Future Plans at UNI and Beyond:

Regardless if I become a senator or not, I will still be active on the UNI campus. I plan on joining the Gender Violence Committee and sticking with Campus Relations Committee. One of my passions is to help immigrants and refugees, so I will be staying with UNI RISE as well. Getting more involved with the refugees and immigrants at the YWCA in Waterloo is something I would love to pursue more in the future. For the rest of my future, I plan to be active in educating the public on equality, immigrants and refugees, and being involved with the public school system and improving the quality of life for younger generations.

1) Why are you running for this position?

I am running for Senate so that I may improve the quality of life for UNI students, faculty, and for the surrounding community. I firmly believe that since I have the motivation and resources to help others, I should. I want to help students in the public school system for a career and additionally help those who have migrated to the United States. Being part of Senate would greatly improve upon the skills I already have to help others, and then it will also teach me knew ones. Senate will only help me become better at representing and helping others and gives me the opportunity to put my ideas into action.

2) Why do you believe you are qualified for this position?

I believe I am qualified for this position for multiple reasons. First, I am able to communicate effectively. When working with others, I make sure that I reply promptly to emails, texts, and etc... while still making my thoughts clear. If there is any miscommunication, I make sure to back-track and clarify. Second, I have the motivation to help others. I chose my major of TESOL specifically because I wanted to help an underrepresented population, and I can do just that through Senate. Helping others is what I want to dedicate the rest of my life to, rather than money or more self centered goals. Lastly, my past experiences have supplied me with a plethora of knowledge. In high school, I chaired a committee that raised $3,000 for a service dog, so I know how to outreach and fundraise. My job in the CIEP has given me experience working with diverse populations from all around the world. My job has also taught me how to speak with more clear thought and intention, since I do talk a lot to English language learners. Being a part of Rider Senate has taught me how to effectively promote, plan, and execute an event for campus. These are the reasons I am qualified to be a Senator.
3) What do you believe are some important issues facing the UNI student body?

In regards to the UNI student body, I believe the number one problem on campus right now is a lack of cultural inclusion. When talking about culture, I am including all sorts of cultures on campus, including but not limited to the LGBT community, different races and ethnicities, religions, and etc… This became more evident to me quite recently. First, the controversy surrounding the Waka Flocka Flame concert really surprised me. I was mostly surprised that the administration and staff were the root of this problem. Second, I get the opportunity to hear from minorities on campus through UNI RISE. One girl did share how she noticed people stared at her while wearing her headscarf. More education based around inclusion would be beneficial to the UNI student body.

4) What goals would you like accomplish in your position?

As a senator, there are two goals I would want to accomplish. My first goal is directly related to my answer in question number 3: I want educate more students and staff about inclusion and diversity on campus. My second goal would be to help Katie Wempen or other NISG members finish the Need for the Bleed initiative. I started working on this initiative through Campus Relations Committee, and I would love to see it completed.

5) How will you accomplish these goals?

In order to accomplish my first goal, educating students and staff about inclusion and diversity, I would do two things: work closely with administration and find third party educators. Clearly, some of the issues that burden campus come directly from administration and staff. Addressing them directly in the best option. Also, if granted by administrators, staff members could be required to undergo more inclusion and diversity training as setup by NISG. The idea of having third party educators is to help eliminate bias. Of course, there are resources and professors at UNI already that are well educated and that could speak about inclusion and diversity. However, a third party will have no idea about life on campus and will speak from tried and true facts; there would be no altering of facts and the such based on personal experiences at UNI. In order to accomplish my second goal, I would still keep in contact with Katie Wempen, who has been overseeing the Need for the Bleed initiative. She has all the numbers and logistics and is a vital resource. Another plan of action would be a subcommittee. A subcommittee of Campus Relations Committee could focus a lot more time towards the initiative without taking time away from other initiatives. Thus, a subcommittee would work efficiently.