



JUDICIAL COUNCIL
University of Notre Dame

20 March 2023

Members of the Student Senate:

The Student Union Ethics Commission is pleased to present its nominee for the Michael J. Palumbo Award. This award, named in honor of its first recipient, honors an undergraduate student for his or her outstanding dedication and service to the University of Notre Dame's Student Union. The nominee must also have demonstrated outstanding character in the best tradition of Notre Dame, have faithfully upheld the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body, and have performed services so as to greatly further the causes of the Student Union. It is with great pleasure that we present Michael Murakami as the nominee for this year's Michael J. Palumbo Award.

Michael has exemplified immense dedication to the University of Notre Dame's Student Union through his extensive experiences spanning all four of his years at Notre Dame. His Student Union tenure began when Michael served as Dunne Hall's First Year Class Council Representative. During his sophomore year, Michael served as Dunne Hall Senator with membership on the Committee on the Constitution and Policy Committee and during his junior year, served as Dunne Hall President. Michael currently serves as the Hall President's Council Financial Chair where he works closely with the Financial Management Board.

Throughout Michael's leadership roles, he has shown an abundance of commitment to residential life at Notre Dame. A nominator stated that as President, Michael "planned countless events including, but not limited to, Walk the Walk events where we held reflective discussions on race and inequality as we went to the Grotto, a lighthearted event that taught people how to properly use chopsticks, and pushed to ensure that dozens of people got GreeNDot training in the dorm." However, beyond Michael's focus to bettering the residential experience for residents of Dunne Hall, Michael has also spearheaded the COVID-19 Relief Fund Proposal which will provide all residence halls with funds that can be used at their discretion. In the words of another nominator, Michael has worked "tirelessly to pass a proposal that benefits residents of all dorms directly" which exemplifies "the level of drive and passion I've seen him bring to our dorm community throughout my time at Notre Dame." Through Michael's current role in the Hall President's Council as the Financial Chair, Michael continues to advocate for residence halls on campus.

Beyond Michael's roles within the Student Union, he has also become regarded as a respectable mentor and leader with exceptional character in various organizations. One nominator said that they are never surprised to hear that Michael is fulfilling another leadership role across campus and that "He is part of the Mendoza Honesty Committee, a TA and tutor, the Holy Half Financial Controller, and a stand-up RA and mentor in the dorm." His nominator adds that Michael "always seems to be doing something to help someone or make someone else's life easier." All of Michael's

various leadership roles are testaments to his “desire to support and uplift others that can never be adequately expressed on a resume.” Michael has used his experiences in different leadership roles within the Student Union to help others attain leadership positions and become successful in their work.

As a testament to Michael’s character, a nominator writes, “I can think of no other person on this campus more deserving of an award given to someone who exemplifies outstanding service and dedication to the Notre Dame Student Union. Michael is everything that makes the Notre Dame Student Union so special.” Due to Michael’s unwavering commitment to service, exceptional leadership, and outstanding character, the Ethics Commission nominates Michael Murakami for the 2023 Michael J. Palumbo Award.

Respectfully submitted,

Koryn Isa, *Acting Chair*