

**THE SOCIETY FOR DEFENSE AND STRATEGIC STUDIES
FULCRUM GLOBAL
AMU/APUS**

**Re: 2020 SDSS Elections
Candidate Bios/Presentations**

For President

1.) Sam Kessler

My name is Sam Kessler and I am running for President of the Society for Defense and Strategic Studies (SDSS) at AMU/APUS. My current role is both elected Treasurer and for the past seven months I've been serving as the Acting President of SDSS. My other function has been serving as the Chief and Managing Editor of the Fulcrum Global publication and website. Since joining SDSS in 2017 it has been a priority of mine to innovate and spearhead the evolution of the success that has become the Fulcrum Global experience.

In mid 2019, circumstances required me to step up and serve as steward of the Presidential role. This became an excellent opportunity to expand and reform the efforts of making SDSS a more dynamic organization that blends the professional and academic sides of the defense, national and global security, foreign affairs, and intelligence related fields. This approach has enabled us to strengthen our organizational structure, culture, sense of community, and network building capabilities while building bonds between alumni, students, faculty, and professionals as well.

During my time as Acting President, we have streamlined the administrative, communications, transparency, outreach, and reputation building capabilities as well as the mechanisms needed to help develop future leaders and their ability to manage SDSS. We enhanced our medal rating status with the APUS Student Affairs office to a Gold Medal rating within the last four months of 2019. This drastically increased our annual budget for 2020 and the first three months of 2020 I have made medaling status a top priority. Also, I am proud to say that we are in excellent standing and SDSS is well on its way to achieving another Gold Medal.

I consider SDSS and Fulcrum Global as extensions of my professional and academic interests. I received my Masters Degree in National Security Studies with Concentrations in Security and Intelligence Analysis from AMU/APUS in August 2017. Since then, I have worked as a freelance writer and analyst for business clients, publications, and myself that usually revolve around projects pertaining to global security, geopolitics, business, finance, and entrepreneurship related themes. As a policy I have always worked hard to remain approachable, transparent, and provide mentorship when or if needed. In other words, I'm here to help and be a resource for this organization because I am a firm believer in its potential. As your elected president, I will continue the agenda I set forth and produce results that benefit SDSS and its membership.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sam Kessler



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For Vice President

1.) Dustin Oaks

My name is Dustin Oaks and I am running for Vice President of the Society for Defense and Strategic Studies at AMU/APUS. I hold a Bachelor of Arts degree in Intelligence Studies with a concentration in Counterintelligence and I am currently an MBA Candidate in Analytics at American Military University. I have been a part of this organization since 2014 and began as the Social Media Coordinator. Over the years, I have helped lead this organization and have seen it at various stages of growth. Seeing that this organization continues to grow has been my main goal while serving it. As Vice President, I want to expand the organization's reach and connect with both Students and Alumni while bringing them an organization that can build upon the experiences from each and every one of them.

Organizations like the Society for Defense and Strategic Studies are an ideal place to mold relationships and building upon experiences that bridge the gap between those in the career fields and those learning new skillsets. I believe that this organization has yet to reach its full potential and we will get it there. I will strive to provide a sound voice for the members of this Society and alongside the other elected officers, and we will be a force to reckon with when it comes to events and points. I currently assist in the Peer Review process set in place by our organization's Fulcrum Global publication and contribute Intelligence Briefs and Articles for it. I am fully vested in this organization and its potential. I truly hope that you have that same fire and desire as I do, as your Vice President of the Society for Defense and Strategic Studies.

Respectfully,

Dustin Oaks
AMU Graduate and Current MBA Candidate



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For Treasurer and Standards Officer

1.) Alyssa LeVasseur

My name is Alyssa LeVasseur and I am currently the Standards Officer for the Society of Defense and Strategic Studies at AMU/APUS. This year I am running for the Treasurer position while also retaining the Standards Officer function as a dual role. I am an emergency First Responder who recently received my Associates in Weapons of Mass Destruction Preparedness at American Military University and am currently working on my Bachelor's in Homeland Security with a Certificate in Terrorism Studies. In addition, I am also an Ambassador for American Military University in which I am proud to be representing both the school and the Society for Defense and Strategic Studies at the same time.

While involved with the Society for Defense and Strategic Studies, my goal has always been the same, which is to make sure that everyone in this organization is comfortable, secure, safe, has a voice, and respects each other. As Treasurer of SDSS, I will ensure that our funds are used correctly for support of the organization and keep everyone updated on where they are being utilized. Those who know me will agree that I keep my word.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to serving SDSS another year.

Warm regards,

Alyssa LeVasseur



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For Secretary

1.) Brian Moody

My name is Brian Moody and I am running for Secretary of the Society for Defense and Strategic Studies. I joined this organization in 2015 and started as Vice-President. When I joined this organization, the SSDS was on probation and in danger of no longer existing as a club within the American Military University System. Through hard work, perseverance, and coordination with the President at the time, the organization found a way to flourish and not only got off probation but medaled as well.

I also was also involved in the early developmental phase of Fulcrum Global, the publishing arm of SDSS. I have witnessed the tremendous growth of Fulcrum Global and have written for the website in the past. I have been the President of the Society for Defense and Strategic Studies and have been amazed at how the organization has grown immensely. I firmly believe that the organization is growing by leaps and bounds and that the SDSS and Fulcrum Global will continue to flourish.

I have a wealth of knowledge and advice and I prefer to remain involved in the Society for Defense and Strategic Studies in some capacity. I believe the Secretary position is the best role I can play while helping the SDSS and Fulcrum Global grow and be a model for other organizations at AMU. I also believe that Fulcrum Global can be a well-developed peer reviewed publication and resource for people within the Intelligence Community or those involved with National Security positions as well.

I look forward to serving the Society for Defense and strategic Studies this year.

Respectfully,

Brian Moody

