

Jordan Watson

Student Senate

Intent to Run

How can this position be used to help the student body?

My election to this position will help me keep my dedication to the students here at UCF, to strive for excellence, equality, and a sense of security. To help the student body understand what it means to be a team. Despite all of us attending separate colleges within the university, we are all one nation of people, we are knights, and we must come together to represent our university on and off campus. By speaking with multiple advisors, other educators, and the students, the student body senate is responsible for providing a way to make things better for students. Through the dedication I will be putting forward, the student body will understand the representation I will bring to the table. As a member of the Nicholson School of Communication, School of Political Sciences, and a member of the LGBTQ(+), I vow to keep the student body at the front of my mind. I vow to represent the needs of not only my specific schools, but the university, to show that knights will always charge on!

Why did you choose to run for this position?

I decided to run for this position because of my dedication towards education and how we can seek a better way to make our university the best in the nation. After not seeing how I am supposed to be represented by the colleges that I am a part of, I decided to run myself, as someone who has achieved academic excellence. I wanted to expand my knowledge and understanding of my craft, to represent the students at the college I am a part of. The Nicholson School of Communication has been my home for the last year and a half, and I believe that with the knowledge I possess in understanding how we run as a college I believe I can be beneficial.

To represent our college, freely, fairly, and unbiased towards a specific want, that has no benefit for the college and university. My election to this senate would mean that The Nicholson School of Communication and Media has a voice that refuses to backdown, a voice that seeks equality and prosperity, and that we have a fighting chance to be one of the best schools at the university and in the nation.

#### Covid-19 Thoughts.

I believe that we must continue to follow CDC and Federal Guidelines even if we are vaccinated against the virus. We need to bring our students back into schools, and we need to have reinforcement stronger than anything. Now I understand that times are changing with this virus, but now is not the time to let up. We are UCF Knights, as we must continue to charge on and beat this deadly virus. After losing my great grandmother, I do not want to see my fellow brothers and sisters get sick, spread disease, and die. We need to be able to have vaccine sites on campus for us as students, and for our faculty. Wear a mask, Save lives, Continue the Love.

#### Statistical data

I got everything listed from IKM, which is the Institutional Knowledge Management for UCF. For the past few years, the Nicholson school has not been the best when it comes to admission. It may seem like a good thing, smaller classes, more of a connection with professors, however, we are very much so under-represented at this school. Just in the 2020-2021 school year alone, 49,635 applied for UCF, 22,525 were admitted and there were 8,762 enrollments. But when we break it down, for the college of sciences, 15,486 applied, 7,264 were accepted, 2626 enrolled, break it down for Nicholson we had 1980 students apply, 768 were accepted, and only 325 enrolled. This not including PENDING Film BFA. Now, I don't know about you, but that

saddens me. From academic year 2019-20 Nicholson Film award 999 Undergraduate degrees, in 2018-19 it was 927. Now we are down to 2020-21 in which we awarded 486 degrees for the fall term. I want to see the degrees we award over one-thousand-two hundred per academic year we need to allow NSCM to become a game changing School for UCF and the Film industry.

To see our university be the largest in the nation, but to whom we represent be so little, it is time for a change.

### GOALS and WISHES

Goals, while in office I plan to achieve excellence for this school.

My goals are to set up a student film contest, but not like how you think.

Work with the budgeting committee to allocate funds to create a student and advisor/faculty-based film.

Why? Because Nicholson needs to be represented, we need to be able to show off the talents we have and to show other universities, we are not the ones to go into competition with.

My idea is to submit the student film to contest in which the prize money is given back to the university and Nicholson school of Communication. One of the better things, is that the student film contest is open to ALL University of Central Florida students. The person who creates the script will be able to have their creative freedom, but have students apply and volunteer to run the process.

### WHAT is the responsibility of selecting the film?

Scripts will be reviewed by the Nicholson Faculty/ Advisors, The NSCM Student Senator and the English department. After deliberation, an announcement will be made of the selected film. Together the student, senator, and advisors will work together, create the budget of the film,

provided by the funds we are given due to budget allocation. Then work together and create this film, have a school event for it, in which we can upload it onto the school's website and have an event for it. Then we send it off to competitions, and wait for the success to flow back in.

I wish to create a system in which students can connect with their student senators within their office hours, we could work with the department of Digital Media and CECS and have students code and program the system in which we can use to connect with our students. As I believe, Student Senators are the gateway and are the connection to the foundation of the school. They **MUST** be more prominent within their designated schools.

I wish to create a better emailing system, in which the student senators can send out bi-weekly newsletters as to what is happening on UCF campus and in their selective industry. Student Senators need to be seen as understanding mentor leaders, and when we do not have any real connection with them, how do the students get their voices heard?

Our student journalist needs to be able to go out and have a strong understanding of local life and campus life, they need to be able to achieve a better platform to get their word out too. This can be put into place by making our newspaper more available and accessible to all students. Student Journalist can submit their articles to the paper and be broadcasted through the email system the student senators could create. Radio and Television needs to be represented and have the segments the students create for a student life podcast. Understanding UCF, what is going on around the university and more.

My committee(S), I plan to sit on the legislative, judicial and rules committee, the government affairs and policy committee or the student body advocacy committee. I am leaning mostly towards the LJR Committee, but I will be working very closely with the FAO, which is

the Financial Allocations for Organizations, the GAP and SBA to have our voices be heard by elected officials and by the student body. We must show everyone in this nation that UCF students show high self-power and love. That we are the ones who were told to Charge on, despite any battle we face, we MUST be a voice of the people. Being a major in both film and political science is not easy but understanding what it means to lead, to love and to make good compromise is what allows the Student Government and the Student Body to be absolutely amazing.

I plan to work with all student caucuses and to help create a transfer student caucus, my love for our student body excels throughout how I want equality for all students. I will be working with my fellow senators to create a transfer student caucus. Our caucuses need more funding to provide more things to make life easier while on campus.

I now want to inform you about my time at UCF, I originally stepped foot on this campus at 15 years old. I was a part of a Summer Orchestra Workshop, and that is where I learned about what it takes to live at a university. Knowing how much stuff has changed makes me feel happy, but now, change is needed even more. That is why I will be your voice, to be the voice of reason, to understand all sides of every story. Voting for me will make sure that the feet you have planted on campus will not be shaken up. If I do not get a seat in the senate, of course there will be disappointment, but, my love for my school, for the people of UCF, will never be up for a challenge. As all knights learn, we must charge on!

-Jordan Watson.