

# Divine Johnson

Hello UCLA Family! My name is Divine-Faith Johnson (she/her) and I am running to be your next External Vice President. As a third year political science major, I am passionate about policy and uplifting student voices in lobbying spaces. Being a Black woman in leadership, I have personally witnessed the power of representation in bringing about meaningful change.

I have 8+ years of experience as a leader within advocacy spaces. One of my greatest accomplishments was successfully pushing my City Council to build 100 free housing units for houseless elderly in my community. As a Congressional intern, I've worked closely with my Congresswoman, State Assemblymember and Mayor to advocate for student centered issues, racial justice and accessible education.

At UCLA, I have served as a Director and Chief of Staff for the External Vice President's Office, Vice Chair of the UC Student Association, Senior Policy Intern for the UCLA Government Community Relations, and member of the Community Health and Homelessness Subcommittee for the North Westwood Neighborhood Council. In these roles, I lobbied local, state and federal representatives on behalf of UCLA students and planned events such as a district attorney town hall. I have also written multiple policy proposals, including one focused on creating free housing for low-income UCLA students.

I plan on using my extensive connections, experience, and knowledge to ensure that the student body is effectively advocated for at all levels of government. My core platforms are:

- **Safety**
- **Affordability**
- **Accessibility**
- **Sustainability**

#Divine4EVP

Socials: @divine4evp

## **Platform:**

- **SAFETY** – Re-envision the safety of Westwood now and in the future by implementing alternatives to UCPD, continuing to build on established efforts to support and advocate for undocumented students, and improving UCSHIP to cater more towards mental health resources.
- **AFFORDABILITY** – Promote housing and food security initiatives on campus and in Westwood by expanding CalFresh EBT acceptance to more on-campus stores, creating

affordable off-campus housing options, establishing local rent control, decreasing campus parking permit costs, #DoubleThePell, and improving the maximum Cal Grant award.

- **ACCESSIBILITY** – Build coalitions with Mother Organizations (MOs), Bruins Vote, and the UC Student Association; institutionalize a Lobby Corp to improve civic engagement, and promote transparency within USAC and state lobbying spaces to advance the priorities of students of color, LGBTQ+, and transfer students.
- **SUSTAINABILITY** – Advocate for policies at the federal level to combat climate change, continue fighting for the expansion of the LA Metro’s purple line to bridge Westwood to the greater Los Angeles area, and implement environmental justice education initiatives to advance the needs of communities disproportionately affected by the climate crisis.

**Qualifications:**

1. Chief of Staff – USAC External Vice President
2. Vice Chair – UC Student Association
3. Senior Policy Advisor – UCLA Government Community Relations; Federal Relations
4. Congressional Intern – Congresswoman Judy Chu
5. Homelessness and Community Health Sub Committee member – North Westwood Neighborhood Council