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## **Inaugural Message to the Parliament and Student Body**

**April 26, 2021**

As I begin my term in office, I feel excited and prepared to lead the student body. My campaign ran on a platform that was ambitious, and now we have an executive branch prepared to make good on our platform. Quinn, Mark, and the entire BloomTU administration were more than cooperative and helpful during the transition period, and I believe they have set a great example for myself and all of TSG to follow.

There is a tremendous amount of energy within the executive branch as we take the reins of a student government that continues to grow in its reach and ambition every year. At the end of the day, my team is a collection of students that simply believe that a better campus is possible. We are committed to being your voice and working tirelessly on your behalf.

I hope that the initiatives and energy of the executive branch are shared this year by Parliament. In its relatively short history, Parliament has struggled with productivity and participation, and it does a disservice to the student body when a coequal branch of student government fails to perform its basic task of passing resolutions that address student concerns. I am hopeful that fresh Parliament leadership and an executive branch more willing to be cooperative and assist with Parliament outreach will bring necessary change to that body. Furthermore, I am calling on Parliament to pass multiple resolutions with the utmost expediency:

- Calling on the University to freeze tuition for all students.
- Calling on the University to continue giving students the option of selecting one course per semester to be credit/no-credit.
- Calling on the University to continue providing students with two Wellness Days per semester.
- Establishing an Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Task Force to conduct a review of the University's accessibility for students with disabilities.

This is simply a starting point for Parliament to begin their next session productively. I pledge my own cooperation as well as the cooperation of all members of the executive branch to work with Parliament in order to best serve the student body.

I am also not naive to the fact that student engagement with TSG is disappointingly low. Let me be clear: this is a nationwide issue. I will, however, be putting great effort into making next election season as competitive and the candidates as quality and diverse as possible. TSG will review all facets of election season logistics and outreach and make necessary changes to achieve our goal of a better election season. Students must know the opportunity to get involved exists, and I am confident that we will see students seize that opportunity.

In the interest of brevity, I will finish by saying that my commitment to transforming your experience, amplifying your voice, and overcoming our challenges remains steadfast. I'm ready to get to work.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bradley A. Smutek". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bradley" and the last name "Smutek" being the most prominent parts.

Bradley A. Smutek  
President, Temple Student Government