PATRICIA FRANCIS- HALL for CLASS SENATOR

To the Class of 2017,

I am Patricia Francis- Hall, and I am running for Class of 2017 Senator. When we had our first elections this past fall, I was hesitant about running for office. I was very interested in joining Senate but Dickinson was new for all of us, and at the time I was completely unaware of the issues on campus. However, through our campus’ informative Buzzocracy feed, I was able to learn some of the concerns of my peers and see the ways in which Senate has been able to take action and solve these issues. More than that, I have become an active member of the Dickinson community, participating in clubs such as MOB, dancing on the Hypnotic dance team, and being a student worker at the Waidner-Spahr library. Now that I have been able to experience Dickinson, I feel more informed and even more prepared to be a part of Senate and help make changes within our community.

I believe that I possess the qualities necessary to be a strong Senator and a valuable asset to Senate. I recently declared as a Political Science major. My academic background has not only given me a **strong foundation in the mechanics of politics** but it has also provided me with the knowledge of tactics that are effective in passing legislation and gaining support for ideas. My role as a dancer on Hypnotic and a desk attendant at the library has allowed me to meet and interact with many different individuals and has ultimately **taught me how to work effectively as a team with diverse groups of people**. In working as a team, however, sometimes people can be afraid of speaking up or defending an idea that is unpopular. However, **I am not afraid to speak up, even if that means standing alone.** If there is an issue that we believe needs attention, I will advocate for it. Finally, **I am driven and goal-oriented**. First-years do not usually obtain positions in the library, but I worked hard, spoke to librarians throughout the summer, made sure they knew of my experience and willingness to learn, and I was able to obtain a position there. This drive has also allowed me to become a library supervisor for the Spring 2015 semester. These are traits that are vital in representing our class.

In talking to my peers, I learned that many of you feel that your opinions won’t matter within Senate. If I am elected as a Senator, I will make active changes for our class and let you know that **your opinions do matter**. As a Senator, I intend to **be a liaison between our class president and the members of our class.** You will have more say in class events and, through me, **your voices will be heard in Senate meetings**. I would like to set up a forum, similar to Buzzocracy, in which solely the members of our class can voice their concerns and feedback. I will then bring the feedback I receive from all of you to every meeting, making sure that the issues you have are addressed and then use the forum as a means of addressing your concerns and relaying information from Senate meetings. Senate has a lot of say in what happens on campus and the more involved we are, the more changes can be made. Dickinson will be our home for the next few years and it is imperative that we create a place that we are proud of. **Your vote is your voice; make sure it’s heard.**

Sincerely,

Patricia Francis-Hall

Class of 2017