

I am running for this position because I want to enhance my skills in communication, marketing, and leadership. This position is also very similar to my role in student government. As of right now, I am the Public Relations Officer for De Anza Student Government where I handle all promotional material for any events, services, anything that we feel students should know about. I also handle all outreach of communications for the student body; this includes our program and services that we fund like our Transfer center, LGBTQ safe space, and International students program just to name a few. My role is very important because without a constant outreach of communication from the student body to these programs we don't get consistent updates on what they're working on, what issues they may have, concerns, and more. One last aspect of my role is because I handle all promotional material. I also maintain our student government instagram (@deanzastudentgov if you are curious). I help create flyers, captions, and find new ways to engage with students both in person and through social media. I also work as an intern for a student organization called Public Policy School where myself and a few other student interns look at legislative policies pertaining to California community college students such as assembly bills and we attend a conference at the end of winter to discuss and lobby for these bills we are in support of.

I think diversity, equity and inclusivity are aspects that should always be a priority especially when we are discussing California community colleges because as sccc, one mission is to be able to represent millions of students across the state. I have made sure that these goals are met here at De Anza by always engaging with all groups of students, specifically those who are disproportionately impacted by systems that are out of our hands. Coming from a student as well that is associated with so disproportionately impacted groups, being a foster youth student, a queer student, and as a Hispanic student I understand more than the average student how difficult it is not only have to work twice as hard than some students but also work hard to not only being seen as diversity student. What I mean by this is that there have been times where my awards and achievements are undervalued and instead I am only seen for the communities I represent which I disagree with, if you can view me as a student that is associated with so many underrepresented groups than you should also see for what I have done and accomplishments thus far in my career, and sccc would only allow me to speak about this on a higher level.

One issue that I continue to speak about is being inclusive and shutting down systems that are put in place to make certain groups of students academic goals seem impossible. Not only have I experienced this first person but also when I do my outreach for student government and hearing from students of all backgrounds (undocumented, international, incarnated to name a few) it's heartbreaking that their stories go unnoticed and unheard. I won't speak too much because I believe I made my point clear in the previous question but with my platform I will continue to prioritize this issue and uplift student voices that need to be heard while also being a representative for the communities that I am a part of.