

ASG TEAM: New leaders answer questions about themselves

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What are the best things you like about ASG?

I love absolutely everything about student government. The people that I work with on a daily basis just amaze me. We just had a fashion show, and I got people who came up to you afterwards and said, "That was cool, good job," and we get to talking. I also like the responsibility aspect of it. We are representatives of the student body and so we get to act as representatives. We get to talk to administration. We get to go down to Salem and lobby and we get those opportunities to make sure that students are being heard and that we're well representing Clackamas.

Is there anything you would like to change about ASG?

The general structure of ASG is pretty solid. I think that when we go through our selection process we can better decide candidates who fill the position in certain departments. I want to make sure that every position is filled with people who are well versed in what department they would like to go into and if they're not, that they are more than willing to dive in head first and really understand their department and what their responsibilities are.

What in your opinion is the role of student government?

The role of student government is to act as representatives of the student body to the administration. Also to make sure the services we provide are what the students need and what their asking for. ASG is also responsible for creating a sense of community

on campus.

Do you think students should be weary of a candidate who has done illegal things off campus, such as when ASG members were discovered drinking underage off campus?

I can definitely understand that being brought up. I was involved, and for me it was a great learning experience, but it was a really hard one as well. It's all about personal growth. Coming into student government as a student leader, I didn't realize my responsibility to Clackamas as a student representative didn't end when you leave. It follows you wherever you go. So, for me it was learning that my representation is extended to everywhere I go. It has made me a stronger leader and it's made me a better leader because I know what my responsibilities are. I know what my limitations are and what I need to focus on. Everyone has their weak moments and that was a weak moment for everybody who was involved in that.

What are your goals after Clackamas?

Right now I am just kind of taking my time to explore what my options are. I run a mentoring program for young girls, so I am looking at a degree in psychology and counseling. As far as education goes, I am just kind of weighing my options right now and that's what Clackamas has provided for me, a transitional time to figure out where I see myself. Wherever I go after Clackamas, I plan to stay in a leadership position.

What is your experience in leadership?

I have been involved in lead-

ership since the very beginning of time. In elementary school, I was a conflict manager. Where at recess, I had my little red vest and my clipboard, and I would walk around and facilitate discussion if there's a conflict. I was also a crossing guard as well. In middle school, I was the chair of our student council for three years. In high school I took our leadership class for two years. Our high school student government was a little different. If you were in the leadership class, you were a member of student government. There were also elected positions as far as president, vicepresident and floor treasurers. I didn't pursue that because by the time I was done with the leadership class, I started with mentoring at the high school.

When you're outside of school what do you do?

I'm a big family person. My sister actually just had another baby so I have two nieces and I love to spend time with my family. Aside from that, I love to play golf and hang out with friends and go to the movies.

Why should people vote when there is only one candidate running for each position?

You know, I have gotten that question a lot, and the way I feel is that students should still vote because it brings that sense

of community to campus. It's a student's responsibility to know what's happening on campus and to know their candidates. It's still important to vote because students can say, "Well I was still active in the election," regardless of what happens. I think it's important for students to be active on campus.

Why do you think more people don't run?

Especially for the position of president, it's a great responsibility and it's a lot of time to commit a lot of our members on student government work as well as go to school and they have other responsibilities. I don't think it's out of a lack of passion or motivation for Clackamas that they don't run.

I understand the only way at Clackamas that you can be student body president is if you're a part of ASG.

For two terms, yes.

How do you get onto ASG?

What you do is apply. We have our applications online and then they will call you into an interview. Then there is a selection process and they will call you back and let you know if you made it.

So members of ASG are the ones who make the decision?

Correct.
Do you think the DC trip was a good use of student funds?

"The role of student government is to act as representatives of the student body to the administration."

Alyssa Fava
ASG Presidential candidate

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Makes it sound like a bad drug.

Sometimes it can be. No, I'm just kidding. No but uh, she's the one who introduced me to it. I met her and just told her about my DECA experience and she was like "Ah, you know you would be a perfect fit for a promotions officer position. Come into an interview." So, that's what brings me to ASG.

What do you plan to do as an ASG Vice President?

As VP, I want to make sure I'm finding the best people for Clackamas to serve the students, and make sure I have the best of the best on my team because that's what the students deserve.

Do you have any exact policies to make sure people do that?

We do. We are actually in the process of polishing up our constitution. We've been going through the bylaws seeing what is working and what needs to be fixed to make ASG better. It's a sticky complicated process to change those. I feel like the wording can be better just to make sure the interpretation of them is crystal clear. Because that's another thing that's been questioned a lot this year is ASG's transparency, and I feel that if we have our bylaws and

our constitution set very clearly and we follow those very clearly that we won't have that problem in the future.

Are those public records?

They are.
What are the best things that you liked about the old administration of ASG?

It's been amazing to witness the chemistry of the team and just the friendships that I have made. Michael and Latisha have done a great job of facilitating that and making a very loving environment. Also Michael and Latisha have done a good job in letting their officers and their team have this freedom in a sense that we actually have a process for the different projects that we're working on. We write up a job proposal and go to them. They look it over. We talk about it as a group. It's a very team oriented thing. I've really appreciated that especially being promotions officer. We're a brand new department, no one's ever done promotions before for ASG.

What are things that you would like to change about the last administration?

One thing that I have felt being a freshman here at Clackamas, I felt kind of like they had these expectations, but the expectations weren't as clear just in officers etiquette. There was some confusion about what

was wanted. My goal for next year is that we have a game plan from day one about what our expectations are, in order to make sure that everyone is clear on that. Also, if we're bringing in new students that we'll be able to help them adapt quicker to the team.

What in your opinion is the role of student government?

I feel like the student government is responsible for the student voice. We need to be able to connect with students in various ways and relay that message onto the administration.

I understand you were a part of the underage drinking thing.

Uhm...
Do you think students should be wary of a candidate who participates in illegal activities outside of the campus?

That whole experience was such an eye opener and a learning experience for me. I feel that I wasn't aware of the extent that ASG was viewed in the public eye. I felt awful about that whole experience. I feel that is not something that I want to portray as a leader, but my personal life is my personal life, and I feel that those are two very separate things. I feel the boundaries between those need to be very defined.

What are your goals after

Clackamas?

I am really interested in sports marketing, that's kind of my niche. After Clackamas, I want to go to University of Oregon and go through their sports marketing program.

What do you do for fun outside of school?

I'm really close to my family. My family is awesome. They're my favorite people; I like to spend time with them. I like to camp. I like to play soccer a lot. I like to go to the sporting events here on campus. I'm a big fan of the basketball team and baseball team, and just hang out with my friends.

Why do you think so few people ran?

It's a huge time commitment and it's a huge commitment. It's stressful and straining on your school work and in other parts of your life too, and it becomes a big part of you. I feel that people that didn't step up might have been shied away by that. I feel that in ASG, there's a variety of different positions and so many different skill sets that are required to fill each one of those. I feel like on the team now everyone has filled their niche. A lot of the senators are going to be applying for officer positions next year and so they're moving up that way. Maybe they're just not quite there for the president thing?

The DC trip was in taken out of student funds raised that money on our doing concessions and we couple barbecues specific the trip. We told students for student government money for what we do. We way took from our annual to pay for the trip. All the that was used was raised for us.

Because there are so few people running in the election, do you think people might question the legitimacy of it?

I think that people should realize that we are student government and it's open to anyone in government to stand up and that they want to run. That somebody else who did so to say that they wanted to be backed out of the race. That a personal choice and you it happens; that's just life. I think there should be any of legitimacy with ASG. We're the only ones. If anything, it should show capability in these positions. The whole team is saying "I'm doing a great job. I trust in their position." That's the way I am looking at it, and I'm sure is the way it is with our team.

Is there anything you want to say?

I would encourage students who see me to come and ask me. If they have questions, come ask me. I love the students are challenging me and asking hard questions. I really appreciate that. I think it's important for students to know who the candidates are, who's going to represent them next year.

What is the most important thing to the college that are working on?

I feel like the budget doomsday type thing for people. The communication between the administration the students needs to be a little bit in explaining going.

I understand the way to get elected is through two terms in ASG. Do you think that's a fair way to choose a representative? Do you think there should be more options to become a candidate?

We actually address as we've been going through bylaws. The experience being in ASG is invaluable. You wouldn't feel comfortable understanding the inner workings of the college, the relationships with the administration and with the other officers on campus. I don't think if a candidate could have same qualifications not in ASG, as one who has experience.

Is there anything you want to say?

Thank you for having me. I'm really stoked about being able to run over to the meet and greet in a little bit after the election. I hope that there will be there with more questions to answer.

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