VOTERS Handbook

University of the Pacific

2024-2025

Elections

ASUOP

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Constitutional Amendments

JUSTICE APPOINTMENT AMENDMENT:

Constitutional Amendment 1 (or CA 1) proposes a change to the structure of how judicial officers are appointed. Under the current system, the President interviews and nominates people to serve in the judicial branch and then the Senate confirms them. This constitutional amendment changes that process. It establishes that all officers in the judicial branch are instead hired by a committee composed of two Senators and the President, which then make a decision together on the topic, before the candidate goes in front of the Senate. Additionally, this CA allows the Supreme Court to hire an additional member of the Judicial Branch to facilitate court operations .Arguments in favor of this amendment are that it allows the Senate to be better informed and ensures that both branches are involved in the process of hiring the Supreme Court, as well as hopefully helping insulate the Supreme Court from personal biases

EXECUTIVE RESTRUCTURING AMENDMENT:

Constitutional Amendment 2 (or CA 2) proposes a change to the structure of voting for the President and Vice President. Currently, a presidential candidate and a vice presidential candidate must run together as a ticket. This Constitutional Amendment means that candidates are no longer bound by the constitution to run together. The arguments in favor of this amendment emphasize the fact that this will allow candidates to run for the role that they are most interested in without needing to find another individual to take on the other role. Additionally, it provides voters with the advantage of being able to pick their preferred candidates for each role without being forced to vote for another candidate who the voter doesn't believe is the best fit for that office.

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A letter from the Elections Committee

Do you see the campaign posters on the corkboard or candidates tabling whenever you walk past the DUC? Student leaders from across campus are rallying to run for positions, driven by the desire to serve their fellow students in the upcoming academic year. By running at all, these candidates are showcasing their desire to give back to the community, and the Elections Committee applauds all candidates for their commitment.

The Elections Committee has prepared this Voters Handbook to help every voter make an informed decision about the candidates. By voting, you have the opportunity to choose the senators, vice president, and president who will make impactful decisions for the student body next year. As an ASUOP member, participating and voting in this year's ASUOP elections is a great way to ensure that the best officers are chosen for each role.

The voting period for this year's ASUOP elections begins on March 4th and concludes on March 8th. If you are interested in learning more about the candidates before voting, please consider attending the Presidential Debate and Senate Forum on Friday, February 23rd at 5pm in the DUC Ballroom. Happy voting!

ASUOP ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

Ibrahim Tahir — Elections Committee Member
Mahina Aijifu-Santos — Elections Committee Member
Ali Zain Farooqui — Elections Committee Member

President | VP Tickets

About the positions

PRESIDENT

The President of ASUOP is the head of student representation. They represent the student body at official University meetings and are involved in many decisions made for the school. The President reflects the values and interests of UOP students. Additionally, they should regularly communicate with their cabinet, whom they hire to accomplish major goals and projects for the well-being of the university.

TOGETHER

These individuals work closely to execute the mission of ASUOP. They report to the President of the University, and Vice President of Student Life. They also attend the Regents' meeting to represent the voices of the students.

VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice President is another key representative of student representation. Other than working closely with the President, they serve as the President of the Senate. Their role includes hosting the weekly Senate meetings, breaking the occasional tie, and assisting in many ASUOP committees as well.

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Nadia Rana

Running for:
PRESIDENT

Umayma Mohsin

Running for:
VICE PRESIDENT

As candidates for President and Vice President of the College of the Pacific, we stand united in our commitment to empower and uplift our fellow students. With a shared vision of inclusivity, innovation, and excellence, we offer a dynamic leadership approach rooted in collaboration and service.

INCLUSIVITY AND REPRESENTATION:
We recognize the importance of diverse voices and perspectives in shaping a vibrant campus community. As leaders, we pledge to prioritize inclusivity by actively seeking input from all students, especially those from underrepresented backgrounds. Our administration will champion diversity initiatives, advocate for equity in all aspects of campus life, and create spaces where every student feels valued and heard.

STUDENT-CENTERED ADVOCACY:
Our foremost responsibility is to serve the needs and interests of our fellow students. We will be proactive advocates for issues that matter most to the student body, whether it's improving campus facilities, expanding academic resources, or enhancing mental health support services. Through open communication channels and regular senate meetings, we will ensure that student voices drive our decision-making process.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION:
We are committed to fostering an environment that nurtures academic excellence and encourages innovation. By collaborating with faculty and administration, we will work to enhance the quality of education and create opportunities for interdisciplinary learning. We will support initiatives that promote research, experiential learning, and professional development, preparing students for success in their future careers.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH:
Our administration will prioritize community engagement and outreach, strengthening ties between the college and the broader community. We will promote service-learning opportunities, volunteer initiatives, and partnerships with local organizations, fostering a sense of civic responsibility and social consciousness among students.

TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY:
We believe in the importance of transparency and accountability in leadership. Throughout our tenure, we will maintain open lines of communication with the student body, providing regular updates on our progress and inviting feedback and suggestions. We will uphold the highest ethical standards and ensure that every decision we make reflects the best interests of the college community.

In conclusion, as President and Vice President, we are committed to empowering every student to thrive and succeed. Together, let's build a University of the Pacific that celebrates diversity, fosters academic excellence, and embodies the principles of community, integrity, and inclusivity. Join us as we embark on this journey to create positive change and leave a lasting impact on our college and beyond.

Katherine Moreno

Running for: PRESIDENT

I have worked in customer service with parents, students, coaches, and other departments here on campus as Student Office Assistant at Residential Life and Housing, learning the skills of organization, problem-solving, and teamwork.

As a Yield Representative for the College of the Pacific Dean's Office, I have provided support for new and incoming freshmen and transfer students, acting as a resource that they can turn to in a time that can feel overwhelming.

I have been both an on-campus resident and commuter, allowing me to gain a great understanding of the challenges posed to students in either group. These experiences have allowed me to be a better team member as a part of our Model United Nations Team and an active contributor to the UOP Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity.

As a woman and member of the Latinx community, I have seen how important it is to feel seen and heard, and to continue fighting for progress even when it feels like no one is listening.

The position of the President of ASUOP was created to serve you, your interests, and to help you see the improvements that you wish to see become reality. If elected President of ASUOP I would not be isolated from you that you could turn to when you have a concern, a need, or feel like your voice is not being heard.

To have one become ASUOP President is not to have lost a fellow student to the position, but to have gained a partner in progress.

Simon Hinmon

Running for: VICE PRESIDENT

I am excited to run for Vice President for a multitude of reasons. My first reason is to revive campus life. The school will benefit greatly with the promotion of more campus activities, campus farmer markets, sports, clubs, fraternities and more.

My second reason is to tackle the issues of Title IX head-on. I have helped many who were unjustly treated by the school, so I want to further protect other students and make campus safer, while holding Title IX accountable.

Another reason is to help fellow military students who are in need. Many service members and veterans need help handling school life and transitioning so it is important to make campus feel more like home.

There are hundreds of more reasons why I want to serve, but my time in Greek life, Clubs, the Veteran Center, Rugby, and other groups I am in, allowed me to see the issues not being handled in all aspects of pacific life and wanting to direct this change for the better.

Locations on campus need to be in the best interest in the students where we can all succeed. The library and the DUC are a few examples of places that must improve for the betterment of campus quality and campus life.

Being a Stocktonian lets me have pride in the University and I want to do my part, with many others, to show it truly is the Gem of Stockton.

Senators–at–Large

About the positions

RESPONSIBILITIES

Senators-at-Large are responsible for the representation of the entire student body. This includes conducting outreach with other students, keeping in contact with registered student organizations (RSOs) across campus, and proposing legislation on behalf of students.

NUMBER OF SEATS

The number of Senators-at-Large are determined by the remaining seats not filled by school-specific Senators.

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Jaden Deng

Senator-at-Large Candidate

As an intern for the Center for Identity and Inclusion, I am dedicated to increasing minority representation and participation within our campus. It is through learning about others' cultures and experiences that we ourselves grow. The University of the Pacific is already blessed to have one of the most diverse campuses in the nation, but even still we see that student populations tend to trend to homogeneity and separation.

We can do better. How as students can we prepare to become citizens of the future if we cannot even understand our neighbors?

I, too, am not without fault. Growing up in the Bay Area, the isolation of groups was as evident as ever. And while it was easier to be friends with people who all looked like me, talked like me, and accepted me–I knew that I was missing something. Why should I expect other people to know my culture if I did not even know theirs?

If elected as your ASUOP Senator at Large, I will aim to increase involvement among all of our diverse student populations–especially those who are international students. By doing so, we'll strengthen not only our understanding of each other's cultures but also ourselves.

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Senator–at–Large Ticket

School Specific Senator Candidates

About the positions

POSITIONS

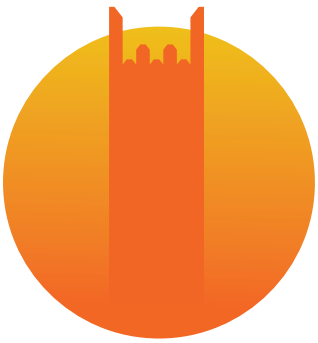
- Senator for the College of the Pacific
- Senator for the Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy
- Senator for Benerd College
- Senator for the Conservatory of Music
- Senator for the Eberhardt School of Business
- Senator for the School of Engineering and Computer Sciences
- Senator for the School of Health Sciences

RESPONSIBILITIES

ASUOP Senators are responsible for attending weekly senate meetings to bring opinions, ideas, and concerns regarding the school or college they represent, as well as conducting outreach with other students, keeping in contact with RSOs, and proposing legislation on behalf of UOP students.

Rawan Mahmoud

Senator for the College of the Pacific Candidate



As a candidate for Senator of the College of the Pacific, I am strongly committed to serving all students to the best of my abilities. As a member of a minority group myself, I understand the importance of representation and awareness. I aim to bring attention to the experiences and needs of the students and to be a relatable figure for those who may share similar backgrounds. Through advocacy, and inclusivity, I aspire to foster an environment where every student feels seen, heard, and valued. Together, we can create a campus community that celebrates diversity and supports the success of all its students.

Junaid Ahmed

Senator for the School of Engineering & Computer Science Candidate

I'm Junaid Ahmed, a Master's in Computer Science student graduating in December 2024, and I'm excited to run for Senator in the ASUOP elections. Back in my undergrad days in Pakistan, I was the Class Representative for four years. It means I spoke up for students about what we're learning, how we're taught, and how we're graded. I also worked with professors to organize extra classes and provide study materials to help everyone do better in their studies.

Now, as a Master's student, I want to take that experience and use it to make our university even better. If you choose me as your Senator, I promise to listen to all of you. I want to make sure our education matches what's happening in the tech world today. I believe everyone should feel like they have a say in how things are done here, and I'll work hard to make that happen.

Being a Class Rep before and now studying Computer Science gives me a unique perspective. I want to work with ASUOP to make our campus a better place, and I'm ready to collaborate with professors to arrange extra help when needed.

Thanks for considering me.

Shivam Lnu

Senator for the School of Engineering & Computer Science Candidate

As a dedicated student from the University of the Pacific's School of Engineering and Computer Science (UOP), I am excited to announce my candidacy for the position of Senator representing our community. My diverse perspectives and unwavering commitment to enhancing student well-being drive my advocacy.

CHALLENGES AND COMMITMENTS:

1. Community Building:
I wholeheartedly recognize the transformative power of community. By organizing inclusive events and supporting student clubs, I aim to foster a strong sense of belonging. Collaboration among diverse groups will be the bedrock of my approach.

2. Accessibility Matters:
Transparent decision-making and accessible resources are non-negotiable. As a Senator, I will champion the needs of students with disabilities, ensuring equal opportunities for all.

3. Health and Well-Being:
Mental and physical health are paramount.
My focus includes enhancing counseling services, promoting healthy habits, and addressing student stress. Together, let's amplify student voices and create positive change within our School of Engineering and Computer Science. Your active participation will make a significant impact!

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Senator Tickets

Alena Wade

Senator for the Thomas J.Long School of Pharmacy Candidate

If elected, my commitment is to uphold a professional, fair, and progressive image for the Thomas J. Long School of Pharmacy. From my experience as captain on my undergraduate collegiate soccer team, I believe that I understand how to work as the liaison between groups which will aid me in seamlessly conveying our pharmacy program's concerns and aspirations. Additionally, from my experience as a sports coordinator in the Office of Student Engagement in my undergraduate career, I can utilize these skills obtained to efficiently facilitate connections and find common grounds when handling concerns between the pharmacy side of campus and all representative individuals of the various programs of UOP. My goal is to accurately represent the pharmacy campus community while working with the other representative senators to achieve overall growth and cohesion of the entire student body of UOP.

My extensive experience in leadership roles, coupled with strong time-management skills and work ethic distinguishes me as a standout senator candidate among my peers. Whether immersed in conjunction pursuits or diffusing disagreements between parties, I promise to consistently deliver my best-quality work that reflects the masses' desires despite the conditions present. I was able to develop this skill of mitigating confrontational situations from my experience as a chemistry instructor at my former undergraduate institution. Through this, I aspire to uphold and advance the strong reputation that the pharmacy school representative senator position has cultivated throughout the years at the UOP, ensuring this position's impact for the 2024-2025 term.

Frequently Asked Questions

WHAT IS ASUOP?

ASUOP aims to serve students, by being an official channel for the free exchange of ideas and opinions among students, faculty, staff, and the administration, all while providing services and exciting student activities across campus.

WHAT IS ASUOP SENATE?

ASUOP Senate consists of all school specific senators, senators-at-large, as well as the ASUOP Vice President. Senate meetings occur weekly on Mondays from 5–7PM in DUC 211. All students are more than welcome to attend.

WHEN WILL VOTING RESULTS BE RELEASED?

Voting results will be released on Friday, March 22nd.

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Don't Forget To VOTE!

The Voting Period will be from
March 4th at 9AM to
March 8th at 11:59PM.

Questions? Contact the Elections Coordinator: **i_tahir@u.pacific.edu**

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