

Mukul Kumar

Hello Bruins! My name is Mukul Kumar and I am an independent candidate running for the office of General Representative.

As a first-generation student, I am a reflection of my unique upbringing —my passions and motivations are shaped by both my struggles and my experiences. My parents immigrated from India, working long hours and graveyard shifts.. With unwavering dedication, they raised my brother and I in a country foreign to them and instilled in us these core values: uplifting **community**, unfaltering **commitment** to our morals, and **compassion** for everyone.

Growing up in the Bay Area, I was fortunate enough to be part of a very diverse environment that not only exposed me to other communities, but also the systemic obstacles and issues that hinder them from reaching their full potential. Thus, I have come to understand the importance and power of community organizing, and *firmly* believe that students and community organizations on campus can be powerful agents of change. As a first-generation Bruin hailing from a working-class family, I want to facilitate this change and uplift the voices within our community. **The UCLA I envision is anti-racist and inclusive, predicated on equity, liberty, and justice for all.**

As your General Representative, I am here to listen, reflect, and grow with our Bruin community.

“[...] If you are free, you need to free somebody else. If you have some power, then your job is to empower somebody else. This is not just a grab-bag candy game.” - Toni Morrison

Platforms:

- Establish an **advocacy group** that will act as a liaison between administration and student/community organizations who have been at the forefront of **standing up for students’ academic and civil rights**.
- Facilitate working conversations with administration to **hold them accountable** to their promises of transparency and accessible education for all, while **factoring in key identities** like race, gender, disability status, socioeconomic background, ethnicity, religion, and immigration status.
- Create a safer campus community by supporting **divestiture from UCPD** and advocating for **fiscal redistribution to social programs** such as Narcan education and access, CAPS (including mental health resources *and* outreach), crisis funds for individuals and student groups, and supporting student health in a changing environment.

Qualifications:

- As part of the affordability platform in my time as an intern and staff in the USAC Office of the President, I assisted in advocating for equitable policies and strategies, one of the most notable being the decrease in laundry prices on the Hill.
- As Marketing Director in the USAC General Representative 3 office, I effectively communicated progress and disseminated key information while developing and maintaining a successful social media presence for the organization.
- As a co-founder of an environmentally conscious small business, Zabr, I have practiced significant expertise in researching and implementing strategies and solutions within systems of communications, marketing, and resource allocation.
- In my roles with the Sikh advocacy organization Jakara Movement and the Programming, Service, and Administrative (PSA) chair for the UCLA chapter, I have gained vital experience in leading civic engagement and community-driven change.