

General Online Application | 2020-2021 [#14]

ASI 2020-2021 - General Application <no-reply@asicalstatela.org>

Thu 6/11/2020 9:42 PM

To: Florez, Dena <dflorez3@calstatela.edu>

Application Type ASI Academic Senator-at-Large Application

Position Applying For ASI Academic Senator at Large

Name Alexis Iheanyi Obinna

Birth Date [REDACTED]

Class Level Senior

T-Shirt Size 3XL

Eligibility

DIRECTIONS: For each question, please select YES or NO.

Note: If you answer "NO" to any of the questions below, you may not be eligible. For more information, please contact the ASI Administrative Office, 323-343-4778

General Eligibility Verification

Are you considered in good standing with the university? Yes

Have you been enrolled at Cal State L.A. for one (1) semester prior to application? Yes

Undergraduate Only: Do you have a minimum 2 cumulative GPA during the last 12 months? Yes

Graduate Only: Do you have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA during the last 12 months? Yes

Are you available for scheduled meetings as specified in the application packet? Yes

Do you agree to serve a minimum of two (2) hours per week physically in the ASI Offices? (Note: Board applicants agree to be available for a minimum number of service hours per week in addition to office hours as outlined in the Board of Directors Code of Procedures Policy 002) Yes

If you are a Board of Director College Representative applicant, have you declared a major for the College position you are applying for and enrolled in at least one (1) course within the College? (Note: If you are a Charter College of Education Representative, have you declared a major in that College?) Yes

Undergraduate Applicants

Have you earned at least six (6)-semester units of academic credit per semester at Cal State LA during the past 12 months prior to application (not including remedial courses)? Yes

Will you be enrolled in at least six (6)-semester units of academic credit during the semester you are applying. Yes

Are you aware that you must be enrolled in a minimum of six (6) units per semester while in office? Yes

Are you aware that you must maintain a 2.5 GPA each semester while in office? Yes

Have you earned less than (150)-semester units? Yes

What previous experience have you had in the area in which you are applying for?

I have extensive experience listening, sharing and communicating experiences of different populations and communities. I can effectively communicate the needs of the underserved communities, as well as the positive impacts from the direct effect of policies set in place by an organization. I have knowledge in understanding policies as well as expressing them to the community and organization that set them in place. I understand that policies only work when collaborated by all people directly effected, and I understand how to compromise, because unfortunately not everyone can have what they want all the time, there has to be a balance. Thanks to interning for the Department of Children and Family Services Youth Worker Program, I have experience writing multiple directives including but not limited to allocating a portion of funds to recruit foster youth into the workforce development program. I have successfully created these directives from scratch and had them passed for the whole Workforce Development Aging and Community Services in the state of California. I have efficient communication and networking skills, as well as the ability to articulate words based on the situation and population. I am the right candidate to ask tough questions to and dedicate my time to answering and serving the community at Cal State Los Angeles. As an advocate of justice for over 7 years, I am confident I represent the people and what they need, as well as understanding the need for diversity and safe spaces, which we need now more than ever. I have the confidence to positively represent the school as well as the diverse community at Cal State LA. I often have to advocate for many foster youths, and I use my story to represent what is and isn't working in the foster care system, as a social work major I am the best candidate to understand and collaborate on what the students and faculty need.

State briefly why are you are applying and/or are interested in this position

As a mixed raced, dominant black looking woman who was a foster youth who knows the struggle, we can see I have faced many hardships due to my intersectionalities. There are many vulnerable populations I can relate to and help represent more in our diverse college. As a social work major it is my job to ensure equity among students and faculty. I believe I represent the voice of the unheard college students. African Americans and blacks are represented as less than 3% in the school, and there are no statistics on how many foster youth attend, however that does not mean we should neglect what all students need to feel safe in a college university. I have experience helping change two laws in the state of California for foster youth, meaning I mean business and am willing to advocate for what is right in our academic community. The way I achieved this is by working in a team, collaborating stories, engaging and facilitating listening sessions to ensure every foster youth's voice was heard, and having general respect, by using these key factors we were able to achieve our goal of successfully passing the laws. I am dedicated to meeting with students and effectively expressing benefits and concerns students and faculty are receiving as a result of policies from the school. It is time we have equity and justice, and I am here to serve all populations and uphold the values that contribute to upward mobility in California State University Los Angeles. As a social work major, I have always had a desire to understand diverse populations and represent the larger community. I have the capacity to research and articulate on a grand scale different services all people attending Cal state LA (including faculty) can benefit or be harmed as a result of what is currently being implemented

What do you feel are some of the major problems facing the students of Cal State LA?

I believe there is a disconnect between the "higher ups" and students. I want to work together so every population is seen and feels heard. I wish our school spoke up more and facilitated more historical events for all the cultures to create community and harmony on campus. By understanding how and where everyone came from, we can come together as a community to better serve populations. We have a huge Social Work department, and what a better way to learn cultural competence and understanding why some people believe what they do, than to have more conversations, that also make people feel appreciated and seen for once. We can see many of our students are going through a lot with the black lives matter movement, even the nonblack students, and it's our job to facilitate these conversations and thinking spaces as an institution. Covid-19 has really shook up everyday life and we can see that a

lot of programs were not prepared for this, we need more emergency plans in place to ensure everything can run smoothly and all students and faculty needs are met in a crisis and pandemic. We need better communication for students using the housing on campus, and plan for when and how they will need to evacuate in an emergency. I am dedicated in creating safe spaces no matter the situation, it is never okay to leave a student "out in the rain" because they are not apart of a special class such as foster youth. We need to show more diverse populations in media from California State University Los Angeles, social media, sitting at the table in important meetings etc. We would like to see students being invited to committee meetings with the "top dogs" at the table and felt heard and appreciated. And last but not least we need more awareness, and less family direct biases, surrounding vulnerable populations so they may not be stereotyped, or fall through the cracks.(examples include assuming students have families, EX: foster youth, and triggering past experiences or negative memories for a grade.)

List activities and/or organizations that you have been involved with (on or off campus)

PBS/ To Foster Change 2018- Created, filmed, edited, and show cased my documentaries for PBS to get my story in foster care to the people to show they are not alone and can still be great in life. Clips from my documentary were shown on television for national adoption month.

California Youth Connections (CYC) 2014- 2021: After 25 years old youth transition from youth advocate to supporter. I have helped pass 2 laws with CYC, and have facilitated many community and immigrant discussions. CYC is a youth-led organization that develops leaders who empower each other and their communities to transform the foster care system through legislative, policy, and practice change.

Los Angeles Reproductive Health Equity Project (LARHEP) 2018-current :Facilitating discussions with community stakeholders such as : doctors, lawyers, foster youth, resource parents, and so many more. We have helped advocate for reproductive justice in the foster care system and expressing how important it is to have reproductive health rights while in foster care, probation, and group homes.

Foster Club's Outstanding Young Leader Award 2018: Won the award for Outstanding young leader by having over 13 years of volunteer experience (I have been volunteering since eight) and being apart of so many communities in such an early stage of life.

Volunteer work: I started in my foster home, worked my way through the church, and then moved on to community outreach organizations. I have done so much wonderful things I don't think I can name them all. I have planted gardens, repainted buildings, watched children over the summer for free, created independent city where foster youth can navigate a mock city to have a better outcome in the "real world." I have worked in food banks, protested, was a pole worker, so many wonderful things including the work mentioned above. I love serving the underserved and giving them a voice and I hope I can do the same as Academic Senator at Large. Thank you for taking the time to review my application, have a great day.

Contact

In order to process your application, please fill out the following sections COMPLETELY. If appointed, you are responsible for updating the Executive Director in the ASI Administrative Office of any changes in your contact information. Please be advised that all information in this section will be kept confidential.

Major	Social Work
GPA	2.8
Campus Identification Number (CIN)	[REDACTED]
Cal State LA E-mail Address	aobinna@calstatela.edu
Personal E-Mail Address	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]
Cellphone	[REDACTED]
Hours Available To Serve	Example Format: 9AM to 12:30PM & 3:30 PM to 6 PM
Monday	7am-1:00pm
Tuesday	internship
Wednesday	7am-1:00pm/3:30pm-8:00pm

Thursday internship

Friday not sure

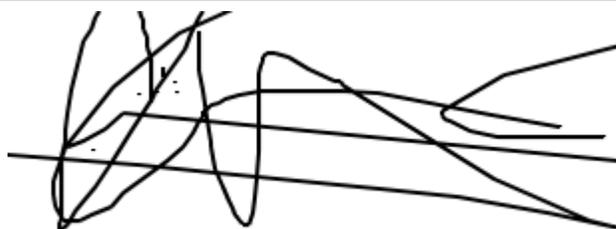
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974

Under the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, and the State of Student Rights and Responsibilities of California State University, Los Angeles, I give permission to the Registrar's Office at California State University, Los Angeles to release the academic information listed on this application to the A.S.I. Administrative Office and President. I hereby acknowledge that in order to be a candidate/nominee/appointee, or to hold any position within any Cal State L.A. auxiliary organization, I must undergo compliance and eligibility checks pursuant to the corporation Bylaws, Codes of Procedures, laws and policies of Cal State L.A. and the State of California. By checking below I give permission to release academic information to Associated Students, Inc. regarding my G.P.A. and status as a "currently enrolled & continuing student" at Cal State L.A. I also understand that I will be compensated via a Grant-In-Aid Stipend (GIA Stipend). I agree that if, for any reason, I become ineligible to service in office, all work performed will be considered voluntary.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Consent - I Accept

Initials Ao

Draw your signature into the box below.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ao', written over a set of horizontal lines.