

Hello everyone, my name is Benjamin Lau, and I am running for President under the Stand on Business party. I am running on a platform to enhance the student experience, be an approachable and accessible liaison between the students and the UB Administration, uplift club support, advocate for fair club funding, and keep the Student Association operations sustainable for the students at UB. I've been involved in the Student Association for 3 years, so I've seen policy both helped and hurt clubs. I've been there long enough to know what works and what doesn't work.

A lot of bigger tier clubs that get funding don't get the funding they are entitled to. Student Association has a tier system that every club follows, but sometimes that tier system doesn't allow for all clubs to be granted the minimum allocation they are entitled to. The bigger clubs that foster tier 6 funding, get underfunded and get lower tier funding. Too often many clubs face violations for simple misunderstandings, and the appeals process isn't always the smoothest either. When clubs face violations and must go through a meeting and the appeals process, their budgets get frozen. This prevents them from making fund requests which block clubs from hosting events for students to enjoy. Clubs make up a large chunk of SA; we oversee over 200 of them. It is important we leave no club left behind, but ensure every club is treated properly when determining consequences for wrongdoing. I will be working heavily with Sports clubs, UB Recreation, and UB Athletics to work out sufficient practice spaces and storage spaces for these clubs.

Many students come to big universities to make lasting memories; a lot of memories come from large scale events that captivate the masses. Under a Stand on Business administration, we will prioritize large-scale events that captivate the masses while ensuring the student activity fee is maximized to its full potential. As a student government who oversees 21,000+ undergraduate students, it is not representative of a student government to primarily host events with a capacity of 50-300 students. The Stand on Business party will stand on business and put its foot down when it comes to poor funding for events no one goes to. The Stand on Business party will also meet with UB administration to tackle issues that affect student life. Some issues on our agenda are working with UB Libraries to extend hours in Lockwood and Abbott so students can study longer. Silverman library gets really loud and crowded for students to lock in. Another challenge I want to tackle is the lack of food options available to students on campus late night. Many students like me don't have a car and getting food off campus is such a trek. This platform and campaign isn't about me, it's about you.

A vote Benjamin Lau for president is a vote that your voice isn't left in the dust and that you have someone who will relate to you, someone who is here for you, and someone who will fight for you. I am here to serve the student body, NOT the student government. Remember this, remember now, remember to vote for Benjamin Lau.