President & Vice President Candidates

Anna Ziebell & Joe Murphy

We’re Anna Ziebell and Joe Murphy, and we’re running for Student Body President and Vice President to unite Blugolds against the challenges making our campus less safe, healthy, and enjoyable for students. Anna is a 4th year Political Science major and is minoring in Sociology. Joe Murphy is a 4th year Information Systems comprehensive major.

Anna has been involved in Student Senate since 2017 – and has written 27 pieces of Senate legislation since then. In 2018, she was the Director of the Equity in Student Matters Commission, where she worked closely with the OMA, GSRC, and other campus and community organizations to protect, uplift, and empower students of all backgrounds. In 2019, she was elected as Student Body Vice President – and prioritizes fighting for student representation in every conversation on campus.

Joe has worked with Anna in Student Senate for three years. He served for one year as a commission member, one year as a Senator, and another as Director of the Information and Technology Commission. He worked every day to bring innovative technology to campus for recreation, education, and more. Combined, the two have 6+ years of experience in Student Senate and understand the importance of strong leadership during this intense time. With the values of Equity and Advocacy, Sustainability, Transparency and Accountability, and Student Housing behind us, we’re ready to move forward together to create the campus we all want to live, work, and learn in.

Jackie Buttafuoco & Joel Meir

Jackie is a 4th Year Biology Major/ Pre-Professional Health Minor from Schaumburg, Illinois (Suburb of Chicago). Joel is a 3rd Year Marketing Analytics Major from Greenville, Wisconsin (Outside of Appleton)

We are running to amplify student voices and needs to administration and better connect the student community together. We hope to push for fiscal sustainability and a culture of accountability across all facets of UWEC. These plans can be seen through reimbursement of student dollars, utilizing the EDI RATF, and expand on our Climate Action Plan.
OFF CAMPUS STUDENT SENATOR CANDIDATES

Lucy Chapman — Waukesha, WI
Senior - Major: Accounting
I’ve been on the executive boards of Residence Hall Association and the National Residence Hall Honorary at UWEC and was a Student Senator last year. If elected, I will continue to fight for affordable, quality student housing on and off campus, responsible use of student dollars, and open communication between university administration and students. I would appreciate the opportunity to be your voice in Student Senate this year!

Olivia Schenzel - Wausau, WI
Sophomore - Major: Political Science—Legal Studies Minor: Spanish
I am running for Student Senate because I feel a strong need to do something for my community. I want to be able to make a difference in others’ lives and enact positive change at whatever level I can. With all of the injustice and turmoil of recent events, I want to make every effort to do my part. COVID-19 has turned our lives upside down and I wish to be an advocate for students and their health - both mental and physical. I also want to help further an environmentally conscious campus. Sustainable practices are very important to me as well as student representation. I believe that every person’s voice needs to be heard and everyone on this campus deserves to be respected, informed on polices, and to be represented by those who care as much as they do.

Edison Flottemesch — Neenah, WI
Junior - Major: Management, Entrepreneurship
I am running for senate to help lift up the voices of the students, and to make a positive difference on our beautiful campus.

Jaden Mikoulinskii — Neenah, WI
Junior - Areas of Study: Sociology, Family Studies, Organizational Communication
Being a first generation student and second generation immigrant, my transition into college was far from easy. It is the students like myself, whether documented with Services for Students with Disabilities, non-traditional students, McNair scholars, or low income, that need the more amplification of their voices on campus. My time as the Pre-Law Club president, an Admissions intern and Campus Ambassador, an Alumni Foundation Call Center Supervisor, and as a Judicial Board representative has pushed me to advocate for my beliefs. I want to make UW-Eau Claire as great of a campus as possible through Student Senate; making your education here equitable, affordable, resource providing, environmentally friendly, and accessible for students from all walks of life.
Erin Smith - Rosemount, MN  
Junior - Major: Marketing  
Why I am running for Senate: I want to use my voice to bring positive change and development to UWEC that will improve student’s experience on and off campus. In times of such uncertainty, the student body needs representatives that continue to push for what is best for them. In the future I would like to see Senate accomplish the following: continue to focus on EDI initiatives on campus, bring attention to housing issues off campus, and provide a fun and safe campus environment for all students.

Bailey Carruthers - Chicago, IL  
Junior - Major: Public History, Minor: Political Science & Communications  
I became involved in Student Senate last year during the 63rd session. I am running for Student Senate as an off-campus senator, and my main objective is the welfare of students living off-campus. Before the pandemic, I worked closely with the university and the city of Eau Claire with students in mind regarding multiple aspects, such as housing, homecoming, and the Randall Park Block Party. My main initiative this semester is to compare housing prices from the last 10 years for student rentals to see if there is justification for the steep increase, as well as creating a handbook for students that outlines the "Do's and Don'ts" of moving off-campus for the first time.

Megan Robertson  
Sophomore - Major—Business Undeclared  
This will be my first year running for Student Senate. A few things I enjoy are being surrounded by family and friends, reading a good book, and hammocking outside when I have the chance. Right now, I am reading The Stand by Stephen King. I decided to run for Senate this year to start getting more involved in our community here at UWEC. My goal is to connect with my fellow students and make sure the voices outside of Senate are still being heard.

Brett Swanson—Amery, WI  
Junior - Major : Information Systems   Minor: Computer Science  
You might have seen me at the LTS Help Desk on campus where I work. I love video games, board games, basketball, and watching shows and movies. Currently I am addicted to Game of Thrones and I hope season 8 is better than people say. This is my first time running for student senate, and I decided to run because it sounds like a fun way to be involved and I would like to be a caring and transparent

Anna Smith  
Sophomore - Major : Journalism   Minor: Psychology & Legal Studies  
Throughout high school, I was involved in Student Senate and finished my senior year as vice president. At UW Eau-Claire, I have worked with the student organization commission and intergovernmental affairs from the beginning of my freshman year. Second semester I was appointed as a student senator. As a freshman, I was always passionate about joining something like the senate I was exposed to in high school. I knew I wanted to be involved in something where the students had more diverse backgrounds but wanted to leave a positive mark on campus. My future goals for senate at UWEC are to promote EDI initiatives and create positive change. I want to see a student senate that welcomes everyone on campus with open arms. Stay healthy, wear a mask, and don’t forget to vote between the 16-18th of September!
Alyssa Monson
Senior - Major: Sociology & Spanish

I served on a Senate last semester, spring ’20, as a student senator. I am also a member of the Spanish Club. I originally ran for Senate because I experienced a great deal of trauma and didn’t receive much of the support I needed. I wanted to be able to advocate for myself, and for every other student whose needs aren’t being met. After serving a term, I learned that I have a real passion for creating change and finally felt like I got to have a say in what happens on our campus. If elected, I plan to continue speaking up for those whose voices have been repressed. I also plan to fight for an equitable campus where we all can feel safe. I believe that students are the heart of UWEC and we have a right to speak up and implement new ideas.

Courtney Claeys
Junior - Major: Organizational Communications and Psychology

I am a member of the on-campus Pre-Occupational Therapy Pre-Physical Therapy club and also work for Wisconsin Early Autism Project. I am joining the Student Senate this year because I want to be a part of the conversations within our university and then make sure that the conversation is relayed to our students. My goal for the Student Senate this year is to ensure that UW-Eau Claire students have all the information and communication we need to feel informed and connected to actions and decisions being made on campus.

Miranda Ricci
Junior - Major: Behavioral Analysis  Minor: Communications

Last May I graduated from UW-Eau Claire—Barron County with my associates degree where I was an active member of the Student Government Association on campus. I ran for a freshman senator position and by the end of the semester I had been moved into the position of Vice President. Since I loved being involved in the organization so much, my sophomore year I decided to run for President. We had an extremely successful year advocating for students on our own campus as well as at UW-Eau Claire and at the system level through Student Reps. I found many friends throughout my time as well as a place for myself to share my voice and create lasting change. I hope to continue to do so throughout my time here at UW-EC.

Haadia Malik
Senior  Major: Marketing with an Emphasis in Analytics

My name is Haadia Malik, most people just call me Haadz though. I decided to run for Student Senate after I saw a need for students voices to be truly heard. As a Senator, I want to take time to listen to students and voice their opinions decision-making for the whole university. I hope to make UWEC a more equitable place for students of all backgrounds. I am also the President of the Business Association of Multicultural Students and a member of the College of Business Student Advisory Council. In my free time, I like to longboard, read, woodwork, and hangout with my friends.
Jack Stewart  
Junior - Major: Accounting and Finance

Currently I am a captain on the triathlon, one of the co-directors for the UAC festivals committee, and a member of Delta Tau Delta. Previously I also was a representative for Residence Hall Association as well as the judicial board. I am running so that the voices of the students are heard and fairly represented. My goals include making sure that student concerns are heard and make sure students are being fairly informed about actions made on campus.

Nick Bearhart  
Junior - Major: Business Management

My freshman year attending UW-Eau Claire-Barron County I was a part of the Student Government Association as the head of Media Relations. I enjoyed my experience in SGA and wanted to be more involved with this campus as I start my new chapter down here! I’m involved with the Eau Claire Running Club and running for Student Senate this election. Now let me tell you that being involved on this ticket with @ziebellmurphy20 I have found that we have a very strong and passionate group of people advocating for the students and community of this campus. Both Anna and Joe are very transparent with the whole ticket, which truly inspires me. With that said, I want to help set that image for the community and students of this campus. Student’s opinions and voices should be able to be heard from both on and off-campus. I want to help bridge that gap for those students who feel like their ideas or options aren’t getting the full attention that they need.

Caleb Kulich  
Major: Organizational Communication Minor in Environment, Society, & Culture

Hi! My name is Caleb Kulich and I’m running for reelection as an Off-Campus Student Senator. My areas of interest in Senate include sustainability, social justice and EDI values, and student housing. As former President of the Residence Hall Association, I have the experience and relationships to fight for on-campus residents' rights to healthy, safe housing and dining, as well as off-campus students' legal rights as tenants. I plan to write legislation condemning administration for their growing list of screw-ups this year, and to empower students to hold their housing provider - whether it’s UWEC or a private owner - directly accountable.

Keisha Kappel, Barron WI  
Senior - Major: Biochemistry/ Molecular Biology

I served on Student Senate last year as an off-campus student senator and am also a part of the Woman in STEM club and pre-dental club on campus. In addition, I spend a lot of my time doing chemistry research on campus or volunteering at the Mayo Clinic. I had originally wanted to join senate after living off-campus freshman year and experiencing multiple difficulties surrounding poor communication with students and wanted to be a voice for other students who may be experiencing similar issues. Since joining senate, I spent a lot of my time working towards making our campus more sustainable and equitable. I want to continue working towards improving sustainability on our campus and be a voice for students who may not be heard.
Kayde Langer
Senior  Major: Sociology  Minor: American Indian Studies
I am running for my final term for off-campus student senate. I am the current president of Inter-Tribal Student Council. I graduated from Osceola, Wisconsin but I consider my home to be Red Lake, Minnesota because that is where my people’s reservation is. I come from the Red Lake Chippewa Nation of Ojibwe. I am running for my final term because I firmly believe the university did not handle last year’s racist incidents correctly and there needs to be accountability. University administration needs to be held accountable for their complacency to racism, bigotry, and discrimination on this campus. When policies protect racists more than they protect students of color, we have a problem. Our students deserve more than we are receiving and deserve to have their voices heard, students are not being listened to and I want to serve to make sure the voices of all students are being heard.

Avery Hartling
Third-year Pre-Law Political Science Major with a WGSS Minor
I have previously served as both a Sophomore Senator and a Resident Assistant at the University of Wisconsin-Barron County. My time in student government has been invaluable and has fueled by passions more than anything else. I served on various committees, aided in writing of resolutions, and received a Campus Recognition award at a Faculty Senate meeting on behalf of the UWEC-BC SGA. IN the last academic year I have dedicated my time for advocating for the student voice and bolstering EDI efforts. I can’t wait to continue the work here on this campus and its my goal to leave it even better than when I found it.

Kirby Ranke - Waterford, WI
Sophomore  Major: English Education
I am running for Student Senate because I was an active member of Senate and the North Dakota Student Association as a freshman at Valley City State University. Now as a transfer student, I hope to increase representation among transfer and non-traditional students because I at times found it difficult to get the resources I needed as a new student.
ON CAMPUS STUDENT SENATOR CANDIDATES

Mengcha Moua
3rd Year - Major: English Critical Studies  Minor: Philosophy
Other activities and organizations I am involved in are Campus Ambassadors, Multicultural Leaders of Housing, I am a Student Assistant in the English Department, I’m an RA in Aspenson Mogensen Hall and I am the treasurer for the UWEC Rugby Team.

I was inspired to run for Student Senate because this past year I feel I have seen the true colors of our government as well as our administration. To say the least, I am very disappointed with how things have been handled and while I can't make much of a difference in our government yet, I figured starting here on our campus would be an amazing starting point to making a difference in our world.

My future goals for Student Senate is to ensure that marginalized groups are properly represented and have a voice when it comes to making changes on our campus. I would like Student Senate and Administration to work closer together to make sure all voices are heard, and that equity is brought to those who have been victims of systemic injustices.

Collin Abel
Third-year— Major: Political Science  Minor: History  Certificate in Global and Comparative history

In my first two years on campus, I was a representative for Residence Hall Association, where I authored or co-authored five pieces of legislation - one of which to increase transportation services for students with disabilities; another on creating a standard for all-gender restrooms across residence halls. I am the current NRHH Vice President of Administration, and previously served as the finance chair.

I strive for the drive to represent my peers. As an equal stakeholder in the occurrences on campus and how they affect us on a personal level, I want to make sure the voices of students are heard.

Nolan Buss
Third-year— Major: Marketing Analytics  Minor: Spanish

This will be my second year as an RA. Currently, I am the LRA in Aspenson Mogensen Hall and the treasurer of the Spanish Club. Previously, I was hall council president of Governor’s Hall.

I was inspired to run for Student Senate following some unfortunate bias incidents that occurred on campus as well as the ongoing coronavirus pandemic that has effected so many students like myself.

As a Student Senator, I plan to let the voices of as many students on campus be heard and advocate for their ideas in order to make UWEC a more safe and secure environment for everyone.
Brenden Hicks—Wauwatosa, WI
Third-year— Major: Political Science

I am running for Student Senate because I want to ensure that Students can still participate in the activities they love on or off campus during this pandemic. It is important that they can still participate in clubs and other activities in a safe and exciting environment like that already know it to be.

Anna Wendorff
Second year— Major: Communications

I’m involved as a Campus Ambassador, the VP of Outreach for National Residence Hall Honourary, a member of ACLU, and a previous member of the housing Judicial Board. I could not sit idly by while problems with sustainability, advocacy, & transparency are not properly addressed in housing and in administration. With the support of the student body, I will work to address advocacy issues within Campus Ambassadors & NRHH, so we may better understand needs from prospective & marginalized students to better allocate funds, push transparency between the Judicial Board, NRHH, RHA, and Student Senate, so that together we may foster streamlined equity & EDI programs, and reduce waste within residence halls through new legislation or partnerships between the housing organizations. I would love the opportunity to serve my fellow students by confronting persistent equity, accountability, and sustainability problems within housing through Student Senate.

Harry Mateski - Stanley WI
Third Year— Comprehensive Political Science with a Legal Studies Emphasis

My involvement in the Judicial Board, as a NACURH delegate, and as a Vice President of the Pre-Law club served as the inspiration for me to run as a Student Senator. There is clearly a pertinent need for improvement within the university, as highlighted by our dissolving organizations and improperly designated fees. Coming from a rural community, I know the importance of having strong relationships and a clear foundation for goals. I’d like to bring these values back to UW-Eau Claire’s campus, especially through fostering better communication from university administration, and increasing student feedback for new buildings and altering policies to better help the students.

Rossellin “Yoshi ”Gaitan - Arcadia, WI
Major: Critical Studies in Literature, Cultures, and Film
Minor : Journalism and Latin American Studies

I want to become a student senator because I want those who are attending UWEC to feel like they have a friend and someone that is in a position of power to be their supporter, their resource, and a voice for any concerns and issues that they may come across. I want to be not only an advocate but a face, that when people see on campus they know they can count on me either for help or a laugh. Thank you.