To the esteemed Dickinson College Class of 2017, and the Dickinson community as a whole:

First things first, congratulations on almost completing your first year here at Dickinson! In a few short weeks, we will be a quarter of the way through college; this year has flown by, and a lot of progress has been made in the past seven months to make the student experience here at Dickinson continually better.

On the Enrollment and Student Life Committee (ESLC) this year, we’ve talked about a multitude of different issues central to student life on campus, and have taken decisive action that impacts all Dickinson students. At the beginning of the year, we discussed the successes and failures of the First-Year Neighborhood model, and crafted a framework for the First-Year Experience for students that is more engaging, student-oriented, and effective at preparing students to flourish and thrive here at Dickinson. From this, a working group was formed to flesh out the details of what the new First-Year Experience would look like, and I had the privilege to work in that group with the administration on making it as beneficial and student-oriented as possible. Within that group, we changed Orientation in many different ways for this fall, created the First-Year Mentor position, adapted the orientation groups into First-Year Interest Groups based on common interests. All of this was done to try to foster mentorship opportunities for students with other students, faculty, staff, and administrators that will help build community and help students excel at their full potential throughout all four years.

This spring, we on ESLC have discussed changes to the College’s Alcohol Policy that would add transparency to how DPS handles alcohol-related situations on campus, and created a board that has students on it, as well as DPS officers and administrators, that will be charged with approving student-hosted parties and making the Alcohol Policy as student-friendly and student-oriented as possible. We then moved to discussing (and eventually deciding) the move of the sorority rush period from the fall of sophomore year to the spring of the first year. Then, in response to the petition that was signed by over 600 students about off-campus housing, we discussed possible changes to the system, and then discussed the student housing experience in general.

Right now in ESLC, we’re talking about the changes to the Sexual Misconduct Policy that were made over the summer, the resulting uproar from the student body, and the possible steps forward in increasing communication, transparency, and student engagement in the college governance process. We’re also talking about Greek life on campus, and how we want it to progress in the future to benefit more students and foster community.

However, this year, I also was on the Student Senate Student Life Committee, and focused on making Allison Hall a vibrant place for students to relax, study, and have fun all in one. I worked in tandem with many others to plan the First Friday Pub Nights, which were resounding successes, and which I plan to work more on next year, if elected.

After all the work that has been completed this year, I have seen first-hand the impressive and extremely important changes that are being made every day on an institutional level that will benefit every Dickinsonian now and in the future. But I still have more ideas. I still have more work to do, both on ESLC and in Senate.

I learned the ropes this year, built the necessary relationships with faculty, staff, and administrators, and understand the governance structure. Now, I’m asking you for the opportunity to put it to use for you; if reelected, I will use my position to advocate for the student body as I have this year, and will work vigorously on initiatives, projects, and policies that will have a positive impact on each and every student. I sincerely ask for your vote April 23rd-24th, because a vote for me will ensure that your voice will be heard on the issues that matter most to you.