeply interested in what honorary degree recipients can contribute to the Williams community and I appreciate the importance of the degree, a lifetime event for anyone who is chosen, regardless of their position in life.

I am outgoing, interested in the world of ideas, and I enjoy meeting new people. I am the Recruiting Programs Assistant in the Career Center, a job that allows me to meet and interact with nearly every employer that comes to campus. From consulting firms and investment banks to schools and non-profit organizations, I have the chance to talk with people from all industries and walks of life. I acknowledge individuals' diverse range of commitments and successes, which will not only help me nominate prospective honorary degree recipients, but also understand the impact they have made in their respective fields, and will make at Williams.

WILLIAMS COLLEGE COUNCIL

YOUR CANDIDATES FOR HONOR AND DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE



NICHOLAS GOLDROSEN

As a lifelong Boy Scout (that's always a terrific opening line — seriously, try it at your next party), I've grown accustomed to reciting the Scout Oath starting with the phrase "On my honor." In my view, honor is something intrinsic, a proactive self-motivation to the highest standards of integrity. It comes not from fear of punishment, but rather from a sense of being in a culture that values honesty and integrity. It is this view that I would bring, if elected, to my role on the Honor and Discipline Committee. I believe that there is a place for the committee to pursue year-round anti-plagiarism education, especially for first-year students, and to help foster a broader conversation on why academic integrity matters, and on alleviating the cultural pressures that can encourage dishonesty.



While I obviously would execute my responsibilities to the Committee's investigatory and adjudicatory roles with the utmost vigor, I also would want to build on this with education and outreach work with students and faculty to more proactively create a culture of integrity. In a sense, this would be working to render the Committee's role in hearings unnecessary — building a culture to prevent academic dishonesty is a more proactive and, in my view, effective way of promoting integrity. More specifically, these efforts might include continued work with first-year students, especially as the academic year intensifies and exam periods approach, wider conversations and discussions on academic honesty and preventing cheating, and addressing pressures which incentivize cheating and plagiarism, such as an unhealthy focus on grades, poor time management, or external pressure from parents or others.

As a teaching assistant at my high school, I developed experience in anti-plagiarism education, helping students develop study and work habits that avoided dishonesty, and in fostering a classroom environment of integrity. I believe that this experience, coupled with my desire to craft a culture of honesty beyond responding to individual cases of dishonesty, makes me well-suited to serve on the Honor and Discipline Committee. I thank you for your consideration.

DONGLIN ZHANG

Hello Class of 2019,

I had served on the Honor and Discipline Committee last academic year and I hope to continue this year. My name is Donglin Zhang and I hope to represent you on the Honor and Discipline Committee. My experience on the committee as well as various other groups on campus has only enhanced my understanding of how every student comes from a different background with their own set of experiences that shape their outlook. Serving on the committee, first and foremost I prioritize listening and learning the most I can about each case in order to take what I believe to be the most appropriate action.

Throughout last year, I continuously sought ways to improve the committee structure and processes to best carry out its purpose to educate and protect students on campus. One of the improvements I initiated was create an Honor Code and Resource Use orientation program for Mount Greylock students that attend classes on campus. Another improvement I proposed was to have a copy of the Honor Code at each hearing.

HDC is a great priority to me because I believe it is a necessary way in which students can participate in maintaining integrity on campus in many ways. I support the 8+4 proposition made last year, and will work this year to bring that change about. I believe that as a representative, I actively bring a readiness to serve our campus through my understanding, empathy, and transparency. Thank you!



KERRY SWARTZ

A few years ago during a Nordic ski race, two girls and I took the wrong trail on a poorly marked ski course. This mishap caused us to bisect the lower loop of the course. The trail we took and the lower loop eventually merged toward the finish line; so no one besides us even realized that we had skipped the lower loop. After the race, I told my coach about how I did not ski the entire course and disqualified my race result. The two other girls did not tell their coaches, and were not disqualified.

I was upset that I was the only one who was disqualified. In fact, I had a moment of regret for disqualifying myself knowing that I could have gotten away with it. I made the right decision to disqualify myself because I had cheated. It was only fair to the other competitors that I was disqualified.

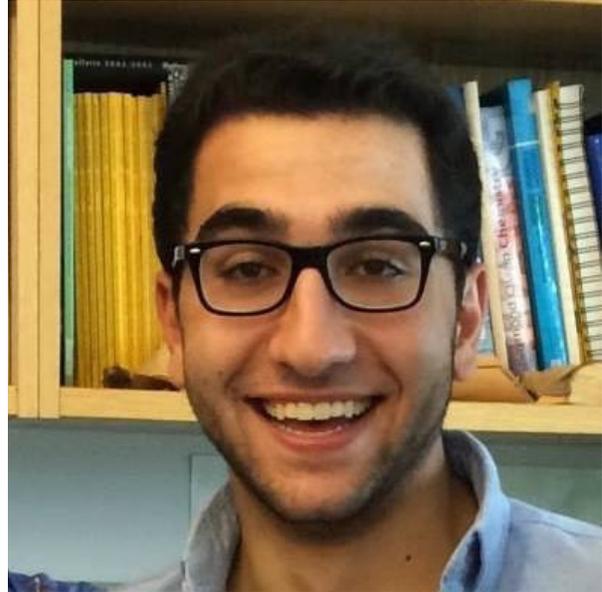
Whether it is done intentionally or accidentally, cheating is an issue of fairness. I want to be on the honor committee because I believe everyone deserves to be treated fairly —especially when his or her actions are being questioned. Being treated fairly means understanding the whole story and knowing that no story is simply black or white. Perhaps, if someone didn't know that I had gotten lost on the ski course they might have just assumed that I had cheated on purpose.



JAD HAMDAN

Hello! My name is Jad and I am running for the position of Honor and Discipline Committee representative for the class of 2019.

I think that to simply address what I believe qualifies me best for this position would be a bit of a waste of time. I believe that I am certainly qualified to be a representative on the Honor and Discipline Committee, having spent a considerable amount of time as a part of leadership organizations in various capacities - most recently as a representative on freshman council. But I also believe that this position isn't one that is meant to be fun, nor is it just a means to pad my resume. The honor code is a critical aspect of what makes the Williams academic environment so engaging, collaborative, and effective. That's why I am seeking your nomination, because I fully believe in the value and importance of the honor code to our experience as Williams students. I know that I will bring a responsible, analytical, and considerate perspective to the committee to make sure that a code so central to our student experience is effectively upheld for the entirety of my tenure. Please consider voting for me for Honor and Discipline Committee representative for the class of 2019.



ALINA LIN

Hi everyone, my name is Alina and I am a freshman applying to be a Honor and Discipline Committee Class of 2020 Representative. I firmly believe in a form of justice with empathy, whether it be on violations of the Honor code, student conduct or intellectual property. As a student myself, I understand the importance of fairness and academic honesty and can assure that instances of cheating reported by you, the students, or found via software will have my full attention and support. However, I also feel that empathy and support are important as aspects of this role— we all make mistakes, we're all young, and so we should treat others the way we'd want to be treated. While I won't let sentimentality dictate my decisions, I will definitely regard every student who comes before the Committee with kindness and compassion, and face each case with the mentality of wanting to resolve an issue, not to condemn or pay out punishment. I understand the gravity of this role as a member of the Honor and Discipline Committee, and believe I'm able to serve as a reliable and unprejudiced student representative. I genuinely care about our community of students, and hope that through this role I can also help prevent potential cases of violation through emphasising student support and resources (like the deans, professors, MSRC, Psych Services), while highlighting the importance of the Honor Code to the student body. I have had previous experiences working with forms of youth justice, as the National Volunteer Coordinator of JustSpeak NZ (youth run legal advocacy group) and as a Hostel Coordinator of Braveheart Youth Trust (association that helps young offenders return to school). Through this role on the Honor and Discipline Committee I hope to continue to aid in and learn more about how Williams maintains its academic



TARAN DUGAL

I went to a high school that was extremely cutthroat - my classmates were always asking about grades and doing whatever they could to get an edge up on each other. Obviously this meant that violations of our honor code were rampant, and although I didn't notice at the time, this was pretty directly linked to the super competitive atmosphere. When I was looking for colleges I made sure to try and find a place that was much more laid back and supportive, and I think I succeeded in finding that place here at Williams. I would love to be a member of the Honor and Discipline Committee because I think it's super important that we maintain a friendly and supportive atmosphere and that we don't slip into a spirit of user competitiveness and a cutthroat atmosphere. In general I would be grateful to have a seat on the Honor and Discipline Committee. I would use my position to encourage a friendly and cooperative atmosphere here at Williams and to insure that our awesome school remains the way it is. Go Ephs!!

