

Candidate Statements for First Year Representatives 2013 First Year Representatives

Name	Last	Statement
Vyom	Joshi	Hello Longhorns! My name is Vyom Joshi, and I am an out of state student majoring in Electrical Engineering. Throughout my life, I have loved to represent my fellow companions. In high school, I was a part of student council, key club, and NHS. I assure you that with my prior experiences, I can make your voice heard. I want to make it clear that I am here for you, for any concerns or problems you might have as a freshman. I truly believe that what starts here changes the world, and this is why I am asking for YOUR vote. Together we can make a difference. Together we stand up and achieve more.
Candyce	Wilson	Hi :) My name is Candyce Wilson. I am an Actuarial Science major running for First Year Representative. I plan to work hard toward making campus life fun and enjoyable, and bring forward concerns from the fellow students of my college. In other words, if you want to enjoy your college experience and have a chance to voice your concerns and opinions, vote for me!
Kennette	Manalo	Hi Longhorns! My name is Kenette Manalo, and I want to be your First Year Representative. I am from Houston, Texas, and my study is pre-pharmacy. As First Year Representative, I want to serve you and be your voice. I will listen to what you want to see at UT and make your voice be heard. As First Year Representative, I would like to extend the hours of SURE Walk. The hours currently are M-Th from 11pm to 2am, but it should be extended to the weekends, and later hours, for safety purposes. This is just one of the many platforms I have for UT. I would also like to add a new Texas tradition, a Homecoming game and dance at UT starting next year. As your First Year Representative, I will be your voice. Vote me, Kenette Manalo, as your 2013-2014 First Year Representative. Hook 'em Horns!
Eric	Alexander	Passion... dedication, ambition, aspiration: traits every student at UT deserves to employ. My name is Eric Alexander, and I want to represent the force that is the first year students of the University of Texas. My personal ambitions spawn from the passion of others, and I wish to voice that passion and drive through the UT student government. As a first year representative I will work hard to characterize the voices and concerns of the student body and will appreciate the diverse range of opinions my peers have to offer. As a former secretary for Mu Alpha Theta, I understand the obligations and conditions allotted through government and more importantly how to connect and communicate with the masses. I will hone in on racial discrimination, the confusion behind students of undeclared majors, and other wide scale issues to ensure the conclusion of a productive, proactive, and passionate longhorn community.
Matthew	Bogard	Hi UT Students! If elected I plan on improving the issues important to the entire student body. To do this I will set up a table on campus and poll to see what is each student's top concern. By understanding the most critical matter to students in a broad sense such as parking on campus for instance I will know what kind of legislation to focus on. Having done similar work in the past I feel confident I will create and pass a significant piece of legislation during Fall 2013. I look forward to getting your vote and making the forty acres even better!
Giovanni	Ontiveros	I may not be the best looking, the most professional, or the most experienced candidate, but there is something I excel in: passion. I am passionate about the University of Texas at Austin. I am passionate about Student Government, and, most

		<p>importantly, I am passionate about people. However, passion can only take me so far; I need to turn my passion into action if I really want to do something for this great university and all of people that make it great. That is why I am running for First Year Representative. I want to take the first steps into making a difference for something I deeply care about. I want to seize the opportunity to take part in something greater than myself, and, ultimately, I want to be a vessel for the voice of my fellow first-year students so I can finally turn my passion into so much more.</p>
Andres Andy	Cerecero	<p>J.K. Rowling, author of the famous Harry Potter series once said “It is our choices that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities”. My name is Andres Cerecero, Andy for short, and I made the choice to want to be YOUR voice. Freshmen are the future of UT and as your representative I want to make sure all our voices and opinions are heard. I could list all my qualifications and leadership experience but the past is history. I’d rather SHOW you what I can do. What matters is the future. WE are the future. I want to continue the positive influence the previous first year representatives established and represent you all, the class of 2017, proudly. Allow me the opportunity to do so.</p> <p>I’ve made my choice. And now I hope I’m yours.</p> <p>Remember, if you want the best, vote Andres, “Andy” Cerecero.</p>
Julie	Ding	<p>Hello fellow Longhorn students! My name is Julie Ding and I’m running for a position as a First-Year Representative. I’m from Round Rock, a suburb of Austin just 30 minutes away, and I’m in the McCombs School of Business.</p> <p>Upon entering such a large university such as UT, I had my fair share of doubts and fears. How can I get ahead? How might I succeed? Then it came to me. All too often, we are consumed with questions concerning ourselves, how can <i>I</i> succeed, how might <i>I</i> be able to become better. The question instead should be, “How might <i>we</i>?”. Contrary to popular belief, it’s not one person that makes the difference, it’s <i>us</i>, coming together, working together, that makes the difference. I endeavor to use my experience to organize events to bring the student body closer. What starts here, changes the world; let’s change the world together, Class of 2017!</p>
Brittany	Beldon	<p>My name is Brittany Beldon and I may not know you personally, but I already can’t wait to meet you. I am a freshman majoring in Business Honors and Pre-Med and student government has been a part of my life since elementary school. I am constantly doing my best to provide answers and solutions, whether or not they are within immediate reach. I care greatly about the University of Texas at Austin and it would be a privilege and an honor to not only serve this campus, but also communicate and form relationships with the students. I plan on giving the freshman class a bigger voice and more opportunities to grow, while remaining an avid listener and a resilient leader. As a fourth generation Longhorn, I understand tradition and its importance to this university. I realize I must bleed burnt orange and that’s EXACTLY what I plan to do...Hook ‘Em.</p>
Julia	Cho	<p>My name is Julia Cho, currently enrolled in the McCombs School of Business. I come from a small town called Cedar Park right outside of Austin and was originally born in South Korea. The University of Texas is a community with over 50,000 students in total, and somehow the school succeeds in creating a sense of unity and belonging. However, it can be overwhelming for new students to find a niche, and by expressing their concerns and comments, I hope to create a more open passage to making UT</p>

		their home. I plan to encourage others to give back to the community through philanthropic opportunities and promote school spirit and campus safety. Serving others and finding solutions have always been a passion of mine and I wish to take an active role in this school by becoming a voice for the freshmen class of 2017. Vote JuCho fo' sho'!
Adam	Garza	Hi, my name is Adam Garza and I am a first year, Business Honors Major from San Antonio Texas. Born and raised in Texas, I have dreamt of being a Longhorn my whole life and am ready to commit to a year of hard work in order to make this campus even better. As a first year representative, I will strive to make our Forty Acres feel small for every student; a goal accomplished by increasing the relationship between students and Student Government. With more student participation, more effective Student Government responses and electing me as your first year representative, we will work together to make a change on this campus. What starts with voting for me will change the world. Vote Adam Garza! Thanks and Hook 'em!
Blake	Lueder	Dear fellow Longhorns, my name is Blake Lueder and I realize that most people really do not care what I have to say in this statement at all, but I feel like that is because some might feel their voice is not heard. I pride myself in my listening skills and I want you all to test me on that. Increased interaction between student government and students is a main objective of mine, and I want to listen to each one of your concerns that you have with the university. All of the other candidates I am sure will have similar credentials and experience in student government, but what I bring that is different, is that when I say I want to be a Freshman Representative, it means I want to represent you and your ideals, not mine. Hook 'em!
Joshua	Garza	I am a native Austenite, and a civil engineering major. I have been active in the community my entire life and my passions are leadership, learning, business development, and education. I have recently served as my senior class president as well as on multiple boards within my school district, most prestigious being the Executive Board. Serving alongside the superintendent and numerous other scholars in one of the largest districts in the state. I am also an Eagle Scout and have learned the importance of service above self as well as how to empower those around me. It would be my honor and privilege to serve as your Freshmen Representative. With my appointment I will work selflessly to improve this University to better serve you and our fellow Longhorns. Thank You for your time. Sincerely, Joshua Garza
Shannon	Geison	Hi y'all! My name is Shannon Geison, and I'm running to be your First-Year Representative. I was born in San Antonio, Texas, but I have been living for the past few years in Mountain View, California. But, don't worry; I got back to Texas as fast as I could! I'm a student in the McCombs School of Business, and I have already been involved at UT through Camp Texas and Leadership Week and as a member of the Senate and the Student Leadership Committee. UT has already become my home, and, if elected, I will do everything in my power to better serve and represent you. But enough about me, my campaign is all about you! I want to know how you can be happier at UT, and I look forward to meeting each and every one of you. I hope you're plannin' to vote for Shannon! Hook 'em horns!
Kristian	Wang	I want to make the political process at UT more transparent and more accessible. The problem is, we don't know how to fix our problems. We are told "What starts here changes the world," but are not given the tools we need to change our world here at the university. You may have ideas, complaints, or questions but not know how to voice them. Getting your voices heard is

		my mission. As your Freshman Representative, I will make sure that everyone has the opportunity to be the change you want to see in the world. I will make sure your voices are heard. A vote for Kristian Wang is a vote for yourself.
Disha	Patel	Hey Longhorns, I'm Disha Patel and I'm running for First year representative for the incoming class of 2017. I'm a second year biochemistry student transferring from the University of Houston, so I already understand many of the trials and tribulations that come along with being a freshman. However, UT is as new to me as it is to you, so I will be dedicated in trying to make this transition an easier process for all of us. I am an involved member of the American Medical Student Association, The National Society of Collegiate Scholars and I plan on being as involved with Student government as you allow me to be. Let's make this year one to remember, Hook 'em!
Umang	Shah	4TMLR. For the man on my left, for the man on my right. This, the motto of our UT football team, defines my campaign for First Year Representative. I want to hear the thoughts, concerns, and opinions of the men and women to my left and my right and effectively convey those words to the Student Government; I am here to make the freshman voice heard. It is important that a candidate be able to communicate with his freshman class, and I firmly believe I have done this and will continue to do so. I've met many of you already, and I continue to meet new, one-of-a-kind freshman every day. We are all unique, and it is this uniqueness that engenders our different opinions, all which have the potential to better UT. Together we can make what starts here change the world. 4TMLR. Let's do this for each other.
Maddie	Weakley	Do you want a leader who is ready to represent you well? A leader who is determined to be the face of each and every student in the class of 2017? Take that step to make our class remembered and vote Maddie Weakley for freshman representative. Our colossal class is you and I: the top-notch, the valedictorians, the over-achievers, the smart slackers, and the ambitious dreamers. We are scattered across this campus in various clubs and majors each bringing something different to the table, but we share the fact that the future is in our hands. Help me bring us together. I have the desire to represent us, but it is up to you to give me the opportunity, to give me your vote. A vote for Maddie Weakley is a vote for all of us, and it's a vote for you.