

# War of words heats up race for treasurer

BY ADAM BEAM  
THE GAMECOCK

This year, the battle to become Student Government treasurer might be the most intense so far.

With less than a week to go, the race is heating up, with candidates not only taking shots at each other but also at their predecessor. Here's a look at the candidates and what they stand for.

## Terrance Beeks



Terrance Beeks can trace his political motivations all the way back to his grandmother.

"She was really active in the Greenville County (S.C.) Democratic Party. I mean, if there was something that she could do to help out with a fundraiser or anything, she would be there," Beeks said. "She was really active civilly, and I think that rubbed off on me a great deal."

Beeks graduated in the top one-third of his class of 180 students at Greenville High School, while also serving as class president all four years. Choosing between the College of Charleston, USC, and George Washington University, Beeks chose USC for its close proximity to state government.

"I picked Carolina because it was in Columbia and because of the government opportunities that

I had to get involved here," he said. Volunteering for the S.C. Democratic Party, Beeks has worked at the Governor's Office during the push for the lottery bill, and now he wants to bring his political knowledge to USC's student government.

"Just because one candidate that I'm running against has served in SG for two years and serves as the chair for the finance committee (Becky Floyd)...that position doesn't mean she is the most qualified," he said.

Beeks has run for Senate twice before, each time losing in a close race.

## Becky Floyd

When Becky Floyd was 5 years old, she accomplished what most college students are still working toward: she figured out what she wanted to do with her life.

"I've wanted to be a doctor ever since I was 5 years old," she said. "When my grandfather had his heart attack, I wanted to know why."

"He survived, and once he did, he was trying to explain to me how the heart works and how everything goes and what they did to him and how they performed the surgery, and I just thought it was fascinating."

While a biology major may seem a strange choice for treasurer, Floyd sees it as a strength rather than a weakness.

"Just because you are going into medicine doesn't mean that

you aren't going to deal with business," she said.

Floyd has served as a student senator for two years and served as chair of the finance committee this past year. "I think it helps," Floyd said of her past position. "You get to learn the ropes and you know what's going on, you know how the paperwork works, because it's really overwhelming to just come in."

Now that SG has revised the constitution, which students will vote on February 21-22, Floyd said the next step is to look at the finance codes and "try to make them more consistent throughout and make them fairer."

Floyd said, "I want clubs to have money here, I want students to be able to do what they want to do." "And make sure they are all fairly represented to have good programming, because it's important in a university to have stuff to do."

Floyd said her experience and determination will help her the most.

"I think I have the most experience, and I think I want it the most," she said.

## Brant Tosi

Fresh out of Dorman High School, a prep football powerhouse in South Carolina, Brant Tosi thought he came from a pret-

ty good football school.

Then he came to Carolina.

"My first Carolina football game I just walked in and you just feel so connected with every other student there," he said.

But Tosi didn't limit his connections to Williams-Brice Stadium, as he plans to bring changes to the way SG does business if he is elected treasurer.

Among Tosi's proposals are plans to reform the dining services and keep food service open 24 hours. He believes it could bring more money into the university.

"I believe that it is just a good source of money that we are totally looking over," he said. Tosi believes such a proposal would fare well with the new university president and said "if it can make the university money, I don't see why he wouldn't do it."

Being in a variety of leadership positions, including RHA, if he is elected treasurer Tosi plans to pick up the slack on what he believes were his predecessor's weaknesses.

"I never see Hydrick Harden involved in doing stuff," he said. "As treasurer, I'd like to see that role brought back into student government."

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## Doctor

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this point, you are definitely at an elite level of competition," he said.

He arrived in Salt Lake City on Feb. 2 to begin his orientation and give himself time to explore the city as final preparations were made. He said the Olympics are a "celebration of the fusion of sport and art," which he says is illustrated throughout the city from its musical festivals to its massive murals of athletes depicted on skyscrapers.

During the next couple of weeks, Terrell will provide medical care for skaters as well as their coaches and athletic trainers. He expects to encounter the typical colds, flu, and foot and ankle injuries common to skaters. But such problems are far from trivial, he said.

"Precision is everything in figure skating," Terrell said. "Even a small injury or a bout with cold and flu can cost you your whole performance."

Terrell isn't a stranger to Olympic competition. He also worked at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, and he served as a physician volunteer at the U.S. Winter Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid, N.Y.

Through his work with numerous athletes from a variety of different countries, Terrell has come to appreciate the athletes and their dedication to sport and competition.

"I'm impressed by how

"As Americans, we lost sight of how fortunate we are. But at these Games, there is a definite spirit of patriotism."

TOM TERRELL  
MEMBER OF OLYMPIC MEDICAL TEAM

down-to-earth and genuine they are," Terrell said.

As a doctor, he sees "a unique perspective about their drive toward Olympic success." He feels privileged to receive such an understanding of the athletes by getting to know them firsthand. He's encountered international competitors who have suffered from far more than just strenuous training. He's met athletes who have struggled with civil war and political strife - experiences American athletes have been fortunate to avoid.

"As Americans, we lost sight of how fortunate we are," he said. "But at these Games, there is a definite spirit of patriotism."

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## White

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said he was disappointed in the ruling.

"I understand their rationale," White said. "I disagree with it."

According to White, a bad semester of graduate school — caused by a hectic schedule and an Air Force training assignment that made him miss the first week of school — had overshadowed his 3.6

GPA in three years of undergraduate work.

Hunter stood by the administration's original interpretation.

"Our interpretation was correct and, according to our interpretation, he should have been able to run," Hunter said.

The council meeting Wednesday seemed more agreeable than confrontational, with White and Hunter agreeing that White should be allowed to run for office.

"The way that I interpreted [the clause] was that he was allowed to run, but if he was elected, he could not serve," Hunter told the council.

White agreed.

"The attorney general pretty much summed up my case. ... It does not say anything about running," White said.

There were some new insights into the conflict.

White said he was unaware of the provision concerning academic good standing and revealed his GPA publicly for the first time.

Hunter, meanwhile, revealed that he had not actually spoken with Vice President of Student and Alumni Services Dennis Pruitt before SG President Corey

Ford revoked a statement saying White could run. Hunter said he spoke to Pruitt's secretary, who contacted the vice president and informed Hunter of Pruitt's position.

Pruitt said White couldn't run because of university policy concerning officers of registered student organizations. In a footnote to its ruling, CSJC suggested specifically adding SG, which White said didn't fall under the definition of a registered student organization.

Meanwhile, White said he would write letters to those involved. He

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NATHAN WHITE  
FORMER VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

also said he would work on his GPA and even hinted at the possibility he might run again for vice president.

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