

There is one applicant for the Place 3 vacancy,
for a student from the Moody College of
Communication:

Kat Sampson

There is one applicant for the Place 4 vacancy,
for an at-large student:

Mohammad Syed

**TEXAS STUDENT MEDIA APPLICATION FORM
STUDENT BOARD MEMBER FROM MOODY COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION**

Term of office ends May 31, 2018

This application and supporting materials must be submitted to the TSM Business Office
(HSM 3.200 / William Randolph Hearst Building, 2500 Whitis Avenue) by
Monday, August 22, 2016 at 12:00 p.m.

One applicant will be appointed at the TSM Board meeting scheduled for
Friday, August 26, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

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

Applicant Information

Kat Sampson
Name

KCS 988
UT EID

katie.samp7@gmail.com
Email Address

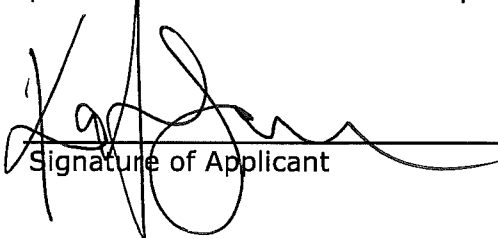
Journalism
Major

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 enrolled in the College of Communication and will have completed 12 hours of College of Communication courses by the start of my term of office.
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.


Signature of Applicant

08/22/16
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.

Katie “Kat” Sampson

Katiesamp7@gmail.com

EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin

Journalism major, French minor

August 2013 — May 2017

College GPA: 3.69

EMPLOYMENT

The Daily Texan

Austin, TX

- Editorial Board Member and Opinion Associate Editor Fall 2015
 - Edit columns and assist Editor-in-Chief with managing 20 student columnists
 - Write weekly editorials and blog posts concerning campus issues
- Life & Arts Editor Spring 2015
 - In charge of the Texan’s features section and manage a team of 20 student reporters
 - Write and edit three to five stories a day
 - Cover major Austin festivals, such as South By Southwest and Austin City Limits
- Life & Arts Associate Editor Fall 2014
 - Edit stories written by the Feature staff
 - Assist editor with managing a staff of 20 student reporters
- Life & Arts Issue Staffer Spring 2014, Summer 2015
 - Covered feature stories and campus events, and wrote music and film reviews

Moody Writing Support Program, University of Texas at Austin

Austin, TX

- Writing Coach Fall 2015 – Spring 2017
 - Edit and assist students with journalism and public relations assignments
 - Plan and execute events, such as the “Conversations on the Craft” lecture series

WCAI NPR Radio Station

Woods Hole, MA

- Reporting Intern Summer 2015
 - Write, report and voice news stories that air during *Morning Edition* and *ATC*
 - Help research and produce *The Point* morning show hosted by Mindy Todd
 - Periodically run the sound board on weekends

HONORS

- Doc Sellers Endowed Presidential Scholarship for Print Journalism Students Fall 2016
 - Awarded to a UT student who shows promise in print journalism
- Helen M. Powell Traveling Fellow Summer 2015
 - \$4,800 awarded every summer to a journalist who is traveling to report
- Julia Jeffress Excellence Award Spring 2015
 - Honors staff member who contributed the most to *The Daily Texan* readership
- Albertta E. Scott Scholarship Fall 2015
 - Awarded to a dedicated and academically driven member of Kappa Delta Sigma Epsilon
- UT Dean’s List Fall 2013 — Spring 2015
- The Fred McLeod and Bill Strausbaugh Scholarship Recipient Summer 2013, 2014
 - Scholarship given to caddies who exhibit work ethic and scholarship success

International Experience

- Semester Abroad in Lyon, France Spring 2016
 - Completed 18 hours of coursework taught in French at Université Jean Moulin

As I enter my fourth and final year as a Moody College of Communication journalism student, I've seen the school transform in so many ways. For starters, we now have a giant pedestrian bridge connecting Belo Center for New Media and the Jones Communication Center. But there were also subtler changes, specifically to TSM entities and some big decisions that kept certain things the same. It would be an honor to work alongside my peers and leaders within the UT community as a Moody College of Communication Student Member for TSM.

As a digital-based journalist, I worked in settings where adaption and flexibility hold value. Everyday as a writer and editor at *The Daily Texan* my job was to understand the audience we were serving and cater to their needs. Whether it was the decision to continue printing five days a week or finding a better platform for our online content, each action had an impact on our community and deserved the upmost attention. As a journalism tutor for the Moody Writing Support Program, I work with my peers everyday to figure out which direction student media and media at large is going.

The sum of my experiences working in the journalism industry and working with my peers in other TSM entities, I think I would be a great addition to the TSM Board. I want to help our student organizations continue to raise the bar and set standards not only for student publications and stations but for professional, for-profit newspapers, television programs, radio stations, magazines and digital publications as well.

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STUDENT BOARD MEMBER AT-LARGE
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Applicant Information

Mohammad Syed
Name

mas9597
UT EID

mohammadsyed@utexas.edu
Email Address

Biochemistry & Humanities
Major

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Signature of Applicant

August 22, 2016
Date

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Mohammad Syed

832-705-0247 | mohammadsyed.kc@gmail.com | 65 W 24th St, Austin, TX 78705

Experience

INVESTMENT PARTNER, THE COUNCIL *BINARY CAPITAL SUB-FUND* (AUGUST 2016 -)

Selected as sole Austin based investment partner for The Council, a sub-fund for Binary Capital (binarycap.com). Seek and investment in consumer technology startups — investments ranging in 5K - 15K. Pitch potential investments to fellow partners and interact with SF based Binary Capital and work closely with partners, Jonathon Teo, Justin Caldbeck, and Tiffany Zhong. Help develop online presence of fund through blogging, and social media content creation.

COMPUTATIONAL RESEARCH INTERN, NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (MAY 2016 - AUGUST 2016)

Researched the HERK virus and processing genomic data to identify RNA editing events. Additionally, writing python scripts that extract and parse data sets. Developing presentations and posters to showcase work being done at NIH. Currently using HTML, CSS, and JS to build lab an accessible website that can showcase additional work.

STUDENT RESEARCH/DEVELOPER, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN (JANUARY 2015 - AUGUST 2016)

Worked in DIY Diagnostics Laboratory to create at-home diagnostics that can be commercialized. Developed rough diagnostic for Zika Virus — lab's work was featured in various local news channels. Developed healthcare orientated web applications and was awarded summer fellowship to continue development of applications over the summer.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR, COLUMNIST, THE DAILY TEXAN (SEPTEMBER 2015 - AUGUST 2016)

Appointed as the youngest member of Daily Texan Editorial Board . Managed staff of 28 to produce editorial content and designed page using Adobe InCopy and Adobe InDesign. Interviewed candidates and wrote endorsements for state-wide and school-wide elections on behalf of Daily Texan Editorial Board. Wrote weekly column on various issues and transitioning into writing about technology exclusively.

TECHNOLOGY PRODUCER, KEY CLUB INTERNATIONAL (JUNE 2013 - MAY 2014)

Appointed as technology producer for Key Club International district of Texas – Oklahoma. Oversaw 20,000+ members of the district and produced digital content to relay information, events. Work was showcased at District Convention comprised of ~1500 students from the district.

Skills

3 years of debate & public speaking experience, including multiple national and state-level competition awards, as well as Vice-Presidency of Cypress Falls High School's Speech & Debate team.

Highly proficient in visual/graphic/layout design— Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Premiere & After Effects

Experienced front-end designer/developer, fluent in Javascript, HTML/CSS, Python, C, and Java

Major Awards

Freshman Research Initiative Summer Fellowship Recipient (2016)

Dartmouth Nuekon Math-O-Vision National Film Finalist (2015)

IPO Education Foundation National Film Finalist (2013)

Education

Class of 2019, The University of Texas at Austin — Biochemistry + Product Management

July 23, 2016

Dear TSM Board of Operating Trustees,

I'm writing this letter to convey my interest in serving on the Texas Student Media Board of Operating Trustees, specifically as an at-large student body representative.

My name is Mohammad Syed and I am a rising sophomore from Houston, Texas. Currently I study biochemistry within the College of Natural Science.

When I stepped foot on the forty acres for the first time, I told myself one thing: partake in activities that are going to tangibly change the campus. It's because of this thought that I joined one of TSM's most prominent entities, The Daily Texan. I applied to the Daily Texan in September as an Opinion columnist and was hired by the former Editor-In-Chief Claire Smith. She later hired me on as an associate editor and as a member of the Daily Texan Editorial Board. I served as the youngest member of the editorial board and I felt honored to do so.

Within the Texan I saw everything. From seeing my colleagues break stories on the lack of administrative accountability, to hosting debates and writing endorsements for Student Government elections, the Texan has made an everlasting impact on the UT community as a whole.

I'm not going to waste time by stating the importance of TSM. TSM is an absolutely necessary entity on campus — we all know this. Instead, I want to make a case for why I am going to be the most valuable asset to the TSM board.

My main value comes from exposure to both technology and media. While seemingly different fields, over the past decade, these two sectors have overlapped in a dramatic fashion. Some entities under TSM have done a great job in the use of technology (i.e. Daily Texan, Texas Travesty) while other have not done so well. It is my belief that TSM needs to create standards for using such technology. This means that all TSM entities should be employing different forms of technology to promote and create content.

The reality is technology has allowed media to become more and more democratized. No longer does TSM have to limit itself as "student organization." It's more than that. The work done under TSM is real and it provides content-consumers value. With technology we're able to reach content-consumers beyond just the university. An example of this when a Daily Texan Columnist saw his column go to the front page of Reddit (a site with 234M unique users).

Additionally, implementing technology creates less dependency on money — something that TSM constantly struggles with.

This serves as just an example of technological innovation that can further TSM's goal. My unique exposure to both of these industries allows me to offer insight that can add real value.

July 23, 2016

It's because of this that I believe I should be appointed as an at-large representative for Texas Student Media.

Thank you,

Mohammad Syed