

Jason Polisar

I am not running against Professor Werner; I am running for Vice President. To run for a Union position is to be ready to serve our entire Union. This includes all faculty ranks, our adjunct members and our non-teaching members. All are equally valuable. When I look around I don't see titles and ranks, I see people.

I am a transparent person and believe in transparent operations to the extent possible. Sometimes well intended and even necessary initiatives have troublesome implementation, in part because affected parties weren't included during the decision making process. In the role of Vice President I would like to think that when an issue or policy comes my way I would consider who on this campus it will affect and is it a matter that can be shared more openly from the start.

As your Vice President you can count on me to stand strong in the face of confrontation. I do not seek confrontation but I do not go out my way to avoid hostility when dealing with issues I believe are worth fighting for. We should all want labor peace with the Administration, but not by means of faculty concessions and weak leadership. I am ready to work things out and compromise when necessary, but compromise implies we are getting something worth our while to give-in to something else.

WCC strives to be an evidence-based decision making organization. Having no previous leadership positions in my six years at the College so far, I am not able to provide you evidence for the claims above. To that end, I would say this election is to serve the Spring 2019 semester only. If I don't live up to what our Union needs in the Vice President position then vote me out next semester. New and increased involvement within our Union is something we need regardless of the outcome of this election. The elections next semester for the full terms of President and Vice President are not simply a turnover in Union leadership. Judy is retiring this semester and Mel is retiring after next semester. That is a lot of experience and leadership leaving us. I ask you to consider who is going to be the next President and Vice President of our Union. Are we flooded with so many potential candidates who are up to speed on the issues that Mel and Judy have faced in the last few years? In this regard I am suggesting the best choice for this election is to vote for new involvement and new energy in our Union leadership. Your vote is the opportunity to allow an additional Union member to work with Mel at the highest level of involvement before he leaves.

Think about the candidates and talk to your colleagues about who you are voting for and why. Especially reach out to our adjunct members who may not be around campus as much. I understand all members have a chance to read the candidate statements but face-to-face conversations with familiar people is often the most effective method for increasing engagement. Engagement and unity is what we need.

In Solidarity,
Jason Polisar