

THE BATTALION VOTER'S GUIDE

Wednesday • March 23

► Eric Williams

RHA PRESIDENT CANDIDATE



Photo not available

Howdy! I'm Eric Williams '98, and I'm running for position of president for the Residence Hall Association (RHA). I have lived on campus for three years, and all three of those years I have been active in RHA. As president, I would improve the efficiency of General Assemblies (GA), increase

the residents' awareness of RHA and its programs, build better relations between RHA and other organizations, strengthen on-campus recycling and improve RHA's programming. I have been a voting member of the GA for over two years. I am currently the vice president of operations. As vice president of operations, I have been working with the A&M administration and carried out administrative duties for RHA. On many occasions, I have filled in for the current RHA president while he has been away. Last year, I was the Appelt Hall Delegate and director of Casino, the largest student-run casino in the world and the largest RHA committee. My freshman year, I proxied for Aston Hall and was a Wing Representative. Also, I was in RHA's freshmen leadership program, Freshmen Leaders in Progress (FLIP). Thank you for taking time to read this. I would appreciate your support. If you have any questions or concerns regarding RHA, you may reach me at E-T@tamu.edu.

► Mike Hoy

RHA PRESIDENT CANDIDATE



Thinking of RHA, two words come to my mind, untapped resource. The potential for the Residence Hall Association to have more influence in various areas of on-campus issues is unlimited. Adjustments around campus affect the members of RHA (which includes ALL on-

campus hall residents) more than any other group. The residents give RHA the power it has, and when the residents use that power, it becomes greater. After the "untapped resource" of RHA has been tapped, it ceases to be a resource and becomes a tool. Similar to the power of RHA, that tool becomes stronger each time a resident uses it. Facilitating the use of RHA would be my primary focus. The route to increased awareness is through hall councils, which serve as a link for the residents to connect with RHA and its endless benefits. Every on-campus, non-reg Aggie is a member of the Residence Hall Association and my mission, if you will, is for each one of those students to tap RHA's power for their own benefit.

► Eliot Kerlin

STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT CANDIDATE



Creative logos? Flashy fliers! Gigantic signs? These are all nice. And while innovation, creativity and persistence are important attributes of a leader, I believe true leadership must be composed of values, service and vision.

Howdy, my name is Eliot Kerlin. I'm a senior finance/pre-med major from Fort Worth, and I want to share with you why I am campaigning to be your next student body president.

Values: At Texas A&M we pride ourselves on commitment to the Aggie Honor Code. I firmly believe the student body president has the duty to uphold the values of honesty, responsibility, courage and compassion because of the visibility of the position and the trust the students place in their leaders. I felt that my values allow me to serve you with effectiveness and integrity.

Service: It is my fervent belief that we serve God through serving others. Thus, I am campaigning for student body president not to lead the student body, but to serve the student body. Leadership without service is not only useless, but arrogant. I have dedicated my college career to public service in several areas including four campus advisory boards, Student Senate, and as resident advisor in Lechner Hall. Serving as an English teacher to international students made me realize that student leaders have the responsibility to reach out and work for all parts of this diverse student body. I am now excited at the opportunity to be voted as chief servant for students at Texas A&M.

Vision: The theme for my campaign is "Real Change for Aggieland, Academics and Aggies." However, you cannot have real changes if you have not identified real solutions. I have a solid platform, with tangible ways to impact and improve A&M. My platform consists of fifteen thorough, well-researched, detailed planks which promote genuine change for Texas A&M and her students now and in the future.

Unfortunately, there isn't enough space for me to detail all my ideas, so I can discuss only a few plans I have for next year. There is much work to be done around Aggieland, including adding more dorms, a unified campus-wide recycling system, creating car-pool parking lots and repairing roads and sidewalks. Improvements for academics, including teacher training for new professors, adding a school of music and fine arts, offering sign language courses and expanding the medical school to include a masters of healthcare administration. I am also concerned about issues for Aggies such as ending on-campus monopolies, expanding Aggie Bucks off campus and establishing on-campus crisis pregnancy center access. If you have any questions about me or what I stand for, please visit me at <http://internet.tamu.edu/eliot>. I'll e-mail you back!

Eliot Kerlin. Firm in my values. Committed to service for all students. Vision for the future. My past proves I can lead; my vision proves there is much we can accomplish in the future for Texas A&M. When you vote Wednesday and Thursday, vote for a real leader who wants to initiate change in our university for everyone's best interests. Vote Eliot Kerlin for student body president.

► Curtis Childers

STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT CANDIDATE



The day had been long. The hike had been hard as I came close to the famous peak. Half Dome, at Yosemite National Park. Pulling myself up on the cables, I recall the fear and doubt in my ability to make the last quarter mile. With some encouragement from friends, some persistence and an unexplainable desire known in Spanish as *ganas*, we topped the mountains that many people have not. I sat in wonderment at the powerful view.

This view was only the second most incredible sight I have ever seen. The first, Aggie power and spirit that we share throughout the university. As the National FFA President, I took a year off school to work with young people in 40 states and 700 corporate executives, visiting company headquarters and making an impact on education in our country at the U.S. Department of Education. Through all that time, I saw no university that could touch the magnitude of what goes on here in Aggieland.

Nevertheless, there are some problems on campus. First, we must work hard to correct some of the service problems that exist at the university. Parking is an issue that burdens all. Shortening the appeals process, opening 24-hour reserve parking and using a progressive fine scale are some ways to improve the system. An Underground-style facility on the south side of campus would benefit those who live on the Quad and in the Commons. Even though we have increased computer access to 916 modems for 30,000 off-campus students, it is just not enough.

My academic concerns include the lack of training in spoken English that international teaching assistants receive before they teach our courses. Teacher evaluations should be posted on the World Wide Web, and students who change majors after their third Q-drop should be granted two more, considering many universities have unlimited drops with no record.

Finally, I want to create a pro-active grassroots panel that will address the issues that Hopwood and other events have brought to attention. Serving on the admissions advisory committee last year, I understand the needs that must be met for recruitment and also the awareness on campus.

All leaders should focus on people before policy or platform. There are some incredible candidates for student body president this year, and I am proud to run alongside such a stellar slate. I feel that involvement is the only way to make an impact on this university. Just as climbing Half Dome allowed me to see life from a new perspective, having the persistence and involvement at Texas A&M will help you make a positive difference for yourself, for the school, but most importantly, for people.