

Marlen Herrera

April 6, 2018

Student Government Association

Candidate Essay

My name is Marlen Herrera and I am currently a Computer Science Major at Bergen Community College. During this past Spring Semester I have been working for the Office of Student Life and have become exposed to the Student Government Association. As the semester progressed I began to take more interest in the activities that SGA was involved with and promoted. The moment when I decided I would take action and become a part of SGA was during our Leadership Weekend of 2018. Our presenters spoke to us about making changes in our community and how one small change we create can lead to bigger changes throughout. That's when I decided that I'd try to get more involved in SGA related activities to create small positive changes in Bergen's community.

Out of all the positions of the SGA executive board, the Treasurer position appealed to me the most. During this year Bergen and the community here have given me new opportunities and experiences that helped me make connections with many more people. Despite all of these positive moments I've come to realize that not many people have been taken advantage of all the amazing services that Bergen can provide for them. That is one of the main reasons I am running for Treasurer, I want to give back to the community what they have given me. This position will allow me to interact at a much better scale with the student body and will help me work towards my goal of engaging more students at Bergen.

One of the biggest problems at Bergen now seems to be number of members per club. Overall club membership numbers are very low on our scale and this is one of the problems I hope to fix during my term. Our low attendance numbers are a cause of the inadequate distribution of information around campus of student activities. Whether it be fliers, e-mails, or uninformed staff our students are not getting important information on events. Fixing how information is distributed to our students is the biggest goal of my Treasurer campaign. To many people this doesn't seem to be that big of an issue, but this small problem is creating a massive domino effect. If I am chosen for the position of Treasurer I will work with club e-boards and other parts of the student body to make information about clubs and all other things school related more accessible to students.

Overall, my main goal as Treasurer is to return the positivity that Bergen gave me to the student body. Our college should strive on making connections within it's central systems to help students create connections within the student body. College, even if just a community college, should be an amazingly wonderful experience where you meet people like you and make connections that will truly last a lifetime. Together we can build a stronger Bergen for tomorrow.