

**Fiat Lux  
endorses  
Chandra Leister  
for president**

February 26, 1999

# Fiat Lux

The Student Newspaper of Alfred University

**Fiat Lux  
endorses  
Steve Tedone  
for  
vice president**

## ENDORSEMENT

# Fiat endorses Chandra Leister

For president, we have decided to endorse Chandra Leister, with reservations.

Leister has served on the Student Senate executive board for more than a year.

Her experience is the key reason we feel she should be elected president.

Leister also seems to have the rapport to deal with the administration effectively and she is approachable.

As Senate President, Leister's main responsibilities will be listening to students and taking their concerns to the appropriate administrators.

We feel she has the skills necessary to be an effective president.

Our concerns about Leister include her reluctance to address the issues.

At Meet the Candidates Night she failed to address issues of substance and while she listed several problems, her proposed solutions were virtually non-existent.

We suggest, however, that Leister adopt some of the ideas proposed by the other candidate for president, Carlos Pearce.

Pearce presented well

thought out, developed, researched ideas at the Senate meeting. We were impressed by the initiative he showed by learning which issues concerned students and investigating potential solutions.

Pearce's ideas for the Health Center and for addressing parking difficulties are definitely worth pursuing.

However, we feel Leister's experience and approachability outweigh Pearce's preparedness.

Overall, we were disappointed in the presentations at Meet the Candidates Night.

The candidates for president were unimpressive in their public speaking skills and their ability to answer questions.

They avoided the issues when asked and talked in circles instead of addressing the concerns of Senators.

The candidates also failed to mention any viable suggestions for getting students involved in Senate and campus organizations.

So in conclusion, we find Leister to be the strongest candidate, but admit that neither candidate is the ideal person for the job. □

## EDITORIAL

# Your vote counts

You're a student. You go about your day like everyone else.

Wednesday nights, you may have many things to do other than go to Student Senate.

Many students fail to realize that business handled at Senate directly affects their lives at AU.

We understand that every student is not going to have time to attend Senate. However, every student should realize that Student Senate does matter.

Do some research and you will discover that if something happened on campus, there's a good chance Senate played a role in getting it to happen.

Because this is the case, as a student, you should care about what happens.

One way to have an impact is to go to Senate. No doubt, if you have a concern, the Senate will hear it.

The other way to make an impact is to vote—plain and simple.

Last year, fewer than 500 AU students took the effort to circle a few names on a little piece of paper on their way to check their mailboxes in the campus center.

We could say that 25 percent turnout is good, but this implies that 75 percent of Alfred University students could not care less about who represents their interests.

Take a look at what candidates stand for. It doesn't take long to see that the issues being debated will affect you.

Always remember that when people let others make decisions for them without letting their own view be heard, democracy falls apart.

Voting is one of the simplest activities around. It does not take a lot of energy and it doesn't take a lot of time.

There is no excuse to not vote when it is made this easy.

On campus and in the world this is the wrong time to be apathetic.

The world is changing faster than ever and the only way to ensure a good life for all is to get out there and let yourself be heard.

It is very easy to gripe and complain to the people around you that things are not getting done, but if you do not vote in this election, you will have no right to complain. □

## Chandra Leister



small size of the Alfred community.

Leister would also like to collaborate with Alfred State College on projects which would expand the University community. She suggested transporting students to nearby campuses for their events and inviting students from those campuses to attend our events.

Leister agreed that racial harmony is a concern on campus, but she said it is being worked on.

Leister said diversity training was important, not only for students, but also for faculty and staff members. In addition, Leister cited the lack of diversity among the faculty as a problem that the administration needs to address.

Another problem Leister addressed was the perceived lack of non-alcoholic activities on campus. Leister said she feels there are "lots of options" for activities.

Leister addressed the role of Greek life on campus and expressed a need for a new Greek advisor. Leister also said while she is not herself Greek, she "thinks they are doing fine."

Finally, Leister said her perception of the role of the Senate President is to be a representative of the student population, and that "there would be no 'us' up here without 'you' out there."

Leister remarked that if she were a fruit, she would be an orange.

She said, "I'm a big fan of clementines, but oranges [are] very, very good."

Leister is involved with WALF, AUTV, Residence Hall Council and Rescue Squad. She is also an Orientation Guide. □

## Carlos Pearce



Carlos Pearce, a sophomore business administration major, set down the goals he wishes to accomplish if he is elected.

Pearce said he feels the health center is an issue needing addressed.

Referring to Crandall as "understaffed," Pearce said he wants to get another nurse practitioner for the health center. During the recent flu outbreak, another nurse practitioner was added to alleviate wait times for patients and it was effective.

Pearce addressed parking, an issue which scored low on a recent survey of students.

Pearce said he had talked to Director of Safety, Security and Telecommunications Pat Schwartz about the possibility of adding more parking on the Ade Hall side of campus. He specified the area between Norwood and Shults as a possible place for more spaces.

Pearce also said the University has made great strides in improving the technology available to students. He said he wants to see this taken further.

Finally, Pearce called for clarification of the Senate's rules. He

noted that many, if not most, senators are unaware of the procedural rules senate uses.

Pearce said he wants those rules to be more readily available to all.

Pearce expressed concerns about race relations on campus. More specifically, he hypothesized that any more changes in race relations need to stem from within students, not from the University. He is an advocate for diversity training for the University faculty.

He said that he felt the Greek system has gotten a "bad rap" and wants to see this image cleared up.

Pearce said he wants to work more closely with vendors on Main Street to broaden AU's community relations.

Pearce also said he wants to let students have an outlet to air their concerns to him. He suggested having open roundtable discussions for students to raise concerns.

Pearce said he wanted to invite randomly selected students to lunch with him to talk about issues.

Pearce encouraged more students to get involved in activities, starting by getting new freshmen involved in activities.

He said he feels the president must be the voice of the student body. He added this includes all students, not just those who come to Senate.

Pearce is an RA and also works with Residence Hall Council, ALANA and Mosaic.

He also works at Herrick Library and at the information desk. Pearce is also the president of UMOJA. □

## Presidential Duties

The duties of the president according to the Constitution of Student Senate are:

- To preside and chair at all general meetings of the Student Senate.
- To establish the agenda of all general meetings of the Student Senate.
- To represent student interest and serve as a liaison between the student body and the faculty/administration.
- Once elected to the position, the president is automatically prohibited from serving in an executive position on any organization which is recognized by the Student Senate.

## Vice Presidential Duties

The duties of the vice president according to the Constitution of Student Senate are:

- To assume the position and duties of the president in case of the absence of that officer.
- To assist with the agenda.
- To act as a non-voting member of the Finance Committee.
- To conduct committee chair elections.
- To act as a non-voting member and oversee all operational and ad-hoc committees.
- The vice president can request reports from the committee chairs at general Senate meetings.

## Coming Up Next Issue—March 3

- New turf for Merrill Field
- Track reinstated
- Concert Review
- Sibley Lecture



ENDORSEMENT

# Tedone backed by Fiat for VP

For vice president, we feel Steve Tedone is the strongest candidate.

Tedone appears approachable and open to the ideas of others. He has demonstrated good leadership skills through his involvement in various organizations, and shows he is moderate on most issues.

Though the vice president's job is primarily concerned with committees and inter-Senate affairs, the vice president is also a representative of the students. The vice president serves on the Senate executive

board and needs to be someone students can come to with questions and concerns.

For the vice president to be an effective liaison, students must see him or her as open-minded and sympathetic to their concerns. Tedone exemplifies these two characteristics.

We are concerned, however, with the fact that Tedone failed to address any significant issues. Since the major responsibility of the vice president is overseeing the committees, the fact that he did not mention any ideas for working with the com-

mittees was disappointing.

The ideas he did bring up were valid ones. We like the idea of publicizing contact information for the organizations, as well as having a block party at the beginning of the second semester. While these suggestions do not relate directly to the committee system, they could still be brought up at executive board meetings.

We think Tedone could benefit from listening to some of the ideas of the other candidate, Patrick Boyle.

Mandatory diversity training

and improving security in parking lots are both issues that merit examining.

Developing a committee to hear students' concerns about members of Security, Rescue Squad members and resident assistants is a good idea in theory, though putting it into practice could present some difficulty.

We think Tedone will be an effective vice president. He has all the qualities necessary to effectively manage the many committees of Senate and to contribute to executive board.

EDITOR'S COLUMN

## Pellicciotti leaving

BY MICHELLE PANCOE

It's election time again. Elections for Student Senate President and Vice President mean saying goodbye to our current leaders.

As a senior I have seen Senate change hands through several presidencies. As a reporter, I have written about more Senate meetings than I can count and had the opportunity to watch several Senate Presidents in action.

Mike Pellicciotti is going to be missed.

I don't mean to insult Senate's past few presidents, but Pellicciotti has been one of the best leaders this campus has seen in several years.

There is more to being Student Senate President than running weekly meetings. The president needs to be a common student, one whom every student on campus feels comfortable approaching. But the president also needs to be mature enough to operate in the administrators' world.

Pellicciotti was a very effective blend of student and adult. I've seen people stop him on Academic Alley to mention a concern. I've also seen him take students' concerns to the appropriate administrator in a reasonable and tactful manner which gets results.

If Pellicciotti had waltzed into Carnegie Hall and demanded the reinstatement of track, I don't think there would be a track team next year. But by first negotiating a year-long extension and then working through appropriate channels, he achieved what the students wanted.

Pellicciotti also made Senate more useful. I've been to Senate meetings where we sat there for 90 minutes and accomplished nothing. While Pellicciotti has been president, he has brought in administrators to clarify policies, announce changes and listen to student concerns. He's made meetings efficient and relevant to students.

But what really separates Pellicciotti from other recent presidents is his effectiveness. He has done all of the things he said he would, and he has been willing to admit when things are beyond his control. He has gotten things done. And in doing so he has earned the respect of a considerable portion of the student body.

Pellicciotti put the needs of the student body ahead of his own desire to look good. He didn't waste Senate's time or money by building an ice rink no one would use. And he didn't hold forums no one would attend or reorganize Senate simply for the sake of doing so. He made his goals reflect the wishes of students—a commendable act.

A lot of people claim Senate doesn't affect them. But I bet those same people noticed how much clearer the sidewalks were after the concern was brought up in Senate.

Whether it was installing more garbage cans or getting the track team reinstated, Pellicciotti addressed students' concerns promptly and efficiently.

And the things he has accomplished in the past year have made students happier with Alfred University, whether they give him credit or not. □

## Patrick Boyle



Patrick Boyle, a Senator for the past three semesters, highlighted his "Alfred Mission," a way for the University to be the best it can be.

He used the results of the recent Student Opinion Survey to note which areas he wanted to work to improve.

He announced his intention to make Alfred a safer campus by installing wide-angle security cameras in the parking lots near Ade Hall and the Stull Observatory to discourage crime and make students feel safer when traveling through the parking lots.

Boyle, an economics major, also expressed concerns about the lighting of these parking lots.

Racial harmony is also an important issue on campus, Boyle said. To combat the inequality, Boyle suggested mandatory diversity training for freshmen, possibly as

part of freshman forum, or Orientation week activities.

Boyle said he also wants to add a multicultural lecture series sponsored by Student Senate.

A proposal that would allow students an outlet to raise complaints about resident advisors, AU Security and Rescue Squad was Boyle's final suggestion.

Boyle said the formation of a grievance committee, made up of students, could check the power of these student employees.

Boyle said this would be another place for students to go if they did not feel comfortable approaching administrative figures.

He added this committee would not be working to override any internal systems of discipline that may exist for these organizations. In other words, if Residence Life handled a problem with an RA, that decision would stand.

Boyle described himself as a team facilitator. He said he views the office of vice president as a sort of "prime minister" of Student Senate.

Boyle has been active with many student organizations, including Circle K, Hillel, Alpha Lambda Delta, WALF and the Fiat Lux.

He has served on the Senate Rules Committee and the Campus Safety Committee. □

## Steve Tedone



Steve Tedone, a sophomore psychology major, began his speech by passing out blue slips of paper with the word "Relax" written on them.

He explained that he carries one of these slips in his pocket, to remind himself to calm down when he gets upset.

Tedone then spoke about his plans if he is elected vice president of Student Senate.

He said he wants to increase participation on campus. He said he would accomplish this by holding a second block party before the second semester, similar to the one held for freshman and transfer students before the first semester. This would allow upperclassmen to explore what opportunities are available.

He also said the Office of Admissions should advertise the

many activities available on campus to prospective students. He added that he wanted to create a pamphlet through Student Senate which describes the various organizations on campus.

Tedone described himself as a team player, not a team leader. "All the people out there have the power," he said. He defined the members of the Senate executive board as liaisons between the students and the administration.

When asked how his ideas fit into the duties of vice president as described by the Senate Constitution, Tedone said he would use the committees to accomplish his goals.

Tedone said he would be comfortable running a Senate meeting if the president were unable to attend. "I wouldn't have a problem with it," he said.

To demonstrate his availability to the students, Tedone jokingly gave his phone number.

Tedone ended his speech by reminding the students, "Go out and vote. You have the ability to vote. Please do that."

Tedone is involved with Friday Night Live, PAW, Hot Dog Day and AWARE.

He has served as a Senator for two years and was on the Senate Rules Committee. □

The endorsements are the opinion of the executive staff of the Fiat Lux.



### Fiat Lux

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NEXT ISSUE & DEADLINES

Next Issue ..... March 3

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## Voting Hours

Sunday 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Monday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Tuesday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Voting will be in the campus center