

Student Irish Clover Award Submissions

Nominees:

Alix Basden

David Haungs

Allan Njomo (2)

Dane Sherman (2)

Alix Basden

Senior, Chief of Staff

Alix has served within the Student Union as a FUEL member (2018-2019), FUEL Co-Director (2019-2020), Howard Hall Vice President (2020-2021), and Chief of Staff (2021-2022). Beside holding an impressive and sustained legacy of student service in the Student Union, Alix has also served as a student leader in sustainability and in advocating for changes to University tobacco policy. The Chief of Staff position is one which is perennially difficult; many Chiefs work tirelessly behind-the-scenes and get little recognition. Alix has worked all-day, every day to manage SAO requests from 20 Cabinet members while also attending committee meetings and holding two jobs. One of those jobs is as an economics TA, effectively extending her service to the academic side of student life. Alix deserves overwhelming recognition for her work in service of students throughout her time at Notre Dame. Every day, she teaches me more about how to better serve this community with grace, integrity, and efficiency.

David Haungs

Junior, Judicial Council President

David Haungs is an exemplar of a "Student Union servant." He has devoted himself to educating students about the responsibilities of the Student Union and the Constitution. I have witnessed him guiding other students and new members to become well integrated with the Student Union. He has fostered a culture in Judicial Council and Financial Management Board that encourages people to voice their opinions. He is very intelligent and has done his due diligence.

Allan Njomo

Senior, Student Body President

Allan has demonstrated the highest level of commitment to promote a just, inclusive environment on campus, and has made himself readily available to hear concerns from students across campus. Any issue is never too big for Allan to tackle, and he makes sure to acknowledge his team members whenever he has the option to. Allan is compassionate, creative, and incredibly driven in his work, and he's positively impacted everyone lucky enough to cross his path.

In his sophomore year, Allan served as Stanford Hall Senator during which he began a career of service to the student body. In that term, he wrote an amendment which renamed the Freshman Class Council to the First-Year Class Council, helping our language to be more inclusive. Following that year, he continued his legacy of service as Stanford Hall President and led his hall to a Hall of the Year victory in the 2020-2021 term. During 2020, Allan effectively partnered with student clubs, university offices, and other Student Union leaders to plan a host of new events with an emphasis on diversity, equity, and inclusion. This term, Allan has served the student body as President. Even in the midst of personal strife and extreme uncertainty this year, Allan has never forgotten his presidential duties and responsibility to the student body. For one example, the Board of Trustees asked us to draft a report in the fall. Their short timeline left us working over Fall Break, and Allan actively gave up his time late into the night (as late as 2-4a) even while traveling to create an effective and comprehensive report.

Dane Sherman

Sophomore, Director of University Policy

He truly cares, more than anyone else I've met at this school. The definition of kindness and open-mindedness.

Dane Sherman is 99% love for students of Notre Dame and 1% pure adrenaline that allows him to tirelessly commit himself to creating a more equitable, welcoming space. Dane routinely clocks in full-time-job hours at meetings, events, and relationship building all in pursuit of advocating for those who are underrepresented. For the past

year, Dane has served as a dedicated director of the Department of University Policy. He jumpstarted initiatives for Gender Inclusive Housing, Callisto awareness, and worked with the MLK Jr. Day Commission. Not only has he made it a priority to always be moving forward, he has worked to ensure that UPolicy work is truly directed and implemented by and for the people. He does not make unilateral decisions; he sees himself as 1 person in a family of 10,000. But above all else, Dane makes leaders. Dane helps others see in themselves what we see in him -- he brings out the best in those around him and he does it all with love. It can be hard to do good work on this campus; he has been harassed on social media (I feel harassed is honestly a euphemism) and he has been judged for his identity and passions. And he still works with love. He still puts a smile on his face every day to get back to work and make the change he is so passionate about. I am so, so honored to know Dane Sherman, and I believe he should be honored too.