



#KEEPITONTHEDL | 2017

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OUR MISSION

“Far and away the best prize that life offers is the chance to work hard at work worth doing.”

-Theodore Roosevelt, September 7, 1903

These words from President Theodore Roosevelt’s 1903 Labor Day Speech have shaped the philosophy of Dan, Lauren and the entire team when constructing this platform for this University. It is our firm belief that the opportunity to work hard at work worth doing on your behalf is far and away the best prize regardless of election outcomes. What follows is a combination of several late night phone calls mulling over details, epiphany moments that had us rushing to write our ideas down, collaboration with students from biking initiatives to LGBTQ+ issues, and countless hours over the past six months working hard to present to you what we believe is work worth doing. Developing this platform has been a true labor of love, we are honored, and humbled to have the opportunity to share our ideas for you with you.

So let’s get started on work worth doing!

Sincerely,

Dan Williams, Lauren Lyness, and the entire team.

Alternative Spring Break

- Alternative Spring Break would allow students to work on volunteering and shadowing opportunities to develop significant relationships with the communities and associations around the cities of Norman, Moore, or Oklahoma City.
 - International Students and Out-of-State students who do not return for the break will be encouraged to participate in these opportunities.
- Spring Break would become a meaningful and intensive process. This activity would be modeled over the incredibly successful Texas A&M version of the Alternative Spring Break program.

BIKING INITIATIVE

We'd like to thank our cycling friends; Natalie Lieter, Nia Ramsey, Tasneem Al-Michael, Adam Khan and Camille Schlemme for assisting in developing these initiatives.

UPDATE BIKE LANES

- The current biking lane paint on the South Oval as it is starting to fade away from student use. This can easily be remedied for the benefit of both cyclists and pedestrians.
- We all have at some point walked through the bike lane on the South Oval accidentally while looking down at our phones. Adding brightly painted stripes throughout the bike lane to better mark lanes and assist in preventing pedestrians from walking in the lanes!
- Newcomers to campus can be a bit confused by the zooming of bikers back and forth along the South Oval, thus we propose simply add signs at the start, middle and end of bike lanes to notify pedestrians and bikers alike that they are entering a biking zone.

TABLING ON THE SOUTH OVAL

- Provide specific guidelines to RSO's tabling on the South Oval to not impede the bike lane. We love having RSO's on the South Oval and we want to make sure no one gets hurt or run-over during these events!

BIKING INITIATIVES

RENT-A-BIKE

- Develop a long term bike rental program that would offer semester-long or year-long bike rentals that would be able to take off campus and checked in by the end of semester. This is a cost efficient way for Commuter and Out-of-State students for sustainable and reliable transportation. SGA would find businesses* and donors* to subsidize maintenance.

*Promoted through the 3C's initiative explained later in the platform

BIKE RACK EXPANSION

- Assessing areas on campus where bikes are overstuffed into bike racks and chained to benches or trees due to rack unavailability.
- Adding more bike racks in high bike density areas to clear walkways, park benches and green areas on campus.

INVEST IN OKLAHOMA INITIATIVE

- Students with ideas, projects, and campaigns that could help benefit OU, the city of Norman, or the State of Oklahoma can come to a newly formed 'Invest In Oklahoma' Committee through SGA and pitch their plans to create movements with fellow students.
- SGA would help provide resources, partnerships, and contacts for public service endeavors.
- Incentives to create these requests would include funding through money allocated through Congress and connections to professors best qualified to work with the respective project.

INCLUSIVITY

A special thank you to Nia Ramsey and Tasneem Ahmad for their assistance in developing these points!

LGBTQ+ Initiatives

➤ Advocacy

- Designating a member in the Department of Inclusivity as a point of contact for ANY questions, comments, and concerns relating to LGBTQ issues.

➤ LGBT Lounge

- Providing educational resources, scholarship information, LGBTQ+ student organization information in the LGBTQ lounge through coordinations with SGA and the Gender and Equality Center (GEC)
 - Work to propose a plan for programming with the GEC and Union Programming Board (UPB) to better advertise the Lounge through events, especially those targeted at incoming freshman.
 - Coordinate with the Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) to create a warm and welcoming environment in the lounge

Adopt-A-Professor

- This program created through SGA will allow students from various walks of the University to collaborate in adopting a professor akin to the interest of the student. This will reinforce the idea of our “Sooner Family” and building a bond between faculty as students and students as faculty.

INCLUSIVITY

DEBARR/HENDERSON

- Dan and Lauren will continue to be dedicated to the work of working with the Norman City Council to get the name of DeBarr Street changed to Henderson Avenue
- It is unacceptable to have a street honoring a former Ku Klux Klan Grand Dragon, moreover having such a hateful symbol directly facing North Campus.
- Dan has worked present and SGA resolution to Norman City Council regarding the name change, and worked closely with the Norman City Council in the ongoing work.
- Lauren participated in a march in August of this year protesting the street.
- Dan and Lauren have both been quoted in the Oklahoman, New York Times, the Associated Press, the Washington Post and other newspapers across the country.
 - The Oklahoman Article can be found here:
<https://www.oklahoman.com/login?referer=/article/5567953?access=d06797c42aa23242712221ac06efc6bf>
 - The New York Times, Associated Press, and Washington Post Articles can be found here (all articles contain the same content):
<https://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2017/10/16/us/ap-us-street-renaming-kkk-member.html>

MENTAL HEALTH

➤ GODDARD COUNSELING CENTER

- Proposing a social worker position at Goddard for referral and triage services, which will in turn cut wait times due to an increase of patient outsources.

➤ COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Work with Norman Counselors and Psychiatrists to help decrease fees and increase affordability for students.

➤ ADVOCACY

- Lauren has a passion for mental health advocacy and has been sharing her story through social media platforms, public events, policy proposals, and proposed legislation. She plans to continue to lend her voice to this cause as a means to attack stigmas associated with mental health.

- Last year she gave an interview to OU Daily regarding stigmas associated with medication. Read it here:

http://www.oudaily.com/news/overcoming-stigmas-against-mental-health-medication-takes-time-for-those/article_58920126-e5bb-11e6-a4d8-67c72762bdd2.html

- Assist and coordinate with OUr Mental Health, Goddard, and the Behavioral Intervention Team on our initiatives and OUr Mental Health initiatives to streamline progress by working together.
- Work with the Housing Center Student Association to train Residential Advisors to respond quickly and effectively when they get calls regarding concerns for a student's safety.

MENTAL HEALTH

➤ ADVOCACY

- Work with RSO's on campus to develop groups where students with like backgrounds, or interests can communicate with one another regarding Mental Health. Support systems are vital to mental health and having individuals to talk to with shared experiences is a powerful way to cope.
- Encourage the University to help subsidize the costs for Student health insurance and keep a broader window for enrollment. Current costs for health insurance is \$1640. Our aim to help lower costs entirely.

➤ EDUCATION

- We would continue the current administration's Department of the Interior initiatives to partner with Goddard and OUR Mental Health to develop a curriculum modeled on the Step in Speak Out Program to train peer educators to educate students on Mental Health, how to be an ally, and how to access resources for oneself or others.

ROUND-UP'S FOR RESOURCES

- We want to work with the OU Federal Credit in creating a program called 'Round-Up's for Resources'.
- 'Round-Up's for Resources' is an initiative that helps students save money. Every time a debit card purchase is made the rest of the dollar would be round up. Ex: 3.50 would be rounded up to 4.00. The remaining change would be added to a fund that would go towards a savings or tuition fund. This program is modeled after the "Acorns" saving app.
- This initiative would help students save money without having to make a conscious effort. This would be an optional program for students to opt-in to.

SEXUAL ASSAULT

AFFIRMATIVE CONSENT STATE LEGISLATION

- Lauren has written legislation to provide for a legal definition for affirmative consent. A legal definition for consent does not exist in Oklahoma
- Lauren has been approached by Oklahoma Congressmen regarding this legislation and if elected would use the office of Vice President to push this legislation in the Oklahoma Legislature
- A link to view the Legislation can be found here:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wclqr_k6nHTukmVW9JaBS9M_6V9yO_uS1EPxGBeCFE/edit?usp=sharing

INCREASED SEXUAL ASSAULT RESOURCES AND DECREASE STIGMA

- Focusing on working with the #ItsOnUs Committee to assist in anyway possible with their initiatives!
 - Social Media campaigns and awareness programming.

TITLE IX

- Work to ensure that the federal roll back of the 2011 Dear Colleague letter will not affect OUR campus. Advocate for the university to adopt the 2011 standards as permanent university policy.\

STEP IN SPEAK OUT CURRICULUM UPDATE

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- Step in Speak out platform to include a more detail freshmen seminar by including how to accurately recognize and deal with male-to-male rape, female-to- male rape, female-to-female rape and sexual harassment. Too often it's assumed that females don't rape, or anything else outside the male to female range, but often the approaches can be different than recognizing a male to female approach. We want to validate all students and provide a environment where students feel they experience is just as real as others. All victims deserve to be heard

SUSTAINABILITY

We'd like to thank all the environmental groups on campus, Skye Shrader (Veg Club) and Camille Schlemme for their ideas and assistance in the development of these initiatives!

COMPOSTING

- Placing composting stations near the Residential Halls

DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY

- Mission Statement
 - Actively pursue and tackle the projects outlined in this platform along with any other potential projects to benefit the environment for students of the University both current and future
- With the passage of the legislation proposed by Dan establishing the Student Environmental Council as a SGA inity we believe that is important to have an Executive Department ready to complement and assist improving sustainability on OUR campus

GAME DAY WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Promotional Campaign
- Doing a Crude-fest type event to highlight how much trash is during a Game-Day is accumulated
 - Freight Farm publicity
 - Publicize the economic benefits of environmental conservation

FLOODING PREVENTION

- Creating rooftop gardens to assist in water collection before it hits the ground! Incorporating additional beauty to our university from the ground up!

-
- Installing rain barrels which hook up to the runoff drains on campus buildings. These barrels collect water to prevent overflow and allow for water collection that can be reused on campus! Our man Dan has personally installed several of these at different locations across the state!

SUSTAINABILITY

FLOODING PREVENTION

- Additionally planting rain gardens around runoff drains to collect water naturally while keeping our campus beautiful!
- Including native vegetation in both the rooftop and rain gardens to assist with water collection with vegetation native to Oklahoma.

IMPROVE RECYCLING PRACTICES

- Education
 - Providing more clear and detailed labeling in dorms for what is recyclable and what is not.
 - Last Out Lights Out, magnet on room doors where the weather safety information is located.
 - Increased recycling education to help all the awesome staff who manage campus recycling!
 - Initiate a Recycling Drive in the Residential Halls as a competition to provide a fun incentive to the Residential Hall

STUDENT ADVOCACY

NORMAN CITY COUNCIL

- Norman City Council Student Liaison
 - A position within the Department of Exterior under the Executive Branch would attend city council meetings write briefs on meetings report back to the cabinet. They would act to represent students and relay student concerns to the city of Norman for the betterment of the student population.

NORMAN COMMUNITY

- Norman Public Schools Spanish Program Partnership
 - An initiative that would ideally work in conjunction with the Rainbolt College of Education, Spanish Department, SGA, the Hispanic American Student Association (HASA) and the Norman Public Schools
 - The program would develop a Spanish language curriculum for elementary school students that would be taught by qualified OU students.
- 3C's Campus Corner Collaborative:
 - Campus Corner is a hub of economic boom and bustle. 3C's will be an initiative with the Scholarship Board and External Affairs on increasing fundraising projects with entities outside the University, and help with connecting more opportunities to jobs to students in need.

STATE GOVERNMENT

- Higher-Ed Days - Dan has lobbied at the Capitol for 16 straight weeks for higher education funding
- Partnership with the Statewide Oklahoma Student Government Association (OSGA)

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

➤ TRANSPARENCY

- O-SPAN: Stream Congress, Executive Branch Meetings.
- Digitizing Records
 - Work to begin digitizing SGA records, in order for them to be more accessible to the public
 - Having a working database of SGA documents featured on the SGA website is a simple yet effective way for students to keep track of what SGA has done and is doing.
- Website Reform: Remake the website to make it easier to use with quick shortcut access to how-to's, filing bills, find district representatives, learn-more, requesting funding etc.
- Town Hall with the Future President of the University with the SGA President and Vice President.
- Student Budget Audit- Have a budget committee to evaluate the student tuition and fees to lower and cut costs for students and negotiate with the University.

ACCESSIBILITY

- Freshman Outreach and Student Stimulus
- Bi-Monthly Town Halls and Livestreams

➤ Suggestion Box

- A Permanent suggestions box would be placed outside the ConocoPhillips Student Leadership Wing for students to leave questions, comments or concerns.
- The same form would also be available as an online suggestions form.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

ACCESSIBILITY

➤ Suggestion Box

- All submissions should be addressed during the Bi-Monthly Town Hall/Livestream by the President and Vice President.

RECRUITMENT

- Advising Addendum: For Freshman and Transfer students, advisors would point them towards the details for their respective SGA Representatives.
- Camp Crimson and SGA: SGA will take a larger presence in Instituting events for Camp Crimson. Camp Crimson is a transitioning stage for incoming students and they should be aware that every student is part of SGA.

INITIATIVES

➤ Scholarship Fundraiser and Board

- The Student Government Association would form a Scholarship Fundraising Committee. The CASH system is limited to the number of scholarships offered to students throughout the year. The committee would work to talk to businesses and nonprofits to create scholarships for students akin to those students. Those scholarships would be

competitively sought for in an application and interview process reviewed by a faculty panel and distributed with assistance with the Scholarship Office. The Scholarship Board will also aim to lower the number of work hours for tuition waivers from 25 to 20 for the fall semester.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

INITIATIVES

- Scholarship Fundraiser and Board
 - The Scholarship Fundraiser will partner with Thousand Strong for students to donate meal points/exchanges for the competitive scholarships.
- SGA Patrons
 - OU is a top ten school in the U.S. for its Arts Programs. Amongst its students are scholars of Fine Arts that seem limited to only Elm Street. It is also true that students that have entered OU, while may not have pursued arts as a career or major, have wanted an outlet to create and push outlets for establishing Art. The SGA Patron program will be a student organized coalition sponsoring artistic installations, performances, and everyday student involvement in the arts. SGA Patrons would partner with the various art(s) RSO's to promote these ventures. This program is wholly individual and helps reinforce OU as one of America's most beautiful campuses.

RECRUITMENT

- Instill members from the various branches of SGA to different community colleges and high schools to alert them of the benefits SGA has to the

University of Oklahoma and how student Government can be used in their respective schools.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

➤ Social Responsibility

- Is it the duty of every member of the student body to participate in their government. That is the key to a well functioning society. Through a Student Stimulus Program: SGA will coordinate in setting up events throughout the year with getting the student community involved with their respective representatives in congress.

TEXTBOOKS FOR TEACHERS

- An institution wide program that encourages professors to request departments to purchase books for the estimated amount of students enrolled for the semester.
- Books would be given to the students for free and will either purchase the book at the end of the semester if desired or return the book. The University may then sell books to a bookstore to help make-up fund or donate to the library. Students may also charge books bought by professors to charge to the bursar if they wanted to purchase with a convenience fee to help add to the departments' funds. The students may sell the book back the University for a lower rate dependent on the condition of the book.

Work Worth Doing Campaign

- A New campaign program that is a competition amongst the RSO's to get students involved in donating to the charity or organization of their choice.
- Whoever raises the most money will institute the rest of RSO's Donating to that charity for the event.
- The Campaign will be a creative process allowing different organizations to have more outreach themselves with help from SGA.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Everything featured here has been a group effort. We can not thank everyone who assisted in any way shape or form with this platform and this campaign enough. Y'all are why we able to do any of this, your support means everything to us and has inspired us greatly. Thank you win, lose or draw for working with us on work worth doing. In the words of Leslie Knope no one accomplishes anything alone, we certainly couldn't've without y'all.

A big thank you to Camille Schlemme our Campaign Manager, honestly we'd be lost without you. Lauren especially would go crazy without your calming presence, aura of collected confidence, and perhaps most importantly humor. Tasneem Ahmad our Communications Director, thank you for spending an entire hour teaching us how to speak and stand like people. Also you got Dan to buy jeans which in and of itself is an incredible feat. In all seriousness all the work you have put in with us has been valuable beyond measure. Hayley Adams our lovely APO campaign manager, thank

you for helping to organize such an incredible group. Derek Bixler our Social Media Coordinator, thank you for your Social Media expertise and dedication. We are not the most tech savvy people and you have helped bring us into 2017. Skye Shrader our Communications Director, our website and logo was a mess before you and now it is a dream. We are so lucky to have you on our team. You are going to great things. Brandon Swearingin our campaign treasurer, honestly there is no one else we could have possibly trusted with finances as well as you. It takes a special kind of dedication to be able to know the tax codes as well as you do. We are so grateful for your expertise. David Monlux our legal advisor, your dedication to legal affairs is unmatched honestly. Literally no one else comes to mind in terms of knowledge regarding the SGA Code Annotated, thank you for your time. Mark Cordeiro part of our Professional Writing Staff and Chief Editor, Lauren forgives you for not recognizing Hamilton on her socks. Also thank you for helping us present our ideas well. Emmy Wildermuff a lovely member of the Professional Writing Staff. You are a gem and incredibly talented in so many ways. Thank you for sparing us time in your very busy schedule. Nia Ramsey another lovely member of the Professional Writing Staff and our LGBTQ+ Policy Director. Watching you grow this semester and over the course of this campaign has been an absolute delight. We are consistently impressed with your writing, ideas and perspective. Lauren wants to mention that you are her child and that she is a very very proud mom who is very grateful to have you. Alex

Layne, thank you for having it together and consequently helping us have it together. That's been incredibly valuable in what has been a very busy and very stressful period of time. A big thank you to every student who helped us develop these policies. Finally thank you to all the members of FOOD, I know we blow that groupme up sometimes with campaign stuff but all 100 + of you mean the world to us and we will never be able to thank you enough.

Thank You,

Dan Williams and Lauren Lyness