

I'm With UO is a progressive, grassroots campaign focused on improving the lives of the students at the University of Oregon. We are determined to combat the key issues affecting our student body including: student safety, accessibility, support for student organizations, student mental and physical health on campus, and university policy reform.

Sexual assault prevention and combating rape culture on campus for us is a primary goal. We believe coordinating the efforts of the various sexual assault prevention and education organizations that currently exist will both strengthen their voice and empower their organizations through a cohesive message. A united front within these organizations will allow them accomplish even more in the years to come, such as expanding campus lighting and successful events like Take Back the Night that bring awareness to rape culture and the prevalence of sexual violence.

With a 4.7 percent tuition increase for next year approved, the Board of Trustees has again shown its unwillingness to listen to student concerns and prioritize affordability. Students continue to be priced out of higher education, which is something we simply cannot accept. Our team is committed to continuing the tuition fight and will build on the organizing efforts from this year in order to fight back against an even bigger increase on the horizon. These efforts cannot be limited to only campus action; we must lobby the Oregon State Legislature to assure additional revenue for higher education. Additionally, we must focus on making the Board more accountable and open to the student body, as we would like to require the Board members to post individual contact information as well as add a graduate student representative to the Board.

To promote the growth of diversity on campus, our student body and University must enhance support for marginalized and underrepresented communities. We will prioritize this area of need by promoting and supporting multicultural student programs, such as the Black Student Task Force and their goals, as well as creating a cultural competency course requirement within the University. We seek to collaborate with efforts like the PPPM Equity Initiative and will strive to work with community partners like Chris Wig, Democratic Party of Lane Country Chair, to eliminate UOPD racial profiling practices and other problematic actions.

We will stay firm advocating for students and fight back against the administration when student concerns go unheard. For the past two years Quinn, Zach, and Natalie have advocated on behalf of over 180 student programs as members of the Programs Finance Committee. One of PFC's top funding priorities this year was graduate student programs specifically. PFC supported the Women in Graduate Sciences mentorship program for the 2016-17 fiscal year, as well as the efforts of the Men's Center and graduate student, Aaron Porter, to ensure a full time director for their organization. We ask the GTFF to endorse I'm With UO in the ASUO elections for the upcoming academic year and thank you for the opportunity to present our goals during your busy bargaining negotiations.