Kyle Elderkin
For too long I have sat on the sidelines and let other people decide my fate. Since the earliest elections in middle school all through undergrad, I have never wanted to be nor felt any need to be involved in student government. I have let other people decide what rules my education would be determined by and create the culture that I was bound to. But no longer do I go to school because I feel like I must. Now I go to law school because it is my passion. It is what I want to do every morning, and powers me through the long days. I want, not only to discover the pathway in front of me but to make it better for those who walk it after me.

The Student Bar Association allows me the freedom and power to do just that. It allows me the position to make a better environment for my peers, as we all walk this path together. My drive, creativity, and passion will surely be of value as I look to take this next step, have influence, and look at how to improve our surroundings. I am excited and passionate about the opportunity to run for the Student Bar Association’s 1L representative.

Jacob Growel
I want to run for SBA because I feel that my combination of open-mindedness, approachability, balance between work and play, and emphasis on assisting students with the resources to enjoy all aspects of law school makes me a formidable candidate. I have pushed myself to see scenarios from different perspectives and I understand that law school is not a, “one size fits all” approach. I see myself as a problem solver that appreciates the fact that different people face different issues during law school. Law school can be overwhelming, so I want to focus on activities that will give students a strong sense of community while instilling confidence in, not only their success in law school, but their individual future success as an attorney. It is important to balance your social and academic life in order to avoid burnout. Due to COVID-19, social activities will be more difficult to organize, but I have creative ideas to help students enjoy the social aspect of attending law school. In conclusion, I want to assist in creating an inclusive, enjoyable environment where students can feel confident and comfortable.

Stephany Hernandez
You must be tired of hearing this, but this is truly an unparalleled time in our world. An international pandemic, racial injustice, and natural disasters fill our news feeds each morning. Coupled with starting law school, to say that this time is stressful seems like an understatement. This is exactly why I am running to represent you this year on Student Bar Association. As a young woman born and raised in Honduras, I know what it means to not have anyone to relate to or to feel like my concerns are not being addressed by the various authority figures in my personal and professional life. We are all unique individuals with extraordinarily different lives that have been brought together with a single common purpose: becoming lawyers. To make this complex, often political, often challenging process a little smoother for you is why I will greatly appreciate your vote. As one of the few women of color in our class, I am a passionate advocate for diversity and inclusivity within our student body. In the last few weeks, I’ve had the pleasure of being able to connect with many of you over a variety of issues and would love to continue developing those relationships. Regardless of your plans to study sports law, public interest, or even water law, it is my objective to create the smoothest pathways from this earliest point in our legal careers.
Personal Statements of Nominees for SBA 1L Representatives

Sarah L’Hommedieu
Even before school began, I was humbled in meeting many of you. Learning your stories and seeing the paths that led us to share this time at Marquette, it became clear I was lucky to be part of such a distinguished class. Through the cloudy confusion of the start of school I found clarity in the idea that I might get to be a part of something bigger, and contribute to such an amazing group of people.

As we settle in, so many of you have chosen to spend precious bits of spare time in ways befitting the Marquette tradition of service. Whether it’s helping a classmate understand a difficult issue, getting involved in pro bono work, or joining organizations which advance inclusion and empowerment of minorities in our future profession, your efforts are inspiring. But I want to make sure that while you’re helping others, someone is helping you.

I’m running to be a 1L representative because I know you have unlimited potential and insight, but often, very limited time. I spent my undergraduate experience in student government learning what it takes to amplify my classmates’ voices. Now, more than even I understand how important it is to help those who are so busy helping others, or even just preparing for a future of service through the rigors of law school.

Kristin Payer
My name is Kristin Payer and I am running for one of the 1L SBA representative positions. I am passionate about representing the student body and would be honored to be able to take part in helping pursue the strong, cohesive, and respectable community here at Marquette.

Community plays an essential part in our law school journey. Students, faculty, and the city of Milwaukee all help make up this community. Therefore, the relationships we have with one another are vital. It is important to me to make sure that we can all achieve these relationships so we can offer one another a strong support system. Planning events and activities where students can get to know each other better would be something I can accomplish professionally as I have experience of planning and executing events.

I have enjoyed getting to know many of my 1L classmates so far and I have seen how intelligent, diverse, and perseverant this group is. This is why I would be honored to represent this class. Life as a 1L is all about adjusting so I would make sure that I would be someone my peers can come to for anything. Communication is important and I want to make sure that my class has a healthy and professional communication between faculty and staff here at the law school as well. I want to help build a tight knit community amongst my classmates that will make life here at Marquette an enjoyable place for all of us.

Aimeé Treviño
My name is Aimeé Treviño and I am running for 1L representative. I am running because, like many of you, I chose Marquette University Law School for its sense of community, and I would love to be able to help create that for my peers. Building a community in law school is hard but building a community in law school in the middle of COVID-19 is even harder. Now more than ever, we are all seeking a sense of belonging and a home away from home. My goal is to help facilitate that and ensure that we all can find that home.
**Personal Statements of Nominees for SBA 1L Representatives**

**Rose VanElderen**  
I have chosen to run for a 1L representative position because I value inclusion, diversity, and comradery. I believe each and every voice in the class should be heard without judgment or persecution in regard to their own personal values and beliefs. I believe in crediting quiet voices as well as loud ones, controversial opinions as well as popular ones. I would like our class to operate in a way that is empowering, inclusive, and effective. Against all odds this year, we can still foster success outside of the classroom as well as in our academics. I promise to devote my time and attention to these goals.

**Alexis “Lexie” Witte**  
My name is Alexis (Lexie) Witte and I would love to take on the responsibility to serve as your 1L Representative for the Student Bar Association. It would be a privilege for me to help plan events for the law school community, and to serve as an advocate for our 1L class. I believe that my past experiences, along with my personality would make me an excellent choice for 1L Representative.

The Student Bar Association’s mission is to be an advocate for student ideas and concerns and serve as a liaison between students and the faculty, administration, alumni, and Milwaukee community. I would love to take on this role and be an approachable, trustworthy, and impactful representative for my classmates.

Another important aspect of the Student Bar Association is to plan academic, social, and professional events for the law school community. Before starting law school, I worked as the Constituent Relations Coordinator for the University of Iowa College of Law. My primary responsibility was to plan events for students and alumni. I have planned over 200 events, hosted in cities throughout the United States. This prior experience would be beneficial to me as a 1L Class Representative.

In closing, I invite anyone who has further questions to please email me at alexis.witte@marquette.edu. I look forward to continuing to get to know my classmates, and seeing you all around campus. Thank you for considering me as a 1L Representative.