

Statement of Candidacy

Hello, my name is Alex Gianneschi. The reason I am running for the Chief Justice position for the Student Government of Loyola Chicago (SGLC) is that I know I can make a difference in the Loyola community. After two years of serving on student government, the most important leadership quality I have learned is perspective. Perspective is the reason people have passions, fight for what they believe in, and are willing to spend long nights working against insurmountable odds to improve the camaraderie, safety, and well-being of the Loyola student body and administration.

After attending student protests and witnessing my colleagues and friends being punished for advocating for the pursuit of justice, participating in numerous faculty meetings riddled with bureaucracy, and listening to the concerning needs of the undergraduate body, I can say that I have seen the good, the bad, and the unfavorable sides of Loyola.

However, despite the issues that have challenged my beliefs, not once have I ever considered giving up. No task is too herculean to overcome. Instead, I have continued to look towards others' perspectives for answers. I have dedicated myself to understanding how the mindset of faculty members, the undergraduate populace, and staff members can best be integrated into improving the university. Instead of looking at their divergences, I look for their interrelatedness, how the actions of one body relates to another, the future long-term impacts most people fail to see.

If I am elected to Chief Justice, I would dedicate my time improving the relationship between Loyola and Arrupe, Loyola's two-year college. For too long, Arrupe students have not received the representation they deserve within University Senate, having no say in the decision-making processes that affects their lives and college experiences. I will ensure that Arrupe students will feel secure in their connection with Loyola students and be treated as an equally valued part of the community.

Additionally, I feel that it is vital for the university to acknowledge that the decisions they make have a far-reaching impact on the student body. The university struggles to recognize the needs of students and provide proper assistance. One of the largest obstacles I have witnessed is the lack of key policy decision in the University Senate. This leaves the administration unable to properly seek advice and input prior to the implementation of new policies. This lack of communication leaves students frustrated and leads to the passivity the university displays when dealing with grievances. If I am elected to the position of Chief Justice, I would be able to continue my efforts in improving communication and transparency in decision making at Loyola and ensure Loyola University is held accountable for its actions.

Regarding what I can provide to the SGLC, my honesty is what sets me apart from other candidates. I admit that the university is not perfect and dedicate myself to improving our institution so that it may better uphold its Jesuit mission. I wish to have Loyola become a place that students can be proud that they attended. Loyola's future is dependent on strong leadership and equitable justice, and I believe I would be able to continue that tradition as a genuine, trustworthy, and straightforward member of SGLC that the undergraduate body could reach out to and find the answers they seek. Thank you for your time and I hope you will consider me an honorable candidate for Chief Justice.