

## **Vice President**

**Candidate:** Rae Lo

### **Questions:**

1. Which communities do you think require budgeting and volunteers right now? How do you plan to make ASUW resources available to the student body?

The unexpected context of COVID-19 has highlighted the disproportionate effect on students of color and students with low socioeconomic status. As a consequence of this situation, the following academic year will require ASUW to take proactive action to ensure that no student is sleeping outside in the cold, no student is unable to have a meal, nor student harassed due to their identity. We can mobilize volunteers to entities such as the Food Pantry. Furthermore, we can increase budget for emergency relief funds for undocumented students, as the Department of Education does not allow CARES funding to provide grants to undocumented students. However, I should not be the sole person who determines which communities require budgeting and volunteers. We ought to talk with various communities, and collaborate with the student regent, Provost's Advisory Committee for Students, and ASUW directors to inform this decision. To make a better-informed decision, we must familiarize ourselves with the campus climate and the needs/wants of the student body. Proactive steps need to be taken to reach out to the community so that we are not the sole decision makers. We should not be judging who needs help, but rather, learning who needs help.

As the chief internal officer, in order to make ASUW resources available to the wider student body, I will focus on supporting the internal entities within ASUW with their externally-focused endeavours to provide tailored resources. To ensure that the entities are efficiently administering their resources, I will guide them through setting reasonable and achievable (biweekly) goals, as well as continually engage with the entities to ensure that the objects are accomplished. Furthermore, I want to connect students to these entities by publishing a newsletter that highlights various entities's goals and achievements so the wider student body can see the assorted programs and resources that are available. The newsletter will act as an external face for the internal endeavours within ASUW, and as it is bi-weekly, students will have an updated and recent snapshot of how their student fees are being utilized and what resources are available.

2. How will you help facilitate an effective ASUW board if classes are online fall quarter?

The duty of the internal supervisor is to act as a point person for all employees with questions regarding internal activity and entity goal setting. During this unexpected and stressful situation, it is integral that I act as a pillar of support, especially for the Board. More importantly, it is crucial that I demonstrate that I am here for the Board to confide in, and that I am listening. Empathy and compassion will be pivotal characteristics that the Vice President must embody during this unexpected situation. Furthermore, to facilitate an effective Board, it is essential that the members are held accountable by the student that it is meant to serve. This can be accomplished by hosting town-hall meetings with the Board, and offering asynchronous options and embedding ASL or CART options. Another mechanism to further the efficacy of the Board is to set tangible and attainable goals that can be achieved in a timely fashion. With each member, I plan to discuss what their broader goals are, explore how these goals can be reached by parsing out concrete steps, then produce bi-weekly goals and catch up with each member briefly each week.