

## PRESIDENT



### **Blake Zante**

My name is Blake Zante and I am running for ASI President. I am currently a member of Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity and a student in the Smittcamp Family Honors College majoring in Political Science, with a minor in General Business. Having already served as the Executive Vice-President of ASI, I hope to use my experience to act as a voice of effective change for the Fresno State student body. I plan to develop a clear channel of communication for students on campus, and represent their concerns in a way that will improve their collegiate experience. As a liaison between upper administration and students, I hope to foster a greater sense of community and increase involvement as well as opportunities for students at Fresno State. Given my extensive background and involvement at Fresno State, I will develop a more accessible connection and positive relationship between students, ASI and administration.



### **Cecilia E. Ruesta**

My name is Cecilia Ruesta originally from Lima, Peru, whom recently became a proud U.S. citizen last year. I have a B.A. in Women's Studies and a B.S. in Criminology. Currently I am a graduate student in the MFCC program, where my goal is to become a professional therapist to help my community here in the Central Valley. My involvement as a student organizer and providing leadership in different clubs and organizations, has led me to understand the importance of using my voice to create change. We defeated the proposed "Student success fees" back in 2014. As a student, I'm concerned about the lack of funding the CSU is experiencing, the unease students are feeling due to the current political climate, and the need to bring inclusiveness & diversity into "action" on our campus. For these reasons and more, I want to become the president of ASI, to work together.



### **John G. Richardson**

If you're reading this then it is NOT Too Late. Today, you and other students are busier than ever. You make the tough decisions like when to study, how many work hours to take on, and of course, what to wear to Coachella (btw, how about that lineup?! Travis Scott, Beyonce, AND Kendrick? Wow!) Seriously though, you won't just be voting for OR against (hopefully) an \$80Million Playpen structure, the so-called "Bold New U", you'll be voting for your Legacy! Imagine this: You are new freshman and learn that, 4 years prior, students voted to increase YOUR FEES by \$400. Might you feel sold out, disappointed? March 28<sup>th</sup> is NOT about who should be ASI president, it's about our legacy and if we really wish to be the class remembered for straddling students with more fees.  
-John Richardson, BIO major. If Elected, I will reject the free yellow parking permit

## VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE



### **Cam Patterson**

We all do better when we work together. Our differences do matter, but our common humanity matters more. I ran for ASI President last year and came up short by 50 votes; but the day I fear failure more than I desire to make a difference here on campus is the day I've given up. I haven't given up on you, and I hope you haven't given up on me. We didn't come to Fresno State to fear the future; we came here to shape it. Let us work together to reduce crime, and make every single student feel safe. Let us transform campus into a place where we can express our ideas freely without fear of retribution. Let's redefine how student government can truly be for you and by you. Your voice matters to me. You matter to me. Let's succeed together.



### **Epifania Mendoza**

Involvement with student governance began with my service as Director of Finance for the Bakersfield College Student Government Association. It provided the opportunity to understand the multifariousness that involves campus, district, and association budgets and general operations. It further allowed incorporation to my studies in Business Administration, with an emphasis in Accounting. Moreover, an issue that faces many associated student organizations are prolongation to sustainable methods (both internally and externally). Another is for efficiently using ASI funds to innovatively enhance the student body initiatives and experiences while optimizing internal operational expenses, wherein transparency and clarity is constantly sought for. It takes showing the student body, through campus inclusion activities, that we are all one together—students achieving academic pursuits despite differences in experiences and backgrounds. My involvement in Beta Alpha Psi and my knowledge in both finance and student government demonstrate my qualifications for this position. Go Dogs!

## VP OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS



### **Demi B. Wack**

My name is Demi Wack and I am running for the position of Vice President of External Affairs. I am currently on the Council of Presidential Scholars in the Smittcamp Family Honors College, an active member of the Kappa Alpha Theta Fraternity and a committee member of Phi Alpha Delta Pre-law Fraternity. Alongside these commitments, I am majoring in Psychology with a minor in Criminology. As VP of External Affairs, I want to create an atmosphere of openness that will encourage students to feel comfortable vocalizing their individual and collective concerns. If elected, I will work to protect and expand the rights of each and every member of our greater college FSU community. Above all, I hope to help foster the development of a positive school environment in order to excite students and encourage further participation. Thank you for taking the time to consider my candidacy.



### **Ivana Ruggiero**

Bulldogs! Allow me to be your voice. My name is Ivana Ruggiero and I'm running to represent you as your Vice President of External Affairs. I'm not your typical candidate with years of experience in ASI; however, I have the passion, drive, and determination to give the power back to the students. My goal is to create a sense of inclusion and awareness. I want every person at this school to feel like their opinions matter. I want our school's greatness to not be confined to the walls of our classroom, but to expand into our everyday lives. We need to show our surrounding communities our Bulldog pride! With your support, I plan on working on behalf of our student body

to speak to our legislatures and lobby for programs that further our efforts towards academic achievement and accessibility. Eliciting change starts with our voice. Go Bulldogs!



### **Manwinder Singh**

When I was younger I saw this Apple commercial on TV it had images of Pablo Picasso, MLK, and Mahatma Gandhi. It ended with a quote from Steve Jobs “The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones who do.” My Name is Manwinder Singh I would like to run for Vice President of External Affairs. I’m a local resident of Fresno and currently majoring in Health in pursuit of law school. My leadership experience goes back to being apart of Associated Student Body in high school, as well as being a manager at a fast food restaurant and bistro, head volunteer at a hospital, camp counselor, holding multiple positions in my fraternity, and a trainer at my current job. My main goal is to make a difference for the better for everyone at Fresno State as well lead charge in more technological.



### **Monserrath Sanchez**

I am Monserrath Sanchez and I am dedicated to running for VP of External Affairs to represent our student body. I am currently a sophomore pursuing a degree in Political Science with a minor in Public Administration. One of the key issues I want to address is the ensurement of accessible education for all students, regardless of their individual identities. I will push for affordable tuition and more educational leadership programs. It will be my goal to hear and voice any current concerns or issues that the student body is experiencing. I hope to increase the transparency between ASI and the student body in an effort to facilitate a campus inclusive of all students. Together we can fight for students, celebrate diversity, and keep Fresno State accountable. I hope you'll take this journey with me and embody our Fresno State motto: Distinction, Diversity, and Discovery.

## **ARTS AND HUMANITIES**

**Evangelica Pappas (write in)**

## **SCIENCE AND MATH**



### **Kevin Ngo**

I am excited to have the opportunity to continue serving you. As a past student representative on the College of Science and Mathematics Dean’s Council and current President of the Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers, I have the experience and initiative necessary to be the voice of our college. I have collaborated with student leaders, faculty, and administration to ensure that our university continues to flourish. I am dedicated to increasing research funding, strengthening student leadership programs, and providing all students an equal opportunity to succeed. My ultimate goal is to provide the means for our community to live well. I hope I have your support in this campaign, let’s thrive together!



### **Miguel A. Bueno**

Hello Bulldogs! My name is Miguel Bueno and I am running to be your Senator for the College of Science and Mathematics. We’ve seen some great changes on campus lately but I know we can achieve more! As your senator I will work closely with administration to ensure all of our student's needs are being addressed. My platform is simple and specific.

I will:

1. Encourage our college to allocate more areas for tutoring, study rooms and lounges.
2. Create more opportunities for networking and collaboration across disciplines.

3. Cultivate greater collaboration between the College of Science and Mathematics and local entities such as Bitwise Industries.

Our college fosters tomorrow's, researchers, innovators, and entrepreneurs. It is the embodiment of Fresno State's mantra: Discovery. Diversity. Distinction. With your support and your vote, I know we can accomplish great things. Thank you and as always Go Dogs!



**Lance Rodriguez**

With recent matters in politics, it is important now more than ever to stand up for our environment. My name is Lance Rodriguez and I am a junior majoring in geology. If elected, I plan to address environmental issues on campus starting with reducing our ecological footprint. The goal is to create opportunities for those passionate for nature to get involved, regardless of their major. As outreach coordinator for the Sustainability Club and having spent a summer in Monterey conducting research at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, I am confident and prepared to take on the tasks as a senator and to support my decisions with well-researched data. I am an advocate for nature, a friend to all, and in hopes a senator whose voice will soon represent the people.

**CRAIG SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**



**Mario Vargas**

My name is Mario Vargas and I am running for senator position for the CSB. One of my main objectives is to bring far more attention and involvement to ASI. In my opinion, students lack awareness and participation in ASI. In order to have good results for the Craig school of business, I am determined to inform business students on issues and options that will benefit their interests. Another objective I will hope to achieve is to expand and help diversify ASI by informing students.

**JORDAN COLLEGE OF AG**



**Amanda N. Smith**

Hello my name is Amanda Smith and I would like to serve as your senator for the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. I am a junior studying Culinology and am involved with various clubs and organizations on campus. As your representative, I vow to communicate concerns of us, agricultural students, to both the faculty of JCAST and the university administration. A few of my main concerns in our college are the shortage of qualified professors, availability of classes, and our overall experience in the college. With my experience as a leader on campus and my relationship with many of you I believe we can plow the concerns head on. Together we can work to harvest a better education for all.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Chelsea Haflich (Write in)**

**Navrattan (Navi) Kaur (Write in)**

## **KREMEN SCHOOL OF EDUCATION**



### **Chase R. Viramontes**

As a first generation college student, I have had the privilege of attending Fresno State and working alongside with future teachers as a Teaching Fellows scholarship recipient. In my past three years at Fresno State, I have been able to start a club for Teaching Fellows while building a mentorship program for freshmen Teaching Fellows scholarship recipients. Working with ASI on the GE Committee has also given me the ability to advocate for better course offerings and additional course sections for Liberal Studies students. As your senator, I will work to strengthen the relationship between students and advisors and create more opportunities early on for credential advising, while simultaneously helping you feel more confident in your collegiate career. The Kremen School of Education and Teaching Fellows Foundation have given me many opportunities and I would love to have the chance to give back to them and to you. Go Dogs!

## **LYLES COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**



### **Elias J. Karam**

Hello fellow Bulldogs! My name is Elias Karam and I hope to be your future ASI Senator for the Lyles College of Engineering. I'm an electrical engineering major here at Fresno State and, as a senator, I'll do my best to represent our college and all the different disciplines within it. Through continuous contact with the dean and more importantly the students, I will relay any concerns that the students have to the appropriate people and committees. One of the biggest problems facing all engineers that I hope to address during my term is limited class sections. With many of us involved in extra-curricular activities and/or work, offering one section of an important class simply isn't enough. Engineering is hard enough as it is, so I'll do my best to alleviate the stress as much as possible on my end. Thank you and Go Dogs!

## **SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**Danielle Richman (Write in)**

**Edgar Bolanos (Write in)**

**Kelly Blichfeldt (Write in)**

## **SENATOR AT LARGE**



### **Alexandra Chavez**

Hello! My name is Alexandra Chavez and I would like to serve you as a Senator-At Large for your 2017-2018 Associated Students Inc. I graduated with my B.A. in Mass Communication and Journalism in 2016, and have returned for my Masters in Student Affairs and College Counseling. Working on campus, being a commuter student, and serving as a member of several student organizations has given me a well-rounded perspective on the issues that currently face Fresno State students. I hope to create a collaborative platform of students and administrators to tackle problems in areas such as financial aid, parking, class registration and accessibility of student services. My passion for student success drives my campaign, and if elected as Senator-At Large I will use my voice to advocate for yours. Thank you!



**Amber K. Malhi**

As a student with a double major in Philosophy Pre Law and Political Science and with a minor in General Business, my ultimate goal is to be involved in our student body. I hope find different aspects where Fresno State can prosper and become more substantial. As a senator, my main concerns would be either parking and safety or clubs and organizations. As a student, who also works, night classes are a great option that work around my schedule. yet, my safety during and after the night classes are a concern. I would hope to accomplish making the students who want to attend night classes feel safe to do so without questioning their safety on campus. I would hope to find solutions for the parking issue that we have on campus along with the negligence of the great clubs that are beneficial for our student to join.



**Brandon Sepulveda**

As the past ASI Vice President of Finance, I have worked on behalf of students advocating for their needs and ensuring they have access to opportunities. Having the chance to serve again as a representative of the student body and ASI, I hope to increase student success and involvement on campus. I plan to work proactively with administration to create new initiatives that help students be successful on campus. Many students at Fresno State face issues in getting classes to graduate, my main goal will be to work to increase the 4-year graduation rate. I also want to work with Office of Student Involvement to ensure students are all aware of the amazing programs that Fresno State offers.



**Casandra Ramirez-Sanchez**

Hello! My name is Casandra Ramirez-Sanchez, and I am running for an ASI senator at large position. I love working to meet the students' necessities and would enjoy being your representative for the 2017-2018 school year. I am currently a psychology major, and in this past year I've been involved in student government as the ASI special projects officer, as well as a student representative in the budget advisory committee here on campus and recently the ASI activities committee. I am a transfer student from West Hills College Lemoore and was the Associated Student Body President for the 2015-2016 school year, as well as the Student Senate for California Community Colleges Region V Secretary. My involvement in ASI has made me aware of your necessities here on campus and I want to be the person to represent you, fight for your rights as a Fresno State student, and make sure your voice will be heard!



**Cody T. Sedaño**

Cody Sedaño is a Political Science major and a Marine Corps Veteran. Cody was a translator in Afghanistan for NATO. After the Marines, Cody represented Veterans at Fresno City College Student Government. Cody then was elected to the Board of Trustees at the State Center Community College District. Cody represented Central Valley Students in Sacramento in the Student Senate and founded the Veterans Caucus. As an ally of the community, he helped create the LGBTQ Spectrum Club at FCC and advocated for more international students resource center space. Cody received the Deans Medallion at FCC for his work on and off campus. Cody has spent the last 9 months advocating for a voting position for Transfer and Veterans as well as being a big proponent of the Equity and Diversity Senate position. Cody lives in Dinuba, is a citrus farmer, and a single father.



### **Edgar Castro**

Hello fellow bulldogs, my name is Edgar Castro and I'm running for ASI's senator at large. I am currently pursuing a degree in Business accounting with a minor in Economics. I believe that every bulldog has a voice to be heard; and that voice has a power to transform Fresno State. Being a senior at Fresno State has opened my eyes to the various ways that any student on this campus can impact the university. No idea is too small to make a difference. I plan to transparently communicate the thoughts and ideas of all campus clubs and organizations to ensure that every individual has the opportunity to be heard. This position is an opportunity to serve my peers and further enhance Fresno State's national prestige. Together with your innovative ideas and my commitment to effective execution, we WILL make a difference. I look forward to serving YOU. GO BULLDOGS!!



### **Josh T. Dowell**

As the only accredited parliamentarian running I have the background necessary to effectively assist the senate in getting things done. Fresno State students should have change created and executed on, not just someone talking about it. I served on ASI from 2015-2016 as the Senator of the Jordan College of Agriculture and have the experience as a member of the board to be an influence for students in the senate. A vote for Josh is a vote in the future of Fresno State, let's BE BOLD!



### **Kacey Jones**

My name is Kacey Jones, and I am a third-year Kinesiology Physical Education major. I currently work at the Student Recreation Center as a student assistant, I am the current Vice President of the Fresno State Women's Rugby Club team, and am an active member of the Kinesiology Pedagogy Club. I have a strong passion for student government, serving as the President of my junior and senior class in high school. I now have the leadership qualities and connections in college and am excited to further pursue my passion. During my term my plan is to help promote a healthy lifestyle through the services campus offers such as the Student Health and Counseling Center and the Student Recreation Center. I hope that you can see my passion for the importance of health education and promotion, and will allow me to help make these, and other amenities better known at Fresno State!



### **Karan Purwaha**

My name is Karan Purwaha, and I am a junior. My major is Biology (Pre-dental). I was born in India, and moved to States in 2013. I have been heavily involved on campus. I have been part of Vintage days, Alternative spring break for 2 years, and It's on us Campaign. My motivation behind running for ASI are the problems I have faced as a student on campus, and instead of complaining I decided to fix them by being part of solution. The first change I would like to bring during my term is fix the parking system, i.e. no unnecessary parking tickets, reduced prices for parking pass, and more parking options. Secondly I want to decrease the crime levels on campus and around campus. Lastly, If I get elected this term, I will make sure that student issues are paid attention and resolved.



**Michael K. Merzoian**

Hello Fresno State students! I'm Michael Merzoian, a sophomore double majoring in Computer and Electrical Engineering. I'm running for the position of Senator At-Large, with the hopes of becoming the Senator of Parking and Safety. I understand that parking security is essential in providing a safe environment on campus and even more so during nighttime. In the four semesters I've been here at Fresno State, my car has been broken into on three separate occasions. As senator, I hope to work alongside the Fresno State Police Department to increase the number of patrolling officers at night to keep our students safe and keep personal property intact. Student security is my top priority! Fresno State is an amazing campus that strives for excellence, diversity, and betterment of the city of Fresno, and I would be grateful to serve as your representative. Thank you all for your consideration, and Go Dogs!

**Gilbert Falcon**



My Name is Gilbert Falcon, I am a third-year Sport Marketing major and am the first in my family to attend college. I've been involved in various aspects of campus to improve student success. I have served as a Dog Days Orientation Leader and as a Campus Involvement Ambassador for the past 2 years. Currently, I am serving as the ASI Senator of Athletics and Recreation and my goal is to connect with students as a peer, a leader, and a source of information to help in your efforts of achieving success. If elected, I hope to continue with my goals of connecting with students across campus with a sense of belonging and to support all students in their future endeavors.

Together, we can accomplish anything with your constant support and by electing me as your next ASI Senator-at-Large. Thank you.



**Primavera L. Martinez**

My name is Primavera Leal Martinez, and I am running for the position of Senator at Large. I am a freshman pursuing a degree in English with the intent of attending law school after graduation. On campus, I am involved in the debate team, MEChA, and The Chicax and Latin American Studies Student Association. I am a member of the ASI Academics Committee, where I have expressed the academic concerns of students and created solutions to address them. As Senator at Large, my first priority would be to help all students graduate on time and continue to pursue their goals. Fresno State has a multitude of resources that, if used to their full potential, can help any student achieve greatness, no matter what their circumstances are. I will encourage spreading the awareness of these resources, as well as advocate for new ones to be created in order to meet students' needs.



**Ramiro Merino Diaz\*\***

A 3rd year majoring in Communications and minoring in Spanish, I currently serve as the Assistant Student Director for Fresno State Vintage Days, am the PR & Marketing Coordinator for the Alternative Spring Break program, and serve as a Reflection Facilitator for the Richter Center. I understand what it takes to set smart goals and achieve them. Talking to students on a daily basis and myself being part of many organizations on campus, I understand what it takes to represent students.

Serving you and addressing your needs is what drives me to run as your Senator at Large for Student Clubs & Organizations. If elected, I plan to achieve the following goals:

1. Ensure transparency between clubs & orgs. and student government and voice those concerns,

2. Explore networking opportunities for clubs & orgs. to collaborate more,
3. Provide better communication to clubs & orgs. so they are more aware.



**Sebastian K. Wenthe**

My goal ever since I became involved with student government has never changed—to make progress for students and make decisions that will improve the quality of education for everybody. Whether it was during my time as an ASI finance committee member or during my time as the Chair of Budget and Operations for the USU Board of Directors, I have always kept the needs of Fresno State students in mind. If elected as Senator At-Large, I will work to preserve this mission as I represent student needs every day on campus. This includes implementing policies for the new and existing University Student Union, balancing the cost of education, and promoting the unique talents and abilities of our student population. If elected, my greatest responsibility will be to help you, the student!



**Travis Childress**

My name is Travis Childress, and I am running to represent you as an ASI Senator at Large! My experience in leadership includes: U.S. military service, two years of student government service at Fresno City College, and going on two semesters as Chief of Staff for ASI.

Because of my unique background in leadership and student governments, I believe that I can bring a different perspective in fighting for your rights as students. If elected, it will be my pleasure to ensure that the voice of every single student is heard. I am a Junior Political Science major here at Fresno State, and have earned my AA degree last year from Fresno City College.