

## **PBF Committee Presentation**

Good morning Chair Topper and members of the council, and thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify on behalf of Temple University. I am Radhey Patel, a senior double major in Economics and Philosophy in the Fox School of Business and College of Liberal Arts. As a student in the final semester of my 4-year education here, I can say that being at Temple has truly defined what it means to develop my skills currently while setting myself up for the future. My near perfect GPA is a testament to the commitment of both the Liberal Arts and Fox faculty to its students. The attention to detail in lectures and assignments and making themselves readily available contributed greatly to my success. Professors here aren't simply committed to the subjects they teach but also to the mission of Temple to serve the North Philadelphia area, an idea they aim to advance.

Temple's impact on me has not just been academic, however. The abundance of extra curriculars to get involved is clear. The Temple Finance Association has been instrumental in propelling my career. In freshman year, I got involved in the Fox Fund, which is a 50 student virtual investment portfolio where we meet for an hour three days a week to learn investing principles and financial analysis, all run by fellow committed Temple students. Continuing in my sophomore year, I was able to interview for and join the Owl Fund, which is our school's actively managed investment portfolio of over \$3 million. Our organization's faculty advisors have organized interview preparation workshops, panels of finance professionals across Wall Street and Broad Street, and an extensive alumni network. These experiences culminated in securing 3 summer internships for myself, one in investment management my freshman year, followed by one at a local private equity shop, and then this past summer in investment banking at Wells Fargo, where I will be returning full time.

On the side of service learning, I've also been involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters, a volunteering organization that matches a child in one of the four surrounding elementary schools with a Temple student. Since freshman year, I had the opportunity to meet weekly with my Little, or mentee, and foster a multi-year relationship with him. Early on, I joined the executive board as a general member, climbing the ranks throughout the years to communications coordinator, vice president, and now President and working directly with the Philadelphia region headquarters of Big Brothers Big Sisters. Giving back to the community and representing Temple as a role model for elementary students has been the most rewarding experience for me during my time here. It speaks to Temple's commitment to giving back to the city and developing the community to set it up for long-term prosperity, all starting with the children. With there being less of an understanding of the benefits of higher education in an economically insecure population like the one serviced by BBBS, the opportunity of having that education can significantly improve equity for these individuals. In-state funding is crucial to support the programs that Temple uses to advance the mission of uplifting those in North Philadelphia.

My experiences in finance and the community with Temple have bolstered me as a candidate personally and professionally. Even looking beyond my immediate plans after graduation, I've started studying for the LSAT and navigating how law school would be with the help of Temple's Pre-Law program. My undergraduate career has brought me everything I've wanted to achieve; double majoring in two subjects I'm passionate about and graduating on time with a full time job all while being able to explore Pennsylvania and the amazing city of Philadelphia. The university has been instrumental in preparing me for my future endeavors as a Temple alumni and make me hope that I can continue to be an example of what it means to be #TempleMade. Thank you.