

Greetings,

It is with honor that I seek to be a candidate for the position of Vice President of Professional Staff within Monroe Community College's Faculty Senate. I firmly believe that shared governance plays a critical role in how community colleges seek to balance decision-making; in the best interest of the college's stakeholders to include faculty, students, and staff. In these changing times, both externally and internally, it is imperative that decisions are made with respect to unification, accountability, and commitment to the work we all do to "inspire everyday".

I am a proud product of this institution (Class of 2008). I began my journey as a student at the college and became actively engaged within the Student Events and Governance Association (SEGA) as a Civic Engagement Coordinator followed by being elected as President. My development as a productive and professional member of the college occurred with great support and mentorship from many colleagues across campuses, and for that I am always grateful.

My service to the college spans over the course of ten years, securing several positions in the Student Services Department at the former Damon City Campus and currently as the Wellness Coordinator at the Downtown Campus. During that time, I had the pleasure of being an Alice Young Intern and enjoyed the experiences of teaching COS as an adjunct instructor in the Transitional Studies Department. I am a member and involved in various college-wide committees to include the President's Extended Cabinet, the Wellness Council Initiative, and the Resource Committee. I am a graduate and member of the United Way of Rochester's-Development of Indo-American Leaders (DIAL) program. Currently, I am a doctoral student at the University of Maryland University College, completing coursework towards earning a Doctor of Management in Community College Policy and Administration. I fully enjoy the coursework as the program directly relates to higher education leadership and systems with a particular focus on the management of two-year institutions.

Lastly, as a learning leader I believe that all experiences gained by being involved in the Faculty Senate Executive Committee will enrich my long-term professional goals of becoming an advocate for policy change within the education system, at the federal and/or state level. As we approach a new academic year, I look forward to representing MCC's robust and professional staff with plans to ethically fulfill all FS duties by working with various college-wide constituents to ensure our voices are heard and included in process of decision-making alongside the college's administration.

With regards,

Ambika Howell