

Hello Dickinson Class of 2021!

My name is Emma Wolf, or you may know me as Em (like the letter), and I am writing this letter because I would like to represent you as your Class President. I believe I would be a good president to the freshman class because of what I will bring to the position, which is tremendous energy, creativity, focus, and an ability to connect people from all backgrounds and constituencies. I am an interactive extrovert. So in other words, I will be extremely involved in the student body of Dickinson. From something small as to remembering your name, to listening to others, to identifying with their concerns, to giving help or advice where I can, these are my passions. There will never be a point where I won't make time for someone wanting to talk. And if not in person, then online, because I have created social media accounts for the freshman class that will allow us to talk and share ideas at any time and from any place.

Student government is something I have yet to be a large part of, so rather than bringing the experience of someone who has, I will bring a different point of view to the role. Someone who has seen a class president, and knows what they've expected from a president. From being on the sidelines for so long, I strongly feel that I would now like to use what talents I have to push Dickinson, a college and a community I have come to know and love in an amazingly short time, forward to being even better than it is.

At Dickinson, I am energized by what I see and feel here and I know that together we can build on the accomplishments of the College. I can give a fresh perspective on student government and the role of a class president and what people would want in a president. From tissue paper to textbooks to tuition, from international study to inner-city violence, from college clubs to climate change, there are issues on campus and in our community where we can and should have an impact. We are young and strong and smart. I want to be a leader who energizes students, brings diverse groups together, and lets us realize that collectively we can make such an impact. The Shared Governance process at Dickinson is a critical one. Working collaboratively with students, faculty and administration will be of prime importance to me. Similarly, our Student Senate must be an effective and responsive organization accurately reflecting the views of the student body. Our voices are important and need to be heard.

On a more personal level, I believe strongly in the importance of relationships, both individual and group relationships. We need to create a strong and positive relationship not only with each other but as a class. We are new here, and we have much to learn, but we also have much to offer since we come from such diverse backgrounds. We can create a positive dynamic among us by the way in which we treat each other, respect each other, and support each other. Through compassion and kindness we can unite as a class and support shared goals despite coming from such diverse backgrounds. That is my hope for our class as we move into the future. I will do so by encouraging the creation of additional clubs on campus such as a chapter of Peace Action Network, a national organization which promotes peace and nonviolence across the world. Another club for consideration would be Avedium, a club I was heavily involved with during high school which is dedicated to breaking the silence on suicide, bullying and inner conflict. I would also like to hold regular events for freshman, such as informal coffee chats, music events, dining socials, and drive-in movie style nights with lawn chairs. Friday and Saturday nights in particular need to have available for students a wide variety of opportunities to get together and engage.

Growing up with politically active parents, I have become a strong activist and so now vow to work hard to promote awareness and participation in rallies and political events for all Dickinsonians to express their beliefs. I would not just publicize these events but also work to arrange transportation to these events when they occur outside our college community. Over the last few years I've been involved in numerous local and regional rallies as well massive rallies such as the Women's March on Washington, where I marched with over 600,000 people who gave me a wonderful sense of hope and energy and determination. My goal is to let others experience that same feeling.

Coming from my background of being openly gay in a conservative and sometimes unwelcoming high school, it is my deepest goal for everyone to feel welcome and to be themselves here. I want to help create an environment where we continuously remind people that they are loved and respected, that we are their family and that we will stand with them. As an intersectional feminist, it is also my greatest concern to make sure our work and efforts reach out to everyone of oppression and to those who share the concerns of oppression in our society. I will promote the rallies of Black Lives Matter, LGBTQA +Pride Parades and other events. I will also organize student events for raising money in order to give to charities such as the Let Us Breathe Foundation, the Matthew Shepard Foundation, and the Syrian Refugee Centers of Pennsylvania, and other local charities.

I believe in the worldly acceptance of everyone. I believe in peace and nonviolence. And I believe that the difference that needs to be made in the world begins with us. From seemingly small campus issues to matters of international concern, I will work tirelessly to represent you and I will be your friend always. You will never stand alone.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Emma Bailey Wolf  
Class of 2021