Letter of Intent regarding the Candidacy for the Office of Vice President

My name is Andres Muñoz and I hope to be elected as the new vice president of the Student Government Association here at SUNY Potsdam. As the vice president, I would try my very best to improve the overall experience of the journey that students embark upon when they come to SUNY Potsdam. I would achieve this by being a strong voice on behalf of the students. My action plan will not simply be stating discomfort when the administration enacts a policy the student body does not favor, but rather to mobilize the student body by educating and reminding my fellow students how much of an impact such decisions will have on their time here. More importantly, I would also provide a set of ears that will listen to any concerns or ideas that the student body may have regarding anything pertaining to life at SUNY Potsdam. This shall be achieved by better advertising of office hours, hosting forums where students get direct access to any executive board officers, better advertising on who the representative for each district is, and many other methods. Advertising office hours all over campus will lead to increase awareness on when officers are available and students will hopefully try to schedule meetings accordingly. By hosting open forums, students can speak their mind without the rigid rules in place during Assembly and Senate meetings. Providing the name and location of each representative of a district will let students know who their voices are in the Assembly and Senate. If they are members of multiple clubs, they have multiple resources available. If they do not feel comfortable with those individuals, they also representatives in their living districts that may empathize with whatever issue they may be having. Ideally, I would like to remove the reputation that the Association has begun to foster of being an unfriendly place, and replace it with the idea that the Association is a group of students ready to find ways to assist and enhance the time being spent here as a SUNY Potsdam student.

In my time here, various levels of the administration have made decisions and implemented policies that seem to overlook any student input. I would try my best to obtain a more transparent planning process, where all students are asked for input, not just those who are in the Association. If successful, this would hopefully lead to more student involvement in campus affairs.

I believe by electing me, the students here at SUNY Potsdam will find a person that is trying to educate them. I would let them know that the learning process does not end in the classroom. I will not try to shove information down their throat, but rather show them that they actually want to know what is going on and how this affects them.

Andres Muñoz