

Hansika Nath

Hi everyone! My name is Hansika and I am running for the Office of **International Student Representative**. As an international student myself, I wanted to be the voice that recognizes the importance of our international community and ensures that UCLA is committed to doing the same. Traveling thousands of miles away from home to a new country is a daunting task and therefore it is imperative to realize that the needs of an international student are slightly unique when compared to others. My focus will be to empathize with members of our community and work towards the 'little things that matter' to successfully make UCLA our **home away from home**.

Over the last year, I have personally faced, observed and gathered first-hand experiences from international students that provide nuanced insights into the challenges that we face. Some key areas that I desire to work on include **cultural integration**, ease of access to **healthcare/insurance**, efficient personal **financial management**, **mental health** resources, **food** options etc. My primary goal is to ensure every single international student not only has the opportunity for their voice to be heard but also sees substantive action being taken to meet their demands. I hope to foster an inclusive and safe environment where every individual has the opportunity to be their true selves, just like they would in their respective homes. Please feel free to contact me with suggestions, comments, and questions using my Instagram: @hansika_nath or my Email: hansikanath@g.ucla.edu

Platform:

- 1) **Healthcare** - A lot of international students are extremely unfamiliar with the healthcare and insurance system in the United States. Using interactive media, I aim to make this knowledge more accessible and easy for students.
- 2) **Mental Health** - Fitting into a new culture and society, is hard. However, it is even harder to carve a place in a fast-paced, big school like UCLA. Acknowledging this unique environment, I desire to create a safe space where students with similar backgrounds can come together.
- 3) **Personal Financial management** - A lot of international students are adulting for the first time and budgeting using an absolutely new currency is difficult. By creating a module or bringing in advisors, specifically curated for international students, this process can be made easier

- 4) **Inclusivity** - It is only natural to feel discluded as a minority in the community and fitting in is tremendously difficult. Aside from mental health resources, I aim to work on raising awareness about diversity and inclusivity among everyone.

Experience:

- 1) I am currently a Global Studies student and have been pursuing subjects like Psychology, Sociology and Economics my entire life. This has instilled a strong sense of empathy, rationality and sensitivity in me, all of which, in my opinion, are important qualities of a leader.
- 2) I have served as the School Captain (head of Student Body) at my high school back in India. I have also worked with WWF- India in capacity as Secretary of the Student Body. Both these experiences have enriched my understanding of people and further my capability to handle situations.