

Jasmine Okincha  
Political Science Major, Sophomore  
Candidate for Senator At-Large

Over the past few years I've demonstrated a deep commitment to protecting my community and improving infrastructure. Historically I've specialized primarily in criminal justice reform, working with the Northern California Freedom Project in high school to reform the Three Strikes Law and promote the implementation of more rehab-focused infrastructure. Following the murder of George Floyd in 2020, I worked as an online freelance concept artist to singlehandedly raise over \$300 for the LGBT Freedom Fund and Black Lives Matter. This past summer I was also selected as an EQCA Comcast Fellow to work in District 33 Senator Gonzalez's office, with an emphasis on promoting LGBT and women's reproductive health rights and related legislation. I was responsible for compiling and distributing daily news highlights, vetting reporters, monitoring district-wide events, and composing constituent letters, as well as managing social media accounts and coordinating the upcoming launches of the SD33 podcast and TikTok account. I also assisted in preparations for Senate floor debates and kept a close eye on the status of legislation put forth by Senator Gonzalez.

I've also been active here on campus as the secretary of both the Mock Trial and Model UN teams. I have used my skills as a freelance artist of 5 years to maintain the Mock Trial team Instagram, and I've been responsible for organizing team activities on top of maintaining my workload as a political science major and studying for the LSAT, on which I most recently scored in the top 15 percent of test takers.

I believe my experience in the California Senate and my leadership in UCM's organizations have perfectly prepared me for a role here at ASUCM. As senator, I'm committed to improving student life here at UCM, both in the form of large ongoing projects and simple quality-of-life improvements. I place heavy emphasis on social justice and a culture of intersectionality and would love to arrange more events with the Multicultural Center, the Lambda Alliance, and other social justice-related organizations. I also want to encourage more cooperation between similar clubs to foster a community of diversity and acceptance.

I will also push for better transparency with the Pavilion food and more accommodating services for students with dietary restrictions. I'll be pushing for more accessible nutrition facts, which are important for making healthy dietary choices and vital for students with food-related conditions like diabetes. The dining centers are also notably lacking in vegan, kosher, and gluten-free options, and halal to a lesser extent, and I would like to see more options for those of us with dietary restrictions.

Finally, I want to emphasize the value of information accessibility with UCM's websites. I would love to implement gradual updates to the UI to make it more navigable and patch link loops. As it stands, many of our websites make it difficult to find necessary resources, and I believe fixing this would be greatly beneficial to student participation and engagement here on campus.

This is a truly unique opportunity to shape student life and be the change that I want to see on campus. I hope you will all give me the honor of putting my skills and experience towards bettering UCM!