

Platform Statements 2018

President/VP

Riley Grant and Tucker Lovett

The University of Kentucky is a thriving institution, but like every great university, it is constantly facing new challenges as faculty, students, and the community adapt to our ever-evolving world. We are in the wake of massive budget cuts from the state legislature, a student body that is trying to survive the rising costs of a college education, and an administration that is still working towards providing equal opportunity to all students on campus.

We are Riley Grant and Tucker Lovett and we are running to be your Student Body President and Vice President so we can foster real change that will help our University overcome these challenges. Our platform is based on renewing progress in the areas of student and equal opportunities, initiating needed reform to protect students, and electing leaders you can trust. We will work to with administration to make sure there are programs in place to protect students on and off campus. This includes the expansion of the Kentucky Wildcab program, prompting a discussion on a dated University alcohol policy, and a more intense focus on making mental health treatment easier for students to access.

We will work to no end with the administration to identify **and** eliminate student costs. This starts with SGA, which has had surplus funds for the past three years. We plan to cut the SGA budget by almost 20% to enable other organizations and students to get the funding they need. Further, we plan to redistribute these excess funds through mid-sized funding grants to increase opportunities for other campus organizations. To see our full plan to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of SGA programs such as Wildcat Wardrobe, Student Legal Services, Childcare Grants, the Government Internship Program, and the Student Coalition of for Diversity and Inclusion be sure to visit www.grantlovett2018.com. Beyond these programs we have ideas for improving the first-year experience, continuing lobbying efforts in Frankfort, and amplifying the student voice on the Board of Trustees.

As your Student Body President and Vice President we will renew progress, initiate reform, and be the leaders you can trust. **Don't forget to vote Grant/Lovett on Feb. 21 & 22 at uksga.org!**

Ross Boggess and Sydney Otten

Student Wellness. Student Success.

Boggess-Otten is rooted in making UK a community students are well; physically, socially, emotionally, and financially, to ensure success while students are at UK and after graduation.

Ross & Sydney will continue to promote campus safety programs to secure physical wellness, we will not vote to raise tuition, fees, housing or dining as a member of the student member of the Board of Trustees to ensure student financial wellness. We believe it is important to feel a part of the UK community and will create a council of student leaders and campus stakeholders to promote collaboration and communication between groups for the greater good of the University of Kentucky as a way to involve student and make social and emotional wellness a priority.

Through student student wellness we will lead the effort to promote student success by listening and advocating for what students want and feel is needed to be successful.

Let's Achieve More! Go Cats.

Michael Hamilton and Noor Ali

Hey y'all, I'm Michael Hamilton — I'm a Political Science/International Studies major and currently serve as Senate President for UKSGA. I'm Noor Ali — I am a Health, Society, and Populations major, and I was the Leadership Development Program Coordinator last year. I currently serve as a Senator for the College of Arts and Sciences. We are running to be your Student Body President and Vice President! We firmly believe that our time at the University of Kentucky is not just about growing academically, but personally and professionally as well - and that all students should have a say in the decisions that affect us. We believe that the college experience should be an equitable one: that all students regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, orientation, or socioeconomic status should be able not only to succeed at the University of Kentucky but also find belonging and enjoy their time here as a part of the Big Blue Nation.

As experienced leaders in Student Government, we have the skills and understanding necessary to be effective servants for the university - and all it encompasses. Our vision for the campus is one of inclusivity, stability, and unity. Through hard work and innovation, we believe these expectations are definitely within our reach. Our vision will be matched with action: ***proven leadership and intentional service***. Here are a few ideas that we think will make this vision a reality:

- We will improve advising and counseling so that, throughout the entirety of their time at UK, every student will receive the academic and personal support necessary for academic success, mental wellbeing, and a sense of belonging.

- We will create a meal swipe bank for students who are food insecure. A student at the University of Kentucky should never worry about where their next meal is coming from or their ability to afford a balanced meal. We will ensure that all students' basic needs are met.
- We will increase transparency and expand outreach efforts in order to have consistent student input on our initiatives and our interactions with the administration -- we will elevate the collective student voice.

There is much more where this came from. Our experience with the Student Government Association has opened our eyes to the many ways that we can improve our university. We hope to transform this campus into a place where when we sing the state song at Memorial Hall, Kroger Field, or the hallowed halls of Rupp Arena, we can all claim The University of Kentucky with pride as our "Old Kentucky Home!" It is our hope that you will join us in this endeavor by casting your vote for Hamilton/Ali in this Spring election at uksga.org!

College Senators

Agriculture:

Hunter-Anne Julian

Every day, multiple times a day, we use agriculture. From the food we eat to the clothes we wear, everyone is tied to agriculture in some way. The College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is dedicated to growing the next generation of agriculturists to face the challenge of how to provide enough food, fiber, and much more for the growing population. Our college is rooted in traditional agriculture, but has since grown to include many disciplines such as fashion, dietetics and community and leadership development. The College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is expanding, reflected by the number of diverse programs and graduates each year. My love and dedication lies in this college because of the outstanding advancements and opportunities offered every day. Having had the opportunity to serve as the C.A.F.E College senator this past year, I have loved bringing opportunities provided by SGA to our college student body. As a senator representing the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment I will continue to commit myself to advocating for the many programs within our college, agriculture at large, and giving a voice to students' interest.

Whitney Runyon

I am a freshman Human Nutrition major, from Lexington, KY. As a freshman, I would like to get started now because I want to give as much as I can, for as long as I can, to this campus, and to this great university. I plan to work with my peers and hear what they want/need, as well as actively meet with faculty to bring forth the change we need. As a senator for the College of Agriculture, at the University of Kentucky, I hope to bring the

issues in the agriculture campus up and not stop till there is a change made for them. Our college does great things and I hope to help us get the recognition that we deserve for that. I will strive to be patient and calm in times of stress, and to work as hard as possible to fix any problem that may come our way. I would be humbled and honored to serve as senator for our college. Please, support me in this election. Every vote is appreciated.

Arts & Sciences:

Allie Stevens

Hi, my name is Allie Stevens and I am running to be a Senator for the College of Arts and Sciences. I am a political science major and have a strong understanding of the college itself. As an upperclassmen I have been a part of the college for many years which motivates me even more to bring about changes and hear out my fellow college members. I would be honored and humbled to serve as your senator and look forward to working with you.

Sara Khandani

My name is Sara Khandani and I am currently a junior pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and planning to further my education at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine. As a Lexington resident, I have spent my entire life interacting with the University of Kentucky and topics concerning it. My personal experiences as a student, researcher, and Lexington native have broadened my perspective of the issues on campus and the improvements that can be made to strengthen not only the campus community, but Lexington as a whole. This year I had the opportunity to serve as a Senator for the College of Arts and Sciences and it tremendously helped me understand the issues concerning our campus and how we as students might impact our campus. My experience as a member of Student Government Association left me with a sense of duty to continue serving: I am running for re-election to serve as your Senator for the College of Arts and Sciences for another year. As a Senator, I will strive to amplify the voices of the students in my college and do all that I can to share their concerns with other members of Student Government and administrators. In addition to this, I hope to participate in discussions surrounding educational issues such as improving school climate and furthering academic and professional opportunities for University of Kentucky Students.

Communications & Information Studies:

Chandler Frierson

Bridging the gap is a key to success in every aspect of life. As a Senator for the College of Communications and Information Studies I believe that my communication and advocacy skills would bridge the gap betwixt our specific college and the Student

Government Association. I have been a part of this college for two-semester, yet I have already recognized areas in which our college could benefit from the resources SGA offers and vice-versa. I plan to be a liaison for our college and SGA. As our College's senator, I plan to allocate funding for the advancement of our college and the perpetuation of our smaller majors such as; ISC, ICT, Journalism, and Media and Arts. I also plan to review and recognize new programming and resources that would be beneficial to the students within our college. I plan to especially focus on programs that help those within our college secure jobs before graduation and locate their niche in the job force. This would increase retention, as well as recruitment for our college. Also understanding legislative duties and the senate as a whole will enable me to successfully, and effectively work with SGA to bridge the gap in-between our college and SGA while most importantly bridging the gap with the students within our college. Thank you for your most appreciated consideration.

Engineering:

James Obute

My name is James Obute and I am running for College of Engineering senator. I am a sophomore majoring in Chemical Engineering with a focus in power and energy. I believe that through several leadership positions, I have gained insight into the needs of UK's college of engineering students. These positions include the following: Peer Mentor for the Engineering LLP, Calculus tutor at The Study, UK 101 Engineering focus Peer Instructor, Telecommunications chair for the National Society of Black Engineers and K-crew leader. Using my strong leadership and effective communications skills, I hope to achieve the following things if I am elected as your senator: Improvement of the newly introduced first-year engineering program (FYEP); Increase funding for engineering student organizations; Enhance faculty connections for first-year engineering majors; Re-establishment of an engineering student council that serves as an intermediate between students and faculty to improve course planning and organize more events. Finally, I will try my best to represent every student in the college of engineering and ensure that our voices are heard.

Brandon Tracy

Hi! My name is Brandon Tracy and I am a junior Mechanical Engineering major on a pre-law track from Knoxville, TN. For the past year, I have served as an undergraduate senator for the College of Engineering and am excited to have this opportunity to run for re-election in order to continue to represent such a great college and university. I have loved being able to serve as a representative of all of the wonderful things that the students across our campus accomplish each and every day and have strived to be a voice for the student body and to advocate on their behalf. For the past year, I have worked tirelessly in my role on the Appropriations and Revenue committee – a subcommittee in SGA that has allocated funding to a multitude of student organizations across campus. I would be honored to have your vote to go on and continue to

represent the College of Engineering as a member of your Student Government! Thanks and go cats!

Law:

Hannah Walker

My name is Hannah Walker, and I am running to represent the UK College of Law. I am currently a 2L (second year student). In addition to being a student at UK Law, I am a dual-degree student in the Martin School of Public Policy and Administration. I also attended UK for my undergraduate education. After spending the last seven years as a Wildcat, I understand the trajectory of the University for the future, while also being able to discern the unique needs of graduate and professional, and especially law, students. I hope to use my position to further integrate the College of Law within the University of Kentucky experience, and represent the diverse interests of our students.

Nursing:

Makenzie Ward

My name is Makenzie Ward. I am from Dayton, Ohio and I am running for senator because of my passion for nursing and serving others. The college of nursing has become a second home to me over the past year. I want to see this college reach new heights and become the best it can be. I am more than willing and able to get us there. It would be a privilege to represent our college and be the voice for so many intelligent and hard-working students. As a senator, I am willing to listen to all comments, questions, concerns, or suggestions anyone has to offer. In return I will make sure everyone's voices are heard at SGA meetings in order to promote change. I will be taking a hands-on approach to ensure that you are given the best college experience that the University of Kentucky has to offer.

Undergraduate Senator at Large

Kamryn Stewart

Hello fellow University of Kentucky students! My name is Kamryn Stewart and I am running for Undergraduate Senator-at-Large. I'm from right here in Lexington, and I have always been a huge UK fan. My major is Political Science, and my dream is to attend law school so that one day I will be able to help protect and defend other people and their rights. When I'm not attending class or studying, I love spending time with my family and friends, serving in the Lexington community, meeting new people, and traveling. If elected to serve as an Undergraduate Senator-at-Large, I would represent the undergraduate student body with integrity, responsibility, enthusiasm, and poise. When helping make decisions on behalf of the student body, I would consider the

diversity within UK's undergraduate students. The diversity of our student body is one of the reasons why I believe our student body is so special. My overall goal as Senator would be to create a better environment for undergraduate students here at the University of Kentucky- one where everyone feels included, represented, and safe. I would greatly appreciate your support in this election and your help in making our university the best it can be!

Courtney Wheeler

Hello everyone! My name is Courtney Wheeler and I'm a freshman in the Gatton College of Business pursuing a business management and communications degree. I am from Louisville, Kentucky and attended Sacred Heart Academy for 3 years. However, I spent most of my life in Ashland, Kentucky. Considering I have lived in Kentucky almost all my life, attending the University of Kentucky was a dream of mine. I'm currently a freshman senator and would love to continue serving the student body in the future. For as long as I can remember I've always been a person to not only say what I believe, but to actually do what I know is right as well. And, that is exactly what I will do if I'm elected as a senator-at-large.

Kelsey Proffitt

My name is Kelsey Proffitt and I am running for Undergraduate Senator-at-Large. I am running for this position because I am extremely passionate about the future of the University of Kentucky and dedicated to making our campus the best it can truly be. We attend one of the strongest institutions in the state of Kentucky, due to impressive academics, athletics, and student life. I want to serve as a voice and connection between students and the university so that effective communication can take place. I want to listen to the needs of students and use this feedback to find creative ways to formulate positive change on campus. In addition, I also want to work on saving leftover food from the on-campus cafeterias and donating it to other organizations within the Lexington community. With hard work, dedication, and excitement, I will accomplish many goals within the Student Government Association to continue enriching our college campus and our time spent here at UK.

Alex Cochran

This fall, I was honored to have the ability to serve the class of 2021 as one of our Freshman Senators. As we continue into the Spring 2018 semester, I am asking for your support as well of the rest of the student body in the upcoming elections. As the University of Kentucky is rapidly expanding towards new horizons, there are many campus wide issues present. With an outstanding, diverse, and unique student body unparalleled anywhere else, it is my upmost priority to improve student life, increase inclusion and unity, at to serve as a voice for all.

Some specifics I would like addressed in the upcoming year are the expansion of parking, more flexible dining options, and increased activities for both on campus and

off campus students. With an active student government, unparalleled transparency, and an unbridled spirit, we can continue to push the flagship college of this great Commonwealth to new heights.

Growing up in Kentucky, this university has always held a special place in my heart. It has truly been an honor to serve on the student government and I am looking forward at the expansions and advancements that can be made. Thank you all, and I would greatly appreciate all support and I encourage all students to get out and vote. Thank you all!

Maya Pierce

My name is Maya Pierce and I am hoping to get the opportunity to serve as a member of the University of Kentucky's full senate. I am an English major with a Political Science minor, and I hope to attend law school after obtaining my undergraduate degree. I am interested in getting involved in student government at UK because I believe that student leadership is crucial to a thriving atmosphere in a university setting. If I was elected as member of the full senate I would focus on promoting student wellness. I feel that in a university setting, it is easy to fall into bad habits when it comes to your physical health. The JC may be too far from where you call home, there may not be enough healthy eating options located near your classes, and on top of that sickness spreads like wildfire. I believe that a push for healthier eating options located on campus, constant sanitation, and new opportunities to experience Lexington through increased physical activity, will improve student life at UK.

Taylor Williams

The University of Kentucky has quickly become home to me, as it also has for the masses of our student body. I consider this Big Blue Nation a family and as peers that I strive to serve as an Undergraduate Senator. I will always do my best to reflect the opinions and best interests of the student body as a whole. As the people with whom I share this home, you all deserve to feel comfortable, welcome, and encouraged here at UK. My decisions as your Undergraduate Senator would reflect such ideas and allow you to continue to craft your ideal life in your time on this campus. I am passionate about showcasing the incredible opportunities that we all have here and continuing to expand the horizons of this University to make all of us the best people that we can be upon graduation. I appreciate your vote and the opportunity to work for all of you as a Senator. If you want someone to take action, you know Taylor WILL. Go Cats!

Dylan Byrum

Hello, my name is Dylan Byrum, and I am a Finance and Accounting major at the Gatton College of Business & Economics. I currently serve as a Senator at Large and your

Appropriations and Revenue Chairman. While holding this position, I have watched the UK Student Government Association grow and help students in a multitude of different ways. Being able to represent the great students of UK in Student Government has been one of the biggest blessings in my life, and I am humbled each and everyday waking up knowing that I was elected to serve you all. You, as a student at UK, are my greatest priority; I pledge that everything I have done as your Senator has been done with your best interest in mind, and I will continue to hold myself to that pledge. I hope that you recognize the amount of hard work and dedication that I have put towards the betterment of the University of Kentucky, and I hope that you re-elect me, Dylan Byrum, as your undergraduate Senator at Large.

Allison Wright

Think about why you chose to come to the University of Kentucky, and think about how much more you've grown to love it since you've enrolled. There is no denying that this is one outstanding university.

But why? What makes it so outstanding? The answer is you. You, your roommate, your best friend, and that random guy you sit next to in class. Students are what inspire the constant growth and improvement of the University of Kentucky.

So as a fellow student, I am asking for your help. Help me to continue to better our campus community by sharing with me your thoughts, your suggestions, and especially your concerns. As a Senator, I would be honored to work hard on your behalf and readily hear your ideas. I believe in our ability to join together to create an even more outstanding University of Kentucky--something that we as students most certainly deserve.

Lauren Jacobson

Hello, my name is Lauren Jacobson and I am a junior from Paris, Kentucky! I am running as Undergraduate Senator at Large because I am willing to serve my student body population and intend to help make an impact before I graduate. Having previously served in the Executive Branch as a coordinator for Government Relations, I have first-hand experience with how SGA works to serve students. I look forward to building relationships among student communities, promoting a safer campus, and ensuring our tuition dollars are not going to waste. I plan to contribute to the well-being of the student body with great dedication and would be proud to serve. Thank you!

Matt Jones

Re-elect Matt Jones (Tall Matt). Proven track record of fighting for student rights. I care about food quality and meal plans, parking, and scholarships.

Graduate Senator at Large

Emily Driessen

I am a first year Master's degree-seeking STEM Education graduate student who came to the University of Kentucky (UK) in the Fall of 2017 to work on my research in K-12 education. The same week of my arrival to Lexington, I became the STEM Education representative in the Graduate Student Congress (GSC). I have been active in the Congress through volunteer opportunities for the Congress as well as with the professional development committee (a committee in the GSC). Also, after a month of attending UK, I started up a graduate student organization for the College of Education graduate students, the College of Education Graduate Student Organization (COEGSO,) to address graduate student issues within the College of Education. To help me on my journey of developing an organization, I joined the IMPACT Leadership program, through UK, to help me hone my leadership skills.

Now, I have been called upon by the GSC to help represent graduate students, and their issues/concerns, in the Student Government. This is especially important as I am only one of two graduate students running for a position in the SGA, and Graduate Student fees make up a good portion of all student fees managed by the SGA. With this in mind, it is very important that graduate students be represented, so they can have their voices heard by a Senator who understands the importance of funding for research conferences, professional development programs, the lack of dental care provided to graduate students, etc.

Kirtley Amos

I graduated from the University of Kentucky with a B.S. in Agricultural Biotechnology and an M.S. in Biosystems Engineering. I am currently working on my Ph.D. in Integrated Plant and Soil Science with a focus in Plant Physiology. I have been involved with the Integrated Plant and Soil Science Graduate Student Association since 2016. I will leverage my leadership experience in the Student Government Association to advocate for the Graduate Student Congress' directives, all graduate students, and especially those in the College of Agriculture. It is my hope to continue the work of previous Graduate Senator's at-large to help express concerns of all students across campus, especially graduate students.