

Hello,

My name is Julien Herpers and I am running for the position of Director of Academics. It was an honor for me to serve as an all-college senator on the Academic Program and Standards Committee (APSC) during the 2016-2017 school year. My time as an APSC senator allowed me to gain an in-depth understanding of the functions of Senate as well as the Dickinson administration. I had the pleasure of collaborating with a wonderful team of students including our current Student Body President on several issues such as updating the college website with gender-inclusive language and ensuring that the college's Civic Learning and Engagement Strategic Plan benefitted students. As I return to campus after a year abroad, I'm very excited to build from this progress.

One of the main reasons that I decided to attend Dickinson College was that the college placed such an emphasis on producing global citizens through its curriculum. Coming from an international family, I have always valued and sought out a variety of perspectives; I am an advocate of discussions both in and outside of the classroom that allow individuals to learn about the world that they live in.

My primary goal as the Director of Academics is to foster spaces within the diverse array of courses and academic programs offered at Dickinson where all students can feel comfortable contributing to this conversation. Our ability to engage in and learn from vibrant discourse at Dickinson stems from the implementation of the college's values in its academics. As Director of Academics, I would continue to ensure that Dickinson's commitments to diversity, sustainability, and a global liberal arts education are upheld in the college's curriculum, academic program, and academic departments. In order to accomplish this, I would be dedicated to the promotion of an

interdisciplinary community on campus where students from various disciplines can interact with one another.

The responsibilities of the Director of Academics include serving as a member of APSC, heading the Academic Initiatives Committee, and coordinating the Poitras-Gleim Lecture for the academic year. I strongly believe that my previous experience serving on APSC, Student Senate, and the Academic Initiatives Committee places me in an excellent position to successfully manage such responsibilities.

Further, as Director of Academics, representing the interests of my constituents would be my highest priority. Every interaction and conversation that I have with my fellow peers allows me to gain a better understanding of my community and I look forward to hearing your concerns and suggestions so that I can represent the student body and advocate for its success.