

**Canidate Name:** Jordan Sahawneh

**How do you work with or lead a team?**

I believe I work best when I serve as both a leader, and as someone you all see as a true dedicated member of the team. I can accomplish this by leading by example. When I am put in a leadership position, it is always my goal to express my passion and drive, not only through my words but also through every one of my actions. As a leader, I have and will always be respectful and encourage increased engagement of each individual on my team. This allows for a more successful experience, each member of the team will always feel valued and appreciated for their hard work and time. I believe that to run a successful team, there always needs to be accountability to one another, regardless of position. As a leader, I hope the rest of the team holds me in high regard with high expectations. I am a leader who will always manage my time and energy to focus on the important issues and the task at hand. I will efficiently manage the team by creating action plans and communicating with each team member to ensure everyone's included. I am selfless in my actions and words, taking into consideration the needs and wants of others. Achieving success is no easy feat, but it is always achievable when motivated and like-minded people come together to achieve a common goal. I hope to be the one given the honor to lead our team to achieve all of our aspirations.

**What leadership experiences have equipped you for the District Trustee role?**

I have gained several leadership experiences throughout my academic career. I have previously served as a leader through numerous experiences in my earlier educational years, having served as the district's Junior States of America President, as well as the Student Government President during High School, attending school district board meetings. I then continued my leadership experiences in a university setting at St. John's University as a Student Wellness subcommittee chair. In my graduate studies, I continue to gain leadership experience through the American Student Dental Association, and I have served as the Secretary for Touro's Academy of General Dentistry Chapter. Currently, I am serving my role as the D3 Class President and Touro College of Dental Medicine's American Student Dental Association's Chapter President. In this position, I have been given the honor of a lifetime in representing and leading the Touro College of Dental Medicine both locally and nationally. I have been tasked with growing our chapter's engagement, outreach, and representation in ASDA. I wholeheartedly believe that these experiences have equipped me for the District Trustee role and I am motivated to continue seeking opportunities to continue to learn how to be the optimal leader in the ever-changing profession of dentistry.

**Why are you interested in the District Trustee role and what do you hope to accomplish in this position?**

I am interested in the District Trustee position because I believe I am a competent, hard-working, and dedicated leader in seeking out what is best for my constituents and ASDA as a collective group. I will represent and serve the Second District with great pride and honor, working closely with the ASDA Chapter presidents and their members in addressing all of their concerns. I will also build strong relationships and connections with the other district trustees, establishing common concerns and goals that can be addressed currently and in the future. One of my primary goals in the trustee position is to encourage more dental student involvement in ASDA. This will affect more than just dental students, but also the profession of dentistry at large. I have found that following dental school, many dentists do

not continue their involvement in the ADA, and I believe that ASDA plays a role in being the foundation to address this. I believe ASDA plays an integral role and as leaders, we should work towards better establishing the roles our chapters play in our dental institutions. ASDA has offered me countless rewarding opportunities to connect and learn from so many unique and motivated individuals. My experiences through ASDA have further encouraged and motivated me to actively take up this leadership role in our district. Working with each chapter in our District, we will not just be 6 separate dental schools in the district, but one group unified by our love and dedication to one another.

**What are 2-3 issues important to dental students?**

Important issues for dental students include the financial implications and the financial burden dental school presents, the emotional and mental impact of being a dental student, and in the future, being supported in finding job opportunities to seek out the work experience that they desire. The financial implications of attending dental school are something I believe pertains to every dental student, especially those with less fortunate financial circumstances. Although being in the life-changing profession of dentistry does allow one to have a successful and fruitful life, many dental students are financially burdened by the rising tuition, material, and living costs that are a part of everyone's daily lives. Although there is no easy solution for this issue, it is integral that ASDA continues to communicate the importance of being involved and learning about the aspects of managing one's finances during school and post-graduation. The emotional and mental toll that dental school takes on a dental student cannot be understated. Whether it be the social and societal stresses that are applied to many of us once we enter dental school, or it be the competitive learning environment and academic courses we all go through. ASDA provides support through advising dental students on taking time for their health and wellness. I hope to continue to grow the supporting institution of ASDA. When it comes to supporting dental students in the future, ASDA provides a platform from which students may network and build lifelong relationships with other dental students and dentists.