



Student Government Association
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

Candidate Information Sheet

Elections 2024

Executives

You may vote for one President/Vice President

Name: Savannah Brooks

Position: President

Savannah Brooks, a political science major at CU Denver, has been actively engaged in student governance for two years. She served as Vice President of the Student Government Association (SGA) and previously as Vice Chair of the Finance and Funding Committee. With her background in political science, Savannah brings a strong understanding of political systems to her leadership roles, allowing her to effectively address issues and represent student interests. Her experience and dedication make her a valuable asset to the CU Denver community through her involvement in the SGA.

Savannah Brooks

Name: Mitchell Mauro

Position: Vice President



Mitchell Mauro

Mitchell Mauro is a dedicated undergraduate student majoring in Public Administration, running for Vice President of the University of Colorado Denver Student Government Association (UCD SGA). With two years of experience, including serving as the Chair of the Student Advisory Committee to the Auraria Board (SACAB) and a Civic Engagement Committee Senator, Mitchell is committed to amplifying student voices and advocating for positive change on campus. He aims to prioritize mental health support, campus engagement, and academic excellence, ensuring a thriving environment for all students at CU Denver.



Name: TaTiana Torres
Position: President

As current SGA representatives for the College of Arts & Media and the College of Engineering, Design & Computing, this executive ticket has put the voices of their constituents at the forefront of their work. From building Student Advisory Councils within their respective colleges, to leading initiatives involving academic integrity and career development for their peers, TaTiana and Abigail have shown that they are ready to bring their knowledge and expertise to SGA's executive roles. They're eager to hit the ground running and meet students where they're at, and they hope to secure your vote this election season!



TaTiana Torres

Name: Abigail Gebremariam
Position: Vice President



Abigail Gebremariam

As current SGA representatives of the College of Arts & Media and the College of Engineering, Design and Computing, this executive ticket has put the voices of their constituents at the forefront of their work. From building Student Advisory Councils within their respective colleges, to leading initiatives involving academic integrity and career development for their peers, TaTiana and Abigail have shown that they are ready to bring their knowledge and expertise to SGA's executive roles. They are eager to hit the ground running and meet students where they are at, and they hope to secure your vote this election season!

Student Advisory Committee to the Auraria Board Representative

You may vote for up to one candidate

Name: Jessica Valdez

Position: SACAB Representative



Jessica Valdez

Jessica graduated from CU Denver in Fall '23 with a B.A. in Criminal Justice, a B.S. in Biology, minor in Political Science, a certificate in Criminology, and is currently pursuing her Master in Criminal Justice. Previously, she has served four terms as the College Council School of Public Affairs representative. She now looks forward to continuing to be a dedicated voice for students, bridging communication between the student body and CU Denver's higher administration, as well as representing their interests to AHEC as one of CU Denver's SACAB representatives. During her first term she was part of the committee that established Success Looks Like Me! an ongoing SGA initiative aimed at celebrating the achievements of CU Denver Alumni. She also held leadership roles within the College Council serving as committee vice chair in her second term, and as the committee chairperson in her third and fourth terms. Jessica has also collaborated with campus partners to organize opportunities for students to connect with the campus police department. Some of these initiatives include working together with the Auraria Campus Police Department to host the annual BBQ With a Badge and with the CU Denver Student Life to host tri-institutional and community-wide Deliberative Dialogues on policing and public safety. These experiences have not only honed Jessica's leadership skills but have also familiarized her with working in a tri-institutional setting, enabling her to effectively connect with AHEC and other tri-institutional partners. In her free time, she can be found in the gym, or in the mountains hiking. Jessica also enjoys cooking, photography, reading books about a variety of topics, watching movies/shows, and listening to music from a range of genres.

Name: AnnaRose Craig

Position: SACAB Representative

I am a passionate student majoring in International Studies, with a focus on political science. More recently, I decided to get a certificate in Middle East Politics, which provides me with the understanding, discourse, and perspectives to understand many current events. I have studied Spanish intensively since elementary school, which allows me to communicate bilingually. Outside of school, I enjoy spending time outdoors, cooking, live music, yoga, and poetry. My life experiences and the people I have learned from have informed my passion for social justice and equity. At CU Denver, I have most enjoyed being around different kinds of people from all walks of life. This is why I believe it to be important that CU Denver students have adequate representation at the institutional level. In addition, students at CU Denver must be informed of institutional policies and mechanisms that directly impact their lives as students. This is a major issue I see; students do not have access to information, nor the knowledge of how to make their voices heard. I enjoy engaging and collaborating with every kind of person, as this helps me understand the many different issues impacting our students. My focus is on centering student voices, specifically those of marginalized groups, to help CU Denver in its goals of becoming an equity-serving institution. I have been proud of my work with the Student Advisory Committee to the Auraria Board, and it would be an honor to serve in this position again in the fall



AnnaRose Craig

College Council Representatives

You may vote for up to one candidate per college/school

Name: Dan Graney

Position: Business School College Council Representative



Dan Graney

Hey there! My name is Dan Graney, and I am a 23-year-old California native with great ambition to pursue a career in finance! Along my journey, I made a quick four-year stop in Texas before settling down in the stunning landscapes of Colorado. I've always been drawn to the outdoors, and Colorado's nature and outdoor activities are a perfect fit for my active lifestyle. Sports play a big part in my life – whether I'm hitting the golf course with my friends or cheering on my favorite team, the Steelers, during football season, you can bet I'm fully invested. But it's not all about spectating for me; I'm also a dedicated runner and weightlifter, constantly challenging myself to improve and grow. Beyond my love for sports and the outdoors, I've got a passion for business and finance. Whether it's delving into the principles of accounting and finance, strategizing for success in financial management, or exploring the intricacies of personal finance – it all gets me fired up. With my dedication and never-quit attitude, I'm ready to make waves in the world of business and beyond.

Name: Michelle Favorite

Position: College of Architecture & Planning Representative

My name is Michelle and I am the current representative of CAP. I only really got started this spring semester however I am excited to learn more about CAP and the students there and how to aid them. I'm apart of NOMAS and the sociology club and I want architecture students to feel like they are putting their best foot forwards especially in an demanding major



Michelle Favorite

Name: Maura Lorden

Position: School of Education & Human Development Representative



Maura Lorden

Maura Lorden is an undergraduate student and aspiring teacher. She is majoring in special education and seeking re-election as the representative for the School of Education and Human Development (SEHD). With one semester of SGA under her belt, she is ready to make a difference in the lives of education and human development students by promoting community engagement and outreach. Currently, she is focused on increasing the SEHD retention and enrollment rate through fostering partnerships and collaborations with nearby districts and expanding recruitment efforts to high school students, international students, & transfer students.

College Council Representatives

You may vote for up to one candidate per college/school

Name: Kanimozhi Sivakumaran

Position: Business School Representative



Kanimozhi Sivakumaran

I'm Kanimozhi Sivakumaran, a passionate candidate pursuing a Master's in Management Information Systems (MIS). My journey is fueled by a deep commitment to fostering community and academic excellence within the Business School. Representing the Business School is not just a role; it's a commitment to embodying the values of academic excellence, leadership, and community involvement. I aspire to serve as a bridge between students and the administration, advocating for the needs and aspirations of Business School students. My vision is to create a dynamic and collaborative atmosphere where ideas flourish, and students are empowered to excel in their academic and professional journeys.

Name: Ivan Ramirez

Position: Business School Representative



Ivan Ramirez

Ivan Ramirez is hardworking, dedicated, and honest!

Name: Michael Leaser

Position: Senator

Hello, my name is Michael Leaser. I am a transfer student from Minnesota, in my second semester at CU Denver. I am strong believer in community, environment, organization and the overall well being on this campus. I am in favor of having students ideas and voices heard rather than traditional power structures. I would move spending toward environmental land use, social activities that give back to the community and providing a communal purpose on campus to make noticeable change from the dominant American culture.

Michael Leaser

Name: Vrajesh Mehta

Position: Senator

My name is Vrajesh Mehta, and I am dedicated to serving our diverse student body with integrity, passion, and a commitment to positive change. As a current student of University of Colorado Denver pursuing a Master of Science in Business Analytics, I understand the importance of effective leadership and representation. With a background in business intelligence and marketing, complemented by an MBA in Marketing, I bring a unique blend of skills and experiences to the table.

Throughout my academic journey, I have been deeply involved in various extracurricular activities and initiatives aimed at enhancing student life and fostering a sense of community. From organizing cultural events to participating in volunteer programs, I have always been driven by a desire to make a difference and create opportunities for growth and development.

If elected, I am committed to amplifying the voices of our student body and advocating for their needs and concerns. I believe in fostering collaboration and open communication to address issues and implement innovative solutions that benefit us all. Whether it's enhancing campus facilities, promoting diversity and inclusion, or supporting student wellness initiatives, I am dedicated to working tirelessly to ensure that every student's voice is heard and valued. I am incredibly excited about the opportunity to serve as a representative within the SGA and to work alongside my fellow students to build a stronger, more vibrant university community. Together, let's create positive change and leave a lasting impact on our campus.



Vrajesh Mehta

Name: Karan Rahar

Position: Senator



Karan Rahar

I'm a Computer Science master's student at CU Denver and also part of the CU Denver Men's Basketball Team. My life is all about balancing my love for coding and basketball. This balance has taught me a lot about being disciplined, how to work well with others, and never giving up, no matter how tough things get. These lessons aren't just about sports or studies; they're about life. I've learned to plan my days and stick to those plans, which helps me get things done and keep moving forward. I believe that with the right approach and planning, anyone can achieve their goals, both in school and in life. My goal to join the Student Government Association (SGA) is because I want to help make our campus a better place for everyone. I've seen how sometimes people don't get the right information or feel left out, and I want to change that. I think we can do a lot more to bring people together and make sure everyone knows what's happening around campus. By improving how we communicate and working on bringing more people into the conversation, we can make CU Denver a more welcoming and inclusive place. I'm ready to put in the work and use what I've learned from my studies and basketball to help make these changes happen.

Name: Kyler Peisert

Position: Senator

President of the spikeball club with a intense passion for growing the community look and feel at CU Denver.



Kyler Peisert

Name: Salini Pradhan

Position: Senator



Salini Pradhan

I am excited about the opportunity to serve as a senator because I am deeply committed to making a positive impact on the CU Denver student body. I believe that being a senator is not just about attending meetings and holding office hours; it's about actively engaging with the student community, understanding their needs and concerns, and working collaboratively to address them. As a student pursuing a Master's in Computer Science, I have a strong technical background that I believe will be beneficial in understanding and contributing to projects assigned by the Senate committees. My experience as a Software Developer has honed my problem-solving skills and taught me the importance of effective communication and teamwork, all of which are essential qualities for a senator. I am eager to work on projects that will benefit the CU Denver student body, whether it's supporting initiatives related to academic success, mental health and wellness, or campus sustainability. I am also committed to ensuring that the funding guidelines proposed by the Finance and Funding Committee are fair and equitable, and that they meet the needs of all students. Overall, I believe that my skills, experience, and passion for serving others make me a strong candidate for the position of senator. I am ready to dedicate myself to this role and to work tirelessly to represent the interests of my fellow students.

Name: Mounika Halember

Position: Senator

I am Mounika Halember, currently pursuing a degree in Business Analytics at the University of Colorado Denver Business School. Throughout the 2023-2024 academic year, starting in October 2023, I proudly served as a dedicated member of the Student Government Association's Finance and Funding Committee. In this capacity, I collaborated effectively to allocate budgets to various student organizations, ensuring strict adherence to Finance and Funding guidelines and legislative rules. My active engagement extended to the Student Government Association's Senate, where I provided valuable opinions and feedback, acting as a representative voice for the student body. Additionally, I played a pivotal role in monitoring the budget allocations for the Spring 2024 Semester. My commitment to financial responsibility and student representation underscores my passion for enhancing the university experience for my peers.



Mounika Halember

Name: Mudit Nahata

Position: Senator



Mudit Nahata

Mudit Nahata, in his capacity as Team Lead for the Razmatazz Club at Accenture, Bangalore, showcased exemplary leadership and organizational skills from December 2020 to June 2023. He was instrumental in orchestrating project get togethers across five Indian cities, managing budgets for office events and parties, and fostering team morale through engaging activities. His adeptness at liaising with vendors to cater to diverse interests, coupled with his initiative in hosting weekly online events, significantly enhanced team spirit and communication. His commitment extended beyond professional settings into academic realms as an Organizing Committee Member for the Espananze Fest at DSATM, Bangalore, in May 2019. Here, Mudit excelled in managing logistics, from inviting special guests and VIPs to coordinating security, ensuring smooth event execution. He adeptly managed budgets and facilitated broad participation, bolstering college marketing efforts. Similarly, for the James Bond Farewell event at DSATM in May 2019, Mudit demonstrated his creative flair by designing thematic decorations and ensuring maximum attendance of the senior student body. His organizational skills shone through in conducting a comprehensive vote poll for senior awards and seamlessly hosting the event, guaranteeing its success. Through these experiences, Mudit Nahata has proven his mettle as a leader capable of managing diverse and complex projects. His ability to blend creativity with strategic planning positions him as a valuable asset to any team or organization, exemplifying his readiness to take on new challenges and make significant contributions.

Name: Jesus Canales

Position: Senator



Jesus Canales

Jesus is an aspiring student leader, computer engineering student, and a talented musician with a passion for technology and community involvement. Born in California and raised in Texas, he brings a diverse perspective to his academic and extracurricular pursuits. Alongside his studies, Jesus is actively seeking the opportunity to serve as an At-Large Senator in the student government. He is dedicated to representing the interests and concerns of his fellow students, advocating for positive change and enhancing the university experience for all. Outside of his pursuit of student government, Jesus is deeply involved in music. He is an accomplished trumpet player and a tenor vocalist, showcasing his talent and dedication through participation in the Brighton Music Choir and Orchestra. Through his musical endeavors, Jesus demonstrates his commitment to artistic expression and cultural enrichment within the community. With a focus on computer engineering and plans to specialize in embedded systems, Jesus is dedicated to leveraging his skills and knowledge to contribute meaningfully to both his field of study and his community. Through his leadership, dedication, and passion for service, Jesus aims to embody the values of student advocacy and engagement as an At-Large Senator.

Name: Sara Peshimam

Position: Senator



Sara Peshimam

I am one of the enthusiastic members of the Student Government Association. They have contributed to numerous initiatives meant to improve campus life as an essential member of the Civics Committee for the past year. Additionally, we were instrumental in bringing the Reflection Space idea to fruition, giving students a calm setting for reflection and unwinding. Experiencing the beneficial effects of our work from the student body has brought me great satisfaction throughout my journey as a student leader. I firmly believe in the transformative potential of group efforts, and we are committed to cultivating an inclusive, compassionate, and empowering school climate. I had an intense desire to have a positive influence, and I relished the experience of volunteering and being an activist. It has been tremendously satisfying to see the happiness and fulfillment that students feel when their efforts pay off. My commitment is making a difference in the campus community is evident through their proactive approach and collaborative spirit. I had consistently worked towards addressing student needs and advocating for their interests, ensuring that the voices of their peers were heard and represented effectively. In the upcoming year, my aims is to build upon the foundation laid by previous initiatives. To meet the changing demands of the student population, I hope to broaden the scope and efficacy of current initiatives and investigate fresh approaches. My commitment is to advocate for my fellow students' interests and build a lively, diverse campus community through a proactive and compassionate approach. As a candidate for Senator, I'm excited about the opportunity to serve my peers and to contribute to the continued enhancement of student life at CU Denver. With my passion, dedication, and proven track record of leadership, they are well-equipped to effectively represent the student body and to bring about positive change on campus.

Name: Cesar Rodriguez Munoz

Position: Senator



Cesar Rodriguez Munoz

Born and raised in Denver, Colorado, Cesar Rodriguez Munoz is currently pursuing a nursing degree with aspirations of becoming a nurse practitioner. Since August 2023, Cesar has actively contributed to the Student Government Association (SGA), serving as a vital member of the civics committee. His unwavering dedication is evident in his commitment to amplifying student voices and advocating for their representation among upper administrators. Additionally, Cesar channels his passion for equity by actively addressing issues of inequality on campus, striving to foster a more inclusive and supportive environment for all students.

Name: Prateek Gothwal

Position: Senator

Hello, CU Denver! I'm an international student, currently pursuing my master's in Computer Science here. Outside the classroom, you'll find me exploring new places, hitting the gym, diving into the latest video games, or engaging in lively conversations with people from all walks of life. With this global perspective and a knack for bringing people together, I'm thrilled to announce my candidacy for the Student Government Association. I'm here to shake things up, bringing a fresh, creative vibe to everything we do. From cultural festivities to enhancing our educational experiences, I've got big plans to ensure our time here is not just productive, but also packed with fun and unforgettable memories. So, if you're looking for someone who's passionate about making our campus the place to be, I'm your person. Together, we can explore new ideas, tackle important issues, and most importantly, have a great time doing it. Let's make our mark on CU Denver and create a student experience like no other. Vote for me, and let's embark on this exciting journey together! Hit me up if you're looking to match up in FIFA, someone to have a drink with, a workout partner or just to talk about something or anything.



Prateek Gothwal

Name: Dyllan Anson

Position: Senator



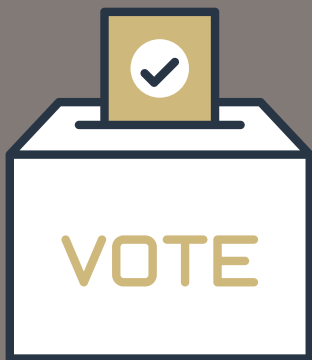
Dyllan Anson

I am on the F&F Committee as the Vice Chair currently as I am writing this. I joined Student Government in general to help give students representation towards the schools and institutions they are under.

Write In Campaigns

Interested in running but you missed the registration date?

Any student may conduct a write-in campaign. To win a seat you must have a minimum of 30 votes (for uncontested positions or a majority of votes in a contested race). Learn more by reviewing the [Elections Code @ ucdenver.edu/student-life/student-government/elections](https://ucdenver.edu/student-life/student-government/elections). *Write-in candidates are mentioned 15 times so be sure to review all points.* Write-in candidates are subject to all campaign rules in the Elections Code and will be subject to an eligibility check prior to being declared a winner in a race (grades/conduct).



WHEN DO I VOTE?

Monday, April 1 (8 am) - Friday, April 12 (5 pm)

Students who have paid the Spring 2023 Student Activities Fee will receive an email from the university with the ballot link on Monday, April 1st and a reminder Thursday, April 12th

Vote in MyLynx and join us at our in-person pop-ups April 8th, 9th, 10th, & 11th!