

Revised

**STATE OF MINNESOTA**  
Executive Department



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SEP 1 2021

**Governor Tim Walz**

President of the Senate

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT**

**Victor Ayemobuwa**

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment, and ability, I have appointed you to the office of:

**State University Student Member**

**Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees**

Effective: September 1, 2021

Expires: June 30, 2023

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

Signed and sealed August 31, 2021.



Handwritten signature of Tim Walz in black ink.

Tim Walz  
Governor

Handwritten signature of Steve Simon in black ink.

Steve Simon  
Secretary of State

Replacing: Ahmitara Alwal

Filed on August 31, 2021  
Office of the Minnesota  
Secretary of State,  
Steve Simon

**Part I: Position Sought**

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**Agency Name:** Board Of Trustees Of The Minnesota State Colleges And Universities System  
**Position:** Student

**Part II: Applicant Information**

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**Name:** Mr Victor Ayemobuwa  
**Phone:** (507) 530-8389  
**County:** Marshall  
**Mn House District:** No Answer  
**US House District:** No Answer  
**Recommended by the Appointing Authority:** False

**Part III: Appending Documentation**

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**Cover Letter and Resume**

Type	File Type
Cover Letter	application/pdf
Resume	application/pdf

**Additional Documents (.doc, .docx, .pdf, .txt)**

Type	File Name
Letter of Recommendation Sen. Gary	Letter of Recommendation.pdf
Letter of Recommendation SG President	Recomendation.pdf
Publication	Publication Speech.pdf
Publication	References - Victor Ayemobuwa.pdf

**Veteran:** No Answer

**EVO PDF Tools Demo**

**Part V: Signature**

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**Signature:** Victor Ayemobuwa  
**Date:** 8/2/2021 6:12:53 PM

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SEP 1 2021

President of the Senate

**Office of Governor Tim Walz & Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan**

Governor of the State of Minnesota

130 State Capitol

75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

April 2, 2021

**RE: STUDENT- STATE COLLEGE, BOARD OF TRUSTEE OF MINNESOTA STATE  
COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES SYSTEM**

Dear Governor Walz,

I submit this application for your consideration to serve as the University Student Trustee on the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees.

It is my belief that the challenges of the future are closely intertwined, and education is the most important tool that can bring success to our society. This passion for advocacy in higher education is what drove my application submission after reviewing the job description.

This past month as the Student United Treasurer representing all 50,000+ Minn. State Students, I and my fellow student leaders met with the Minn. State Board of Trustees. We engaged in a dialogue on urgent student needs and before this I met with our State Senators, and other Federal representatives to re-iterate why supporting Minnesota State \$120 million Budget request to the Legislature is important in providing all our campuses with funds to support students during this COVID-19 pandemic, and I am very proud of the positive responses received.

Minnesota gave me the voice I have today, and with this voice I have been able to for the past several years advocate on student issues relating to textbook affordability, food insecurities, basic needs and mental health, at the Campus, State, Local and Federal Level. This advocacy has resulted in very successful improvements, one such improvement is SMSU having a food pantry on campus to tackle student's food insecurities. At State level, students are now being included in important decisions and discussion and there has also been increased information sharing withing our seven state institutions.

I commit to bringing a fresh voice with a proven track record for success to the Minnesota State Board of Trustees, because I believe that being a student is about having the best college experience regardless of Age, Gender, Political view, or Zip code.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Victor Ayemobuwa

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President of the Senate

# Victor Ayemobuwa

Marshall, MN – [Victor.Ayemobuwa@my.smsu.edu](mailto:Victor.Ayemobuwa@my.smsu.edu) – 507-530- 8389

## **Professional Experience**

Treasurer, Students United (Current)

**Actively work to represent and support Minnesota State Students and advocate at the System, Local, State and Federal Level for Higher Education Policies that makes a positive impact for all Minn. State Students and Communities.**

- Met monthly with Chancellor Malhotra Minn. State, to make sure students are part of the decision-making Process on the campus, and State Levels and to table student needs.
- Chair all Fiscal board meetings and reviewed all Finances work of a 501c3 nonprofit.
- Lead monthly discussions with Finance team on grants, donations, and Increased fundraising efforts.
- Lead and collaborate monthly discussions with Finance team on grants, donations, and Increased fundraising efforts.
- Charged Advocacy for students at the system, board, public media, state, and federal level resulting in increased student consultation standards for COVID funding, a bill in the MN legislature to fight food insecurity in university students, and increased student representation on system committees.
- Advocate for Minn. State Budget request with State Senators and Representatives as well as Federal representative ,emphasis on Mental health to our students, Food insecurities due to the Pandemic.

## **Southwest Minn. State University, Senator / Equity, and Inclusion Chair. SG (2018- 2019)**

- Worked with campus E&I Officer to draft 2019/20 Strategic Inclusion Planning Prioritization.
- Partnered with faculty and staff, and my fellow students to create programs that supports, educates the university community on issues related to diversity, equity and inclusion.
- Create agenda for weekly E&I meetings, ensuring that all needed business matters are included and gave reports on progress at Student Government meetings.
- Proposed and got the Student Government body to adopt a resolution in support of Open Educational Resources (OERs), and tackle Food and Housing Insecurity,
- Spearheaded and facilitated Engage 50 – A Student led discussion to help identify student issues at Southwest Institution.
- Worked with campus E&I Officer to draft 2019/20 Strategic Inclusion Planning Prioritization.

## **Tom Anderson for Minneapolis 2020, - Volunteer (Current)**

- Phone bank calls to earn DFL endorsement.
- Trained on successful organizing strategies.

## **Students United, Public Relation Specialist then E&I Specialist (2017-18 - 19/20)**

- Led the coordination and implementation of tasks and duties related to Diversity and inclusion initiatives.
- Worked with Co-Ordinator to ensure Students have food and housing within their university.
- Responsible for the publication of Student united action on campus germane to tabling for GOTV, articles, photos, and Facebook.
- Led initiatives on reports / updates to university administration townhall and SG on Students united activities.
- Worked with campus E&I Officer on equity initiatives.

## **Southwest Minn. State University, Senator Student Government (2016-2017)**

- Use this leadership role to advocate for clubs and organizations on campus, who wanted to get involved but unsure how.
- Created and raised questions on the wider campus on issues germane to Equity and Inclusion and underrepresented students.
- Proposed and got the Student Government body to adopt a resolution in support of Open Educational Resources (OERs), and tackle Food and Housing Insecurity,
- Advised multiple student organizations on Campus

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# Victor Ayemobuwa

Marshall, MN – [Victor.Ayemobuwa@my.smsu.edu](mailto:Victor.Ayemobuwa@my.smsu.edu) – 507-530- 8389

## Education

- Master Business Administration.....Graduate: 2022
- Bachelor of Computer Science .... Southwest Minn. State University, .....Graduate 2020
  - Majored in Computer Science (Data Structure, Java, C++)
- Bachelor of Arts ..... University of Lagos Nigeria ..... Dec 2015--

## ○ Awards and Presentation

- Diversity and Inclusion Committee Recognition Award (Fall 2019).
- Engage 50- Southwest Minnesota State University 2020

## State Advocacy for Minn. State Students

### **Minn. State, Chancellor Malhotra, and Board (2020-2021)**

- Chosen by Chancellor Malhotra to partake in the System search for VP of Equity and Inclusion.

### **Chair, Students United Fiscal Committee (2020-2021)**

- Successfully built a financial philosophy statement for Minn. State Student Board of Directors

### **Students United Fundraising Cohort (2020-2021)**

- Successfully raised funds for the organization goals by meeting with Alumni, Alumnus, and other donors.

### **Students United Advocacy Conference(s) – 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021**

- Attended seminars led by lobbyists, advocates, higher education experts, equity, and inclusion specialists. Seminars covered how to be an effective advocate and lobbyist.

### **Students United Delegates Conference(s) – Spring 2019, Fall 2019**

- Participated in the Legislative Committee, that drafted two successful amendments to the federal and state platforms. One to require Universities to enforce MN State Statute 136F.58 and US code §1015b to submit textbooks on-time to help students better prepare for courses and find affordable textbook alternatives. The second amendment to provide more job stability and protections for student workers.
- Participated in legislation that was passed by the delegates assembly that would help university student organizations to meet monthly with University faculty organizations and hopefully require course evaluations.

## Committees 2016- Present

### **Minn. State,**

- Vice Chancellor Search for Equity and Inclusion-
- Minnesota State Basic needs committee
- Academic Affairs Council
- Student Affairs Council
- Faculty development Committee.
- Minn. State Office of Higher Education - Student Advisory Council  
Southwest Minn. State
- Diversity and inclusion --- Chair
- Strategic Planning Prioritization
- The Higher Learning Commission – Assurance Argument
- Technology Fee placement Committee –
- Bylaws Subcommittee -

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## **Victor Ayemobuwa**

Marshall, MN – [Victor.Ayemobuwa@my.smsu.edu](mailto:Victor.Ayemobuwa@my.smsu.edu) – 507-530- 8389

### **Skills**

**Advocacy and Public Speaking**

**Lobbying**

**Project and Budget Management**

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# Victor Ayemobuwa

Marshall, MN – [Victor.Ayemobuwa@my.smsu.edu](mailto:Victor.Ayemobuwa@my.smsu.edu) – 507-530- 8389

## **Professional Experience**

Board of Directors / Treasurer, Students United (Current)

**Actively work to represent and support Minnesota State Students and advocate at the System, Local, State and Federal Level for Higher Education Policies that makes a positive impact for all Minn. State Students and Communities.**

- Met monthly with Chancellor Malhotra Minn. State, on Equity 2030 conversations and most importantly to make sure students are part of the decision-making Process on the campus, and State Levels
- Advocate at the state level to address students tuition affordability, textbooks , basic needs, covid-19 concerns.
- Chair all Fiscal board meetings and reviewed all Finances work of a 501c3 nonprofit.
- Lead monthly discussions with Finance team on grants, donations, and Increased fundraising efforts.
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- Proposed and got the Student Government body to adopt a resolution in support of Open Educational Resources (OERs), and tackle Food and Housing Insecurity,
- Spearheaded and facilitated Engage 50 – A Student led discussion to help identify student issues at Southwest Institution.
- Made budget proposals to the Legislature over \$150,000 for the sole purpose of student retention
- Worked with campus E&I Officer to draft 2019/20 Strategic Inclusion Planning Prioritization.

## **Tom Anderson for Minneapolis 2020, - Volunteer (Current)**

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- Bachelor of Computer Science .... Southwest Minn. State University – 2016-2020
- Bachelor of Arts ..... University of Lagos Nigeria -2016

### ○ Awards and Presentation

- Diversity and Inclusion Committee Recognition Award (Fall 2019).
- Engage 50- Southwest Minnesota State University 2020
- Outstanding Service as Treasurer for Students united.

## State Advocacy for Minn. State Students

### **Minn. State, Chancellor Malhotra, and Board (2020-2021)**

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- Equity 2

### **Chair, Students United Fiscal Committee (2020-2021)**

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- The Higher Learning Commission – Assurance Argument

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# Victor Ayemobuwa

Marshall, MN – [Victor.Ayemobuwa@my.smsu.edu](mailto:Victor.Ayemobuwa@my.smsu.edu) – 507-530- 8389

- Technology Fee placement Committee –
- Bylaws Subcommittee –

## Summary of Skills

- Advocacy
  - Public Speaking
  - Creative thinking & Ideas
  - Statewide Leadership
- \* Lobbying
- \* Integrity
- \* Time management and communication
- \* Budget Planning
- \* Passion and Honesty

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President of the Senate



Date: April 2, 2021

Southwest Minnesota State University  
1501 State St,  
Marshall MN  
56258  
Office of the Student Government:

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Southwest Minnesota State Student Association, I am writing this letter of recommendation for Mr. Victor Ayemobuwa for consideration of this position.

Although Victor currently represents all Minn. State student as the Treasurer, he previously worked on the Southwest Student as a Senator and Diversity & Inclusion committee chair and his unwavering advocacy has inspired me, the Southwest students as well as the administration. This pandemic has put to test Victor's leadership and communication skills, and I am proud to say that his agenda for students and speaking up for the less privileged has not wavered a bit.

I joined him to testify this previous month to the state and federal legislators and his story on how pandemic has affected him as a student captivated me as well as the Representatives.

I say this without a doubt in mind that Victor is a listener, ONE FOR THE PEOPLE, you meet him, and you come out inspired and excited to share ideas, a very true definition of inspirational. He would make a great addition to any team.

My recommendation for Mr. Ayemobuwa is authentic and sincere. Please give him proper consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Esther Oluborode", written over a horizontal line.

Esther Oluborode

Student Body President.

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President of the Senate

## **Victor Ayemobuwa**

205 West Saratoga  
Marshall, MN, 56258  
507-530-8389

[Victor.Ayemobuwa@my.smsu.edu](mailto:Victor.Ayemobuwa@my.smsu.edu)

### **REFERENCES:**

#### **Senator Gary Dahms**

Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2111  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-8138  
E-mail: [sen.gary.dahms@senate.mn](mailto:sen.gary.dahms@senate.mn)

#### **Councilman Oballa Oballa**

Minnesota State Board of Trustee / Austin City Councilman  
30 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101-7804  
605-681-5172  
E-mail: [Oballa.Oballa@minnstate.edu](mailto:Oballa.Oballa@minnstate.edu)

#### **Carlee Diggins**

Executive Director [she/her]  
Students United  
555 Park Street  
Saint Paul, MN, 55103  
E-mail: [cdiggins@studentsunited.org](mailto:cdiggins@studentsunited.org)

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#### **Dr. Kumara Jayasuriya**

President Southwest Minnesota State University  
1501 State Street  
Marshall, MN 56258-1598  
Founders Hall 207  
Phone: (507) 537-6272

**SENATOR GARY H. DAHMS**  
Senate District 16

2111 Minnesota Senate Bldg  
95 University Ave W.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone: (651) 296-8138  
Email: sen.gary.dahms@senate.mn



**Senate**

**State of Minnesota**

June 7, 2021

Governor Tim Walz  
130 State Capitol  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Walz:

I am writing to recommend Victor Ayemobuwa to the position of University Student Trustee on the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees. He has the education and experience backgrounds that would serve him well in this position.

I have come to know Victor through his role as a student senator at Southwest Minnesota State University and through his involvement with the Students United organization. I appreciate his involvement in these organizations.

Victor enjoys learning from people in leadership positions and those who have differencing opinions from his own. He is a person who strives to improve the lives of students.

I appreciate your consideration of Victor Ayemobuwa to the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Dahms".

Gary Dahms  
State Senator  
District 16

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**COMMITTEES:** Commerce & Consumer Protection Finance & Policy - Chair  
Agriculture & Rural Development Finance & Policy - Vice-Chair  
Capitol Investment • Housing Finance & Policy

**SERVING:** Brown, Lac qui Parle, Lyon, Redwood, Renville, and Yellow Medicine Counties



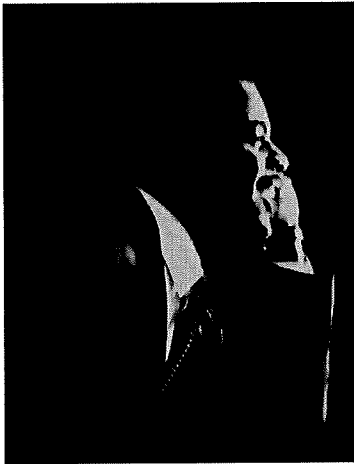
Recycled Paper  
30% Post-  
Consumer Fiber



## FAREWELL! BUT THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

*July 24, 2021*

BY, VICTOR AYEMOBUWA



**T**hank you, thank you very kindly, my friends and fellow students. I must say un-feigned, that our journey together has been beyond incredible, I always make a joke, that you know you've been in college too long, when your parents start running out of money, which happens to be reality for many of us. My journey with you commenced six years ago, however our later years together has been the highlight of my entire life.

The conversations we had both in person and virtually, to the advocacy and lobbying we did at the federal and state legislature, including the meetings, debates, and discussions, not only inspired me but also shaped me into a better leader and most importantly a better man.

There is not a greater lie in man's existence than, "there comes a time when we have no control over the events anchored around us, that our fate is already set and sealed in stone, however nothing could be further from the truth."

If I had told you six years ago that "– on a Federal and state level, we would work with Legislators, both Representatives and Senators to the System and Chancellors office to achieve, student consultation, allocation of CRRSAA, health care communication, vaccination rollouts as well as have representation on the Minnesota state Law enforcement and reform task force. You might have said "delusions". If I had told you that - our finances will now prioritize students' interests, be transparent, empowering and provide financial education within financial management. You might have said "oh that's impossible, or If I had said together we will write

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letters to the presidents on consultation, give spoken and written testimonies at the board of trustees, launch our F—k student debt campaign, revisit how Minnesota state and colleges addresses racial equity issues on campuses, and finally work with the System office to make sure equity 2030 is a reality that covers all our gamut. You might have said too ambitious, but we did all this, we fulfilled all our goals, we proved nothing is set in stone, not just the organization but yours. You did all this and so much more.

You know, I remember vividly my sophomore semester when I couldn't afford textbooks or a three-square meal, when I lost all hope, and was on the verge of quitting, yet how many of us have a similar type of story today, how many today, does college in all its charms and drudgery, becomes a perennial punishment? Now, I'm happy because we have made progress and constructed hallmarks of achievements. We didn't twitch, instead we stayed together, therefore our formular for success remained fundamentally the same: "A better experience for all of us, both past, current and future students."

Another reason I'm happy, is that this pandemic, tested our valor, our deoprtment and hearts and we came out "tougher than leather" or as Lil Wayne famously said tougher than "Nigerian hair". As I wrap up here, I want to commend my comrades, Jonathan McNicholes, a man of such extraordinary vision and ideals who has been in this fight for many years, Emma Zellmer, one of the most resilient and intelligent persons I know, David Shittu, Devin Smith, Abeer Syedah, Carlee Diggins, Samuel Wreh, my parents, Senator Gary Dahms , I could go on down the list, yet time is passing. I want to thank them and want you also to thank them for their extraordinary motivation who kept us all going.

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Now, I don't know what the future holds, or if the days ahead as we continue this fight are



smooth. However, I am not worried because if our tenacity remains unshaken, and we keep our **stride moving forward**, aiming for high ideals. We will get to our promise land, for

**"We have not come this far just to get this far."**

It has been the honor of my life to serve".

Thank you once again.

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President of the Senate