



JUDICIAL COUNCIL  
*University of Notre Dame*

April 10, 2024

Members of the Student Senate,

It is with great pleasure that I present to you my nominee, Thomas Musgrave, for the position of Student Union Parliamentarian for the 2024-2025 term.

According to Article XII, Section 3(c) of the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body, “The Parliamentarian shall monitor the transition, internal review, and overall process of the Student Union as outlined in this Constitution and make appropriate recommendations to the Senate.” The Parliamentarian is tasked with guiding the Student Senate on matters of constitutional and parliamentary procedure and is further responsible for resolving all procedural questions that arise during meetings of the Student Senate. In addition to his role in the Senate, the Parliamentarian also serves as an Officer of the Judicial Council, the Chair of the Committee on the Constitution, a member of the Campus Life Council and Committee on the Budget, and an advisor to the Election Committee and Ethics Commission.

Thomas is a Junior majoring in Political Science, with minors in Data Science and Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation and membership in the Glynn Family Honors Program. Originally from Illinois, Thomas is a proud resident of Stanford Hall. Over his three years at Notre Dame, Thomas has demonstrated his passion for our community through outstanding service and involvement with the Notre Dame Campus Community, having assumed leadership roles in the Student Policy Network, served as a campus Tour Guide, worked as a member of the Notre Dame Symphony Orchestra, and interned with Notre Dame’s Exoneration Justice Clinic Internship. In particular, this last experience has almost certainly strengthened Thomas’s understanding of the law and its real-world applications, a highly relevant skill for any Judicial Council Officer.

Additionally, Thomas worked for two years as a Peer Advocate, helping compassionately and discreetly assist students accused of violating the University’s conduct process before eventually leading the Peer Advocate team during the 2023-2024 term as Vice President and Officer of the Judicial Council. In this role as a Judicial Council Vice President, Thomas further advised several Student Union leaders, other Judicial Council officers, and previous Parliamentarians with grace and empathy in ensuring the accurate resolution of constitutional and procedural questions. Broadly, these experiences have given Thomas significant experience and insight regarding the operation of the Judicial Council, and he has learned how to judiciously and precisely interpret complicated constitutional sections and provisions.

Beyond Notre Dame, Thomas has been engaged in significant life experiences that are highly applicable to the Judicial Council and the role of Student Union Parliamentarian. In



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particular, Thomas has worked to support ballot access initiatives and ensure strong participation in national elections; has interred at the White House within the Office of Presidential Correspondence; served as a Research Assistant for the Klau Centre for Civil and Human Rights; interned with a top D.C. lobbying firm and engaged with policy research and correspondence; and served as a US Senate Youth Program Delegate. Collectively, these experiences have undoubtedly prepared Thomas for effective leadership within the Student Union.

I have been immensely fortunate to have served as the Parliamentarian over the past year, and have grown to deeply understand the importance of this role in ensuring an ethical, functional, and operationally effective Student Union. With this knowledge in mind, I am certain that Thomas shall assume this position and its associated responsibilities with utmost grace, integrity, respect, and nobility. His ability to remain impartial, as well as his respect for others and the Student Union Constitution shall serve him well in hearings for the Election Committee and Student Union Ethics Commission. His well-defined vision for the role, ability to thoughtfully assist others, provide sound advice, and understand parliamentary procedure shall allow him to help ensure an effective and smooth Senate and accurately interpret the Constitution. In this last capacity especially, Thomas was able to cogizantly and correctly answer a battery of complicated constitutional and procedural questions regarding intricate senatorial, electoral, and procedural processes. He has demonstrated and developed clear and consistent constitutional interpretation, which has clearly been informed by a masterful understanding of the Constitution, past precedent, and *Alice Sturgis' Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure*. I am fully confident that Thomas has the necessary character, demeanour, and attributes to become an excellent Parliamentarian.

I fully endorse Thomas Musgrave for the position of Parliamentarian.

Respectfully submitted,

Hunter Brooke  
*Judicial Council President*