

After reviewing the job description for the position, what activities and special skills make you qualified, and why are you running for this position?

I am currently the President of the Associated Students of Diablo Valley College, also serving on Student Trustee and College Council. Therefore, I am familiar with financial reports and initiatives of colleges.

I am also the current Treasurer of Diablo Valley Rotaract, which is a 501(c)(5). I am responsible for keeping transactions, creating balance and budget sheets, making financial reports, and also filing IRS forms.

Please briefly discuss the core commitments of the Vision for Success and your understanding of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Vision for Success's core commitments can be put into three categories. The first category is student support, as we want to focus on helping students meet their end goals. The second category is data research, where we shall use data and evidence to support our decisions. The third is taking action, as we take innovative initiatives and partner with leaders across other educational and workforce development boards.

My understanding of diversity, equity, and inclusion is that it must be multifaceted and intersectional. This means when making decisions, we need to think of different types of students such as domestic and international, transfer and non transfer, race and gender, sexuality and financial circumstances etc. When considering all three aspects, people should feel welcome in every identity, and should be able to find people with similar backgrounds to bond with. It is always hard to make everything completely equal, especially when resources are limited, so equity is important where we prioritize certain issues to tackle, and fix them one by one. Using data, we can find the most pressing issue, and with the whole student population in mind, create innovative changes.

What issue(s) in higher education are you most dedicated to addressing and why?

Other than guided pathways for education, I am also dedicated to address students' pre-professional training for work, because no matter if they are transferring or earning a certificate, they are all trying to advance their current or future careers.

For students seeking to transfer to a four year institution, academically, I hope to establish community college research centers so students who wish to take a PhD route or are in need of these opportunities can do research and publish papers. Professionally, I wish the college can provide consulting service to current and new clubs, to expand the student organizations on campus, so that each student can have their niche and a place for pre-professional preparation at a low risk setting such as school.

For students who are returning to school after work, or earning certificates for the workforce, programs vary greatly depending on the major, but I wish colleges could open up internships on campus for students.

Furthermore, I would like to make an emphasis on housing. Community colleges often do not offer housing, yet many students could be at risk of homelessness. I hope schools could utilize certain rooms for students who are truly homeless, or even the parking lot for students living in cars, to ensure student safety and basic housing needs.