

# Candidate Ryan Slabaugh

## Regional Student Representative – Region III

---



### **Personal Background:**

I am a twenty-four year old Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran, who served five-honorable years on Active Duty in the United States Marine Corps as a helicopter Crew Chief. I am currently living in San Diego, California but am a native of Colorado. I am looking forward to my transition back home as I prepare myself to transfer to the University of Colorado at Boulder. As an Aeronautical Engineering major, I began attending the San Diego Community College District during Spring Semester 2009 and have been a full-time student since. I embarked upon my educational journey with a sincere amount of dedication and loyalty, and now after having completed 64.50 units, I still maintain a 4.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA). Maintaining a flawless GPA becomes more difficult every semester, but I continue to pursue each class with the same intensity as my first, which continues to pay dividends. With a primary educational goal of achieving a Bachelor's of Science in Aeronautical Engineering, I am striving for a career working in the commercial aviation industry, specializing in optimization.

### **SHPE Background:**

During Spring Semester 2010, I was introduced to SHPE at San Diego Mesa College and immediately joined. Toward the end of the semester, I campaigned for, and was elected, President of San Diego Mesa College SHPE for the 2010/2011 academic year. During my Presidential term, I have had the opportunity to transform San Diego Mesa College SHPE into a chapter that is well-reputable throughout the region and adheres to the strategic focus areas and five developmental categories of SHPE National. As a community college chapter, recruiting and maintaining members is a major obstacle I have had to overcome due to the constantly transitioning student body. At the beginning of Fall Semester 2010, our chapter had three paid members. Since then, I have raised this number to a chapter record high of 32 paid members. Beyond this overwhelming membership increase, our chapter has had its most successful semester to date, already hosting two outreach events, creating a chapter website, registering seven members for the Regional Leadership and Development Conference, and fabricating two design projects. Even more, our chapter has been recognized as being the most "tech-e" in the region, as we participate in a Walk on Water Design Competition every semester. I have enjoyed my term as President and am now looking to expand my leadership skills and make an even larger impact in this exceptional organization by campaigning for the Region III RSR.

### **What can I do for Region III?**

As the Region III RSR, I look forward to establishing an organized and well-maintained line of communication between SHPE National and the regional student chapters. Good communication is essential in preserving our organization, as well as upholding the family structure SHPE fosters. I am an advocate of hands-on education and will share my knowledge of design competitions within the region to promote educational, professional, personal, chapter, and academic growth. I will work diligently to ensure SHPE remains the *Source for Quality Hispanic Engineers and Technical Talent*.