Candidate Statements ICC Elections 2025-2026

ICC Chair of Programs Candidates (4/16)

Listed in Alphabetical Order (first name)

Isheekka Kedia

ICC takes pride in uniting the vision of every club to weave the rich mesh of De Anza’s student community – a philosophy I embody in every environment. As ICC Chair of Programs, I shall uphold the purpose of the club as supreme. When I was President of my school’s GirlUp chapter, I organized self-defense workshops for 200+ girls, spearheaded menstruation and consent seminars for 250+ students, and surveyed 100+ students and faculty to gather stories on inequity to improve awareness about the microaggressions our society perpetuates. I also trained a team of student officers to initiate dialogue with students’ families about discomfort at home, a scary but rewarding endeavor. This was in response to the hope I saw in freshmen’s eyes while talking to us – I realized that true change requires behind-the-scenes action and the vulnerability to care, which I will bring to ICC. Driven to optimize attendees’ event experiences, I would harness the adaptability and problem-solving skills I honed as the Head of Directors of my city’s biggest inter-school fest. Leading 65 event directors, I oversaw the execution of 42 events across 3 days, including performances by international musicians and logistical support for overseas teams. An unflinching support system, I will reduce the transaction costs students may face in starting clubs or organizing events, incentivizing high community engagement. Because if someone can think it, we will make it happen.

Hsu Yati Phyu

I am really excited to apply for the ICC Chair of Programs position because I want to make De Anza a better place for all students in the first place. I love bringing students together through engaging, meaningful events, and I truly want to play an important role in making that happen. Through my experience as the External Affairs Director and ICC Representative for ESL Club, I have attended ICC meetings, and helped organize events like language exchange programs, academic workshops, movie nights, and panel discussions so that students can improve their language skills and build beautiful connections with each other. Additionally, I want to use my leadership and event-planning skills to ensure that ICC events run smoothly and provide great experiences for all clubs at De Anza. As Chair of Programs, of course, I will always try to help the clubs get support they need. With my dedication and enthusiasm, I am ready to take on this role and contribute to making ICC events better for the De Anza community. I believe I am a strong fit for the ICC Chair of Programs because of my experience in event planning, leadership, and student engagement that I have mentioned above.

Zhiar Salimi

I felt as though I was simply another face in the throng, wandering across campus when I initially started De Anza. Still, things changed when I started attending club events. Not knowing I needed, I came to experience connection, contentment, and belonging. Since I want to organize significant, inclusive, and unforgettable events letting other students feel that same spark, I am running for ICC Chair of Programs. Having lived between cultures and been a Kurdish student, I can understand the need of being noticed. From fun socials to cultural events to chances for education and personal development, I want to assist create events reflecting everyone. Whether it's for study sessions, get-togethers, or just making sure someone feels involved, I have always loved organizing and getting people together. Using my creativity, dependability, and love of people, I hope to assist ICC in planning events that not only entertain but also really unite our campus community. Working with others, listening, and developing ideas into events kids will remember long after they graduate. I get excited in De Anza.