

Letter of Support
Ella Fritzeimer
Student Senate Emeritus President

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Sean O'Melia, and I have had the honor of serving as the Executive Vice President of the Student Senate this past year. I am very excited at the opportunity to write the nomination letter for Ella Fritzeimer with the honor of being the first ever Emeritus Student Senate President. I have served as a Student Senator for the past four years, thus serving under four different Student Senate Presidents. Ella Fritzeimer is by far the most deserving of this honor out of every President I have served under.

Ella Fritzeimer is a senior, Finance Major, who has served on Student Senate since the Fall of 2013 when she applied in her first few weeks of being a student. During her time as a Student Senator she has served as a member on the Educational Affairs Committee and Public Relations Committee. She has been Vice President of Public Relations and in her final year served as the President of the Student Senate.

Over her time as a Senator, Ella has worked on a variety of different projects and assignments. In her first year working on giving students stress relief through different programming and looking at making live streaming opportunities for events for satellite campuses before that technology was as readily available. In her sophomore year she helped solidify the current format for Public Opinion Days which is one of our best outreach tactics to date. She invented the first ever Meet the Candidates event which has been a yearly tradition ever since. She as well did a lot of promotion for many event of the Senate events that were going on. Which helped lead her to her role as Vice President of Public Relations. She oversaw the first ever Student Senate Week, helped as a key figure in Battle of the Valleys, and created a presentation for Student Senate. Being the voice of the Public Relations committee helped prepare her for her role as Student Senate President this current year. Where she took on a lot of big issues such as Mental Health Awareness and Sexual Assault Awareness, holding two different weeks on these big issues, working on different resolutions and letters for both topics. While also helping prepare the future students for these bigger issues by starting a standing committee on both of these initiatives. She has worked with Vice President of University Relations Matt McLogan and President Haas frequently on trying to advocate for higher state allocations for GVSU by giving presentations to the Michigan House

Representatives of Higher Education Allocations Committee. This year she also had a lot of work with Civic Engagement and the recent Election by helping sitting on the Civic Action Plan Committee, helping plan Student Civic Assembly Week, and Vans to Drive Students to voting polls. Balancing all of these important issues and a very busy election year is a lot to handle effectively but Ella did it perfectly with skill and grace. She is still heavily focused on the institution and the future of students. By working on reaccreditation of the University and helping sit on Provost Search Committee while also helping meet with new Dean of Students Eileen Sullivan to help give her perspective of what Student Senate and GVSU Students are like. Her work on Executive Committee of the Senate and University Academic Senate has been an excellent representation of students needs and the student voice. Which is what really exemplifies what Ella leadership has been all about, enhancing our current processes and innovation to help find the most common student perspectives and working on very important issues that affect students on a day to day basis even if it doesn't necessarily affect her.

Ella Fritzeimer has proven herself through her various awards in Student Senate such as being award the Most Promising Freshmen of the Year in the 2013-2014 academic year and Emerging Leader in the 2014-2015 academic year. Those are just a few of her accomplishments in Senate. However her dedication and passion for the university extend far past just Student Senate. Ella has been a Resident Assistant in Freshmen Living Centers for the last three years (two years being in the Back Four Community and one being in Holton Hooker Living Center). Ella has been a member of the Cook Leadership Academy for the past year. She has been the Vice President of the National Residence Hall Honorary for one year. While also being a member of Alternative Breaks and attending Service Trips if she is not working over break. She has worked as a Mailroom Assistant for Housing and a Finance Tutor. She is an excellent a student in Finance which qualified for that role, in fact this year she has earned the award Outstanding Senior from the Finance Department a very high honor from the department. She also has maintained being an Honors Student through her four years. All the while maintaining an accumulative 3.90 GPA. Ella Fritzeimer has proven to be a successful student while also contributing so much to Student Senate and the University.

While I have mentioned Ella Fritzeimer numerous accomplishments and her numerous roles and her consistent years of dedication have made her qualified for this role of the first ever Student Senate

Emeritus President. It's how she has accomplished these tasks that really help exemplify why she is deserving of this honor. She has shown a never ending amount of kindness, passion, empathy and dedication to all of her projects but all of those around her. I have seen her perform well under pressure and not let the continuous stress derail who she is as a person. I am honored to be able to write in support of Ella in this ground breaking achievement. She is the most deserving President of this honor that I have seen and she truly embodies everything it's to be a leader, a Senate President, and a Laker for a Lifetime.

Executive Vice President of Student Senate
Sean O'Melia