Undergraduate Student Government (USG)
University of Connecticut-Hartford

Election Packet
Spring 2022

USG HARTFORD

The mission of the Undergraduate Student Government is to enrich the lives of the undergraduate student body through advocacy and programming. We will strive to help student organizations reach their fullest potential. We will strive to enhance the educational, social, and cultural opportunities at the University of Connecticut-Hartford. We will strive to foster a culture of engagement, collaboration, and inclusiveness.

Open positions:
Vice President (VP)
Five (5) Senator seats

Terms:
- The students elected will serve a one-year (two semesters) term as per the Constitution.
- For the positions in this election, terms begin after the oath of office is taken, which occurs in the General Senate Meeting immediately after the conclusion of the election.
Election Calendar:
Friday, Jan. 21: 12:00PM (Noon) – Election Packet & ‘Intent to Run’ form released
Friday, Feb. 4: 12:00PM (Noon) – Deadline to submit ‘Intent to Run’ form
Monday, Feb. 7: 11:00AM – Election Chair and President meet with candidates for review of campaigning guidelines; Noon – campaigning period begins
Thursday, Feb. 10: 12:00PM (Noon) – Campaigning period ends
Monday, Feb. 14: 12:00PM (Noon) – Voting period begins
Wednesday, Feb. 16: 12:00PM (Noon) – Voting period ends (voting period=48 hours)

‘Intent to Run’ Form:
● Complete the Intent to Run form, which will close on Friday, Feb. 4, at 12:00PM (Noon). After you submit the form, the USG Election Committee Chair will be alerted of your submission.

Voting Period:
● Voting by the UConn Hartford student body will open on Monday, Feb. 14, at 12:00PM (Noon) and will close on Wednesday, Feb. 16, at 12:00PM (Noon), allowing for a 48-hour voting period.
● Voting will be conducted through an online system (vote@uconn/UConntact) that will be activated when the voting period opens. Only the registered, fee-paying undergraduates at UConn Hartford will be able to vote through the system (Net IDs will be required). The USG Election Committee Chair and the Student Activities Advisor will publicize the link to vote ahead of the voting period (digests, digital signage, tabling, email).

Candidate Statement:
● This is where you will be allowed to express yourself.
● Take this as an opportunity to thoughtfully voice why you are interested in taking on this leadership opportunity. Share your personal experiences/qualifications.
● Express your passion for the USG mission and goals.
● Tell students how, if elected, you plan to enhance the USG culture and activities.
● Statements should be between 400 and 500 words.

Campaigning:
● Must adhere to all Covid-19 safety protocols on campus.
● Campaigning may include the following methods: Social media, tabling, targeted outreach, etc.
● You have the opportunity to advertise your candidacy through the UConn Hartford Daily Digest. If you have any questions or inquiries, feel free to reach out to the USG Election Committee Chair, Ananya Sujatha Balaji. Please share your
personal statement and necessary information with Ananya Balaji:
ananya.sujatha_balaji@uconn.edu

- Campaign on campus by requesting space and a table:
  https://events.hartford.uconn.edu/intake-form/
- Take advantage of the digital signage boards to promote yourself:
  https://hits.hartford.uconn.edu/digital-signage/
- If you have other campaigning ideas and are unsure if they are within rules and procedures, please reach out to the chair of elections, Ananya Sujatha Balaji or please email the Student Activities Advisor: mubera.becirovic@uconn.edu

Eligibility Requirements to Run for Office:
- Full-time, fee-paying students at UConn Hartford during and throughout their expected term.
- Must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.5 to be eligible to run and during your expected term.
- Your schedule must allow you to attend the weekly General Senate Meeting where most of USG business (voting on budget requests) is conducted. (This Spring semester, for example, the meeting is held Wednesday’s from 3:30 - 5:30PM).

Responsibilities (Vice President)
- The Vice President shall assist the President in fulfilling all duties and responsibilities of the Executive Board.
- The Vice President shall oversee the daily operations of the USG and its office, including establishing and maintaining office policy.
- In the event of the President’s absence, the Vice President shall chair the General Senate Meeting.
- The Vice President shall attend all meetings of the weekly General Senate meeting.
- In the absence of the President, and if quorum is needed, the Vice President is permitted to vote.
- The Vice President shall serve as the USG liaison to all Hartford Campus Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) and support their development.
- The Vice President shall hold meetings with RSO leaders as deemed necessary.
- The Vice President shall facilitate relationships between clubs on collaborative events.
- In the event of a vacancy in the Presidency, the Vice President will assume the President’s powers and functions.

Responsibilities (Senator)
- Senators represent the interests and concerns of the undergraduate student body.
- Senators have the voting power to approve or deny budget requests, club/organization recognition, and other government function requests.
- Senators must attend the weekly General Senate Meeting that is predetermined
before each semester, where voting on USG business is conducted.

- Senators shall commit to one (1) hour of office time per week during academic hours.
- Senators must be part of one of four (4) standing USG committees (Programming, Communications, Student Affairs, Finance) and must attend the weekly committee meeting of one (1) hour.
- Senators are expected to support advocacy efforts, such as supporting the planning and execution of events that aim to cultivate a sense of belonging for students on campus and within the broader community in which we are situated (Hartford).

Happy Campaigning!!!