Why are you running for this position?

UNI is a place that represents diversity and inclusion of people who hold different identities and the division of Student affairs wants a culture of inclusion throughout a student’s educational journey. Now this journey needs to resist implicit and explicit discrimination; however, we, due to microaggressions and policies are undermining this resistance. We, Farhan and Micah, want to highlight this deterrence and work to provide an environment for students where aggressions are removed and students can be part of an accepting and safe community at UNIs.

We also believe in presenting a platform where students can voice their opinion. Transparency and accessibility is crucial to giving students peace of mind in the affairs and decision-making of the University. Students deserve to know their representatives so that they too, can be a part of A Stronger Tomorrow.

Why do you believe you are qualified for this position?

Together we have worked in multiple organizations with the aim of helping others. This includes but is not limited to: our attempt to work with Admissions in recruiting students, proven work with NISG to cater to the needs of a diverse student body, or to create inclusive policies for students living in residence halls. We volunteered to help people around us and to create a community where everyone is accepting to make sure they do not face the same problems we, or people before us, faced. And further, to anticipate future problems and devise proactive solutions to ensure the long-term health of our University.

What do you believe are some important issues facing the UNI student body?

Currently, the most important issue is the need to remove biases that are present in the university. These include both implicit and explicit biases that affect diverse students. At first glance, certain policies may not seem harmful but can adversely affect UNI students that hold multiple and different identities. And we believe it is the identification aspect that needs accentuation. Also, we recognize transparency between students and NISG is an area with much room for growth moving forward. We need to realize how transparency is a mode of check and balance that keeps power in check and we must have transparency such that every person, even the President and Vice-President, are held accountable for their actions and policies.

What goals would you like to accomplish in your position?

Right now, UNI needs a movement towards education. We believe that creating awareness is the only clear path towards progress as a university and a community. Amplifying marginalized voices within the UNI community is the best way to educate the student body on the issues that students are facing on our campus. Giving these issues salience is the best way to effectively address them and create impactful change here at UNI.
How will you accomplish these goals?

The only way to become a better student government is to acknowledge that oftentimes barriers that students face have been created by the University and its culture. The best way to move forward is to make systematic changes within NISG and work towards educating students on the issues at hand.

Now creating a pragmatic line of action is very important to implement these ideas and this, here, represents our idea of the transparency that students deserve from their student administration. Through education, we believe that awareness campaigns for different issues on campus, for example, mental health, inclusion, gender and sexuality, or student life in general and this can be an effective way to create change.

Also, we believe in the provision of information to students where they are provided with meeting minutes of meetings that affect them in any manner. And only through this implementation of transparency are we going to achieve an environment of acceptance and only through this are we going to achieve A Stronger Tomorrow.

To end, we believe UNI needs a roar that represents who we are, what we can do, and what it means to be a panther!