



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Penn State Homecoming Announces Student, Graduate, University, and Alumni Court Nominees**

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. (Sept. 22, 2019) — The 2019 Homecoming Executive committee are pleased to announce the members of the 2019 Student, Graduate, University, and Alumni Homecoming Court. Student and University Court members selected were revealed on social media after they were visited in their classroom or office for a “court crash” on Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Homecoming Executive Committee reviewed applications from both nomination periods and selected the top candidates who then interviewed in front of a Faculty and Staff Panel. The panel, made up of various Penn State faculty and staff members on a volunteer basis, selected the final 10 individuals who are now members of the 2019 Homecoming Student Court.

Each court consists of individuals who are identified as well rounded, spirited Penn Staters who embody each of Penn State’s six core values of: respect, integrity, responsibility, discovery, excellence and community. Reviewers take into account each applicant’s representation of the university core values.

### **The members of Student Court are:**

- Frederick Purnell
- Mackenzie Anderson
- Jake Griggs
- Megan Reese
- Marlisa Shaw
- Graciela Bolanos
- Colsen Ackroyd
- Katie Solomon
- Connor Pardoe
- Zack Durnack

### **The members of Graduate Court are:**

- Valerie Sullivan
- Branden E. Elmore

### **The members of University Court are:**



- Chris Solo
- Cheryl Knobloch
- Kirk French
- Linda Thornton
- Josephine Ann Dumas
- Mike Milligan

**The members of Alumni Court are:**

- Carl Woodin
- Dale Hoffman
- Renee Fisher

Last year, Penn State Homecoming eliminated the gendered titles of “Homecoming King and Queen” and took away the 1:1 ratio of male to female representation within the court. This change was made in an effort to embrace diversity and gender inclusivity within our community and is still the focus of Student and University Court for the 2019 Homecoming season.

As Student Court members, these outstanding students will have the opportunity to showcase their talents, participate in university-wide service, as well as engage and participate with each event occurring during Homecoming Week. Voting for Student Court will occur during Homecoming week and the two students with the highest number of votes will be recognized with the Guide State Forward Award.

Homecoming week will be celebrated from September 28-October 5, 2019.

**About Us:** Penn State Homecoming is a student-run organization with aims to celebrate tradition and instill pride in all members of the Penn State family through active engagement of students, alumni, faculty and staff across the community. Our organization is comprised of many student volunteers who donate their time to creating a multitude of events that make the Homecoming celebration a yearlong event.

**Contact:**

Lauren Myers  
Director of Public Relations  
814-863-4299  
prhomecoming@psu.edu  
homecoming.psu.edu