

Thank you Taylor and Ki-Mani,
Good evening,

My journey at FSU started December 8th, 2016 when I received my acceptance to Florida State University. I still recall my first time visiting Florida State University, and my love for this place and the people has only continued to grow since that day.

My journey in student government started in Summer C freshman year when I applied for Summer Senate from my dorm room in Deviney Hall. I am thankful for all of the support throughout my journey at FSU. Thank you to my family for providing me with the lessons and values to thrive and for the endless guidance, I am thankful for you every day. To my twin sister, thank you for sharing a car with me, I can't promise I won't be requesting it more frequently. Thank you for supporting me in my endeavors. How fortunate I am to be able to share this experience, and our FSU journey together. You continually inspire me every day, through your commitment to your presidency of Sigma Delta Tau and upholding the values of a Panhellenic woman, and through your work with Best Buddies.

To my family and loved ones, thank you for your unwavering commitment to the Steinberg-Lee-Dawkins administration, for the support you have exemplified. To my brothers in Beta Theta Pi, I am proud to represent the Delta Lambda chapter, and could not be more proud to be a brother. Caleb and I couldn't have done this without you, and I am forever grateful for the life-long friendships formed through the deltalambadifference.

An ode to the Amplify movement, to Wollerman, Jaiden, Barloga, Matt, Alessa, Charlotte, Rachel, Jack, Kayla, Maggie, Tazzy, Anna Grace, Will, Chev, Shane, Omar, and Will. Words cannot express the amount of gratitude I have for all of you. You created a movement, and within the movement created a family. You all are some of the most dedicated, consistent, headstrong, and warm individuals that I have ever met.

To Stephanie and Caleb, where to even begin. Who would have guessed, three bright eyed freshman sitting within the halls of the old Senate chambers for the Freshman Leadership Institute would stand here today, transformed from three bright-eyed freshman to three juniors with bags under our eyes. Thank you, for keeping me grounded, for sticking by my side through thick and thin. For believing in the power of the student voice, and in our ability to amplify the individual student experience.

I would be remiss, if I didn't thank my group of mentors, who have been by my side since freshman year. To Ciara, Wesley, Derek, Tori, Andie, Jared, Lauren, Megan, Allison and Elyssa, thank you for your friendship and love and for providing me with so many opportunities to grow and learn.

On January 15th, we vowed to represent our student body of 42,000 students and amplify the individual student experience. My experiences from our Senate chambers to the halls of the Union to the Florida legislature have led me to this point in time. Through my strong sense of heart, voice, and intuition, and the lessons I have learned along the way, I have deepened my desire to move our Student Government and our Student Body forward, to amplify every voice. For the past three years, the Student Government Association has acted as my home away from home. I have found lifelong friends, through the late nights in the Senate Offices, to the early mornings with Einstein's in hand. I have grown within the old halls of the Union and Thagard, through trials and tribulations and through the ebbs and flows of life. I am excited and ready for this opportunity.

I stand here today, thankful. Thankful for the opportunity to have the honor of serving as your Student Body President. Thankful to have the privilege to serve my peers and our institution. Our Student Government Association has a long record of providing a strong voice and necessary representation within the university structure because the student voice is of the utmost importance.

Our work to enhance the student life and academic experience of our student body can be rooted in a desire to ensure our voice is heard through actions such as advocacy to promote change. The eponym of my high school, Marjory Stoneman Douglas once stated, “Be a nuisance when it counts. Do your part to inform and stimulate the public to join your action. Be discouraged, & disappointed at failure ... but never give up” I vow to never give up, to advocate on behalf of and to continue to serve our student body.

When we began this campaign, we wanted to ensure that this is more than just creating seats at the table, this is to ensure that the table is one worth sitting at. I am excited to work alongside Stephanie Lee and Caleb Dawkins to continue to envision a bright future for our student body and our beloved Florida State University. Thank you.