

GET TO KNOW THE CANDIDATES

With Student Government Elections just around the corner, it's important to ensure that you're informed before casting your ballot. Serving its role in the electoral process, *The Weekly* interviewed six candidates running in contested races for Cabinet positions. Cabinet members help to administrate the day-to-day functions of Student Government and play a vital role with regard to influencing the success of the Assembly. All candidates for the positions of President, Director of Committee Affairs, and Treasurer were provided with the opportunity to answer a short policy-oriented questionnaire and discuss their campaign in an on-camera interview with *The Weekly* – only those who chose to do so are featured below. All candidates were given several opportunities to speak with *The Weekly* and notified continuously several times over the course of two weeks.

It is not the policy of *The Weekly* to endorse candidates in Student Government races; please recognize that the information presented below is policy-focused and does not represent a preference for any given candidate.

Graphic and Write-up by Sammy Kagan

Thank you to Charlie Moog, Natalie Daskal, and Lindsay Carlin for their help in conducting candidate interviews



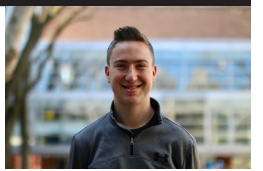
FELICIA MILLER

"Making sure that the proposals we pass actually happen will make people want to be more engaged."

PRESIDENT

NATHAN SATTERFIELD

"That's really what I'm running on: making change, meaningful change, at this school."



Affect Genuine Change • Reform Committee System • Foster Participation

- Miller seeks "to reconsider each committee's bylaws individually and rewrite them as more reflective of what the students actually need from that committee."
- Prominent in her interview, questionnaire, and platform, Miller demonstrates a serious interest in standardizing the implementation of policy by creating "a structure for implementing proposals that we can use each time one is passed in Plenary."
- When asked about engaging students without a serious interest in Student Government, Miller stated that she believes that proving the productivity of the Assembly will encourage students to reconsider the potential of Student Government to impact tangible change.

Prioritize External Proposals • Increase Transparency • Motivate Through Small Groups

- Satterfield is an overwhelming proponent of external proposals, noting the significance of "receiving a stamp of approval from Student Government," and regularly referencing their ability to "change things at this school." He promises to prioritize external proposals if elected.
- Small Groups play a large role in the potential Satterfield Administration; if elected, Satterfield seeks to increase the usage of small-sided sessions to encourage participation and drive creative thinking with regard to proposals.
- Satterfield noted that his experience with large-scale projects and initiatives – leading the Hour of Code, seeking wifi improvements, and pushing a paper-reduction proposal – demonstrate his ability to produce real change and uniquely qualify him for the presidency.



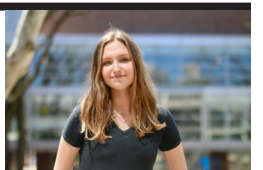
CHAD WHITE

"I really think that committees are the most important part of Student Government, especially in relation to the student body."

DCA

GEORGIA WEED

"It's important for the Student Body to feel that they have...an opportunity to...share their perspective in a Student Government forum."

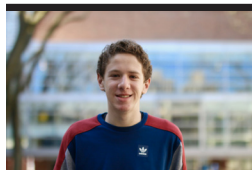


Combine Events • Utilize Personal Experience • Motivate Committee Heads

- White regularly mentions the ability of committees to impact students at a more personal level and touts his experience in navigating the committee system as the head of multiple committees for multiple years. Said White, "I know what it's like."
- "I really think the committees that aren't very active just lack motivation," White wrote, noting the necessary engagement he would take on if elected to brainstorm ideas and plan events alongside committee heads.
- Combined committee events are a large part of White's platform, touching on the potential of combined committee events and a "Committee Week" to provide accessible and well-executed events.

Committee Switches • Increase Communication For All • Unique Perspective

- Weed credits lack of communication as the root cause of many committee-related ills and, if elected, promises to speak with committee heads regularly about event-planning and committee grades.
- One of the larger changes on which Weed is running is a promise to allow committee members to switch committees mid-year, believing that "committees filled with active and engaged members will be more productive and useful."
- Having served as one of this year's co-Directors of Cross-Grade Communication (DOCC), Weed believes her time with the 8th grade would aid her immensely as DCA. Said Weed, "I have gained so much knowledge about Student Government through teaching about it."



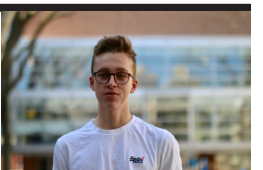
OLIVER MARKS

"I hope that when people come to Participatory Budgeting their first thought is 'Yeah! Participatory Budgeting! Fun!'"

TREASURER

JACK MALING

"Those who actually see problems don't feel confident enough to bring [them] to the Student Body."



Semester Budgets • Improve Credit System • Approachable and Energetic

- Marks notes the inequities inherent in the current system of reimbursement and promises to pursue a system by which students can be paid back in a more convenient and expeditious manner, proposing the use of popular payment platforms like Venmo.
- In stark contrast to the current "as needed" style of budgeting, Marks advocates for establishing committee budgets at the start of the year – encouraging committee heads to use their budgets effectively and completely.
- Transparency is a frequent topic of conversation for Marks as he believes regular updates to the Student Body vis-a-vis the Student Government budget is important in ensuring accountability and honesty in the allocation of funds.

Reform PB • Ensure Full Committee Budget Usage • Solve Real Problems

- Maling believes that Participatory Budgeting isn't living up to its full potential and that "we're solving mundane problems." If elected, he promises to hold group discussions wherein students of various experiences will come together to consider truly pertinent issues.
- "Committees, without knowing how much of the budget they have access to, plan events that can occur without any sort of financial assistance, which often holds them back," Maling writes. He seeks to make budgeting more widely known so Committee Heads make use of funds.
- The lack of widespread engagement with the Student Government budget is another issue of concern for Maling. "The issue, for me, lies mostly in who the funds are allotted to, and today, that is not a very large group," he articulated in *The Weekly's* candidate questionnaire.