

## ***PHSA 2023 Executive Board Candidate Information (Scroll through for all candidates)***

*Name:* Aniqa Sayed

*Degree Sought:* Master of Public Health

*Position Desired:* Healthcare Policy and Organization Senator

*List all Activities and Organizations in which you have participated:*

Student Counselling Services staff panel at UAB- Nov' 10 2022 UAB Pakistan Student's Association- member UAB music club- member

*What interested you in becoming a PHSA Student Officer?*

Being in the second semester of my MPH program at UAB, I want to be more involved in the School of Public Health and help the upcoming and current students in SOPH regarding school activities and programs. I aspire to be in the healthcare organization after I graduate and I believe this will provide me with some training as to how to work as a team in an organization.

*In a short statement, please discuss any qualities or skills you possess that you think will help you as a PHSA Student Officer.*

In my past experiences, I have proved to be a team player and approachable by people which I think will help me be a good PHSA student officer. Additionally, being an international student from Pakistan, I believe my experiences could help bring new ideas and perspectives into the PHSA team.

*What would you like to see accomplished by PHSA in 2023?*

I would like to see PHSA being even more recognized and grow within UAB so that all staff and students are aware of Public Health.

*While making reference to the specific roles and responsibilities outlined for PHSA Officers in the PHSA Constitution, how will you be able to contribute to make this vision for PHSA in 2023 happen?*

I would like to encourage collaborations between different organizations and departments within SOPH and UAB by carrying out student initiatives and activities in ways that interests the respective departments.



*Name:* Nicole Pelletier

*Degree Sought:* PhD

*Position Desired:* Epidemiology Senator

*List all Activities and Organizations in which you have participated:*



FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS ▪ Cancer Research Experiences for Students, University of Alabama at Birmingham ▪ May 2020 – July 2020 ▪ University Scholars Program, University of Florida Health Cancer Center ▪ August 2019 – May 2020 ▪ Emerging Scholars Program, University of Florida ▪ August 2017 – May 2018 MEMBERSHIPS: ▪ American Society of Nephrology (ASN) ▪ September 2022 – Present ▪ American Society of Transplantation (AST) ▪ September 2022 – Present COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ▪ Take Stock in Children | Mentor ▪ August 2020 – Present ▪ College For Every Student | Mentor ▪ August 2013 – Present ▪ American Cancer Society, Hope Lodge | Student Volunteer ▪ August 2019 – August 2020 ▪ Abraham Lincoln Middle School | Science Outreach Mentor ▪ August 2017 – August 2020 ▪ Mentor UF, Bucholz High School | Science Outreach Mentor ▪ January 2017 – August 2020 ▪ University of Florida Health Shands Hospital | Student Volunteer ▪ April 2017 – April 2019 LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE ▪ UAB Public Health Student Association | Epidemiology Senator ▪ December 2021 – Present ▪ Southern Scholarship Foundation | President of Tyner Scholarship House ▪ August 2018 – August 2020 ▪ Innovation Academy Serve | Vice President ▪ January 2017 – August 2020 ▪ Center for Undergraduate Research Board of Students | Ambassador ▪ August 2016 – August 2020 ▪ Lead UF | Retreat Participant ▪ April 2017 ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS ▪ James Franklin Warnell & Dorothy J. Warnell Scholarship ▪ 2020, 2021 ▪ Billy R. Cox Endowed Scholarship ▪ 2020, 2021 ▪ UAB School of Public Health Departmental Scholarship ▪ 2020, 2021 ▪ Johnson Scholars Program ▪ 2018, 2019 ▪ Allen Wirtz Nobbe and Jo Bowen Nobbe Scholarship ▪ 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 ▪ Southern Scholarship Foundation Scholarship ▪ 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 ▪ Booker High School National Honor Society Scholarship ▪ May 2016 ▪ Florida Philanthropic Educational Organization Scholarship ▪ May 2016 ▪ Sarasota County Gator Club Scholarship ▪ May 2016 ▪ SDA/SBA of Sarasota Scholarship ▪ May 2016 SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS ▪ Florida Philanthropic Educational Organization Annual Conference | Guest Speaker ▪ May 2017 ▪ Booker High School Re-Accreditation Ceremony | Guest Speaker ▪ December 2015 ▪ Embracing Our Differences Annual Conference | Guest Speaker ▪ December 2014 AWARDS ▪ Florida Rotary Club | Student Service Award ▪ May 2016 ▪ The Florida Holocaust Museum | Anne Frank Humanitarian Award ▪ May 2015 ▪ Florida State University | Book Award ▪ March 2015

*What interested you in becoming a PHSA Student Officer?*

Serving others and mentoring have been a passion of mine for several years. Beginning in high school, I learned the value of mentorship and working as a collective group towards a common goal. Learning about college and scholarship opportunities through my mentor in high school unlocked a world I never dreamt possible. As I began my time at the University of Florida, I grew to know the value of campus organizations and the impact these organizations have not only on the college campus but on the entire surrounding community. Throughout my undergraduate career, my passion for research and epidemiology flourished. I became involved in organizations centered around my love for science and

helping others, forming initiatives to make research opportunities accessible for all students, and providing workshops to help students find a mentor. I hope to continue this involvement during my time at the University of Alabama at Birmingham through the Public Health Student Association. Working collectively towards a common goal is a powerful and transformative process, which pulls communities together. I hope to serve as a team member and aid in organizing events that bring the community together and help each member feel important and that they benefited from their involvement. I would like to continue working on the initiative I have started to provide educational outreach opportunities to the PHSA and the SOPH. My studies in epidemiology interest me in the EPI Senator position, as I hope to bring what I have learned inside the classroom to the community and further explore the applications of my studies alongside others. Overall, I wish to help others and provide my skills when needed but also step back and listen to others' ideas and initiatives. I believe that PHSA will help me continue to grow as a student and leader, and if given the opportunity I would be honored to continue to serve as the EPI Senator.

*In a short statement, please discuss any qualities or skills you possess that you think will help you as a PHSA Student Officer.*

I am an organized and punctual individual with experience in leading and organizing events and projects. I have been fortunate to have academic and professional experience and I enjoy sharing and helping others on a similar path through mentorship. I am very passionate about serving others and making a positive impact on my community.

*What would you like to see accomplished by PHSA in 2023?*

I would like to continue carrying out an initiative I began this past year to establish an educational outreach program to local schools by involving the PHSA and the SOPH in these service events. I am now in the process of contacting schools and I look forward to carrying out this program in this semester.

*While making reference to the specific roles and responsibilities outlined for PHSA Officers in the PHSA Constitution, how will you be able to contribute to make this vision for PHSA in 2023 happen?*

I will collaborate with other PHSA officers to effectively accomplish common goals. I will provide input when appropriate and step back and listen to others when ideas are being shared. I respect the ideas of others and build up my team members to make team goals a reality.

*Name:* Benjamin Runge

*Degree Sought:* PhD - Biostatistics

*Position Desired:* Biostatistics Senator

*List all Activities and Organizations in which you have participated:*

PHSA - Biostatistics Senator 2021-2022 Term

*What interested you in becoming a PHSA Student Officer?*

My predecessor, Andrew Sims, spoke to me about the role. I was excited by the potential to improve student engagement with the SOPH and help organize and run events.

*In a short statement, please discuss any qualities or skills you possess that you think will help you as a PHSA Student Officer.*

I have strong writing skills and a drive to improve to the current roster of events hosted by the PHSA. I am also proficient with research methods and office software. This helps me in my role as the current Biostatistics Senator in organizing events and exploring new ideas to present to the Executive Board.

*What would you like to see accomplished by PHSA in 2023?*

I would like to see a continuation of the current Coffee Hour programming, as well as the organization of more social events for the SOPH. I would also look into organizing opportunities for hands-on public health education events for students.

*While making reference to the specific roles and responsibilities outlined for PHSA Officers in the PHSA Constitution, how will you be able to contribute to make this vision for PHSA in 2023 happen?*

I will be an active voice in the PHSA Executive Board, with an intent to attend and contribute to all Board meetings. I will represent the students of the Department of the Biostatistics and look for ways to improve engagement with my department and the School of Public Health. I also intend to propose and actively provide feedback on functions being organized by the PHSA.



Name: Saher Damani

Degree Sought: Masters in Public Health

Position Desired: HPO Departmental Senator

List all Activities and Organizations in which you have participated:

Pre-Medical Branch of the American Medical Women's Association - Events Chair for 2 years (current)  
Global Medical Brigades at UAB - Treasurer for 2 years (current) Volunteering at my place of worship -  
Assistant Facilitator for the past 3 years. SASS Tutor Introductory Chemistry Tutor Undergraduate  
Research Assistant Medical Assistant of an Asthma and Allergy Clinic.

What interested you in becoming a PHSA Student Officer?

As someone who is a psychology major, being on the PHSA board is my way to get involved with the Public Health aspect of my education. I am in the ABM Masters in Public Health program so the only current exposure I have to Public Health is in an academic sense. Being on the e-board will give me an opportunity to be involved in PH related activities and will give me a way to get to know other students who share similar interests; thus giving me the opportunity to establish a meaningful relationship with other students. I also want a way to enhance my leadership skills. The current leadership positions I hold are in very niche organizations. Being a PHSA Student Officer will require a different skill set which I would like to hone.

In a short statement, please discuss any qualities or skills you possess that you think will help you as a PHSA Student Officer.

I am an effective communicator, detail oriented, and possess the ability to thrive in both an independent and collaborative environment. These abilities will make me well suited to fulfill the communication aspect of the position and I will be able to work well with the established Executive Board. I also pride myself on my time management skills. This past semester, I balanced classes, exec board, positions, a job, research, and external leadership position. I was able to dedicate a significant amount of time to each of my responsibilities. I currently serve as the events coordinator for an organization, and this has given me experience in communicating with the e-board, the students in the organization, and different student organizations.

What would you like to see accomplished by PHSA in 2023?

I think the Public Health discipline is one that has a large community of international students. It is a very diverse discipline and I think PHSA should work to include and be collaborative with the international student community. In addition to that I think that the opportunities offered by the department should also be inclusive of the international community in the sense that we should have events that detail internships that are either based abroad or internships that have a more extended impact.

While making reference to the specific roles and responsibilities outlined for PHSA Officers in the PHSA Constitution, how will you be able to contribute to make this vision for PHSA in 2023 happen?



As per the responsibilities of a Departmental Senator, I would like to accomplish my aforementioned goals by hosting events that are in collaboration with organizations such as International Mentors, UAB Office of Education Abroad, and the UAB Sparkman Center. I believe these events will be beneficial for all representatives of the Public Health Department.



*Name:* Josie McGuire

*Degree Sought:* B.S. in Public Health with a Concentration in Global Health Studies and a Minor in Chemistry

*Position Desired:* Undergraduate Senator

*List all Activities and Organizations in which you have participated:*

Serve205 Service Project Coordinator and First Impact Member (2021, 2022) -Coins for Cancer Freshman Representative and Vice President (2021, 2022) -Climb On at UAB (2022) -Hearts For The Homeless Blood Pressure Screener (2021, 2022) -Volunteer at the Greater Birmingham Humane Society (2021, 2022) -Volunteer at Community of Hope Health Clinic (2021, 2022)

*What interested you in becoming a PHSA Student Officer?*

As an undergraduate student pursuing a Public Health degree, I am interested in becoming a PHSA Student Officer because I see this as an opportunity to engage, connect, and lead students that are also interested in issues related to public health. I see being a PHSA Student Officer as an opportunity to promote awareness of public health across the UAB campus and within the Birmingham area, as well as generating a camaraderie of students, both in public health and in other disciplines.

*In a short statement, please discuss any qualities or skills you possess that you think will help you as a PHSA Student Officer.*

I feel that I am a good candidate to be an officer because I have a passion and commitment to community, service, and public health. The PHSA officer position will allow me to integrate all three of my passions, which will allow me to be excited and motivated about being and acting in a role as officer. As an officer in other organizations on campus, I have gained a variety of team-working, communication, and leadership skills that would help me as a PHSA Student Officer. My prior volunteer and work experiences have taught me how to be an advocate, work towards equity, and problem solve. I am reliable, organized, and understand the responsibilities that may come with my role as a PHSA Student Officer.

*What would you like to see accomplished by PHSA in 2023?*

In 2023, I would love to see PHSA and the SOPH getting more involved in the community by offering volunteer opportunities that connect students with the Birmingham community. With Public Health issues being so crucial to the health and well-being of everyone, I would love to help continue educating and spreading awareness across campus of different public health issues. This can be done by hosting movie nights, hosting discussion panels, and tabling. Lastly, I want to make the SOPH and PHSA a place that people can call home and where all students, faculty, and staff feel welcome. A welcoming

environment that fosters social interactions between students, alumni, faculty, and staff can make an incredible difference on and off campus and I believe that the PHSA has the potential to make this difference.

*While making reference to the specific roles and responsibilities outlined for PHSA Officers in the PHSA Constitution, how will you be able to contribute to make this vision for PHSA in 2023 happen?*

Through maintaining a positive working relationship with UAB departments, the student body, and all of the UAB SOPH faculty and staff, I can help contribute to my vision of creating a home-like community within UAB and the SOPH. This kind of relationship will also be crucial in educating and spreading awareness across campus. As a potential officer and representative of the SOPH, I will always maintain a positive manner and uphold a professional appearance among peers, colleagues, and the community. This will gain the SOPH a good reputation in the community and around campus. I am excited and ambitious to work towards my visions for PHSA and the SOPH.