



COLTER BENNETT

STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

Hello T-Bird! My name is Colter Bennett. I am stoked for my campaign to be your 2024-2025 Student Body President! Currently, I am a Junior studying Finance with a life's goal to help as many people as I can. Throughout my 3 years on campus, I have been involved as a Presidential Ambassador and on the Thundercrew. Most recently, I've held the positions of Tradition Chair in the Student Alumni Association and as a student employee in the President's Office. My leadership and involvement here on campus has given me the opportunity to learn about and love SUU. It is because of my love and passion for SUU that I came to care deeply about the welfare of our students. This is why I am running for Student Body President!

My Campaign is based on 3 main points: **Empowering the Student Voice**, **Boosting Student Income**, and **Expanding Networking Horizons**.

Empowering the Student Voice

Over the past 4 years, election voting has decreased from 32% (2020) to 13% (2023). I cannot rightfully represent our student body if they don't use their voice. My plan to empower the student voice has 3 phases:

1. **Inform the Students** as to why SUUSA is important and relevant to them and their education. I will do this by explaining the high stakes students have in SUUSA. This entails transparent communication of the student fees that SUUSA receives, and the process of passing bills and initiatives.
2. **Consistently communicate to our students** EXACTLY what is being decided on campus. This includes decisions made by our Student Leaders, University Administration, Faculty, Staff, and State Legislature. This will be accomplished by creating an official Student Body President social media account and using it as a means of communication to properly explain the implications of the decisions being made.
3. **Highlight channels where students can share feedback**. I commit to promoting the use of current feedback channels, while also innovating and implementing new channels that students can use to share their thoughts. I will do this by REACHING OUT TO STUDENTS. I will be a leader who ACTIVELY informs students and pursues their opinion and thoughts. In addition, I plan to coordinate monthly meetings with individual campus offices, organizations, and teams to ensure that I know exactly what students need and what they think about the state of the University.

Boosting Student Income

With increasing inflation rates, housing costs, and food costs it is important to ensure that our on-campus student employees have enough to live off of. Our International students are especially affected by the current wage rate. Due to visa restrictions, they can only work on-campus, and are limited to the wage rate currently offered. To combat this, I am going to increase average on-campus student wages by carefully researching funding options, effectively coordinating with university staff, and successfully implementing updated budgets and funds for the benefit of our students.

Expanding Networking Horizons

A wise campus tour guide once told me, "You don't go college only to receive an education. You go to college to expand your network and uncover opportunities." I have found this to be true! I plan to expand networking horizons by increasing networking events to help students build relationships with our campus' Faculty, Staff, and fellow students. I also plan to put a special emphasis on increasing Alumni networking efforts by encouraging implementation of SUU Connect. In doing so, I plan to see an increase in meaningful internship opportunities for underclassmen, and an increase in job opportunities for our graduating students!

Thank you for caring about SUU, and thank you for becoming an Informed Voter. I plan to perpetuate SUU's greatness, while also adding some innovation to keep us soaring upward! Thank you again, and GO T-BIRDS!

