

Dear Friends,

My name is Giuseppe Collia. I grew up in Tabernacle, NJ but I went to a residential school in Hershey, PA (That means I lived there but in a home setting as opposed to a dorm setting). I'd say I've got a leg up in living away from my family, but I'm vulnerable in the regard that I come from a low-income background.

So to begin, I'd love to support students of socioeconomic disadvantages on this campus. Yes, I am a white male. And, yes, I have faced socioeconomic disadvantages throughout my lifetime. I thoroughly believe that your family's income should not determine your outcome. These injustices, among others which you may or may not have faced, need to be addressed in both conversation and in action.

For this year, I'd hope for our class council to raise mental health awareness, reduce the stigma of mental illness, and educate our Dickinson community of the services we have on campus. Additionally, we would plan to work with Eco-Reps and CSE in all that we do in order to reduce our carbon footprint as a class council, Senate, and College while also emulating what it really means to be the Class of Carbon Neutrality.

In high school, I was heavily involved in extracurricular activities both on and off campus. As president of the Home Life Caucus of the Student Government Association (remember, residential school), we accomplished many community oriented events. Our largest event served over 500 students from grades pre-k through 12. We were ecstatic to make that type of impact on campus and I know that we can make great impact through Student Senate as well.

My other activities included 4H, FFA, Horticulture Club, Envirothon, Marching Band, Indoor Color Guard, Student Ambassador, National Honor Society... let's be honest, I've probably forgotten something on this list. All of these things exemplify my passions but also my learned ability to lead with others and to change our world.

And while I'm sure you've loved reading about me, I want to make this year the exact opposite. I want to get to know you. I want to represent you! The point of being first year class president is so that I can represent the Class of 2020! I want you to know that I am open to hearing from you. I am open to being your friend and your president. We are peers. There is no power struggle. There is no hierarchy in my book.

I also want to stress that even if you are not a member of Student Senate, that you can still be involved. Many students who aren't elected still come to all-senate meetings. And even if you're not in Student Senate, nor come to the meetings, **YOU CAN STILL ADVOCATE FOR CHANGE.**

Of course, I realize the benefit and the usefulness of being involved in Student Senate, but, with your own brain power, you can do anything you put your mind to do. You can make a difference. You can be a catalyst of change. And I can be your resource.

Giuseppe Collia, '20