

# SPECIAL SECTION: SGA CANDIDATES



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## STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

### SGA presidential battle heats up in the final stretch

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It is a normal scene for the campus of Alabama State University to be plastered with fliers, posters, life-size photos and handbills during

the last two weeks of March and the first two weeks of April.

The Student Government Association (SGA) and Miss Alabama State University spring elections campaigns add color to the campus and enthusiasm to the student

body. However, while this campaign season has all of the above, for the first time in the history of SGA, four young men are running for the position of SGA president and all four of the candidates are working to garner votes from

students. Last year featured one female and two male candidates, and the year before featured two male candidates, but now that four men are running, highly visible and competitive campaigns, many of the eligible voters

are in a stiff quandary as to which one will make the best chief executive officer for the next twelve months. Junior biology pre-med major Emami Valentine said that she likes how the candidates are very confident this year, but she feels like some

of the candidates were being disrespectful to their opponents at the Candidates Speeches that was held on April 6.

Sophomore criminal justice major Ryan Jones believes

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PHOTO BY DAVID CAMPBELL/CONTRIBUTOR  
Bernice King, daughter of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., delivered the same speech that her father delivered 50 years ago during the anniversary of the voting rights march culmination on the capitol steps in Montgomery, Ala. on March 25, 2015.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### King delivers father's speech on capitol steps

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Fifty years ago, law enforcement and a flatbed truck denied marchers access to the steps of the Alabama state capitol.

As thousands of people gathered on Dexter Avenue in Montgomery on March 25 to mark the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery March, they were greeted by two flatbed trucks bearing images of the original movement's foot soldiers.

As the throng approached the capitol, the trucks parted and allowed all marchers access to the capitol steps.

"(Today) the flatbed trucks serve as a gateway for marchers," said program coordinator Dr. Tommie H. Stewart, dean of the Alabama State University



PHOTO BY DAVID CAMPBELL/CONTRIBUTOR  
President Gwendolyn E. Boyd, DM, applauds after the Selma march on the capitol steps in Montgomery, Ala. on March 25, 2015.

College of Visual and Performing Arts. "We were denied 50 years ago but not this time." Just as the parting of the trucks and the welcome for the marchers symbolized societal changes over a half century, so did the speeches given by the daughter of Martin Luther King Jr., the

final event of the month-long celebration.

Bernice King, Dr. King's youngest daughter, told the crowd that although it is 50 years later and there have been tremendous strides towards equality, many of her father's words still resonate today.

"Fifty years ago, it was malice that would not allow daddy to speak from the steps of this capitol," King said. "Today, I stand where my father could not stand to synthesize our past with our present. We, a people, must demand that Congress restore the Voting Rights Act. And now is the time for the state of Alabama to rise to the occasion, in this jubilee year, to release itself from the heralded past of oppressive, repressive and suppressive laws to ensure laws that give equal access

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## CAMPUS NEWS

### Yearbook campaign moves into its final days

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Yearbooks are what, some people may call memorabilia, as it provides timeless opportunities for a student to relive one of life's most precious moments.

According to Editor-in-Chief Bryant Magee, the 2014-15 HORNET yearbook staff is determined to keep this tradition alive for the entire Alabama State University community.

"We know that the university is facing some financial issues right now," Magee said. "So the traditional way in which we paid for the yearbook (after the books arrived) will not work this year. We have to be able to pay for the yearbook in advance therefore, we are in a campaign to



PHOTO BY DAVID CAMPBELL/CONTRIBUTOR  
Students are reviewing the 2013 HORNET yearbook as a contrast and comparison project for staff recommendations.

order our books in advance before they arrive on campus or in the students' mailboxes."

Last year's staff surveyed 300 students. Two hundred and sixty six students stated that they indeed wanted a

"The yearbook is a history book, it is a 56-year-plus tradition and a point of reference for the university for a variety of things and events," said Coordinator of Student Life Kenneth Dean. "So we wanted to make sure that we had something tangible that students, staff and faculty could review years from now. According to Editor-in-Chief Bryant Magee, the staff had to approach the marketing of this yearbook differently from past years.

"The 2015 HORNET marketing plan is very different because we need to sell 1000 yearbooks in advance of them arriving on campus. We have posted signs across the campus and we are speaking directly to students all over campus about purchasing

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## CAMPUS NEWS

### Tribune staff prepares for regional, national newspaper face-offs

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The Pacemaker Award, the Best Weekly Newspaper Award, the Best of the South Award and the Collegiate Crown Award are four of the collegiate newspaper awards that The Hornet Tribune staff will compete for during the next 9 months.

This year will be the first time in eight years that The Hornet Tribune will compete in both regional and national competitions.

In the entrance of the Student Life and Student Government Association Complex, there are plaques on the

wall showing the awards that the staff has won in the past.

According to Editor-in-Chief Chelsea Vance, competing against other HBCUs (historically black colleges and universities) is nothing new for The Hornet Tribune.

"In the past, I understand that universities like Jackson State, Grambling State and Tennessee State were our rivals for the Black College Communications Association's "Best Weekly Newspaper Award" and we won in both 2001 and 2004.

General Manager of The Hornet Tribune Kenneth Dean said that many of their

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PHOTO BY DAVID CAMPBELL/CONTRIBUTOR  
Several students enjoy their meal as they utilize the regular plates, flatware and drinking cups from Gourmet Services, Inc.

## CAMPUS NEWS

### Gourmet Services return to regular dining utensils

**JADE LEWIS**  
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After more than a month of students eating from paper plates and using plastic flatware, Gourmet Services returned to the use of regular cafeteria plates and stainless steel flatware.

Many students who regularly eat in the cafeteria were all right with eating from the paper plates and plastic flat-

ware for the past few weeks, but once Gourmet Services returned to the regular utensils, students seem to transition with no questions.

Senior Associate Director of Business Affairs Derrick Magee explained the problem.

"The dishwasher has been repaired and as long as the parts are working, we've opted to continue to use it.

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## CAMPUS NEWS

### SGA budget steadily decreasing despite tuition, fee increases

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In September 2008 a student resident of Alabama could attend Alabama State University for a total of \$4,479 a year, which included a damage deposit, room and board, fees and tuition.

Eight years later, a resident student attending ASU is required to pay \$7,071, which includes tuition, room

and board, and fees, but no property damage deposit.

Since tuition, fees, room and board have risen by more than 60 percent, students are perplexed as to why the Student Government Association budget has not increased by the same amount, but instead decreased by 60 percent.

In 2008, the SGA budget was \$149,000, but was

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# The Hornet Tribune

## COPY DESK CHIEF/COPY EDITOR APPLICATION

REVISED JUNE 2016

# Job Description for Copy Editor or Copy Desk Chief

## Job Summary

The copy desk chief is The Hornet Tribune's chief defender against errors published in The Hornet Tribune's content across all platforms (print, online, social media and the daily newsletter). The chief supervises the production desk, sharing scheduling and training duties with the design editor. The copy desk chief reports to the managing editor. A copy editor is responsible for an initial round of proofreading to ensure that written text is concise, consistent and both grammatically and factually correct. The copy editor also ensures that each sentence is easy to read and that concepts expressed are in a logical, sequential manner. The copy desk chief and copy editor are a key part of an editorial team comprised of writers and editors that may also include proofreaders and fact-checkers. The job frequently requires working under intense deadline pressure without compromising standards.

## Major Responsibilities

1. Read copy or proof to detect and correct errors in spelling, punctuation, and syntax.
2. Prepare, rewrite and edit copy to improve readability, or supervise others who do this work.
3. Develop story or content ideas, considering reader or audience appeal.
4. Verify facts, dates, and statistics, using standard reference sources.
5. Read, evaluate and edit stories or other materials submitted for publication and confer with authors regarding changes in content, style or organization, or publication.
6. Review and approve proofs submitted by composing room prior to publication production.
7. Confer with management and editorial staff members regarding placement and emphasis of developing news stories.
8. Plan the contents of publications according to the publication's style, editorial policy, and publishing requirements.
9. Maintaining high-quality copy editing and proofreading of all The Hornet Tribune content, including articles, graphics and cutlines for photos, liftouts, etc., across digital and print platforms.
10. Maintaining high-quality headlines, ensuring that they are specific, accurate and fair portrayals of the story content and that the tone and style of the headline matches the tone and style of the content.
11. Scheduling, assigning and managing copy editors and proofreaders to ensure adequate staffing for all responsibilities, shifts and deadlines, including page design and production as assigned to the Copy Desk, and all special sections.
12. Working as the head copy editor/"slot," checking work of each copy editor before releasing it for publication to web or print editions.
13. Maintaining an even flow of copy and pages while meeting deadlines.
14. Ensuring that all content is edited to reflect timeliness.
15. Ensuring needed corrections are logged and published in a timely manner.
16. Training new copy editors and proofreaders as needed on Shorthorn processes, style and computer procedures needed to perform their jobs.
17. Testing all copy editor applicants and, as needed, monitoring work of individual copy editors to pinpoint strengths and weaknesses.
18. Ensuring that charts, graphs and non-photographic illustrations —like articles —are edited before being sent to production.
19. Ensuring that coaching and training are provided for all staff.

## The Selection Process for the Copy Desk Chief or Copy Editor

To be selected as a copy editor or copy desk chief for The Hornet Tribune is indeed an honor and rewarding as copy editors are responsible for checking all written material, usually as the final step before it is set into type, to correct errors in grammar, spelling, usage and style (in this case, style refers to a given publication's guidelines for consistency in how words, phrases, typographical elements, etc., are to be used -- or not used).

They are not proofreaders, although reading proofs is often part of the job description. The difference is that proofreaders (a job title that scarcely exists anymore) are charged with simply looking for typographical and mechanical errors on copy that has already been typeset. Any student chosen to work as a copy editor or a copy desk chief must work for at least one year on a publication staff or support unit before he or she can be considered for this position unless waived by the Student Media Board.

The **Selection Committee** is made up of the editor-in-chief, Coordinator for Student Expression and Multimedia, staff adviser and managing editor. The process is divided into preliminary and final stages unless the number of applications received is very low.

Selection of finalists for the editor-in-chief or executive editor is based upon these criteria:

**STUDENT'S JOURNALISTIC BACKGROUND AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE (OPTIONAL):** This rating illustrates the candidate's commitment to scholarship. It consists of a look at the courses the applicant has taken and the grades earned in high school. List the courses taken in high school and college (journalism) on a separate sheet of paper and submit them with this application. In addition, the **Selection Committee** would like to review any articles or submissions that were authored by you at Alabama State University, high school or any other university publication.

**STUDENT MEDIA BOARD CONSTITUTION EXAMINATION:** This is a 120-minute examination covering the contents of the Student Media Board Constitution. Every copy desk chief and copy editor who works for The Hornet Tribune must understand the function of the Student Media Board and the relationship between the Student Media Board and the various staffs.

The person who monitors the examination will hand you a sheet of specific instructions to read before the start of the timed examination. You will be allowed to keep these instructions with you as you take the examination. A score of "70" or above is required on this examination in order to be considered for this position.

**EDITOR'S EXAMINATION:** Each candidate will be administered the Editor's Examination that covers the various areas that copy editors are responsible for during their daily duties. Areas to be covered are grammar, ethics, spelling, legal issues, accuracy and conciseness.

**THE ESSAY:** The essay of each finalist is read, graded and averaged by the Selection Committee members. It usually receives special attention in the final evaluation. The purpose of the essay is two-fold: (1) to get an idea of how the applicant writes and develops a story; and (2) how the applicant thinks and analyzes situations.

After all criteria are considered, the **Selection Committee** determines which finalist to interview by telephone or in person. That decision is made by re-evaluating all parts of each finalist's application and includes telephone calls to teachers and others listed as references on the application form. Two references are required.

**INTERVIEW QUESTIONS:** Here are some of the interview questions that have been asked in the past of candidates who applied for the editor-in-chief or executive editor position. Why do you want to be executive editor or editor-in-chief for The Hornet Tribune? What do you believe you can bring to the position in terms of skills, attitude and goals? What have you done in the past that demonstrates you would be an asset to this publication, and if selected, what will you do to move it forward?

**RESUME:** The resume' will be carefully analyzed to determine how much time and effort has been given to its preparation. Remember, first impressions are lasting and in a situation where several people are competing for a position, your resume' may be the deciding factor. Therefore, please include previous journalism experiences as well as employment experiences while attending both high school and college. We wish you much success.

# The Hornet Tribune

## Copy Desk Chief or Copy Editor STAFF APPLICATION

### OFFICE USE ONLY

Interview	1.	_____
Grades	2.	_____
Essay	3.	_____
Editor's Examination	4.	_____
Constitution Examination	5.	_____
Resume'	6.	_____
<b>TOTAL</b>		_____

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female Classification \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number(s) where you can be reached easily: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a U.S. citizen? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No SID# \_\_\_\_\_

### Home/Permanent Address

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Web Address \_\_\_\_\_

### University Mailing Address

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Web Address \_\_\_\_\_

### Personal Information

The Hornet Tribune makes a special effort to attract applicants from all racial or ethnic minority groups. Please check one category: \_\_\_\_\_ Caucasian \_\_\_\_\_ Hispanic \_\_\_\_\_ Asian/Pacific Islander \_\_\_\_\_ American Indian/Alaskan Native \_\_\_\_\_ African American

## Academic Information

List your undergraduate major \_\_\_\_\_

If you listed journalism/communication, indicate your emphasis or concentration

\_\_\_\_\_ Advertising      \_\_\_\_\_ Public Relations      \_\_\_\_\_ Visual      \_\_\_\_\_ Design  
\_\_\_\_\_ Broadcasting      \_\_\_\_\_ Online      \_\_\_\_\_ Multimedia      \_\_\_\_\_ Print

Which of the following courses have you taken or will have completed by the end of the Spring semester?

\_\_\_\_\_ Beg. Newswriting      \_\_\_\_\_ Inter. Newswriting      \_\_\_\_\_ Advanced Newswriting  
\_\_\_\_\_ Feature Writing      \_\_\_\_\_ Opinion Writing      \_\_\_\_\_ Sports Writing  
\_\_\_\_\_ Copy Editing      \_\_\_\_\_ Newspaper Design      \_\_\_\_\_ Online Editing  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yearbook Design      \_\_\_\_\_ Magazine Design      \_\_\_\_\_ Video Editing

## Practical Journalistic Experience

Have you ever worked for a high school, college or professional (newspaper, yearbook or literary magazine)?      \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No      Name of Publication \_\_\_\_\_

Check duties performed      \_\_\_\_\_ Copy Editing      \_\_\_\_\_ Reporting      \_\_\_\_\_ Design  
\_\_\_\_\_ HTML Coding      \_\_\_\_\_ Photography      \_\_\_\_\_ Proofreader

Check all of the positions you have held on a staff

\_\_\_\_\_ Executive Editor      \_\_\_\_\_ Managing Editor      \_\_\_\_\_ Copy Desk Chief      \_\_\_\_\_ Archivist  
\_\_\_\_\_ Content Editor      \_\_\_\_\_ Design Editor      \_\_\_\_\_ Photo Editor      \_\_\_\_\_ Reporter  
\_\_\_\_\_ Feature Writer      \_\_\_\_\_ Art Critic      \_\_\_\_\_ Columnist      \_\_\_\_\_ Copy Editor

How many hours a week do you plan to devote to this endeavor if you are selected to lead the staff?

\_\_\_\_\_ 1-5 hours      \_\_\_\_\_ 6-10 hours      \_\_\_\_\_ 11-15 hours      \_\_\_\_\_ 16-20 hours      \_\_\_\_\_ 21-25 hours  
\_\_\_\_\_ 25-30 hours      \_\_\_\_\_ 31-35 hours

Are you serving as a stringer or freelancer for a professional newspaper, magazine or online publication?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No      Name of Publication \_\_\_\_\_

If so, how many stories, on the average are published during a month? \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate which of the following areas you have better than average skills:

\_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in hypertext markup language (HTML)      \_\_\_\_\_ Proficient with graphics and page design  
\_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in page layout, graphics and design      \_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in computer generated charts  
\_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in reporting, writing and editing      \_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in photos and photo editing  
\_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in marketing or telemarketing      \_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in sales and advertising  
\_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in video and video editing      \_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in public affairs and promotion

Indicate why you believe you would be the best person to fill this position \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Academic Information (Continued)**

Junior High School Attended \_\_\_\_\_

Senior High School Attended \_\_\_\_\_

University Attended \_\_\_\_\_

**Personal Information**

Have you ever been convicted of a crime (other than a traffic violation) or been imprisoned during the last seven years? A conviction will not necessarily bar you from employment. \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No If yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of friends or relatives that are employed by The Hornet Tribune \_\_\_\_\_

Employment History (Begin with most recent employer)

1. Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Employed \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Beginning Salary \_\_\_\_\_ Ending Salary \_\_\_\_\_ Position held \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Leaving \_\_\_\_\_

2. Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Employed \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Beginning Salary \_\_\_\_\_ Ending Salary \_\_\_\_\_ Position held \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Leaving \_\_\_\_\_

3. Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Employed \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Beginning Salary \_\_\_\_\_ Ending Salary \_\_\_\_\_ Position held \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Leaving \_\_\_\_\_

## **Military Service**

Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Service \_\_\_\_\_

Duties/Special Training \_\_\_\_\_

## **Additional Information**

Do you have any disabilities that may require special accommodations on the part of The Hornet Tribune staff in order for you to function efficiently? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No If yes, please elaborate

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **References**

List the name, title, address, email address, office and home telephone numbers of two people (professors, former high school teachers (no relatives) who are familiar with the abilities that are needed for the job in which you are applying. Be sure to include area codes for telephone numbers and zip codes for addresses. Student Media Board members will call them during the selection process so please be sure they are aware that you have listed them as references. Do not list peers as references.

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Office Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Fax # \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Office Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Fax # \_\_\_\_\_

## **Applicant's Statement (Signature Required)**

I have read all of the information pertaining to The Hornet Tribune and if selected by the Student Media Board, I agree to honor my commitment to complete my year as a copy editor or copy desk chief unless I become medically disabled. All of the information I have given in this application is true.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# CHECKLIST

The following materials must be submitted in order for you to be considered for a copy desk chief or copy editor position on any of the aforementioned staffs:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Copy Desk Chief or Copy Editor Staff Application
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. A typed resume' listing all colleges you have attended, all major jobs you have held since junior high school. We will look for the name, address and telephone numbers of the company that employed you, the name of your supervisor, the type of work you performed and the dates you were employed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. A high school or college transcript or a typed list of all of your journalism courses with the grades earned will also suffice.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. A 500-word Essay. This two-page essay must be typed and double spaced.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Student Media Board Constitution Examination Score
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Editor's Examination Score

Please make duplicates of all hard copies that you submit

## Your Essay . . . An Important Part of the Student Media Board's Decision

Your 500-word essay must be typed in an easy-to-read typewriter or computer print font. It is permissible to make minor editing marks, should you spot errors while proofreading.

Often, panelists read and re-read an essay when deciding which students will advance to the finalist stage. Therefore, it is important to write a well-organized, straightforward piece.

**TOPIC:** Write an essay stating your position on the death penalty in the United States and whether it should remain or be abolished. **BE SURE TO TYPE YOUR FULL NAME AT THE TOP OF EACH PAGE OF YOUR ESSAY.**

Please staple the essay to this page