



University of Connecticut
Undergraduate Student Government

HB 5494

Hon. Steve Cassano
Hon. Roberta Willis
Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee
Room 1800, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

The Honorable Steve Cassano and Roberta Willis,

Today we would like to thank you for your time in considering the addition of an alternate undergraduate student member to the UConn Board of Trustees. Unfortunately, the Student Body President, Ed Courchaine, could not be here today to testify, but his written testimony outlines much of the detail in our proposal. As External Affairs chair I am here today to introduce Adam, and Claire, two other members of the Undergraduate Student Government, who will specify what our vision for this change will be.



Having this alternate member will build upon the work done last year to ensure our representatives are current students connected to the UConn community. This second member, elected in the off year for a two year term will have the opportunity to learn from the senior trustee who would retain the undergraduate vote. After their year of learning, they would assume the role of voting trustee and thus pass on their experience to the newly elected member. This will establish the undergraduate trustee as a system of leadership, with continuity and greater prominence on the Board.

We believe this system will be mutually beneficial to all stakeholders, and will help prepare the University of Connecticut for an ever changing future. Students often look for opportunities to engage in their undergraduate experience, and make the most of their time at UConn. This is an invaluable opportunity for a well-informed, passionate student to strengthen the voice of the undergraduate population on the Board.

We look forward to working with you on this matter and I now would like to introduce our other members to expand.

Presented in person by Mark Sargent on 3/11/14

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