

Virinchi Kuppa's Candidate Statement

Hey! My name is Virinchi Kuppa and I am a Business Administration and Economics major at De Anza College. A few interests that I have are playing volleyball, chess, and any other sport! A couple of interests are collecting trading cards and doing outdoor activities like ziplining. After reviewing the job descriptions of the Vice-Chair and Treasurer positions, I feel that I am well suited for both. I currently serve as a Vice-Chair of the Marketing Committee at my student government (De Anza), whose responsibilities mirror the Vice-chair position's description. Some of my current responsibilities include assisting the chair with delegation, managing a spreadsheet that keeps track of the contributions from each committee member, as well as succeeding our Marketing chair whenever they are absent. These responsibilities directly transfer over into the Vice-chair position, so based on my aforementioned experience, I am qualified for this position. Next for the Treasurer position, as a Business Economics major I am passionate about finance. I have experience managing club finances as a Club president/treasurer for multiple clubs, so I feel this work experience is relevant as well. Next, the core commitments of the vision of success are crucial in higher education, as they contribute to creating an inclusive learning environment that fosters the success of all community college students, regardless of their backgrounds or circumstances. Institutions that prioritize diversity, equity, and inclusion strive to address systemic barriers and promote a sense of belonging for everyone within the educational community. More specifically, diversity, equity, and inclusion all go hand-in-hand with each other. As a Public Policy Volunteer, I was able to work with undocumented students and was able to talk to them to understand the definition of diversity, equity, and inclusion firsthand. After they spoke my understanding of Equity was it involves ensuring that everyone has access to the same opportunities, resources, and privileges, regardless of their background. Equity recognizes that different individuals may need different levels of support to achieve the same outcomes. And Diversity as acknowledging and valuing the presence of differences among individuals and communities. Diversity can include differences in race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, abilities, and more. Finally, Inclusion refers to creating an environment where all individuals feel welcomed, respected, and valued. Inclusion involves actively ensuring that diverse perspectives and voices are heard and considered. An issue that I am very passionate about is affordable housing for students close to campus. I attend a school with a high cost-of-living area, so a lot of students are required to commute for a long time using the transportation system or drive there. Unfortunately, students have to commute for a long time from their houses/apartments at affordable rates just to attend our college. I want to find a way to standardize affordable housing across the California Community College system.