

Denver Supinger

What experience do you have leading others?

While completing my undergraduate degree from 2011-2014, I served on executive boards for two separate college organizations. In said capacities, I was in charge of leading committees which planned a variety of educational and social activities. Additionally, while serving as a member of these executive boards, I help form charters, policies and guidelines- which were influenced by the concerns, values, and goals of the organization as a whole. I also served as a mid-Atlantic alumnae coordinator for a national organization from 2014-2015, which required locating, gathering, and stewarding of alumnae within the area to take command of their individual locations and to congregate. This required the fostering of leadership of women within the mid-Atlantic region, providing them with the needed resources and skills to form individual alumnae chapters and following up on their actions.

What experience do you have working on a team?

My experiences of working on a team are echoed by the response above, but also extended through other means. Outside of what has been previously outlined, I have worked as part of a team in official capacity, serving as a member of the Stewardship team for Virginia Commonwealth University's Office of Development and Alumni Relations. Within this team structure we were able to plan large donor-based events, re-write donor and giving policies, and carry out a variety of projects. I have also served on a team in academia, where I worked with a small group of three who carried out an evaluation of the Virginia Department of Taxation's external affairs and communication. Within said capacity, all team members shared a common goal and vision and were provided individual tasks to advance the goal. Once tasks were performed, members gathered to collaborate and complete the project in its entirety- filling the holes between the assigned tasks.

What skills/ experiences do you feel you would bring to the Fairfax Young Democrats organization?

While working in the capacity of team or organization, I tend to be a very future-oriented individual. In doing so, I ensure that the actions taken today are applicable and beneficial to the longevity of the organization and are aligned with the organization's goals. Within the capacity of the Fairfax Young Democrats, I will ensure that we are forming the foundation for the organization of tomorrow; whether that's ensuring that the programming and opportunities provided to members are beneficial and accessible, or that members feel as if they are receiving a return on their membership to the organization. Today's

political climate provides the Fairfax Young Democrats with a spring board environment- allowing them/us to a stronger force than ever before. We need to ensure that we provide timelines, strict goals, and well-structured programs to fully grasp the climate of today and grow.

What do you see as the most important issues and opportunities facing Fairfax Young Democrats?

The most important issue facing the Fairfax Young Democrats is also its biggest opportunity- recruiting young professionals from all walks of life & the branding of the organization. Being in the Northern Virginia area, there are a plethora of young individuals who lean on the left side of the political spectrum. A large percentage of these individuals are critical of our modern day political structure, and want it to change in some capacity. It is our job, as a political organization for young professionals, to harness their energy and provide them with a venue to create change. In order to recruit these individuals and use their skills to our greatest advantage, we need to ensure that we are forming connections and a sense of community with all areas of Fairfax. This is performed by forming lasting relationship with current organization and knowledge/skill sharing. Secondly, once we have a great base of individuals who want to promote the Democratic agenda, we must ensure that we have the infrastructure in place that will allow them to use their skills, voice, passions, and motivation. This must be done by ensuring that the Fairfax Young Democrats have committees and opportunities which influence policy, perception and change in the community.