

Naomi Hammonds

Hello, my name is **Naomi Hammonds** (she/her/hers) and I am running for **USAC President**. As a Black Bruin and woman in STEM, I will continue to advocate for the empowerment of students through the betterment of diversity, inclusivity, equity, collaboration, and retention on our campus and student organizations.

A bit of panic, a helping of fear, a splash of terror, and a dash (maybe more than a dash) of anxiety is how I felt when I first entered UCLA. Moving from out of state, I was simply a shy girl that couldn't break down the walls that I built. Like many of you, throughout college, I've had to hold full-time jobs, while balancing (sometimes juggling) my academics, mental health, and extracurriculars. I know the struggle and I've lived a struggle. I know what it's like to be silenced and I know what it's like to not feel like you belong here. The organizations that I've engaged with have allowed me to find my place and belonging, and I will advocate with my peers to enhance our experiences and ultimately our success on this campus. Follow [@naomi.ham__](#) [#NaomiNow](#)

Bringing my lived experience, on and off this campus, if elected as your USAC President I will:

- Advocate for and alongside students to uplift their voices when it comes to issues
- Ensure students feel change where they need to see it
- Vow that my future seconds in this role are yours (the Bruin community)
- Remain truthful, honest, and tangible

Platforms

Planning The Dinner: Before we can think about a seat at the table, someone needs to plan the dinner. Hosting bimonthly town halls, grouped by club categories, I want to give these clubs their flowers, promote collaboration, discuss funding, hear about their issues, and determine how USAC can best support.

Rewriting the Script: I aim to make sure all elected officials are well-supported, informed, and feel comfortable asking for my help. I want to provide resources and guides for present and future USAC members, among other student leaders, all in hopes to better support the student body.

CommUnity: Far too many Bruins on this campus still don't know what USAC is, what we do, and importantly, who we are. Working alongside the elected officials, I intend to use all available channels to keep students updated while working closer with the Daily Bruin and other student media groups.

Experience

As the **USAC General Representative #2**, I have maintained the morale of leadership directors and staff, planned and executed my original platforms that I ran on and other various social events, **plus more**. I will continue to prioritize, amplify, and make space for students. That's a promise.

As one of the few undergraduate **Teaching Assistants** for LS30A and currently LS7C, I challenged myself everyday to learn from my students as they learned from me. I've had tangible effects on undergraduate education at this university. I've seen what works, what doesn't, and played a part in the solutions.

As a **Research Assistant** in the **Life Science Liberation Project** I created a more inclusive, caring, and welcoming environment in the LS7A/B/C series by advocating for better structure, support, flexibility, and autonomy. I developed greater interpersonal skills through listening to student stories that highlighted inequities in resources.

As a **Massage Envy Manager** I have supervised daily operations, trained/coached staff in order to ensure excellent service for guests and to reach membership and retail goals. I have developed the skills required to lead with empathy, optimism, and unity while maintaining a welcoming environment.

As a **Program Development Team Member** for the **Learning Assistant Program** I reinforced peer learning by enhancing communication between students, instructors, and teaching assistants. Through serving in the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion division with increasing outreach to marginalized groups, I increased confidence in student's abilities to learn and succeed.