



Winston Wells

Student of the Year Bid

2004-2005

"The price of greatness is responsibility." ~Sir Winston Churchill

Nominated by: Putnam Hall Governing Board



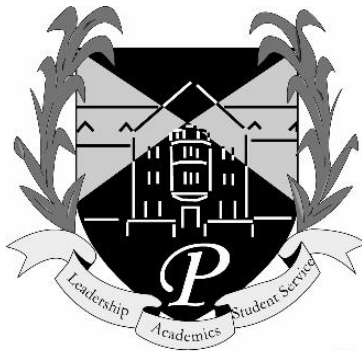
Introduction;

WHEREAS, Winston Wells, HGB President, has been a strong leader and a dedicated resident of Putnam Hall during the 2004-2005 academic year; we nominate him for Student of the Year.

WHEREAS, Winston has worked this year to create and pass important legislation to help the HGB run more smoothly and better assist and represent the residents of Putnam Hall; we feel that the bid should reflect those efforts and be written in legislative format.

WHEREAS, Winston's excellence in many areas of K-State, including academics, HGB, Community Assistant work, and campus involvement, has earned him a place as a top student leader.

WHEREAS, Winston's residents, supervisors, advisors, friends, and coworkers have written words of kindness and support for this bid, and the Putnam HGB has compiled a list of his accomplishments this past year; be it enacted that Putnam HGB will write this bid to hopefully give him the recognition he so rightfully deserves.



## *Putnam Hall*

### **Article 1 Hall Governing Board**

- A. Legislation**
  - 1. Postings legislation**
  - 2. Budget legislation**
  - 3. Constitutional Review Committee**
  
- B. Programming**
  - 1. Election Night**
  - 2. War Night**
  
- C. Serving the Residents**
  - 1. HGB Office**
  - 2. Brandon White Quiet Leadership Award**

*"At HGB, Winston keeps the meetings under control. There are lots of opinionated people, and it's a great quality to be able to keep everyone focused." ~Ryan Seematter, Putnam Resident*

*"He represents Putnam well at ARH, and speaks up only if he feels very strongly about a topic." ~Carson Monroe, ARH Exec Board member*

# **Article 1**

## **Hall Governing Board**

### **A. Legislation**

**~Winston has created and passed several important pieces of legislation during his presidency term. His talent and ability to do so set him apart from other student leaders. In addition, the legislation has helped the HGB run more smoothly, and has also helped the HGB better serve the residents. Even something as seemingly unimportant as where to post signs in the hall has improved the HGB members' knowledge of their exact duties and responsibilities. The budget jurisdiction legislation has given members greater freedom in purchasing for programs or needed hall improvement items. By passing legislation to allow the HGB more autonomy, Winston has developed the students on HGB to be more independent and self-reliant.**

### **B. Programming**

**~War Night: Winston planned a complex-wide educational and social tournament revolving around the game "Risk." He and Ryan Spencer created educational display boards depicting historical facts about battles and wars in American history, and students were able to view these boards while playing or observing the "Risk" tournament. In addition, Winston set up a screen to show war movies such as "Master and Commander" and also started an impromptu HALO 2 game with several residents throughout the night. The winner of the program won a Playstation 2, and all who attended felt it was a great success.**

**~Election Night: Winner of the campus November OTM for Educational Program, this was one of Winston's greatest achievements with HGB. Along with SCC President and Putnam Social Chair Kristen Kaiser, Winston recognized the historical and social importance of the November election and the residents' desire to debate and watch election results in a relaxed social setting. The program lasted until 2 AM, with pizza, trivia, and good political discussions throughout.**

## **Article 1 cont...**

### **Hall Governing Board**

#### **C. Serving the Residents**

##### **1.HGB Office**

After seeing that the ARLC office and kitchenette had become a kind of "catch-all" for HGB programming supplies, and committee meetings were being held in the basement lobby, Winston came up with the idea to utilize an underused space in Putnam Hall. Known as the "Old Smoking Room," few residents gathered there, and it is the perfect size and location for an HGB Office. This semester, Winston has worked with the ARLC and maintenance to remodel the room into a usable office space for next year's HGB.

Although he will not enjoy the planned new carpeting, painting, office furniture and meeting space, one of Winston's goals as President is to leave a legacy and work to make the path smoother for next year's Hall Governing Board. With the passing of legislation to make this room in Putnam an HGB space, Winston has done just that.

##### **2.Brandon White Quiet Leadership Award**

There are many ways to recognize students on campus—OTM's, OTY's, academic star nominations...but few of them recognize students who might not plan a large program, or pass major legislation, or be elected to a leadership position. Winston saw the quiet dedication, hard work, and kindness of Brandon White, one of his fellow Community Assistants, and decided to take action to recognize this quiet contributor. Passing legislation to commend White for his services to the halls, the HGB soon decided to create an annual award, named after Brandon White, which would be awarded to a student who contributed to Putnam Hall through quiet service and support. In a January OTM, the ARLC of Putnam wrote: "It may seem redundant to recognize a student for recognizing another student. It may seem that Winston could have written an OTM, or given Brandon a pat on the back, or sent a "thank-you" note, or any of the other countless ways we have of recognizing others. But [...Winston] decided to take the unique approach. And because he "thought outside of the box," and took the time to consider what approach would have the most impact on this resident, a new tradition has been started in Putnam Hall--there is now an award named after Brandon White. That is something that Brandon can always be proud of, and Winston can always be proud of writing the legislation that created the award. I would like the committee to now consider recognizing Winston by granting him January's Spotlight of the Month award. I believe he would be proud of it, just as I am proud of him for the impact he has had on Brandon White and on Putnam Hall."

## **Article 1 cont... Hall Governing Board**

“For the past year that I have known Winston, I have enjoyed his witty and humorous character. He has done a superb job at maintaining all of the president’s duties and conducting hall governing board meetings. His ability to see both sides of arguments and debates during meetings and handle them properly shows great strength as a hall president. Also, I was very pleased to have Winston added to our team of Community Assistants this semester, knowing that he would be a delightful contribution to the residents of Putnam in this position. Winston has made my stay at Putnam quite satisfying, so I will be sure to stop by and say hello next year when I live off campus.”  
~Emily Reding, University Activities Chair/Community Assistant

“Winston is an exceptionally capable leader. He is very intelligent and very skilled at managing and motivating people. Despite his intelligence, he does not condescend to anybody, and is always interested in hearing the concerns and stories of every resident. He is incredibly passionate about helping people and protecting their rights. In his year as president of the Putnam HGB, he has set the tone for all the amazing accomplishments of the body, whether it be by passing legislation that aids residents or by organizing and supporting social, educational, and multicultural programs all year.”  
~Andrew Lawson, Secretary

“Winston's been very socially active within the halls and has never missed an opportunity to meet and greet an unfamiliar resident. He has put on several different social programs this year, including Election Night and War Night, both of which were big hits.”  
~Kelly Eilert, Social Chair

“Winston is always open to hearing concerns pertaining to Hall Governing Board and addresses them in a timely manner. Winston's sense of humor also makes him easily approachable.”  
~Nancy Powell, Putnam 3<sup>rd</sup> floor RA

## Article 2

### Academics at K-State/Community Assistant

#### A. Academics

##### 1. Student first

- i. Winston has always believed in being a student first. He encourages his HGB members to work on academics before taking on a project for HGB, and is always understanding of those who cannot participate in an HGB activity because of academic needs such as studying for exams or writing papers.
  - ii. Winston sets the example for the residents by attending his classes, completing work well before the deadline, and always speaking highly of the academic departments at K-State.
2. **“When I walk by the front desk**, I see Winston working on his homework. When I see that right as I walk through the door, it’s a reminder and it motivates me to do work, when he could be playing online.” ~Anthony Fox, Putnam Basement RA

#### B. Community Assistant

1. **Winston joined the CA team** in Strong at the end of the 2004 semester. Since then, he has been one of the strongest members and most welcoming faces at the front desk. He greets nearly every person who comes into the hall, making them feel welcome. Administratively, he worked very hard to learn the ropes of the CA job and make sure that he was keeping the desk running smoothly and efficiently.
2. **“Winston was a good addition** to the CA team, and interacts well with people, especially new students. He is welcoming, asks them questions, and puts them at ease. He is always willing to be helpful.” ~Brandon White, Strong Complex Community Assistant
3. **“Not a lot of students** at this age have the professionalism Winston does. He takes his job seriously and that is something supervisors desire to see in their CA’s. The individual attention and respect he shows everyone, and the fact that he is passionate and wants to do what’s best for the organizations he’s involved with, is amazing. As new senior staff in the Complex, he offers insightful advice that is helpful. His hard work ethic is outstanding and as a supervisor, it is a blessing to work with a student who has such dedication to what he does.” ~Val Anderson, Boyd ARLC and Strong Complex CA’s Co-Supervisor

## Article 3 Campus Involvements

### A. Student Governing Association

1. Senate Parliamentarian
2. Senate Operations Committee Member
3. Student Senate Executive Committee Member

### B. Moore Campaign

1. Campaign Manager
2. **Tyson Moore, Student Body President Candidate: “Winston, throughout the campaign season and his involvement in Student Government impressed me and other staff members. He’s dedicated to his work and blazingly intelligent. He can come up with the answer you need on the spot, and be confident about it, and that’s what his position needs to do under pressure.”**

~As Senate Parliamentarian, Winston assists the Senate Chair in running the meetings, keeping track of changes in the legislation, and ensures that Parliamentary Procedure is followed during the Senate meetings.

*~Winston’s votes on the Senate Operations Committee address issues such as constitutional changes as well as changes to the bylaws, and regulations on campus campaigns.*

~As the Campaign Manager for Tyson Moore and Matt Wagner, Winston organized the publicity and networking efforts for the campaign as well as encouraging stronger relationships between the candidates for Student Body President and the residence halls—the first time such a relationship had been actively addressed, changed, and strengthened during an SGA campaign.

~Winston’s involvements with SGA make him not only a residence hall leader, but also a campus leader who is truly invested in serving residents and students through political involvement, change, and growth.

## **Article 4: Conclusion**

WHEREAS, we have outlined Winston's involvements in academics, in the halls, and on campus,

WHEREAS, we have collected encouraging words from those around Winston, who work with him, live with him, and are guided by his leadership,

WHEREAS, "Compassion. If I was asked for one word to sum up my opinion of Winston, it would be compassion. In my over half a decade in college, I have never found any student who cares more for his residents and all residents in general, than Winston. He possesses a steady, unwavering commitment to making the lives of the people he serves better. It is this determination to do what is right for the halls that has made him one of my role models. I see his willingness to fight for what is right, no matter the odds, and I am inspired to try to be a better leader. In his footsteps I have learned the true meaning of being a compassionate leader."

~Jeremy Thornbrugh, Van Zile ARH Rep

**Be it enacted that:** We hope you ratify this bid and recognize Winston Wells as Student of the Year.

April 2005

To whom it may concern,

I write this in recommendation of Winston Wells as Student of the Year for 2004-2005.

Winston has done an amazing job this year as the President of Putnam Hall and his work with SGA. Winston started the year with a list of campaign promises that he wanted to get accomplished. Now, at the end of the year every one of them that was legally possible was fulfilled. He has worked hard all year, sometimes against opposition; to serve the residents of the hall with what he believes are the values and skills of a great leader.

Winston has encouraged social, multicultural and educational programs all year while at the same time planning some of his own. He was in charge of both War Night and Election Night which won the campus Educational Program OTM for November. On top of programming, Winston's office has always been about residents' rights, culminating in a Bill of Rights that will be given to residents of Putnam for years to come.

On top of HGB, Winston has been busy in SGA as well. Winston applied for and was appointed the parliamentarian for SGA for his knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order. He attended and helped preside over all the SGA meetings this year and also joined committees involved with it as well.

Winston has put his heart and soul into campus politics both in and out of the Residence Halls and has done it all while balancing both school and a Community Assistant job at the same time. For these and so many others, I want to ask you to consider Winston Wells for Student of the Year.

Ryan Spencer  
Putnam HGB – Fundraising Chair

April 2005

OTY Committee:

I feel privileged and honored to write this reference letter for Winston Wells as Putnam HGB prepares his Student of the Year Bid for 2004-2005. In the past year, I have watched Winston excel both personally and professionally, and am honored to have the opportunity to write on his behalf.

From the July HGB retreat to the elections for a new HGB in April, Winston has displayed the utmost professionalism and passion for Putnam Hall. He treats every member of his board with respect, compassion, and is truly in tune with what his board expects of him as a leader and as a person. With the staff, Winston conveys his respect for their positions, whether it's a CA, a RAMA staff member, or an ARLC/RLC. He is an individual, and an independent leader; however, he also knows when to seek the counsel and advice of a staff member with the aim of making the hall a better place to live for residents.

Serving the residents is always Winston's number one objective in anything he does. If he is passing legislation, it is ultimately to make the HGB work better for residents. If he is planning a program, it is always in response to residents' needs or wants, and has an educational component that emphasizes the university as well as the Housing and Dining Department's mission of "student first."

As a first-year ARLC, the experience you gain from your position will have an effect on the rest of your profession—you will always remember your first year. Working with Winston and getting to know this fine student has shown me that I have learned as much from this leader as I hope he has learned from me. I am *grateful* for the opportunity to have been Winston's advisor, his supervisor in his position as CA, and to have built a strong relationship with this student as well.

I truly hope you give him your most serious consideration for the Student of the Year award. With all that he has done for the halls, with all he has done for the residents, and with all of the experiences I have shared with him during my first year in this field, I believe that Winston is deserving of this recognition.

Sincerely,

Amanda Mesirow  
Putnam ARLC