

# Official Campaign Platform

# Sophia Nguyen & Celine Apenteng

As we find solutions to problems facing students, we make it a point to collaborate with others and strengthen community ties. In summary, your goals are ours as we work alongside you to get the job done. Our words mean action that will benefit you.

After reading our platform, we hope that your biggest takeaway is that we plan to be the voice of all your concerns.

# **University Life**

#### • Title IX

- Work with the Title-IX office, along with Crystal Coombes, the Title IX Coordinator to advocate and support the students, be more accessible for students who may be confused on which steps to take and push for more transparency and honesty
- Work with the Title-IX office to create a "**Know Your IX**" event to bring awareness to Title-IX issues and options on campus
- Form a Title IX Student-Advisory group. A group that will bring students and administration together and focus on the sole issue of spreading awareness for students, <u>listening</u> to students, and creating/hosting events that will better educate our students at GMU

#### Mason PD

- Meet with Mason PD once a month to discuss concerns from students
- Push for more reform and transparency with Mason PD
- Revitalize the "Coffee with Cops" event where students can come and share issues with Mason PD
- Have the Mason Police host a Town Hall where students are able to come out and voice their concerns with Mason PD

# • Patriot Pantry

- Work with the Patriot Pantry to ensure that the foods and donations they need to help students with food insecurity are being upheld.
- Partner with Sorority and Fraternity life on campus and bring back the "Greek Gives Back" event to create donation drives for the Patriot Pantry, and other food insecurity networks, at least once every 2 months.
- Allow the Patriot Pantry to ask for donations from Student Government so that they are able to purchase the needed food requirements so that no student at GMU is facing food insecurity

### • CAPS/SSAC/CCEE

- Bring more awareness for our counseling and psychological services on campus during the height of midterm/exam season
- Alongside CAPS and New Student and Family Programs, create/host events to educate GMU students about services offered by CAPS and guide first-time, first-gen, and international students in the right direction to get the help they need
- Encourage and incentivize students to complete training provided by SSAC and CCEE

#### • Greek Life

- Encourage Student Government members to volunteer at Greek Life fundraising and donation drive events
- Work with Sororities to create events catered to promoting women empowerment and inclusivity
- Work with Greek Life to increase participation in tailgating events

## • University Life Events

- Continue to host Farmer Market events before midterms and finals seasons, so that students are able to enjoy time off from studying, and enjoy supporting small businesses around Fairfax county
- Promote Homecoming and Gold Rush, two of GMU's more important, spirit-filled events
- Promote other tailgating events separate from Homecoming and Gold Rush
- Gather more intramural sports, club sports, athletics, all RSOs, and more to join our Homecoming and Gold Rush events, so that we can all promote GMU spirit, and be more involved with our campus life

## **University Services**

## • Staff and Faculty

- In partnership with SEIU (Service Employees Int'l Union) and AAUP American Association of University Professors), work to ensure better treatment towards Mason janitors and Mason faculty.
- Support a living wage being paid to workers on campus in coordination with the Budget Office and ensure that employers on campus are consistent with the planned raises to the minimum wage to \$12 an hour as is set for January of 2023
- Support the right of workers to engage in collective bargaining at any workplace on campus as per the National Labor Relations Act

## • Sustainability

- Further the ban of plastic materials on campus
- Work with the GMU Solar Greenhouse Project to install Solar Panels at President's Park
- Support the Food Forest and create a Volunteer Corps to maintain horticulture across campus in coordination with the Office of Sustainability
- Restart the Mason Stewards program in coordination with the Office of Sustainability

## • Parking/Transportation

- Less strict citation appeals within Parking and Transportation

- Meet the demands of students who need their issues with Parking citations and tickets resolved in a timely manner so that students are not impatiently waiting
- Restart efforts to create a SafeRide program in coordination with GMU Police and the Office of Parking and Transportation

# • Patriot Period Project

- Work to raise awareness for period inequity and advocate for more affordable menstrual products
- Work with facilities to get the project installed when the project is permanent

#### • Facilities related

- Build on and expand the Grove to promote more vibrant outdoor areas to study in, socialize in, etc.
- Create a poppy garden in remembrance of fallen soldiers
- Work with the university to expand free printing to registered student organizations and students in writing/feedback-intensive classes
- Restart the Mason Stewards program

# **Government and Community Relations**

# • Community Outreach

- Create more community outreach events with our Fairfax Legislators and Delegates
- Expanding the Mason Merchants list through coordination with small businesses in Fairfax County
- Expand the Mason Deals List so that students are able to save money with more discounts
- Work with the political organizations on campus to promote and expand Voter Registration and turnout
- Hold a referendum on enrolling GMU in the UPass Program to provide students with unlimited rides on Metrorail and Metrobus throughout the semester

# <u>Diversity</u>

#### Food

- Ensure that special food-needs groups such as Muslims, Jews, and Hindus have equitable access to food at the dining halls in conjunction with Mason Dining and the Dining Board
- Advocate for 24-hour dining halls during Ramadan

- Better and more accessible food options on campus (Vegan, Vegetarian, Pescatarian, Halal, etc...)
- Have Dining send a survey to students in Cultural RSOs for food and beverage recommendations

### • Culture

- Translating classroom syllabi into different languages in order to further support international students and first-gen students
- Create a Cultural Presidency Board in collaboration with all of the cultural RSOs, sororities, and fraternity life on campus
- Investigate the concerns of Event Services and Student Funding Board, and allow the RSOs to speak freely of their current issues
- Bring connection to newly formed RSOs, especially Cultural RSOs who are new and struggle to gather members and create events
- Better the outreach between cultural RSOs and Student Government
- Establish more Interfaith prayer rooms around campus so that students of all religious backgrounds have a private place to pray
- Create and heavily advertise more events for International and First-Gen students to combat student loneliness, and allow these students more opportunities to make friends and connections

## Disability

- Advocating for headphones in Eagle Bank Arena for students with hearing sensitivities
- Send surveys with ODS (Office of Disabilities) to students registered in ODS to see what ways we can better accommodate our students with disabilities

# **Academics**

#### • Class

- Continue to hand out free testing materials before midterms/final exam
- Advocate to include the Syllabi in Patriot Web before students register
- Ensure the protection of students' data through demanding regular transparency reports from Respondus Browser or any substitutes to it.
- Encourage GMU to change textbook purchasing to renting options for students
- Push the administration to be more transparent about our tuition fees and see where our money actually goes
- Bring back the "**Tuition Town Hall**" event to discuss changes to tuition set by the Board of Visitors.

- Work with AAUP to decrease the workload burden on both professors and students
- Work with the Mason Core Committee to support the inclusion of Justice and Equity in Diverse Societies within the framework of Mason Core
- Work with the university to provide relevant cost reimbursement to students pursuing a degree related to medicine, healthcare, or other health or community service based degree who successfully completed CPR training classes and certification

#### **Public Relations**

#### Media

- Send a weekly report to the Student Body about what occurred during our weekly Senate, Committee, and Cabinet meetings
- Use all of our social media (Instagram, Youtube, and Twitter) to allow students to get to know our leaders on a personal level and stay informed on legislation passing through the Senate Floor
  - Bring back the "State of the Student Body" speech where we meet with the Fourth Estate to talk in detail about Student Government's accomplishments and future initiatives
- Reform our Student Government website to make it more accessible and give the students ability to message our leaders for questions and concerns
- Create a "Shadowing Student Government" program for individuals who are thinking about joining Student Government, but want to know how it works internally first