



Questions for the DNC Chair Candidates - 2017
From Democrats Abroad

1) Why are you running for DNC Chair?

I am seeking the office of Chair to be its full-time advocate to unite all Democrats. All Democrats must be confident the DNC leadership respects and will listen to all Democrats. As DNC Chair I, would reach out to grassroots Democrats, senior Democrats, young Democrats, working class Democrats, union/non-union Democrats, progressive Democrats, State Democratic Committees and Democrats Abroad to promote an inclusive agenda for all Americans.

2) How would you describe your management style? What is your relevant organizational management experience? Would you work as a full time or part time Chair, and if part time, how would you manage?

Expressing a management style which is definitive is difficult. However, in my experience I have sought to develop a sense of trust, open communications and working interactions to enable subordinates and colleagues to feel comfortable in making decisions as part of the team. As a District of Columbia Ward Democratic Chairman, I had to navigate the various political voices, strategies and expectations to elect strong Democrats. I am committed to working as a full-time Chair for the DNC.

3) Do you think the position should be filled by a single Chair or by two Co-Chairs, as has sometimes been done in the past?

Single Chair

4) What lessons should we learn from the 2016 elections and what do they mean for our strategy going forward? How are we going to attract voters who did not turn out for Democrats in 2016?

In the broadest term, the lesson to have be learned is the

DNC must relate politically and strongly express how the vision and policy directions of the Democratic Party are aspirational, effective, doable and right for all Americans.

5) What changes should be made at the DNC to make it a more effective organization?

The strongest change needed in the DNC leadership is to have a leader working full-time to rebuild the image the Democrat Party will fight for a stronger America for all Americans. The 21st century Democratic Party leadership must be able to persuade Democrats and other Americans it cares, will listen and not take any Democratic voter for granted.

6) Democrats Abroad members vote in all 50 states. What are your views on implementing a 50-State Strategy? What role do you see for Democrats Abroad?

I believe in a strategy which involves the 50 states, Territories, Democrats Abroad and Democrats in the District of Columbia. I believe all Democrats have a role in advancing the vision of dignity, inclusion and equality for all Americans.

7) Concerning Democrats Abroad (DA):

- How would you plan to include Democrats Abroad in the DNC's resource allocations in future election cycles? ***I would have to review the current structure before I can comment responsibly. However, I do commit to an open dialogue toward appropriate changes.***
- Would you ensure that DA is allocated funding (like other state parties) under the State Party Program (SPP) to use for an Executive Director as well as Communications and GOTV initiatives abroad? ***Along with my previous response, I do pledge to work for an appropriate allocation plan to support all state parties to include Democrats Abroad.***
- Would you agree to designate a point person within the DNC for Democrats Abroad, allowing us easy and effective interface with the Party? ***Until I have an opportunity to review the internal operations of the DNC, I do pledge all state committees and Democrats Abroad will have access to***

the DNC leadership.

8) Like voters in all states, Democrats Abroad members have concerns specific to overseas Americans. What is the best medium for state parties like us to raise these issues within the Democratic Party and see them addressed? ***Call me, write me and hold me accountable.***

9) What other remarks would you like to make to Democrats Abroad?

Please support my nomination for DNC Chair and vote for me to be the next Chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

Submitted by:

Robert Vinson Brannum

Candidate for DNC Chairman

13 January 2017