

Grace Lim

Senate Application for Mid-Term Election

**1. Why do you want to join the DASB Senate, and what do you hope to achieve?**

I have always been passionate in playing an active role in student governments. Even though I have had a number of experiences in serving in such positions, I only realized by coming here to a community college in the US that I have never been exposed to a community that is not only so diverse in terms of race and beliefs, but even more so in socioeconomic status, life experiences and physical abilities. I wish to join the DASB Senate to hopefully increase such diversity by sharing opinions and proposals that are influenced by past failures and successes, based on current demands, and inspired by future aspirations. As one who is interested in serving the Indonesian government later to improve the education system, I especially look forward to discussing curriculum, academic calendars and student support systems with the Senate and faculty members, and hopefully contribute and take away valuable ideas. After attending a couple of Senate meetings, I have also observed and admired how the DASB Senators display critical thinking and problem solving skills, which are skills I would like to further improve on. As an international student halfway around the world from home, I hope that the DASB Senate with its equally, if not more driven and dedicated students may become my new home.

As part of the DASB Senate, I hope to achieve consensus when discussing solutions to student concerns, among others, the provision and cost of textbooks, the assistance and information students are equipped with before choosing classes, the improvement on the quality and hygiene of facilities, and the overall De Anza college experience for international students. Additionally, I hope to increase students' involvement in De Anza, and De Anza's involvement in the greater community.

**2. What are some of the skills and experiences that you will bring to the DASB Senate?**

Since elementary school, I have been voted as Class President or Head Prefect every year. Ever since participating in Model United Nations and Model Congress, my interest in following formal procedure to bring about changes that are beneficial for the community has extended to running for positions in the school's Student Council. If my parents had not sent me to De Anza, I would have ran for my high school's role of Presidency this year.

Apart from serving as the President or Head Prefect, I have also served other roles in other associations such as the Public Relations Officer and Project Manager for the MUN Club, Editor In Chief for the Journalism Club, Alumni Mentor for the WSC Club, Secretary and Finance Officer for the House I was part of, and member of the Math Elite Club. Having been exposed to a multitude of roles demanding different sets of skills, I believe that I would not only bring and be able to share my skills with the DASB Senate, but also influence fellow Senators to improve on the one skill I find most important: teamwork. Moreover, I would also like to bring skills that teachers and team members have known me for, mainly diplomacy, constructive negotiation, organization, creative problem solving and adaptability.

**3. What other commitments do you have and how will you manage your time?**

Currently, I am serving as the Secretary of the Math Club and Treasurer of the Economics Students Honor Society here in De Anza. Other than the fact that times for club and officers meetings, classes, Senate and DASB committee meetings all fit perfectly, I am confident that I would be able to utilize my time efficiently to fulfill all my responsibilities. The short daily commute to De Anza of less than 15 minutes, also the lack of a job, allows me more time to work on my academic commitments. Furthermore, I make sure to set realistic goals for myself, including setting time limits for specific jobs, and when combined with wise delegation of tasks in the committees I am part of, all contribute to an effective time management.

**4. What student concerns do you feel the DASB should address?**

I believe that the 50 signatures I have collected are not enough of a representative of the De Anza student body's concerns. However, I do believe that these concerns are ones that are pressing, of which I would outline my proposed solutions for. Of course, they are subjected to a debate with the Senate and approval from the student body and faculty.

Applicant Name: GRACE LIM

- Please collect a minimum of fifty signatures from the student body on the issue in bold below.
- Type a brief reflection pertaining to student concerns. Please include the question and your name on the paper, then turn it in to the Office of College Life with the rest of your application.
- Be prepared to give a brief 2 minute verbal speech at the Senate meeting.

**Issue: What student concerns do you feel the DASB should address?**

Name (Signature)	Concern (Briefly)
1. Cecilia R	more help with new students
2. Michelle Suprat	better parking (space)
3. Alondra <del>_____</del>	<del>more</del> visible parking lines
4. Ciruelda C	better parking space
5. Michelle P.G.	re-open student print services
6. Xiaoyan Liu	parking (space)
7. Nan Sun	parking (space)
8. LEANN	MAKE PARKING SPOTS BIGGER
9. Vijeta Bhide	Not enough parking spaces.
10. Hsiu-Ju Tsai	Not enough parking space
11. Jonathan Le	Not enough books in the bookstore
12. Pallavi Sujith	Need more textbooks in the library.
13. Azarmidokht Makhlessi	Make a parking spots for lot A.
14. Weixiu Chang	We need more parking spots.
15. Enu Monika	we need more parking spots in Lot F.
16. Lavanya Chhibber	We need more clear information about student academic support system
17. Chaitanya Pallavi P	More help when choosing classes and instructors online
18. Danyl Heng	food options
19. TSUNGHAN CHU	basketball court
20. Alexander Chau	basketball court
21. Nanrui Hei	classroom desks / chairs kinda worn out. needs replacement
22. Alex Hoang	water fountain, cold
23. Eden Sayyad	Books in bookstore are too costly.
24. Ofa Pahulu	Books are too costly.
25. BreAnna Carr	Books are expensive

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26. Glyph Athena Pascua	Books are too costly
27. Simone M. Deluada	High cost for books / Better cleaning for desks high cost for parking permit
28. Marvin Pramana	<del>Learning is better</del> don't change to semester system
29. Louize Winoto	I need SSN as an International Student
30. Yubo Kwan	I need good foods!
31. Rachel Xu	school engagement!
32. Anvesh Lohiya	Items in the bookstore are costly.
33. Chung Hany Choi	Not enough funding for club.
34. Sharon Zhang	Need more funding for club.
35. Peng Vo	Funding for Math Club
36. Aaron Lee	Funding for Math Club
37. Hyun Suk Song	Funding for Math Club
38. Zefeng Cai	Funding for Math Club
39. Morgan Stolpman	Technology costs/materials
40. Julia Verli	Book costs
41. Brandon Ort	Funding for math clubs.
42. Shayaan Naseer Khan	Textbooks
43. Darren Liu	to textbooks
44. Nathan Nguyen	textbooks
45. Tyler Anderson	<del>Textbooks</del> I need better grades!
46. Vincent Nguyen	I strive for a better future!
47. Udita Saha	map is unclear
48. Edward Tayao	We should have more days off for finals!!!
49. Daniel Peralta	more funding for clubs
50. Smarpan Monga	Textbooks

a. De Anza map

The De Anza map is not user friendly, especially the one in the application. I believe that by investing money to change this to a more interactive map, think the equivalent of Google maps that would allow students to find directions between buildings and approximate ETA, would greatly help students in the choosing of classes and parking spots. This is further explained below.

b. parking spots (hard to find parking space, compact space, faded parking lines, cost of parking permit)

a. Considering reports from professors saying that DA has seen declining enrollment for the past few years, I would not propose for the complete refurbishment of the parking lot, rather just the investment to develop the DA map to an interactive one. My rationale for this is that when students have a better understanding of which parking lot is closer to their classes, they are better informed on where to park on the first day. This is vital, as students usually park on the same spot or Lot because of habit. If more students are aware of the many locations to park, traffic would not build up in a certain Lot, allowing traffic to be more evenly distributed. This would hopefully clear up spaces in overcrowded Lots, thus creating an impression that there are "more spaces" and "more space" to park in.

c. student academic support system (difficulty in choosing classes and instructors for the first time)

a. As this is my first quarter in DA, I could relate to this problem. Without seniors to refer to, and a cookie-cutter course overview, I had to resort to RateMyProfessors to choose my instructors, and had no reference for the distance I must travel between classes. As a result, I am always running between classes to reach there on time, meaning running from the CDC to the MCC twice a week. A number of my classmates still find it difficult to find their way to class, especially if they park in a different Lot. Again, the interactive DA map would contribute positively to the classes students choose so that they do not have to rush between classes. As for choosing instructors and courses, it would be greatly beneficial if professors are recommended to share their syllabus on the first day of classes, or even better upload it on the website, so that students could properly judge the course's load, grading standards and other deciding factors. A pre-Welcome Day, one that all professors are present on campus to answer questions from students taking classes the next quarter, would give students more time and considerations to add and drop classes.

d. books (lack of textbooks in library, high cost of textbooks in bookstore)

a. The amount of textbooks available in the library and the cost for buying a textbook from the bookstore are frequent concerns. When asking classmates, I found out that a number are under the impression that the books sold and re-bought by the DA bookstore are resold at the same price every time, this price being sometimes more expensive than on online shops. If possible, I would like to introduce a set fee that students may opt to pay to cover all their books in a course, in the condition that they return the books the way they received it, that is much lower of a price than on online shops - think paying the bookstore instead of the library so that you get to keep your books longer. This would hopefully solve the problem of costly textbooks and the possible problem of the same students checking out the same books from the library, which leaves students who need it for emergency at a disadvantage.

e. facilities (limited food options in cafeteria, classrooms and restrooms being dirty)

a. The issue of the food options in the cafeteria is also a frequent concern. I would like to do a survey to determine if the student body would favor better-known tenants, more vegan, more healthy, more sustainable options, and of course their general suggestions so that the meal options could appeal and cater to a larger population. I do agree that the hygiene of classrooms and toilets must be improved by employing more cleaners or setting a day at the end of a quarter that student volunteers could clean the campus for incentives such as additional credits or food.

f. others

a. Other concerns raised, but not as frequently, were funding for clubs, the issue of the academic calendar, including Flex Days and the semester system, and finally the experience for international students, especially placement assessments and SSNs. These are issues that I would like to further learn about, and discuss with Senators to brainstorm on solutions.