



## **Rida Shaik**

**Running For:** Director of Events, Director of Finance,  
Director of Programs and Services

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**Major:** Computer Science

### **Why do you wish to run for an LPCSG Position?**

I see it as an opportunity to contribute to the student government's mission of creating a safe and equitable space for all students. I believe that my leadership experiences, coupled with my easy-going nature and academic achievements, make me well suited for this role. Throughout my academic journey, I have been interested in the problem-solving aspect of technology, where logic-based functions are posed as strings of code that are combined to create automated systems/solutions to everyday problems. I believe that being a part of the LPCSG provides me with an opportunity to leverage this passion for problem solving to advocate for initiatives that promote equity and inclusivity within the organization. By serving in LPCSG, I aim to collaborate with fellow students and faculty to create a more dynamic, welcoming and supportive environment for students, including international students like myself.

### **Please list your current or past leadership experience.**

I have actively sought out opportunities to take on leadership roles and make a positive impact on campus. Currently, I serve as the director of events at the APIA club, where I am responsible for planning and coordinating a variety of events. Additionally, I work as a Student Assistant at the Career and Transfer center, where I have had the opportunity to connect with others and build meaningful relationships in the student and broader professional community by helping organize summer internship fairs and other career events. In high school, I served as a prefect/student representative for two years, where I developed strong organizational and leadership skills through organizing sports day events, volunteer work and maintaining open communication with other students at school. I was also the Vice President of the Eco Club, focused on achieving sustainable alternatives. This experience was particularly evident when my team and I were chosen as finalists for a Sustainability Award for developing a prototype of a catalytic converter fitted with algae plates. Through this project, I learned the importance of teamwork and collaboration in achieving common goals. These experiences have prepared me thoroughly for a leadership role in LPCSG.

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

What sets me apart as a candidate, besides my passion for advocacy and creating positive change, is my strong belief in the importance of representation in the student body. I have participated in various competitions and quizzes, as well as designed graphics for creators, which have helped me enhance my creativity, research and problem-solving skills. These experiences have not only helped me develop an analytical mindset but also taught me how to address challenges with strategic thinking and innovation, skills necessary for being a part of the student government. I bring a unique perspective to ensure all students, regardless of their background, feel heard, valued and represented in the student body by being an active listener. Additionally, balancing academics, work and club events has required me to develop strong time management skills and prioritize effectively. This ensures that I can fulfill all my commitments enthusiastically.

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

To maximize the impact of the resources available on campus, in addition to flyers, classroom announcements and peer-to-peer promotion can help students discover more opportunities and enhance their professional growth. I plan to introduce a community garden initiative, which not only benefits the environment but also provides a fun and engaging activity for the students. Additionally, increasing access to mental health services and expanding extracurricular activities by engaging with the local community through volunteering or service projects can enhance the overall student experience. Moreover, to ensure the long term success of the LPC Student Government, I propose implementing a Leadership Mentor Program. This program would pair student leaders with mentees who are interested in developing their leadership skills. Developing leadership skills prepares students for success in their future endeavors regardless of their career path. Additionally, I would focus on promoting diversity and inclusion within the student body. I believe that diversity enriches our learning environment and fosters a more inclusive campus community.