AMY ALLEN (Undergrad, Engineering)

Having created a successful ballot referendum in the Spring of 2010, and written several successful ISS resolutions, I know the potential of students to create change on this campus. As a member of the search committee, I will work hard to ensure that all students have that opportunity. I will solicit thoughts from students across campus, and push for responsiveness to students to be part of the search criteria. As president of a student organization and member of a campus committee, I have experience working with campus administrators, including the chancellor, and will put that experience to work in identifying candidates that will be responsive to all of us.

CAREY HAWKINS ASH (Grad, Law & Education)

History records that the call of duty is made to all, but often only few answer. I, Carey Hawkins Ash, a J.D./Ph.D. student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, seek to answer my Alma Mater’s call to service by dedicating my time, talent, and energy to selecting our campus’ next chancellor. From 2008-2010, I was privileged to serve the student body as a student senator, Student Senate Vice-President Internal, as a member of the Academic Senate Executive Committee, and on the Campus Advisory Committee. During my service in these capacities, I gained an in-depth understanding of the fundamental principles of shared governance that maintain our University’s prominence. Thus, I believe our next chancellor must espouse this same belief to provide a targeted vision to grow our student body, further the work of our world-class faculty, and advance the mission of our university to our state, nation, and the world.

DANIEL COHEN (Undergrad, LAS)

Daniel Cohen is a senior in LAS majoring in psychology and political science. He is a second-generation, purebred Illini who missed the last four minutes of the come back win over Arizona in 2005 because he locked himself in his room. Daniel is a past Major Board member of the Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity (previously holding the #1 ranked GPA on campus), Project Manager at Illinois Business Consulting (the largest student-run consulting firm in the country), and current intern at Hillel. He organized the “Life in Iran” speech at Foellinger earlier this semester, studied abroad in Jerusalem, starred in two full-length Batman parodies with IFV Club, and jumped out of a plane with Falling Illini. He wants the next Chancellor of U of I to be someone who understands the diverse range of interests that students like him have, and to keep Illinois strong across the board in these tough times.

MAX ELLITHORPE (Undergrad, LAS)

Max Ellithorpe is a junior majoring in Political Science in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He is a fellow in the Civic Leadership Program, which combines academic and extracurricular experiences to foster a greater sense of engagement with the community. Max has worked as a New Media consultant for a variety of political and issue-advocacy campaigns. He was elected to the Illinois Student Senate in the spring of 2010, and currently serves on the Cultural and Minority Student Affairs committee. Max has a passion for the integration of technology and civic institutions, and continues to advocate for transparent and efficient governance on campus. Outside of the Senate, Max serves on the Board of Directors of the University of Illinois Hillel Foundation, a nonprofit supporting the needs of a diverse population of Jewish students. In the Jewish community, Max has advocated for interfaith dialogue between Jews and Muslims, and religious pluralism.

BROCK GEBHARDT (Undergrad, DGS)

I, Brock Gebhardt, am a sophomore student in the Division of General Studies. I have had the privilege to serve the student body as a member of the Illinois Student Senate and the Urbana-Champaign Academic Senate. Through my tenure as senator, I have had an opportunity to work with fellow students and faculty members on a wide breadth of student issues and have gained insight on the structure of our university governance. With this understanding, I believe that I can help the committee by seeking to select a chancellor who will effectively assimilate into our university culture, respect our diverse community of students and faculty, and represent the University of Illinois with honor and integrity.

GRACE KENNEY (Undergrad, FAA)

Grace R. Kenney is a junior in Urban Planning and Global Business. As a student who has lived in three other countries and constantly interacts with different departments and student groups, she understands the importance of diversity, cultural sensitivity, and public consultation in representative decision-making. Her experience in consulting and project management through various student organizations on campus, as well as through job experience, will prove key in the tight schedule to search for the new Chancellor, and will strengthen the Committee as she will provide quality research while working with set deadlines. Grace also has much experience in working with faculty, community leaders, and other students on a variety of projects and thus has strong communication, collaborative, and professional skills. Grace will focus on the topics of education quality, cultural diversity and awareness, and the issues related to sustainability at the University level.

JORDAN MCNAMARA (Undergrad, Business)

In choosing an undergraduate representative in this search, consider the candidate that differentiates him/herself from the others. All candidates represent strong options—each is an intelligent, responsible individual. However, not all have the
same experiences that will shape participation in the committee. As a member of the Senate Educational Policy Committee, I’ve participated in numerous essential decisions that have allowed me a window into how the university functions. As a member of the University Senate Committee on Undergraduate Student Conduct, I’ve had the opportunity to experience how each small decision can affect the community of scholars that the university has built. I have developed a resume demonstrating leadership qualities and decision-making capabilities, and I’ve demonstrated a passion and dedication to efficacy in university matters. When you go to vote, choose me with the knowledge that I bring a new perspective, shaped and cultured through my diverse experiences.

DAVID OLSEN (Undergrad, Business)

David Olsen is currently a senior in the College of Business pursuing majors in Finance and International Business and minors in Technology & Management and Political Science. He currently serves as Student Body President at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Through this role, as well as through his service on the Senate Executive Committee, Illinois Student Senate, Senate Committee on Educational Policy, and other representative bodies, David has shown a commitment to ensuring students are represented in University governance, and has developed a great deal of institutional knowledge about the Urbana-Champaign campus. As the Urbana-Champaign campus searches for a new Vice President/Chancellor, David will bring his enthusiasm and dedication as well as his experience to the search process, ensuring that any candidate selected understands the importance of students and their interests at the campus, especially those relating to the cost and quality of education.

EWAN ROBINSON (Grad, Geography)

Ewan Robinson is a master’s candidate in the Department of Geography. He earned his bachelors in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences and has been a student at Illinois since 2003. Ewan has promoted sustainability and internationalism throughout his time at Illinois. He collaborated with students and administrators to design a campus-wide energy policy and a sustainable landscape project. After studying abroad, he promoted student internationalism as co-director of a student-immigrant exchange group, a mentor for study abroad students, and a foreign language tutor. Ewan is currently conducting thesis research in Senegal supported by a Fulbright scholarship. Ewan hopes to help select a chancellor who will work with students to build Illinois’ leadership in critical areas like sustainability and internationalism. Expanding opportunities for students to learn and have an impact in these areas will be an important part of the future chancellor’s vision.

MARK ROSENSTEIN (Undergrad, FAA)

Mark Rosenstein is currently a sophomore in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, originally a Theatre major and now pursuing a degree in Communication. He serves as an elected member of the Illinois Student Senate, and collaborates with other Senators on ways to reach the Student Body through his active membership on the Outreach Committee. Although he is no longer pursuing a degree in Theatre, Mark has a passion for the arts and has worked closely with his delegates in the College of Fine and Applied Arts, collaborating on ways to improve the arts programs at our university. Mark most recently was Assistant Lighting Designer and Master Electrician for Iphigenia and Other Daughters at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. Through his tenure in the Student Senate, Mark has been a strong advocate for transparency and sustainability.

JAKE VERMILLION (Undergrad, FAA)

Jake B. Vermillion is a freshman in Architecture with a minor in political science. Since his arrival on campus less than four months ago, Jake has established himself as a member of the community and proven his desire to serve his community, his fellow students, and the University. In his first semester at the University of Illinois, Jake joined the ISS as a committee member on two committees and has since then been appointed Student Senator for FAA. Jake has served on the WEX Hall Council, has accepted a nomination to serve on the WEX Advisory Board, and has joined several RSOs including WPGUs Hockey Broadcast Division, CRU, ILC, and AIAS. If elected, Jake will contribute immensely to the committee; he plans to search for a chancellor who is fiscally responsible, student oriented, diverse, and environmentally aware, because the issues important to students must be those of the chancellor as well.