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The Student Movement v. 105 (2020-2021)

Student Movement

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The Student Movement Volume 105 Issue 9: Special Edition AUSA Elections

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Special Issue: AUSA Elections



Photo by Darren Heslop

President

PRESIDENT

Dongchan Kim

Class Standing: Senior

02.17.2021



Photo by Darren Heslop

Major: Religion

Desired Position: President

Platform: Hi Andrews. I'm Dongchan Kim. I am running for AUSA President. I want to offer you my time, my dedication, and my effort to make changes on this campus. As President, I would serve as the chief representative and spokesperson of the AUSA; shall have full executive responsibility for the operation of the AUSA. As your elected Executive Vice President, and Senator-at-Large for the past school years, I had the privilege to work closely with two previous AUSA presidents. Through my experience as Executive Vice President, I was able to gain a deep understanding of how to serve as the chief representative of the AUSA, and reflect the ideas of the student body to make changes on campus. I was part of the AUSA for the past two years so I have experience on the AUSA team and apprehended thoroughly how AUSA runs and how the AUSA should be run. The President must work for all of you, not the other way around. I will make sure that everything is

organized for the benefit of AU students and faculty. As AUSA President, your needs are first and foremost on my own agenda. Essentially, your agenda becomes my agenda. You tell me what you need, and I will do everything in my power to achieve that. Andrews University is our home. It is our job to make our home the best it can possibly be. It is our responsibility to make sure that these next few years are the best of our lives. World Changers are made here, at Andrews University. I invite you to join me to make change. Your next step to change your world is by voting Dongchan for AUSA President.

Executive Vice President

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Andrew Rappette

Class Standing: Junior

02.17.2021

Major: Computer Science

Desired Position: Executive Vice President

Platform: I am running for Executive Vice President in an effort to give the student body a voice in how this university is run. Many decisions made by the administration are in stark contrast to the will of the student body. I have been working to improve this university as an AUSA Senator for three years and have a track record of completed projects. I have also used my position as Senator to meet with the administration and communicate the concerns of the student body bringing positive changes to our campus. I am currently also the class president working to bring safe and positive events this year with many more to come before the end of the year.

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

T Bruggemann

Class Standing: Sophomore

Major: Computer Science & Physics

Desired Position: Executive Vice President

Platform: My favourite aspect of Andrews University is the student community it fosters. It's the reason I left a university ranked in the top 10 in the world to come here, and it's the reason I keep coming back. In light of this, you can believe that I care very deeply about the needs of the community and how it is run. There is perhaps no better position from which to directly affect those needs than Executive Vice President, assistant to the AUSA President and chairperson of the Student Senate. As the student body's voice of change on campus, the Senate is intrinsically involved in fixing issues on campus and works constantly to improve students' qualities of life. The potential of serving as the head of this group excites and motivates me, as it will allow me to have a significant and tangible positive impact on this school and community, which, for many of us is our second home and family. My platform is not based merely on sunshine and goodwill, however. Conveniently, I am also quite qualified. I served the same position on my highschool's Student Association, which taught me to effectively work with and manage a senate body. Combining this with my current work as a senator here at Andrews, and my interviews with the current AUSA EVP, Dongchan Kim, I can attest to a thorough understanding of the workings and responsibilities of the role. I am also committed to good ol' bureaucratic processes and making sure they function smoothly and as intended. On becoming a senator, I immediately recognized the system we used to evaluate club Spirit Grant requests was problematic, to say the least, causing unnecessary strife among the Senate body and severely hampering our efficiency. Accordingly, I set out to overhaul the system to address these issues—researching, designing, and proposing a recently-approved amendment to the AUSA Constitution bylaws. I mention this to illustrate my love for systems, specifically polishing them to improve the workings of the governing bodies on campus, and therefore, the student community. As EVP, I will be perfectly poised to assist initial implementation of the new Spirit Grant system, as well as to discover new areas to improve and help other senators do so, also. All of which will improve student life for you. My values, experience, and leadership

skills put me in an excellent position to contribute to our community at Andrews University. I am committed to student government and always strive to serve my school and fellow students in every way I can. I would be honoured to work for you: collectively, as the Andrews student body; and individually, if you see problems in your university experience or have ideas to improve it for others. If you see me around—I'm the one in shorts—I will always be open to hearing your ideas or concerns so we can work together as a student body to make our university the best it can possibly be.

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Torrey Joo

Class Standing: Freshman

02.17.2021

Major: Psychology & Pre-Med

Desired Position: Executive Vice President

Platform: I was the freshman class president in the 2020-2021 academic year. I simply want the chance to run and provide a newer perspective. At my core, I love meeting new people, helping people, and organizing events for a tighter and more connected student body. This provides another chance to continue what I've been doing thus far with more peers.

Social Vice President

SOCIAL VICE PRESIDENT

Taylor Biek

Class Standing: Senior

Major: Exercise Science

Desired Position: Social Vice President

Platform: For this position, I have been given a lot of leadership experience to help me be successful. I am currently the Social Vice for the Senior Class Officers and that has given me the abilities to act on the fly especially with this COVID issue in planning events. I have been sports team captain for multiple years, swimming instructor, multiple directors positions at summer camp including programming and pool. I have been a leader in Pathfinders as well. I am applying for this position because I believe that I can pull us out of this COVID-19 rut and bring back life and excitement into the 2021-2022 school year next year. My involvement in AUSA next year will be full of experience and quality leadership. Since I ran last year, I have learned that things don't always work out the way they want them to, and that's a good thing because I have grown more this year and taken on other tasks that can help me be the best Social Vice President that I can be for this school.

STUDENT MOVEMENT EDITOR

Alyssa Henriquez

Class Standing: Senior

02.17.2021



Photo by Darren Heslop

Major: English & Biochemistry

Desired Position: Student Movement Editor

Platform: As Student Movement Editor-in-Chief, I would contribute both strong leadership skills and years of writing experience to next year's team. I have frequently contributed to the paper for the past two years, both by writing articles and serving as the current section editor for Humans. Additionally, my work as the 2020-2021 AUSA secretary afforded me the experience of working for both student government and The Student Movement at once, which prepared me for the dual responsibilities expected of Editor-in-Chief. As an English major at Andrews University, I have spent the past several years continuously developing my writing abilities. If appointed next year's Editor-in-Chief, I am excited to put forth relevant, exciting articles that engage the student body in campus news and broaden their perspective on contemporary issues. I aim to increase overall readership of the paper, which involves both publishing engaging stories and effectively advertising our work. I hope you will consider me as you make your decision for next year's Editor-in-Chief, as I will direct an effective, talented team of writers that immortalize our university's stories through written word.

Senator-at-Large

SENATOR-AT-LARGE

Abraham Bravo

Class Standing: Junior

10.18.21

Major: Political Science

Desired Position: Senator-at-Large

Platform: Students. That's what the Senate is about. That's what I'm about. How the Senate achieves its goal of working for the student is by first starting and completing projects to help students' lives a bit better. Second, the Senate helps clubs by providing funding for projects to the majority of clubs who ask. I will continue the motto of helping you, the student, and the clubs that ask for help. Previously I have worked as Student Trustee at a community college in Massachusetts before coming to Andrews. I was elected to this position to be a

student representative and a voting member on the board of trustees at the institution. I have garnered experience working with board members, faculty, and state officials to pass projects that would benefit the students and the college. I hope to use the knowledge that I have gained to help the students here at Andrews. Currently, I am an AUSA senator representing 3rd floor East at Meier Hall. I hope to continue working in the Senate, but this time representing the student population. Thank you, and I hope you vote for me.

SENATOR-AT-LARGE

Karenn Lee

Class Standing: Sophomore

Major: Business

Desired Position: Senator-at-Large

Platform: Hey, all! I'm Karenn Lee, a first-year Business Administration and English major, and I would be honored to serve as your Senator-at-Large. My intentions are to grant every student at Andrews University the opportunity to be heard. Whether that's on a broad scale such as advocating for the inclusion and celebration of our diverse student body or on a smaller scale such as raising your concerns about dorm WIFI speed, I want to lift all of your voices and work tirelessly for your success in tandem with all of AUSA and administration. For the past two semesters, I've been the senator for Lamson Hall Third Floor East and the project head for the installation of lighting between Nethery Hall and the Admin Building. In addition, I'm the treasurer for Creative Writing Club and the writer for yearbook, and I was a Pulse leader last semester. As a passionate promoter of constant improvement, I am dedicated to enhancing your university experience. I will commit myself to spotlighting the things weighing on your hearts and facilitating visible change as your Senator-at-Large.

Last Word

LAST WORD

Who Cares What He Wears?: Doug Emhoff's Debt to Second Ladies

Alyssa Henriquez [02.17.2021](#)

In a historic inauguration, the United States of America gained its first “second gentleman” on January 20th, 2021. Douglas Emhoff, successful lawyer and husband of Kamala Harris, stood proudly next to his wife as she took her oath as vice president in a regal, monochromatic ensemble. While Harris boasted a deep shade of purple, Emhoff stood by her side in a simple jet black mask and suit. This same trend was observed in the outfits of the Clintons and the Obamas as they arrived at the inaugural ceremony that morning. While Bill and Barack wore similar black suits, their wives sported varying shades of purple, a color which signified both power and unity between Democrats and Republicans. These intentional wardrobe choices--ones that signal bold messaging on behalf of Harris, Clinton, and Obama, as their husbands take comparatively neutral roles--seem fitting for an era of increased political autonomy for women.

Indeed, Harris's victory has been met with a host of praise for her achievement as the first female, black, and asian vice president of the United States. However, as we reflect on her historical accomplishment, we would be remiss to ignore the unique circumstances of our very first “second gentleman.” What will Emhoff do in a role conventionally marked by women, and therefore typically characterized by fancy outfits, gracious smiles, and hostess duties? Will the public scrutinize his fashion choices like it did to Karen Pence in 2018? Will it question his masculinity in the same way that conspiracy theorists doubted Michelle Obama's femininity, spreading misinformation about her gender identity? Will we expect him to diminish his own career accomplishments, as a condescending op-ed challenged Dr. Jill Biden to remove the title “Dr.” from before her name? Likely not, because we have a long history of imposing diminutive standards onto women in politics that do not transfer smoothly onto men. Thus, as we welcome our new second gentleman into office, we ought to reflect on the conventional duties performed by

presidential and vice-presidential spouses--who have, until just this year, been exclusively women. Throughout their years in office, the first and second ladies of the United States have slowly elevated their positions to encompass expanding political breadth, garnering increased respect among civilians. Though these women still face instances of unbalanced social criticism, the evolution of their offices marks a slow wave of transformation in the United States: one that has, at long last, led to our ability to swap political roles between men and women.

When the office of “second lady” first became a reality, it remained an extremely limited position. Throughout the first half of the twentieth-century, its unitary role was to serve as the “unofficial convener” of the Red Cross Senate Wives, which involved leading lunches attended by the wives of U.S. senators. The official title of “first lady” existed before that of second lady and encompassed comparatively public duties, but its focus remained largely on issues of style, family life, and serving as a hostess. Martha Washington was expected to preside over “drawing room” receptions and greet her husband’s visitors, and Dolley Madison and Mary Todd Lincoln were the source of public attention and scrutiny regarding their wardrobe choices. This vested interest in first-lady-fashion pervades modern politics, as inaugural ball gowns are still the source of news headlines in the twenty-first century. Michelle Obama’s style became the subject of multiple fashion articles, including pieces by Harper’s Bazaar, Insider, and InStyle, while separate outlets positively reported on Barack Obama’s “productivity secret” of always wearing the same outfit. Melania Trump was likewise the recipient of public fixation regarding her clothes, with articles by magazines such as Town&Country documenting her “style evolution” over the course of the Trump presidency.

Although the role of first lady has historically included a focus on fashion, the women occupying this title have expanded its duties throughout the years. Eleanor Roosevelt was known for influencing the president with her liberal agenda, and Betty Ford encouraged her husband to appoint the first female justice to the Supreme Court. While Nancy Reagan and Barbara Bush occupied the more conventional roles of wife and entertainer, they were soon followed by Hillary Clinton, who championed her own political career and went on to become Secretary of State. Michelle Obama was no stranger to the professional world, as she graduated from Harvard law in 1988 and practiced in both the corporate and public service realms before her husband’s terms as president. While in office, she supported military families, volunteered in her local community, and promoted health initiatives across the nation. As for the role of second lady, Dr. Lynne Cheney and Dr. Jill Biden continued their personal work occupations throughout

their husbands' time in office, breaking the typical convention of only serving as a hostess. Over the years, several first and second ladies pushed the boundaries of what it meant to serve in these positions, and to what extent they were allowed to profess their own political opinions and career experience. If not for the work of numerous women throughout the past several centuries, the role of political spouse would not have evolved to what it is today: a position that allows for its occupants to participate in meaningful advocacy, and to further their individual careers throughout their time in the public spotlight.

In January of 2021, Emhoff visited the National Library of Congress in preparation for his role as the first second gentleman. In a publicity video released by the Biden Inaugural Committee, he viewed a variety of artifacts from previous inaugurations. He beamed in a tweet, "I'm so incredibly honored and humbled to be the first @SecondGentleman of the United States. As we countdown to Inauguration Day, I've been doing my homework--and looking to the past for inspiration." Indeed, as Emhoff settles into his duty as our nation's first second gentleman, he would do well to remember the history of his newfound position. While the women in his place have been previously scrutinized for their style of dress, expected to remain uncontroversial, and coaxed into muting their own career aspirations, Emhoff occupies a decidedly less encumbered position. As he pioneers this role as our nation's second gentleman, may his position continuously remind us to deconstruct the unequal limitations that we place on those in the political spotlight.

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