

My name is Yanran Yan and I'm currently a first-year student at Las Positas College. I am running for the Region Communications Officer position at SSCCC.

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

The professional skill sets I have acquired over the past five years of leadership make me an ideal candidate for the position. In the past, I have been consistently rewarded for hard work with promotions and increased responsibilities. These rewards directly result from my expertise in being officers of clubs and organizations, my commitment to personal and professional excellence, and my excellent written and oral communication skills.

Some leadership experience I have had include:

- State Intern, California Phi Beta Lambda (CAPBL)
- Director of Events, SpeakOut Cœur
- Intern | Outreach Director, CollegeLeap
- Director of Events, Las Positas College Student Government (LPCSG)

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

The Vision for Success has three core commitments. I'll explain them based on my understanding: 1) SSCCC aims to create policies that benefit the students; 2) SSCCC aims to promote social equality by forming or opening up platforms for student discussions and actions; and 3) SSCCC aims to have more community college students actively voice out their opinions to the group, thereby improving student engagement. Overall, this organization is committed to bring the best to community college students and enhance their experience at these institutions.

My understanding of diversity, equity, and inclusion: As a Chinese international student, I appreciate how U.S. schools put so much effort into making the environment a diverse one. Diversity to me means acceptance. This also leads to inclusion: students need to accept their fellow students' differences. Without really recognizing their differences, we cannot have a diverse community. By acknowledging differences in groups, we can then come to the idea of equity, where everyone's differences are appreciated and treated equally.

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

Because I am an international student, I can relate to this group's concerns more than the other ones'. I believe that community colleges don't have enough resources and support for our international students. Their struggle with English is already a tremendous barrier to overcome, yet the ESL courses haven't shown significant proof that these students have benefitted from those courses. They still struggle with English composition and literature classes when they leave the program. I think we have a responsibility to let our classmates integrate into American society faster to communicate with everyone without hindrance.

If anyone would like to learn more about me, you are welcome to contact me at (925) 738-8627 or send me an email via xyyan0007@zonemail.clpccd.edu! I look forward to meeting with everyone during the election season and further discussing this amazing opportunity to serve at SSCCC.