

Zainab Abbas

Running For: Vice President, Director of Club Outreach, Director of Programs and Services

Major: Public Health

Why do you wish to run for an LPCSG Position?:

I was to run for an LPCSG position because, coming into community college, I had low expectations for my college experience at Las Positas, as I did not expect to take the transfer route after high school. However, during my time here at Las Positas, I have truly enjoyed it, and I see the hard work that student government puts in to give CC students a memorable experience. As a part of the student body, I, too, hope to give incoming and current students a fun, memorable community college experience, and I will put in my ideas and voice, while working to the best of my abilities to give back to my community like this year's student government did for me.

Please list your current or past leadership experience.:

I am currently the Secretary of the Muslim Student Association at LPC, where I am responsible for taking meeting notes, keeping meeting attendance, maintaining important records of our weekly meetings, and giving my overall input to the club and future MSA meetings. I was also the Senior class representative in high school last year at Rise Academy, where I took the suggestions, opinions, and concerns of my fellow 12th-grade peers and communicated that to our President and student body during student council meetings. Along with that, I started the Medical club in my high school during my last year there, in which I, along with the help of the rest of my team, created informative presentations with activities of the different specialties within the medical field for students interested in pursuing a career in medicine.

What makes you stand out compared to other candidates for the position you are applying for?:

I stand out as a candidate due to my passion for learning and adaptability to new challenges. With a strong background in public speaking, including my experience leading groups of students in clubs and winning national competitions like Matin Talks, I am able to bring effective communication skills to any team. I truly enjoy meeting new people and building connections, while working collaboratively, as that fosters a positive and productive environment. This blend of skills ensures that I will not only excel in my role as Vice President but also contribute to the dynamic success of the rest of the student government.

What aspects of student life would you seek to improve? How would you do so?:

I hope to improve and raise more awareness about mental health support in the Las Positas campus by implementing accessible counseling services, promoting mental health awareness campaigns, and creating student-led support groups. I also hope to enhance resources for academic success, especially for challenging courses. Math support is doing great in this aspect, but I would also love to see that for subjects such as science-related courses. I could do that by communicating with bio/chem professors and visiting the support they or someone they know could potentially offer. I would also want to foster an even more inclusive and welcoming environment for students of all backgrounds by organizing diversity workshops and events and promoting student-led diversity initiatives. Finally, as students, it gets hard to balance a healthy lifestyle with school, and many often forget to take care of their bodies and maintain a routine. That is why I want to promote students' overall well-being through healthy lifestyle choices and access to fitness facilities.

We could do this by offering potential gym memberships or fitness classes, providing nutritious dining options, organizing wellness workshops, and creating outdoor recreational spaces on campus.