

# Voter's Guide 2026- 2027 DASG Internal Officer

## DASG Internal Officers Administration Elections Commissioner

**Devang Griyage (He/Him/His)**

# Elections Commissioner



**1. Why do you want to become the DASG Internal Officer position you applied for and what do you hope to achieve?**

I want to become the Elections Commissioner because I feel that is the best way to be directly involved in enforcing fairness in the student government elections process at De Anza. Additionally, in my time as an intern, I've observed the collaboration of senators within this committee and how the voice and opinions of everyone within are not only heard but have a direct impact in terms of deciding new means of setting the grounds for fair and holistic elections. Overall, I feel that given the responsibilities that the Elections Commissioners have, these outcomes are very rewarding. Ultimately, I feel that becoming an Elections Commissioner is not only the best way to enforce fair and transparent elections, but also the best way to have an impact at De Anza.

**2. What are some of the skills and experiences that you will bring to the DASG Internal Officer position you applied for and the DASG Senate as a whole?**

I think I'm pretty easy to work with. I do my best to be considerate and make sure no one is left out of a conversation. Though my time as an intern has been short and there's still more concrete work to be done, in my limited time as an intern, I have created a survey to be sent out to students regarding their feelings about campus life, what could be done to make them feel more supported, and their ratings about their overall experience, this was done in collaboration with another intern who decided not to continue with DASG.

**3. What other commitments do you have and how will you manage your time?**

As of right now, I don't have many other commitments apart from certain personal life things. Family emergencies happen occasionally, but aren't a very large issue for me right now. I can assure that these responsibilities would not hold me back from my responsibilities and getting work done.

**4. Additional Comments (maximum 200 words)**

If elected, I really hope to have a direct impact in terms of fairness and making sure everyone is heard. I also know that there are certain flaws such as my limited experience and impact as an intern, but I believe that if given a chance, I can show more concrete influence and development.

**5. What student concerns do you feel the DASG should address?**

I feel that DASG should address the current campus culture. For many students, their campus life looks like just coming to campus, attending class, and then going back home. I think DASG could showcase additional aspects such as clubs, activities, events, and get students involved in a more amplified way.

# Jovia Tran (She/Her/Hers)

## Elections Commissioner



**1. Why do you want to become the DASG Internal Officer position you applied for and what do you hope to achieve?**

I want to become Elections Commissioner because I care about building a campus environment where every student feels their voice matters and every candidate is given a fair chance to be heard. Elections are one of the most visible ways in which students can engage with the De Anza College community, and I am motivated to ensure that the process is transparent and accessible. By upholding clear standards and creating an inclusive election space, I hope to encourage broader participation/involvement and foster civic engagement across the student population. My primary goal would be to uphold the integrity and fairness of the election process while also making it more engaging and accessible. This includes ensuring all elections are executed on time and in full compliance with the Elections Code, while also going beyond the minimum requirements. I intend to work on increasing student interest by introducing creative

outreach strategies (in collaboration with other committees)--such as candidate spotlights, social media campaigns, bringing in elected officials to discuss the importance of voting, and more interactive events--to make elections feel relevant and exciting rather than distant or procedural.

**2. What are some of the skills and experiences that you will bring to the DASG Internal Officer position you applied for and the DASG Senate as a whole?**

I bring a strong set of skills--a combination of event planning, public speaking, and collaboration--that would allow me to contribute meaningfully to both the Elections Commissioner role and the DASG Senate as a whole. Through my involvement in the De Anza History and Civic Engagement Club, which is dedicated to connecting students with elected officials, social issues, and historical events, I have developed a deeper understanding of civic responsibility, advocacy, and the importance of transparent governance. We have hosted Q&As with Assemblymembers, brought in elected officials in local governments, and held events with advocates. This experience has strengthened my ability to facilitate meaningful conversations, encourage student participation, and create more opportunities for students to feel connected to decision-making processes; these are things that directly translate to running fair and engaging elections. Additionally, my time in a hospitality program in high school, where I served as part of the leadership team for three years, has given me hands-on experience in organization and teamwork. I helped coordinate events, manage logistics, and ensured smooth execution. Together, these skills would allow me to not only help run efficient elections but also make them more visible and engaging.

**3. What other commitments do you have and how will you manage your time?**

In addition to this role, I am involved in another club on campus (History and Civic Engagement Club), which has helped me develop strong time management and organizational skills. DASG will be a priority, and I do intend on balancing both commitments by maintaining a structured schedule and setting early deadlines for myself. I am also comfortable with collaborating and delegating when appropriate, which ensures that all my commitments receive the attention they deserve without compromising quality and interfering with one another.

**4. Additional Comments (maximum 200 words)**

None

**5. What student concerns do you feel the DASG should address?**

One key concern I believe DASG should address is the low voter turnout in the previous elections, along with ensuring that students fully trust the fairness of the process. When students feel disconnected or unsure about how elections work, participation may drop.

I would focus on improving accessibility/transparency and increasing outreach, so students can see and understand the power of their vote. Developing trust and awareness are essential parts of improving engagement and increasing the overall voting percentage.

# **Kathy Nguyen (She/Her/Hers)**

## **Elections Commissioner**



**1. Why do you want to become the DASG Internal Officer position you applied for and what do you hope to achieve?**

The elections commissioner is a role that involves fairness and especially taking early action. Becoming an elections commissioner will allow me to work with the Administration Committee to ensure elections are held fairly. I hope to achieve a better and smoother process in applying and campaigning for all participants.

**2. What are some of the skills and experiences that you will bring to the DASG Internal Officer position you applied for and the DASG Senate as a whole?**

I have many witness to attest for my skills and personality. I believe fairness is above everything, and that you should not be swayed by outside opinions. My ability to prepare months in advance, ensuring all events are accounted for, have given me the

chance to have hobbies outside of school. I want to ensure that applicants will be able to understand the timeline, requirements, and election process ahead of time before the initial Elections Informational Sessions.

**3. What other commitments do you have and how will you manage your time?**

Some commitments I hold are, PBL (PHI BETRA LAMBDA), DASG, and work. However, I have been working since my junior year while being in clubs such as VSA and NJROTC (NAVAL JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS). I am well accustomed to the responsibilities with these commitments and am committed to succeeding as a student, not only in my school life but outside of it.

**4. Additional Comments (maximum 200 words)**

I have four years of experience in NJROTC and have held a variety of positions since my sophomore year. I have taken on leadership roles such as the second in command within class and Supply Officer. These roles have prepped me in managing tasks in an orderly manner and juggle time management due to other commitments. I believe my past 4 years of experience have best prepared me for my application of Elections Commissioner. Additionally, previous candidates should be able to provide feedback on improvements for the next elections.

**5. What student concerns do you feel the DASG should address?**

DASG should focus on setting students up for success, especially for those that initially struggle at the start of the quarter or are continuing to struggle. DASG should also improve on building a strong community even for one year transfers or those that are more reserved.

**Madhumitha Balaji (She/Her/Hers)**

**Elections Commissioner**



- 1. Why do you want to become the DASG Internal Officer position you applied for and what do you hope to achieve?**

I want to become an Elections Commissioner because I enjoyed watching the senators plan for the elections and deal with everything. Although I did not get to help with the planning directly, it was interesting to see how they conducted business.

**2. What are some of the skills and experiences that you will bring to the DASG Internal Officer position you applied for and the DASG Senate as a whole?**

Communication, open-minded and willing to listen to others, friendly, hard working, fast learner, delegation, management, etc.

**3. What other commitments do you have and how will you manage your time?**

My current commitments are my classes and minor extracurriculars. I will manage my time by creating a detailed schedule.

**4. Additional Comments (maximum 200 words)**

None

**5. What student concerns do you feel the DASG should address?**

Lack of information / lack of knowledge of information. Many people don't know what's going on around campus. DASG should amp up the marketing so people know. For example, marketing at all times about general information instead of simply when events are happening might help. Also, most of the stuff sent out regarding DASG activities are not engaging so nobody looks at it. Maybe making it nice to look at is a starting place to make students feel like they know what's going on. DASG does stuff (sometimes). But nobody is aware of that so they complain about DASG not doing stuff.

**Benn Nguyen (He/Him/His)**

Elections Commissioner



**1. Why do you want to become the DASG Internal Officer position you applied for and what do you hope to achieve?**

From my experience as an intern at the Administration committee, I found it to be extremely fascinating as I got to work on my intern project on reducing inconvenience for professors to find usable markers in classrooms. This experience showed me that even small inconveniences can affect how fairly a system works for everyone. This strengthened my belief in ensuring a fair environment for everyone at De Anza College, even professors and staff. As an intern, I was inspired by the amazing work that our team put in to ensure a safe, fair and fun election. From all the introductory meetings to mandatory candidate sessions, there is a large amount of information for candidates to process and comprehend.

Firstly, I am going to simplify that information and visualize them with interactive activities, workshops, and pre-recorded videos throughout the academic years not only the election season. The more fun the process to learn about election is, the more people will join our election and contribute to a vibrant election season. This improvement will ensure that all candidates will have all the information they need in the most convenient way for them, making sure that this information can accommodate most students.

Secondly, I will propose to have candidate photos attached to the election page, and include more information about each candidate to let students know more not just about the policies but also about the person, who they are voting for. This will help with knowing which candidate that they have talked to or seen on campus.

Thirdly, I will propose to have a feedback loop after the election, not just the complaint form. We care so much about how well organized or fair the election is. But we need to listen to the feedback of the students who are the main audience that contributed to a successful election. Whether through digital platforms or paper forms, I will ensure students' voices are heard.

I hope to achieve a fun, enjoyable and fair election for next year, where every De Anza student feels empowered to participate, because we are in this together.

**2. What are some of the skills and experiences that you will bring to the DASG Internal Officer position you applied for and the DASG Senate as a whole?**

As a student government president in high school, I developed the skill to communicate effectively with the external teams as well as internal. One initiative I led was the Feedback Box, which taught me about understanding students' concerns and take initiative to find solutions.

This will be reflected through open communication with other elections commissioners, the chairs, and senate.

During my internship at the Administration Committee, I got a chance to review the bylaws and structuring different requirements for the elections. This experience showed me how precise the language in bylaws needs to be in order to ensure fairness and accessibility

As a CS major, I bring a technical perspective to the role. Specifically, I hope to voice student feedbacks after election and design interactive visualizations for a fun and enjoyable election. At Mentors@De Anza, I have implemented a system of MailMerge to help send out mass emails to mentors and mentees. As a co-founder of De Anza Applied Research Engineering Club, my systematic thinking will lead to fair and suitable decisions that benefit the committee and the senate.

### **3. What other commitments do you have and how will you manage your time?**

Beyond these roles, I am also involved in Stanford SSG, and serve as a TA for CIS22A. Currently, I also work as a student ambassador at MESA. I also co-founded an engineering club and hold multiple teaching assistant roles. For me, being able to contribute to my community is crucial to me. This is why balancing between different roles is just as important.

This is done through time blocking out all my tasks and meetings. Then I will work toward those items in my list of items, prioritizing the importance and urgency of each task. This method has proven to work for me when I can balance between school activities and keeping my GPA high. I understand that the Elections Commissioner role is cyclical and its busiest period will be during election season, and this schedule does not conflict with my heaviest academic workload. For example, last few quarter, I have balanced between multiple classes, work, and school activities but I remain in control of my schedule.

### **4. Additional Comments (maximum 200 words)**

I am grateful for the opportunity and excited about contributing to DASG and serving the community at De Anza. My unique perspective as an international student drives me to make elections more accessible for students like myself. When I first came to De Anza College, I started out as a mentee, then an intern and now applying as an officer, this journey has been incredible and I want to make the most of my experience here.

### **5. What student concerns do you feel the DASG should address?**

As an international student, I have uniquely noticed the language barriers in accessing campus resources and services. I also see lack of awareness about financial aid or support programs available to international students. As a CS/engineering student, I have noticed the limited collaboration spaces or lab access hours for hardware clubs. For example, Foothill has a dedicated KCI Makerspace. As someone involved in mentorship, i have notice the lack of peer connection especially after remote learning years. This is also contributes to a lot of commuters and less student spirit on campus.

# **Shreya Singh (She/Her/Hers)**

## **Elections Commissioner**



- 1. Why do you want to become the DASG Internal Officer position you applied for and what do you hope to achieve?**

I want to become elections commissioner to make a positive impact and accrue valuable leadership experience at De Anza and accrue valuable leadership experience. I have forged a passion for law and government, and am particularly fascinated with voting and elections. As Elections Commissioner, I plan to channel this passion to improve the college experiences of De Anza students by efficiently and thoroughly executing the responsibilities of this position, which include working with the DASG Senate to hold fair, just, and respectful Executive Elections,

finding methods to increase student engagement in these elections, and administering Elections Informational Sessions. Additionally, I am excited to work with my fellow students to contribute to the De Anza student body!

As Elections Commissioner, I hope to utilize my perspective as an intern for the Administration Committee and former candidate for Chair of Administration to fulfill the duties of this role in a timely manner while ensuring that the elections are accessible and equitable for the entire student body. I will draw upon my personal experiences, as well as those of my peers, to structure, schedule, and advertise executive elections so that all candidates and students can participate fully in this civic process. For example, a major complaint regarding this year's election was that very few candidates for DASG President participated in the presidential debate. As Elections Commissioner, I would research ways to avoid this issue, such as by asking candidates to volunteer times that would not conflict with their individual schedules.

I am excited to gain leadership skills, execute the responsibilities of my office, and work with the student body to improve DASG elections as Elections Commissioner!

**What are some of the skills and experiences that you will bring to the DASG Internal Officer position you applied for and the DASG Senate as a whole?**

As Elections Commissioner and a member of the DASG Senate, I will bring multiple worthwhile experiences to the table. To begin with, I have experience at DASG through my tenure as an intern for the Administration Committee. In this role, I participated in committee discussions, reviewed the elections code to provide feedback on its contents, and learned about the structure of DASG governance. Additionally, I must highlight my experience as a candidate in DASG executive elections. As a candidate, I followed the rules of the elections code and worked to increase voter turnout in these elections by presenting in classes, designing posters, and talking to De Anza students. Therefore, I have a deep understanding of how the De Anza Student Government Election System works for candidates and voters. Finally, I have a deep interest in politics and government, and have taken multiple classes in this subject. I have participated in political volunteering at De Anza through VIDA and the Pride Center, and have phone banked for multiple national and state political campaigns. More recently, I joined in an event organized with the aim of encouraging high school students to pre-register to vote.

Digitally, I am proficient at using Microsoft Suite, Google Workspace, Notion, Canva, and Slack. Regarding formal research, I am familiar with using JSTOR, PubMed, Google Scholar, and APA and MLA source citations. I have a positive attitude, and am always eager to learn. I am adaptable, able to handle multiple tasks and responsibilities, have led teams for group projects,

and am excellent at teamwork, collaboration, presentation, and interpersonal communication skills. I have a strong work ethic and am committed to meeting deadlines.

I will utilize these skills to serve the De Anza student body as a Senator and Elections Commissioner at DASG!

**What other commitments do you have and how will you manage your time?**

At this point, my primary commitments at De Anza include the nine credit units which I am currently taking, being a Mentee at Mentors @ De Anza, my internship with the Administration Committee, and participating in the Debate Society on campus.

Outside of De Anza, I am a homeschooled Dual Enrolled student. As such, my major commitments this quarter include completing my AP exams.

Currently, I use a to-do list and Google Calendar as tools to manage my time. If I need to adjust my schedule, I proactively reach out to my professors, advisors, and peers to clarify priorities and ensure that my work stays on track.

**Additional Comments (maximum 200 words)**

I have worked with DASG since my first quarter at De Anza in Fall of 2025. My DASG Intern project, which I have attached below, was on providing feedback to improving the elections code. Having participated in the workings of the student government as a prospective intern, intern, and prospective senator, I am excited to take the next step by representing the interests of my peers at De Anza as Elections Commissioner!

**What student concerns do you feel the DASG should address?**

There are multiple relevant concerns which I believe that the DASG should address, especially regarding executive elections and the Administration committee. To begin with, the DASG needs to clarify the Election Code's stance in points C and F of Article IV, Section 2 on student participation in Executive Elections. At this point, it is unclear to what extent members of the student body can legally participate in elections. If students discussed their preferred candidates or encouraged their friends to vote for a specific candidate without the consent or a request from a candidate, would the candidate in question face repercussions under the Elections Code? This needs to be clearly explained.

Second, we need to increase participation in Executive Elections. During the 2026 executive elections, very few candidates participated in the candidate statements and presidential debate. However, candidates still made up the majority of the audience at this event. By coordinating with candidates and taking an active role in promoting DASG election events, we can increase student turnout at election events, increasing overall engagement in the elections process.

Finally, a committee-specific issue which I would like to highlight in this section is the Administration Committee's ambivalent attitude towards intern participation. As an intern, I noticed that the Administration Committee has not offered its interns adequate mentorship or leadership opportunities. If they involved interns in the work of the committee, the Administration Committee would provide valuable experience to interested students, teach the next generation of DASG leadership, and fulfill its mandate in a more efficient manner.

During my time at DASG, I have observed multiple areas in which the student government could improve, including closing legislative loopholes, increasing engagement in the Executive Elections, and increasing intern involvement in the Administration Committee.

Additional attachments:

- [DASG Elections](#)
- [DASG Campaign Poster](#)
- [DASG internapp project](#)