Student Senate

Message from the Student Body President

No other institution of higher education can equal Pitzer College when it comes to our students, staff, faculty, administrators, parents, alumni and trustees. Whether it's the commitment to our success held by our faculty, the smiles and advice offered by our staff, the support from our administration, the contributions from our parents and alumni, and the guidance from the Board of Trustees, Pitzer College is one community united by our core values.

One of those core values is student engagement, ensuring that students are active members at all levels of college governance through the Pitzer College Student Senate. As the official governing body of the students, the Student Senate boasts fifty-four student representatives serving on the Executive Board, in the Legislature, and on the Judicial Council. With over five percent of the student body serving as a student representative, the Student Senate continues to be ranked among the largest per capita student governments of higher education institutions in the world.

It is the responsibility of the Student Senate to ensure that the student voice plays a central role in the critical decisions made at the college. I am tremendously proud of all that student leaders have been able to accomplish in the past few years: bringing gender-neutral restrooms to our buildings, selecting the first African-American president of a Claremont College, recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day, banning plastic water bottles, and divesting from fossil fuel companies. Our Student Senate has been an integral part of making change on campus since 1963, the founding year of Pitzer College.

With a commitment to empowering a diversity of student voices and perspectives to move forward on key issues, students are more organized and actively engaged in the governance process than ever before in the history of this institution.

Provida Futuri,

Josue Pasillas '17

Highlights

- Passed a resolution that led to a ban of all plastic water bottles on campus
- Ensured that the Diversity Committee was allocated a permanent and sustainable budget to fund programs, events and initiatives on campus supporting students from underrepresented groups
- Partnered with the Office of Residence Life to purchase moving carts to assist students and families with the move-in and move-out process
- Formed a Student Sexual Violence Task Force to advise the Faculty Executive Committee on the sexual assault campus climate
- Supported more than 50 student organizations with approximately $200K

Goals

- Create the Pitzer Event Board to support students in enhancing the campus life through successful social events
- Reform the Budget Committee By-laws to ensure that all students can easily access the student activities funds and to improve the allocation process
- Continue to bring high-profile guests to campus as part of the "Mindful of the Future" Speaker Series
- Advocate for the creation of a student and young alumni representative position on the Board of Trustees
- Provide a free digital subscription to the *Los Angeles Times* for every student
- Address concerns of students of color pertaining to the campus climate
- Reform the Constitution to make the Student Senate a more inclusive and efficient student government