

Josh Garland

My name is Josh Garland (he/him/his) and I'm running for the office of the Internal Vice President (IVP). Growing up as a mixed race and LGBTQIA+ student, I found it difficult to express these identities openly. However, UCLA has fostered an environment where I've been able to explore these identities. As a result, I have a drive to ensure our campus is a place where all students feel comfortable and welcomed. I've had the privilege of serving as a director in the IVP office, planning institutional events for the entire UCLA community. As a Director of Student Involvement, I've worked on numerous events including collaborating with the ASUCLA Board of Directors on the UCLA T-Shirt Design Contest and planning finals destressor events. I've learned firsthand how the office is run and how to oversee projects put on by the IVP. I am confident that I can become a successful IVP as my position has given me the necessary knowledge and organizational skills to do so.

I will work with fellow students and student organizations to create a campus that is more accessible and supportive of all Bruins. As your IVP, I will uplift USAC to ensure it is an organization that students can better rely on for resources, funding, and other means of assistance. My goal is to utilize the IVP office's resources to ensure all students can thrive at UCLA. Through my platforms, the "Four Is of Influence," we can improve this campus together Bruins.

Platforms

1. Improve Housing Accessibility for Students
 - Improve affordable housing options for low-income students by expanding the rent relief fund and partnering with groups focused on housing insecurity
 - Advocate for an off-campus meal plan and more dietary options in dining halls
 - Increase accessibility to off-campus housing for all students through housing events
2. Improve Transparency Between USAC and Students
 - Host office hours where student organizations can receive resources for funding
 - Keep a record of USAC meetings on a social media account and regularly email updates to student body
 - Host office hours for students to express concerns over campus affairs to the USAC IVP
3. Increase Professional Opportunities
 - Plan workshops for students who are applying to graduate school and studying for tests such as the MCAT and LSAT
 - Work with the career center and pre-professional clubs to host more networking events
 - Organize career events for students with guest speakers from various fields

4. Increase Community Well-Being

- Host more campus-wide events such as finals destressor events
- Improve student safety by working with the Ashe Center to provide increased care for students without appointments
- Work with student health clubs and CAPS to facilitate workshops on addressing mental health challenges among underrepresented students

Experience

1. As a Director of Student Involvement in the IVP Office, I help oversee a committee of five members and have hosted finals destressor events, worked with ASUCLA on the UCLA T-Shirt Design Contest, and assisted in planning and hosting the True Bruins R.A.I.S.E. ceremony.
2. As a Legal Assistant at the Law Office of Brian H. Turner, I've learned effective organization, planning, professional writing, and communication skills by completing administrative work and providing research assistance.
3. As the Communications Officer for UCLA Taekwondo, I have planned events for the club, assisted in marketing events, recruited new members, and facilitated a welcoming environment for all members.
4. As an editor for the Social Justice Desk at the People's Vanguard of LA, I oversee a team of writers and have assisted in editing articles related to various topics regarding social justice.