TEXAS STUDENT MEDIA APPLICATION FORM
STUDENT BOARD MEMBER AT-LARGE
Term of office: June 1, 2020 - May 31, 2022

This application and supporting materials must be submitted to the TSM Business Office (via hard copy to room HSM 3.200 or via PDF emailed to serpas@austin.utexas.edu) by Monday, February 3, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.

Candidates are due to be certified at the TSM Board meeting scheduled for Friday, February 7, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

Please plan to attend and discuss your application with the Operating Trustees.

Applicant Information

Matthew Kenny
Name
mdK2358
UT EID
matthewkenny@utexas.edu
Email Address
Biochemistry, BSA
Major

Applicant Attestation / Authorization for Release of Information

1. I will be enrolled as a UT-Austin student for at least 9 hours during the long session.
2. By the start of my term of office, I will (if an undergraduate) have completed 12 hours at UT-Austin with a GPA of at least 2.0 or (if a graduate student) have completed 9 hours at UT-Austin with a GPA of at least 3.0.
3. I am not enrolled in the College of Communication.
4. I will not hold a paid or regularly scheduled position at Texas Student Media or its media units during my term of office.
5. I will not file as a candidate for popular election to another student office of the university or a college or school.

   note: this requirement can be waived by majority vote of the TSM Board

I certify that to the best of my ability I have given true and accurate information concerning my scholastic and experience qualifications, and hereby grant permission for the Office of the Director, Texas Student Media, to verify said information. Further, I understand that this information will be provided to the TSM Board of Operating Trustees and will become part of the public record of TSM.

I understand that I am subject to the TSM Election Code, as detailed in Chapter 7 of the TSM Handbook, and to the Campus-Wide Election Code and the Election Timeline (available at http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/campuswideelelections/).

Signature of Applicant
Date

It is recommended that you include supporting materials such as a résumé and a personal statement (of less than 500 words) outlining your qualifications and goals.
MATTHEW KENNY
matthewkenny@utexas.edu
Austin, TX 78738 • (817) 525-3340

EDUCATION
The University of Texas at Austin
Bachelor of Science and Arts in Biochemistry, Major
Minor: Business
McCombs Summer Institute, 9 Week Intensive Program
Overall GPA: 3.79

EXPERIENCE
The University of Texas at Austin Student Government – Financial Director; Austin, TX
April 2019 – April 2020
• Oversaw allocation of approximately $200k of UT SSBC funds
• Directed internal and external fund allocation for University affiliated student agencies and organizations
• Recommended scholarship awards for students at the University
• Facilitated communication between faculty and staff concerning financial and student affairs

WesRoProductions LLC – Senior Crew Member; Lake Travis, TX
Private Charter and Marine Cleaning Company
June 2015 – Present
• Operated the use of house boats and yachts exceeding 110 feet in length
• Operated as a service associate charged with tending to the discretion of the client
• Instructed new hires in safety training and skills development

TEDx – Speaker; Lakeway, TX
May 2018
• Presented a talk on the importance of teamwork and collaboration
• Collaborated with the directors to integrate serendipity into the concept of teamwork

The University of Texas at Austin McCombs School of Business – Senior Student Associate
August 2019 – Present
• Advise students on semester and course planning to accomplish a minor for the McCombs School of Business

ACADEMIC PROJECTS
PBH 317 Social and Behavioral Projects – Client: NAMI on Campus
Fall 2018
• Created curriculum for an initiative aimed at increasing mental health treatment awareness on campus
• Orchestrated community engagement that increased student exposure to mental health resources

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE AND ACTIVITIES
UT Student Government – Longhorn Legislative Aide
Fall 2018 – Spring 2019
• Adapted to different leaders on campus in an effort to create a service project that fed over 150 families in the greater Austin area for Thanksgiving

Tejas Club – member
Fall 2019 – Present
• Men’s club focused on Friendship, Leadership, and Scholarship
• Fall 2019 Newman Class President

Peer Assistance and Leadership – Senior officer
Fall 2016 – Spring 2018
• Mentored students with nonacademic needs in the greater Austin area
• Oversaw the creation and execution of a leadership conference in the Spring of 2018

HONORS
• Halliburton Scholar

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Computer Skills: MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint
Interests: Golf, Chess, Fantasy Football
Work Eligibility: Eligible to work in the U.S. with no restrictions
Personal Statement – Texas Student Media Board

The University of Texas Serves as one of the elite higher education systems in the United States. It is home to students who fully embody and pursue to meet the words “What start here changes the world. No better suited is an organization at exposing students to new ideas and broader perspectives than the Texas Student Media board. I hope to become a valuable part of a collective that enables students to create, publish, report, and access all of the information that exists around us. The university’s various media platforms are a crucial part of The University of Texas and my goal for TSM is to ensure that they are supported in every way to practice good journalism that benefits every member of the 40 acres.

I believe that I offer a unique perspective to the board as both a student in the College of Natural Sciences and the sitting financial director of the university’s student government. First, the world of science revolves heavily on media, broadcasting advances in medicine, biology, and physics or validating research results in a peer-reviewed journal is the basis of the scientific sphere. As a student of scientific literature, I understand how important good media is to every student here on campus. As the current Financial Director of UTSG, I know what is required when overseeing a budget that will directly benefit the students of Texas. I have been in the room seeing how money used in a just and generous way can make a positive difference in the college experience for our community. I have had the opportunity to lead meetings that dedicate funds to student-lead initiatives, organization events, and individual scholarships, and through this experience, I know the impartiality and careful consideration that is required when making the tough decisions. I have deepened my passion for serving as a voice for fellow students on campus and I hope to continue to do that with Texas Student Media.

I hope to elevate the voice of every student on campus for the benefit of every student on campus. As a member of the TSM board, I would strive to impartially facilitate the production of all media Texas Student Media Board oversees so that students at The University of Texas will leave with healthy journalism, new insight, and a respect for the value media possesses.