

Dear Wolfpack,

When I arrived here in the Fall of 2015, I was eager to get involved and experience all that college had to offer. My positive experiences both in and out of the classroom helped me see the many opportunities our great land-grant university afforded its students, but also made me very aware of various areas for growth and how NC State could better serve its students.

It was this passion fueled mindset that convinced me to join Student Government in my first year. During my first two years as a Senator, I felt as though I was a part of an institution that genuinely cared about student life and the well-being of everyone on campus. The leaders that invested their time in me during my freshman and sophomore years taught me so much about the university and how I could make organizational change. They empowered me and made me feel as if I could actually do something positive, and that is why I chose to campaign to be Student Body Treasurer.

Since the start of my term as Treasurer, I have been forced to accept the harsh reality that a handful of people in Student Government have priorities that simply do not align with serving the student body. Sadly, their actions are driven by their personal differences with me. Instead of addressing their concerns and communicating with me in a mature and direct manner, they have chosen to engage in unjustified attacks on my job performance and my character, all the while wasting the time of other Student Government members who just want to do their jobs.

In doing so, these individuals have created a toxic and destructive environment that has damaged me and hindered other conscientious Student Government leaders from serving our fellow students. Student Government is an organization that holds a tremendous amount of personal value, but individuals, such as these, have successfully prevented me from creating the impact which I have strived for from the beginning of my journey in Student Government.

After successfully defending myself from impeachment proceedings once, I simply do not have the time nor the energy to do so a second time. My academics have suffered tremendously this semester and it is time I do what is best for me and focus on my education instead of continuing to put Student Government first. It is for these reasons that I have decided to step down from my position as Student Body Treasurer.

The past eight months have taught me so much about leadership and standing up for what is right. I look forward to continuing my service to the Student Body through my engagements with CSLEPS and Arts NC State. At the end of the day, what truly matters is that I have done my job to the best of my abilities and that I am leaving the Department of the Treasury in good hands and will ensure a smooth transition of duties to Finance Chair, Sean Harrington. I want to thank all the students who have supported me during my tenure and, I would like to thank and recognize those members of Student Government that remain committed to making positive changes for the growth, progress, and betterment of our great university.

With Wolfpack Pride,

John Taylor Willis