

To the CUSOM student body and administration,
Please accept this letter as a declaration of my interest in serving as treasurer of the CUSOM's Student Osteopathic Medicine Association (SOMA) chapter. As many of us can relate to, during the medical school application cycle I applied to both allopathic and osteopathic schools, with the sole goal of getting into the best school possible. During this time, my fiancé was working as a medical social worker at a local hospital in Pittsburgh, PA. Every few weeks, she would come home with stories about the residents and medical students doing rotations at her hospital. I will never forget the day that she came up to me and told me, "I really hope you end up at an osteopathic medical school. The osteopathic residents are so much nicer to me and actually respect my opinions!" With no disrespect intended to our allopathic counterparts, this experience opened my eyes to the power of osteopathic medicine and the type of education that is taught. As osteopathic medical students, we are taught to treat the whole person, not just their accompanying symptoms. I believe that the holistic approach to our education is extremely valuable, and I desire to be a part of an organization that promotes the osteopathic approach to medicine. While there are many roads of advocacy for our profession and school, I feel called to do so as the treasurer of SOMA. I believe that my past experiences have prepared me to excel in this role. As a former collegiate athlete, I had to be in constant communication with my fellow teammates and coaches to ensure that our team was working together seamlessly. Additionally, I had to balance my academic schedule with my athletics schedule, leading me to become proficient in time management and attention to detail. I am strong with numbers, keeping track of finances, allocating funds appropriately, and feel that I have several great fundraiser ideas for our SOMA chapter. Lastly, I strongly believe that my experiences as treasurer of my fourth-grade class in elementary school will help me propel this position to new heights with all my wisdom in handling field trip funds. In all seriousness, I am excited by the prospect of working with the rest of the SOMA leadership team to serve our school and better the community of osteopathic physicians.

Best,
James Greenwell, OMS-1