

2026 SGA Elections

Party: Skyhawk Synergies

EC Bio

President – Chayil Watkins

Hello, fellow Skyhawks! My name is Chayil Watkins, and I am honored to announce my candidacy for Student Government Association President. Over the past three years, I have had the privilege of serving our student body through several leadership roles within SGA, including Freshman Council Vice President, Student Advisory Board Representative, and, currently, SGA Secretary General. These experiences have strengthened my passion for student advocacy and prepared me to lead with purpose, transparency, and dedication.

Throughout my time at the University of Tennessee at Martin, I have worked to ensure that student voices are heard and that our student government truly represents the needs of the campus community. Serving in SGA has allowed me to collaborate with students, faculty, and administrators to address important issues, improve communication, and help shape initiatives that enhance the overall student experience.

Beyond SGA, I am actively involved across campus through organizations such as Alpha Kappa Psi Professional Business Fraternity, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Men of Excellence, the Black Student Association, MANRRS, NAACP, Rotaract, and RISE Scholars, and I proudly served as a SOAR Leader. I have also had the opportunity to study abroad in Siena, Italy, and New Zealand, experiences that broadened my perspective on leadership, culture, and collaboration while representing UT Martin internationally.

My campaign is centered around three guiding principles: Lead, Lift, and Unite.

Lead by providing strong, transparent leadership that advocates for students.

Lift by supporting student success and improving the overall student experience.

Unite by bringing together different organizations, perspectives, and communities across campus to move UT Martin forward together.

Together, we can build a stronger, more connected campus community where every student feels heard, supported, and empowered to succeed. I would be honored to earn your support and serve as your next SGA President.

Gratefully,

Chayil Watkins

Candidate for Student Body President



Party Candidates
College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences

Jadah Freeman	
Ali Harris	

Skyhawk Synergies Campaign Platform

Lead. Lift. Unite.

Together, we will Lead with purpose, Lift one another higher, and Unite our campus in a way that leaves no student behind.,

LEAD

Shaping the culture we want to see.

1. Culture of Accountability

- Create a survey asking students how SGA is doing each semester and how we can improve as a representative of the Student Body.

2. Student Experience Task Force

- Create a cross-campus coalition of students from different backgrounds (Greek, athletes, commuters, org leaders, first-gen students) to continuously assess campus culture and climate.

3. Visible Leadership Initiative

- Bi-Weekly SGA presence in high-traffic areas to actively engage students.
- “Ask Me Anything” sessions, where students can ask leadership questions directly.

This [pillar](#) ensures SGA leads with transparency, accessibility, and accountability while actively shaping a stronger campus culture.

LIFT

Improving everyday campus life.

1. Signature Experience Programming

- Introduce one large, campus-wide signature event each semester designed to unify and energize the student body.
- Focus on experiences students will remember long after graduation.

2. Student Recognition Initiative

- Highlight student achievements monthly — not just athletes or officers, but everyday students making an impact.
- Build a culture where effort and excellence are celebrated publicly.

This [pillar](#) makes the campus feel better, not just function better.

UNITE

Building one campus, not separate groups.

1. Cross-Organization Collaboration Council

- Bring leaders from different organizations together to plan collaborative events and reduce scheduling conflicts.
- Incentivize partnerships instead of competition.

2. Campus Conversations Series

- Host structured discussions on topics students care about — culture, career preparation, wellness, leadership — creating safe spaces for dialogue.

This pillar is about feeling connected — not just enrolled.