

## First Year Candidates in ballot order

James Mismash- Hey there fellow Longhorns! My name is **James Mismash**, as you hopefully have selected above, and I am prepared to be one of the Class of 2021's First-Year Representatives. As First-Year Representative, I would work for our class and the whole student body to have equal opportun(UT)ies for classes, campus life, and finally for some FUN here at the university. While focusing on important issues on campus, I also hope to ensure that fellow Longhorns have amazing opportunities **to have a good time**, like a hammocking lounge. I will be a servant leader that will represent not just myself, you, or a group of individuals, but the whole entire Class of 2021. I will ensure our class's **equal(UT)**, create **opportun(UT)ies**, and make sure we have fun with awesome **activ(UT)ies**. I would truly **appreciate your vote** to make The University of Texas even better! **HOOK 'EM**

Shoumik Dabir- As I'm sure we've all found out by now, college isn't easy. We're all dealing with things we haven't had to deal with before and it's only the beginning! But one way life can be easier for us is by having a student government that works with, for, and alongside us. If elected as your freshman representative, I promise to be the best possible bridge between our class and the student body, usurp President Fenves, and represent our class's diversity of thought. When we stepped foot on the 40 acres, we didn't merely join the class of 2021. We *became* the University of Texas at Austin- with all the power to shape the future course of this institution. If elected freshman rep, I promise to empower each one of us to do just that, and in the process, deliver a memorable freshman year.

Vote Shoumik for Freshman Rep!

Maya Khan-We made it!!!! No matter where you came from or how many mental breakdowns you've had to go through to get here we all now have the honor of saying we attend the best university in the world. My name is Maya Khan and I am a business major from Houston. I want to make sure we as first year students shape these next four years to be the best they can be by fully taking advantage of everything UT has to offer. Whether that's ACL student sale tickets, free Amazon prime, or an internship at a big company I intend for us to get our money's worth by having the resources available to chase our dreams and further our careers. What starts here can't change the world until we figure out who we are. Vote for me to be First-Year Representative because together we KHAN change the world

Samuel Samson- Firstly, thank you to the class of 2021 for being such an incredible group. I know we have what it takes to make our mark on campus. My platform is "First-years first. Texas first." For too long student government has been a detached club. Most don't even know what it does. However, I know that together we can make reforms and put students at the forefront. I will have open channels of communication to meet and talk about what issues are important to you. I will always act on your suggestions. Most especially, I will promote our cultural and intellectual diversity as a strength rather than a division. No more alienating, no more self-promoting, no more status quo. Student government is supposed to be "our voice on campus..." I think it's time that we have a voice for ourselves. Thank you, and I hope to earn your support!

Dwight Peton- Hey, Longhorns! I'm Dwight Peton and I'm a Philosophy major. I grew up part of a military family and one of the benefits it carried was being able to travel numerous parts of the world to meet and learn about the other side. So far, I've lived my life with one goal: to make the world a better place, starting by positively impacting the lives around me. It would be such a humbling experience to serve as first-year representative to one of the most friendly and diverse student body I've ever encountered. And as your first-year representative, I will be an earnest advocate for policies that are in the best interest for all those I represent. My purpose is to listen to all of you and make UT the greatest inclusive and exciting experience for every first-year student on these 40 acres. Thank you for your consideration and Hook 'em!

Eliza Withers-My plan as first-year representative is to introduce two initiatives for the class of 2021: to provide ample support to all first-year organizations and to improve safety throughout the university. I will work on behalf of the student government to facilitate a welcoming environment that provides a campus for all longhorns. Specifically, I aim to allow organizations to have accessible representation through the university so they can acquire the necessary accommodations to reach their goals, such as stipulating funding, alumni relations, and networking both within, and beyond, the 40 acres. In doing so, I will also work to increase safety on and around the university as more students get involved on campus and as off campus housing popularizes, the greater the threats students are exposed to. For instance, proposing the establishment of more safety preventives and emergency utilities to secure the well-being of my fellow longhorns.

Ashley Taylor-Hello fellow Longhorns! My name is Ashley Taylor, a Pre-Pharmacy major, and I'm running to be one of your First Year Representatives. When I decided to leave Colorado and attend the University of Texas, I wanted to make a difference. I truly care about what each of you think, see, and feel. I asked students on Twitter what about campus culture concerned them. Many of you said sexual assault, violence, and academic anxiety. I have several ideas to address these concerns: introducing the Clothesline Project to raise awareness for rape and sexual assault on campus, implementing support groups to help students cope with the mental impact of campus violence, and creating clubs to help first year students make the transition to demanding coursework. However, these ideas don't end the conversation. There are many ways to make progress, and each of us will get there-- *together*. Thank you and hook 'em!

Jacob Stokes-"Rain on the Orange Grass," - my favorite kindergarten painting. At the time, I didn't think seeing grass as a brilliant burnt orange was anything but normal! Colorblindness is seemingly insignificant to many; however, just like other student problems overshadowed by higher prioritized ones, it makes the world of a difference to those it affects. From this, I believe in strengthening the community through the individual. That is why I stand for accommodating overlooked students, growing our mental health programs, increasing cultural acceptance, and building community through service. As an Electrical and Computer Engineering major and fellow longhorn, I understand the need to address the concerns of every student no matter how inconsequential others deem it. So, get stoked and go vote!

Orlando Beckum II- Change is an inevitable part of life which we all must experience on personal, communal, and societal levels. Therefore, as First-year Representative, I, Orlando Beckum II, will induce change within the community of UT in order to produce easier and more helpful ways for us to transition as Freshmen students in college and in turn for the Freshmen of the future. With my years of experience leading different high school organizations while also participating in others, spanning from Student Council to founding my high school's GSA, as well as my prior college experience, I have come to the conclusion that there are students who need as much of a support system and positive atmosphere as possible in order to help alleviate the stress which comes with a completely new learning environment, which is my end goal in providing for each of us in the class of 2021.

Aksha Bagepally- Hello Longhorns! My name is Aksha Bagepally, I'm a freshman Public Health major and Polymathic Scholar from Round Rock, TX, and I'm running to be your First-Year Representative! As a representative, I hope to make this campus a more welcoming place for everyone. I plan to bring more awareness to mental health issues that many of our fellow Longhorns endure, specifically anxiety disorders. As freshmen, we're all trying to find the place on campus where we'll thrive. I hope to help you make sense of the overwhelming number of opportunities available to us here on the 40 Acres, and connect you to the organizations that reflect your interests. I hope you all will give me the chance to work with you and for you to move this university forward by electing me First-Year Representative. Thanks and hook 'em!

Michael Hernandez- My name is Michael Hernandez, and I am excited to have the opportunity to run for the position of First Year Representative. To me, being your First Year Representative would be a significant honor. Not only would I have the chance to represent the various perspectives of first year students, but I would additionally work my hardest to showcase our community to the best of my ability. If elected, I will listen to, and voice, each of your viewpoints and highlight the diverse community that we have on campus. I believe each one of us has the potential to strengthen the University of Texas at Austin through respect, leadership, and integrity.

Adam Bergman-Let's start now. My name is Adam Bergman, and I'm running for First Year Rep because every Longhorn deserves a University that talks to us like we talk to each other. I'm passionate about communication and making sure every student is on the same page. We need clear, concise, real-time information, especially when it counts the most. I will make sure the UT Safety Alert Communication System functions at the level we need. I will represent all Longhorns by relaying information, in every way I can, to those who may not have the privilege of access to the administration.

What do you look for in someone who represents you? Someone who shares your priorities? Someone driven to make student life more understandable? To my fellow First Year students, it would be my honor to be your First Year Representative. Let's start with Adam Bergman for your First Year Rep.

Alex Street- I, Alex Street, want to be your next first year student representative. Being an effective leader does not depend on politics, status, religion, race, or culture, it depends on how

you love others and how you treat them. I want to serve you, and together we can build the foundations to an amazing work at hand. It is time to focus on what we can control, and that is the growth of our bonds, the strength of our words, and the power of our actions as we move forward. Let's work together to be lights in the world, and shine so bright, that people can't ignore the lightbulb going off in our heads with that Longhorn state of mind. So, use your Street Smarts and vote Alex Street.

### Transfer in Ballot Order

Malvika Saklani- Since I arrived at UT, my passion has always been with making transfer students feel as important as every other student here. I was involved in making real differences at UT immediately, by being a director for the Transfer Student Agency. We've worked on different programs that make transfer students feel wanted, prepared, and loved on campus. We're creating school-specific transfer mentorship programs, and we're working with the Office of Admissions to make a transfer student ambassador program so all transfers have a central place to ask questions. We also work with TTS, TYE, and Senate to ensure that transfer student thrive academically and socially.

My goal if elected Transfer Representative is to continue using my passion for transfers to develop policy and programs for all transfers that gives direct access to all resources and opportunities at UT that are given to freshman students.

Jarron Castillo- Hello, my name is Jarron Castillo and I am seeking to enhance the University of Texas at Austin by serving as your Transfer Student Representative. I am deeply excited for this opportunity and am greatly looking forward to giving back to the student of UT Austin. Vote for me and we will make UT great again!

Nicole Eggert-Hello to all newly arrived transfer students! My name is Nicole Eggert, I am from El Paso, TX, and I have a passion for community service and student advocacy! I am running to be your transfer representative; my vision is to empower transfer students by catering to their interests and developing initiatives aimed at improving the transfer experience. Issues that are important to me include environmental sustainability, affordability, and creating an inclusive and engaging environment for transfer students to thrive in. My experience includes serving as Environmental Chair for El Paso Executive Women's Lions Club, and being Public Relations officer for French Club; I am confident I have the tools to bring innovative change to UT that will benefit us all as transfers. A bit about me, I speak Spanish and some French, and I want to talk to you!

Conner Vanden Hoek-Hello Longhorns! My name is Conner Vanden Hoek. As many of you have probably figured it out by now, "Transfer shock" is real and difficult to overcome. Let's be honest, as great as UT is there are still many issues that Transfer students face. We struggle to adjust to the academic rigor of UT classes. We often struggle getting plugged into friend groups and organizations. Many of our classes didn't transfer in for credit. As your representative, I want to help create better academic resources, streamline organization's outreach to transfer students, and push the administration to be more open to accepting credits from other schools. We're going to fight and make our voices heard as transfer students. We won't be ignored any longer. Hook 'em!

Hannah Reinhard-One of my goals as would be to help expand the assistance to Transfer Students. All the services currently offered are appreciated, but I believe we can do more to help our transfer students transition. If elected to this position, I would serve as a conduit for our transfer students, soliciting their ideas, suggestion, and complaints and work with those who could help me see each of these goals to completion. I believe that communication is key when problem solving, and in a school this size, with a student body this size, any efforts to create, modify or improve programs is going to take a high level of commitment and experience. I am exactly the person you are seeking. At Northwest Vista Community College served as the President of Student Government, Coach and Trainer in PTK, and I was also a member of the Student District Council.

Brooklyn Garza- I, Brooklyn Garza, want to be your first ever Transfer Representative to the Student Government Assembly! As a fall 2017 transfer, I am currently experiencing the transition process firsthand and know all the trials and tribulations it entails. I have worked hard to accomplish many things for others through previous leadership positions and I believe I can continue this work here at UT, but I will need your support. Although I can not promise you a puppy if you vote for me, I can promise that your vote will allow the transfer voice to be heard confidently throughout Student Government. I will serve students with dependability, integrity, and distinction while building a stronger transfer presence on campus. Thank you in advance. Hook 'em!

Tommy Erlich-I transferred from UT Arlington by participating in the CAP program, so over the past year at UT, I have been able to understand the struggles that transfers undergo, and strive to help new transfer students thrive at UT. Though my major is officially undeclared, I plan to major in Economics, and minor in Accounting to prepare myself for a CPA and career in Entrepreneurship. Throughout my time at UT, I have made it my mission to help those who surround me. I founded the Conflict Resolution Association at UT, where I have used my expertise in mediation to help others get their certification. I'd love to carry the skills I learned there into Student Government. I've also spent considerable time involving myself with Texas Transfer Students, and getting to know as many transfers as possible has inspired me to help this community as much as I can. Hook 'Em!

