

Candidate Statement for Student Fellow Bryce Demopoulos

Hi! My name is Bryce Demopoulos, and I am a medical student here at Weill Cornell Medicine. I was raised in NYC, and before medical school, I studied biological engineering and astronomy at Cornell University. In my free time, I play lacrosse and basketball and probably too much chess. I am thrilled to be back in the city for medical school and to run for an opportunity to work with all of you!

## Why Vote for Bryce?

One thing you should know about me is that I love Cornell. I grew up in WCM housing and have worked in the hospital system since high school. Now, as a student, WCM is truly my home away from home. I owe who I am to the great community here, and I would cherish any opportunity to give back and continue to contribute to this amazing institution.

As Student Fellow, I would leverage my experience within student government. I have held several student government positions in the past, including as a council member for the class of 2023 at Cornell. My job was mainly event planning, but when COVID uprooted campus life, I advocated for normalcy. We fought for housing exceptions for students being sent home and against the stoppage of public transit. As students returned, we organized the reintroduction of key events like Holiday Fest, Winter Gala, and Homecoming.

Here at WCM, I have also been a point of contact between students and administration as the MSEC Secretary. Yes, I am the person who sends those emails and calendar invites about meetings. In this role, I have repeatedly encouraged students to express their opinions and be actively involved in decision-making. I have also worked with nearly every club to organize and publicize their events. I am thus not only very familiar with WCM and life here, but have experience as a student representative that can be well applied to the Student Fellow position.

## Goals as Student Fellow:

I see the Student Fellow position as a great opportunity to engage with the WCM community and advocate for all students. In representing the student perspective, I hope to advance student interests while promoting a positive and inclusive campus culture that values diversity and student well-being. I have laid the foundation for success in this role by reaching out to leaders of every student group for advice and distilling their concerns into the following goals:

**Increasing interconnectivity**—Many student groups do not feel connected to the larger student community. Medical students, Graduate students, PA students, and our fellow students in Qatar and Houston should have increased opportunities to interact with each other.

**Affordability**—Whether it is decreasing student debt, or subsidizing metro cards and meals, I want to mitigate the financial burden so many students feel. We are here to learn and be the healthcare leaders of tomorrow, and we should not feel burdened by these costs.

**Transparency**—This year there has been a lot of miscommunication and misinformation between students and administration. Timelines for new residences and even new washing machines conflict. As your Student Fellow, I would seek to be informed, responsive, and proactive about such issues.

My goal as Student Fellow is representing **you**. If you would like to get to know me better, I will be hosting public sessions where we can chat on Tuesday, March  $26^{th}$  at 6:00PM and Thursday, March  $28^{th}$  at 2:00PM. The zoom link is <a href="here">here</a> (passcode: wcm). If you cannot make it, please still reach out with any questions at <a href="here">brd4008@med.cornell.edu</a>. And remember, voting runs April  $2^{nd}$  to April  $8^{th}$ !