

Arpi Danielyan Personal Statement

The yellow tape dividing myself and authority was the hardest barrier to break. From marching for miles in protest of genocide denial to publicly debating for female human reproductive rights, political activism has become the cornerstone of my identity and upbringing. The significance of cause representation in local government is often overshadowed by the contentious polarized environment of federal politics. However, I worked to overcome this divide in my personal activism by lobbying Congress and engaging with district representatives. To further my understanding and involvement in local governance, I interned for former California State Representative Adrin Nazarian, assisting in his campaign for Los Angeles City Council.

Currently, as an intern for a LA City Council representative, which conveniently represents the district of LAVC, I have direct access to a policymaker committed to the best interests of his constituents including the LAVC student body. This unique position allows me to actively participate in and influence the political processes that impact students directly. In my role as Commissioner of Political Affairs at Los Angeles Valley College, I am responsible for informing the student body about ongoing federal and district legislation. It is essential that students understand their rights and protections available to them, which can often seem inaccessible, especially to those without sufficient resources or awareness. Frequently, students from underrepresented advocacy groups feel marginalized, and I aim to ensure that every voice is heard and given due consideration by the ASU. With the backing of Adrin Nazarian and extensive research on my part, LAVC's student body will have a stronger platform to advocate for their political needs and effect meaningful change.

I am running for this position because I am passionate about ensuring that all students, regardless of background, have access to representation. My commitment to academic excellence and connection with the student body make me a reliable advocate for their concerns. Furthermore, my experience in public speaking skills exhibited by my activity in LAVC's debate team has prepared me to engage in complex discussions on policy issues ranging from economic development to social welfare programs. These skills are not only valuable for my future career in public policy but are also essential for serving effectively on the student government.

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Students should vote for me because I am dedicated to creating positive change. I hold a deep compassion for my peers, and my commitment to representing their interests ensures that I will approach the role with the utmost responsibility and integrity. My experience in local politics, paired with leadership abilities, equips me to serve as an effective commissioner of Political Affairs. By electing me, students will be choosing a candidate who genuinely cares about their concerns, prepared to fight for their voices to be heard.