**Taylor Keller - Presidential Platform**

This past year has been, as all of you know, a challenge. Within the EBSS, this meant a significant separation from students as events were moved online, and the main point of contact, the office hours, were closed. This has led to a lack of interactions with the student body, and less opportunities to share. The next year should focus on repairing these relationships and preparing for more online classes should they continue into the fall.

1. Increasing Transparency with the Student Body: according to the bylaws, EBSS meetings should be open for all to attend, but due to the online nature of these meetings, students have not had this option. Transparency is crucial for students to understand the governance behind the EBSS and the significance of initiatives taken by council. The following can be done to make meetings more accessible during online terms:
   * Publishing minutes on the EBSS website after approval in prior meeting
   * Look into recording or broadcasting of meetings, or publishing the links for non-voting students to attend
2. Connecting with the Student Body: the EBSS discord was launched this year, initially with the purpose of connecting first year students and mentors, but then opening to all Edwards students. The server is a valuable resource for connections within Edwards, and could be utilized more fully through the following actions:
   * During regular school years, the EBSS’s primary contact point with students is the office hours held Monday – Thursday. Should online classes continue, the EBSS could require general council members to sign up for weekly office hours where they instead of welcoming students to the office, they will welcome students to one of our Discord’s voice channels, and sit actively in the channel for the duration of their shift. Office hours held on the discord voice channels will allow students this same ability to ask questions about events, the EBSS, or to stop in and chat with the members. Office hours are also a great opportunity for team building within council.
   * Clubs will be encouraged hold a presence on discord by creating their own channel, where interested students will easily be able to identify members and ask questions.
3. Bringing Students Together: To encourage participation and community, as well as some friendly competition for charity, “A Major Challenge” would be an opportunity for students to contribute throughout the year and to compete among themselves to see which of Edwards’ majors is the most generous.
   * For select fundraisers and volunteer opportunities throughout the year, students will be able to identify their major (or for those not yet in a major, selecting which they’d like to enter)
   * This will include a point system to account for hours volunteered at different events, depending on the upcoming year, potentially weighted based on the students in each major and the expected students to enter.
   * Rankings will be provided at regular intervals throughout the year before the winner is announced