

2021-2022 Candidate for SGA President

JUNAYED AHMED

junayed.ahmed@live.lagcc.cuny.edu

How did you become interested in running for office?

I became interested after experiencing certain unfairness in my learning experience at LAGCC. I overcame those hurdles by being brave enough to escalate the matter to the appropriate authority who were very supportive even though I was advised by advisers to not escalate the matter. I knew I was on the truth and eventually it would prevail and cannot be suppressed. I noticed similar unfairness done to others but they were not confident enough to challenge the status quo. I want to be a voice of strength and support for those who feel vulnerable.

What are some of the principles that guide you as a leader?

The number one principle that guides me as a leader is justice. Justice must be delivered to those entitled to it without any hindrance or reservations whatsoever.

If elected, what is one issue that is important to students and how do you plan to address it in your role?

One issue that is important to students is their grades and overall GPA. Once a student receives a grade it will stick with them wherever they go. The number one reason why we're in school is to excel in academics and build a bright future. It all begins with those grades. My number one goal will be to prioritize students' rights to get those grades they deserve without feeling helpless or feeling intimidated or feeling like a burden to anyone as long as they deserve those grades, even if that means making them aware of all resources available to them or representing them to a faculty member or giving them honest opinions about their studies and moral support to boost their confidence when life gets tough.

Why should a student vote for you to represent them?

I believe my experience leading up to college is very unique and different. I have been to different types of schools in America and abroad earning my first degrees. I am definitely a non-traditional college student in America. I believe firmly in the power of education and want to empower others. I am also a community leader in a non-profit organization. I address hundreds of people on a weekly basis. I am also a full-time teacher. These are some of the reasons why I believe I can be a good representation for all students.

2021-2022 Candidate for SGA Vice President

MAHAM NAZ

maham.naz@live.lagcc.cuny.edu

How did you become interested in running for office?

As a full time-student and facing problems during the studies, I always wanted a direction or light to help me throughout the whole journey of my career. I am always supportive of my other classmates and friends in their studies. I have a passion to serve my community and students who are facing hardships during studies because I always feel that by completing our studies, we not only change our future but are able to be proud of ourselves. I became interested in running for office after reading the responsibilities. I will be glad if I can help other students to make their journey easy.

What are some of the principles that guide you as a leader?

I am an honest person and also ready to speak for truth and justice. For me, listening and understanding other people is the most important thing. Working together and focusing on the positive side can bring out a good change.

If elected, what is one issue that is important to students and how do you plan to address it in your role?

I think there are a lot of issues that need to be considered which are important to students like their financial aid issues, career related problems and especially for students who are freshman and not sure what should be their next step towards their career. A lot of students are parents and have kids. There should be more easily accessible technology and information to each and every student especially in this time when we are taking classes virtually. It's very hard to maintain the balance between our personal life and studies. I would try to resolve the issue by contacting students, listening to their problems, and then will try to contact those particular departments to help the student.

Why should a student vote for you to represent them?

I am a full-time student, a mom of two young kids and also came from another country. I have suffered a lot and work hard to reach this point. I can understand student problems because I can relate to them. I can understand how difficult it is to come from another country and start your studies from scratch, having a lot of different barriers like language problems. I can relate how hard it is to manage life with kids and studying at the same time. I know how hard it is to get good grades and be a full-time student so it won't affect financial aid or anything. I know all these struggles and hardships because I have seen this. I want to help other students in their journey so they feel less stressed about other things and focus more on their studies for their bright future. I am available and reachable to everyone at any time, and I take all my tasks with a lot of responsibility. I am willing to serve my community and other students with my heart. I would be so happy if I could help any student to accomplish their goal or help any student to solve their problems and make their journey easy towards fulfilling their dreams.

2021-2022 Candidate for SGA Treasurer

MAYA DEMBY

maya.demby@live.lagcc.cuny.edu

How did you become interested in running for office?

During the time of online learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic, I wanted to find more ways to be engaged in LaGuardia's student activities. I didn't just want to go to college and not join any clubs, or make any friends and just be online. I saw the email for the Student Government Association (SGA) and I decided to give it an earnest try. I only know LaGuardia from an online standpoint due to my first semester being March 2020. Having an opportunity like running for Treasurer of SGA will give me amazing leadership experience to last a lifetime. LaGuardia is a great college and I want to be involved in the diverse community and amazing opportunities in which the college has to offer. Being a part of the SGA is a great start.

What are some of the principles that guide you as a leader?

Some of the principles that guide me as a leader are collaborative skills, conflict resolution and an ability to work with different personal styles and approaches. Being able to work with people from different backgrounds using different styles and solving problems in a peaceful and cohesive manner will make it much easier to work with people in a productive and cooperative environment.

If elected, what is one issue that is important to students and how do you plan to address it in your role?

One issue that is becoming more important to students is mental health. Many students have been facing some of the worst times in their lives due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Students might be facing extreme poverty, unemployment, loss of loved ones and more. These situations can breed anxiety, stress, depression and other mental health issues can be horrible for a student who is also trying to handle their college responsibilities as well as juggle the unpredictably life can sometimes bring. Alongside the members of the SGA, I plan to address the issue by brainstorming new and innovative events, planning activities and informing students of all their options when dealing with mental health issues during their time in the college.

Why should a student vote for you to represent them?

Many people walk away from college and don't get a good experience because they didn't participate in any activities or ask for help. While in the SGA, I will work extremely hard working with faculty, staff and students in order for students' voices to be heard and ideas to be expressed concerning their time in LaGuardia. This will not only help them as students, but also as people moving forward in life.

2021-2022 Candidate for SGA Secretary

OUMAR KANE

oumar.kane@live.lagcc.cuny.edu

How did you become interested in running for office?

I want to run for office because I want to support LaGuardia in the best way possible. I believe that this is a great college and I want every student to graduate with the best college experience. I want every student, including me, to enjoy every moment at LaGuardia and that is why I believe by running for office I will be able to gain experience in a leadership position and at the same time be able to help students in the best way possible.

What are some of the principles that guide you as a leader?

Some of the main principles that guide me as a leader is that I am someone who wants everyone to strive towards greatness. I have a great passion for sitting down as students to work together to achieve a common goal which is to succeed. I am very optimistic and I believe that if every student gets the right support, they will all reach their goals not just in college, but also in life. That is why running for office will help me support students to achieve their goal.

If elected, what is one issue that is important to students and how do you plan to address it in your role?

I believe that in college it is very important for students to engage in activities that will move them forward and help them gain skills and experience. When I am elected, I will try my best to make sure that students make the best of what the college has to offer.

Why should a student vote for you to represent them?

I believe that a student should vote for me because I will advocate for them in the best way possible. I will engage with students and make sure that we all move forward and reach our common goal, which is to be successful.

2021-2022 Candidate for SGA Event and Program Coordinator

SAIMA TARANNUM

saima.tarannum@live.lagcc.cuny.edu

How did you become interested in running for office?

I worked in the LaGuardia Community College IT department and also worked in the registration office. I have experienced working in the CUNY Central Office. Working with these offices made me become interested in running for office.

What are some of the principles that guide you as a leader?

Motivation and Productivity.

If elected, what is one issue that is important to students and how do you plan to address it in your role?

Students have family obstacles. This prevents them from excelling in classes. I will make a report on how they can prevent these obstacles.

Why should a student vote for you to represent them?

I am an immigrant student, so I know what problems immigrant students face in their families to go to college. I have the courage to tell the truth and I have the experience to work in any environment.

2021-2022 Candidate for SGA Academic Representative– STEM

SHOPNA MAZUMDAR

shopna.mazumdar@live.lagcc.cuny.edu

How did you become interested in running for office?

I am interested because I like to work on campus.

What are some of the principles that guide you as a leader?

I can lead any group work.

If elected, what is one issue that is important to students and how do you plan to address it in your role?

I will help the students if they have any difficulty.

Why should a student vote for you to represent them?

They will be satisfied with my work.

**2021-2022 Candidate for SGA Academic Representative–
Business and Technology**

JARIN TARANNUM

jarin.tarannum@live.lagcc.cuny.edu

How did you become interested in running for office?

I am interested in running for office. I have the skill to lead a group.

What are some of the principles that guide you as a leader?

Student council truly gives me the opportunity to foster skills like leadership, communication, teamwork, organization, and public speaking – all of which I need in university. Not only do these skills help me in class but they're also super valuable if I am interested in co-op programs and job applications.

If elected, what is one issue that is important to students and how do you plan to address it in your role?

Soft skills and personal development are important to students.

Why should a student vote for you to represent them?

I will get the chance to prepare and train for public speaking. I will get coaching and proper practice. In turn, this also gives me a chance to practice my social skills and communication skills at the same time.

**2021-2022 Candidate for SGA Academic Representative–
Social Science**

JAMES STUART

james.stuart@live.lagcc.cuny.edu

How did you become interested in running for office?

After beginning my studies here at LaGuardia Community College, I was first introduced to the SGA while researching the school's available organizations and student engagement opportunities. With a current major in political science, and with the intention of transferring to a university to obtain an undergraduate degree in political science with a focus on international relations, being a part of the SGA and representing the voices of my fellow students felt like an opportunity I could not pass up.

What are some of the principles that guide you as a leader?

I have always prided myself on the ability to sincerely take in all viewpoints and opinions when engaging in a matter, and to view a situation from every possible angle in order to make an informed decision and strive for an ideal outcome. Inclusivity and equality amongst the many voices of our fellow students should be, and will be, of the utmost importance.

If elected, what is one issue that is important to students and how do you plan to address it in your role?

It is difficult to narrow down to just one issue that I feel is of deep importance, but I do believe that at the root of the many conversations that are being had both in our school and in our world, access and exposure to knowledge is imperative in educating a person on how to advocate for a better tomorrow. I am a firm believer in ensuring accessibility to those who seek education and for working towards removing the barriers which often prevent a person from pursuing and forging a path forward in their life.

Why should a student vote for you to represent them?

At the center of my values and core has always been a deep conviction for empathy and connection with one another, and for making space to have difficult conversations in a way that allows us to collectively strive for a better world that benefits all.

2021-2022 Candidate for Faculty Student Disciplinary Committee (FSDC)

APRIL MORALES

april.morales@live.lagcc.cuny.edu

How did you become interested in running for office?

Being a Faculty Student Disciplinary Committee Representative means being a moderate between policies, students/staff and the accused by identifying the misconduct and the action that should be taken against the individual(s).

What are some of the principles that guide you as a leader?

As a future Faculty Student Disciplinary Committee Representative, I am guided by facts and intentions. People that committed misconduct will be held responsible and liable for their actions. The disciplinary actions will be determined by their level of seriousness and the student's history.

If elected, what is one issue that is important to students and how do you plan to address it in your role?

If elected as a Faculty Student Disciplinary Committee Representative, I plan to do what's right for everyone.

Why should a student vote for you to represent them?

As a future Faculty Student Disciplinary Committee Representative, my job is to uphold CUNY's policies and continue to lead students and faculty in safe environment by making the right decision in place of misconduct.

2021-2022 Candidate for Faculty Student Disciplinary Committee (FSDC)

BARRI METCALF

barri.metcalf@live.lagcc.cuny.edu

How did you become interested in running for office?

I always wanted the opportunity to work with students. Working with people you can relate with and understand the challenges they are going through is essential. Doing something you enjoy is more important than a paycheck.

What are some of the principles that guide you as a leader?

I think being innovative is extremely important. Cooperation is one of the main things that guides me as a leader. Being a team player and working together to solve issues.

If elected, what is one issue that is important to students and how do you plan to address it in your role?

Anxiety is an issue that most students, if not all, face during school. Sometimes school can be overwhelming at times. I plan to give advice to those struggling with anxiety, and give them some methods that helped me along the way to help deal with my anxiety.

Why should a student vote for you to represent them?

You want someone who's going to level you up. Someone students can relate to and feel comfortable around. We will work together and solve issues.

2021-2022 Candidate for Faculty Student Disciplinary Committee (FSDC)

JUAN LIN

juan.lin@live.lagcc.cuny.edu

How did you become interested in running for office?

I have strong leadership and management skills in the past and always looking forward to learning more to help someone out.

What are some of the principles that guide you as a leader?

The main principles that guide me to become a leader are taking full responsibility, moving and forgiving, accepting opinions and reality, having a strong influence, and being passionate.

If elected, what is one issue that is important to students and how do you plan to address it in your role?

My goal is to make sure no harmful objects are allowed, no fighting, bullying, threats, or harassment in school.

Why should a student vote for you to represent them?

I will try my best to ensure your safety in school.

2021-2022 Candidate for Faculty Student Disciplinary Committee (FSDC)

TABITHA WHITTAKER

tabitha.whittaker@live.lagcc.cuny.edu

How did you become interested in running for office?

I have a great deal of interest in politics/law and became immediately interested in joining the Faculty-Student Disciplinary Committee after receiving an email from the Office of Campus Life. After reading the student representative's position summary, duties, and responsibilities, I felt inspired to apply for the position. I knew I would be the perfect candidate.

What are some of the principles that guide you as a leader?

I am a highly motivated, reliable person. I believe my solid communication and teamwork skills can prove to be a great asset to the committee. I firmly understand the value of listening and believe these are some of my great attributes I can contribute to the Faculty-Student Disciplinary Committee. Everyone deserves to be heard, and I will commit myself fully to making sure that happens.

If elected, what is one issue that is important to students and how do you plan to address it in your role?

Students are sometimes faced with being charged for violating various academic and social rules of conduct. If elected as a Faculty-Student Disciplinary representative, I will attend necessary training to equip myself with the knowledge of the student conduct process, policies, and procedures. I pledge to listen to all testimonies thoroughly. I will work with other FSDC members in making decisions based on evidence provided to ensure all parties feel heard and regarded. To the best of my ability, I will fulfill all obligations required of me and be a dependable member of the FSDC.

Why should a student vote for you to represent them?

Students should vote for me to represent them because I want to listen to them and their concerns and find fair and favorable solutions. I have a strong ability to connect and communicate with others. I believe that makes me a valuable candidate for the position. I would love the opportunity to strengthen my skills while aiding my fellow peers in the process.