

Statement of Candidacy

My name is Anushka Nanda, and I am running to serve as your Sophomore Senator for the Student Government of Loyola Chicago (SGLC). I want to act as a voice for not only the Class of 2024 but for the Loyola Student Body as a whole. As a student, I believe that education is important; however, the life of a Loyola Rambler doesn't revolve strictly around academics. I recognize the importance of a holistic college experience and intend to speak in favor of preserving and improving it. I believe I can benefit both the student body and SGLC by providing the perspective of a woman of color and with my current involvement- including serving as a First-Year Senator in SGLC, participating in the Gannon Scholars program, and participating in the Interdisciplinary Honors Program.

A major part of my platform is activism and advocacy. As a Gannon Scholar and a Senator, I'm able to participate in important conversations about a variety of social issues that affect our student body and our community as a whole. I'm also able to further educate myself and advocate for issues important to me- including racial justice, LGBTQ+ justice, gender and sex-based discrimination, accessibility of resources for students of all abilities, and mental health advocacy. I want to help boost the voices of student activism groups using my position in SGLC. Given the social movements happening around us today, I want to ensure that Loyola is providing resources that support the **whole** student body and recognizes that not all students have the same privileges, and further, provides for those who do not. I want Loyola to remain inclusive and supportive of BIPOC, LGBTQ+, socio-economically disadvantaged and other minority communities of students. As a university that prides itself on its core value of social justice, I intend to hold Loyola accountable to this standard and to reform and create policies that ensure Loyola is truly a school that can pride itself on its social justice initiatives.

As a current Senator, I've been exposed to and worked on many great initiatives. I was a co-signer for the legislation calling for Loyola's separation from Aramark- the current food provider that is tied to the prison industrial complex. I am also a co-signer on the legislation that calls for Loyola to scale back their educational partnership with the CPD. During the Fall 2020 election season, I created a Voter Registration Database to provide information to new and existing voters. I am also a Chief Sponsor of legislation that calls on Loyola to create a university holiday on federal election days in hopes of increasing civic engagement and access to voting. I am also currently working on a Sophomore Reorientation that will serve as an updated orientation that's catered to the Class of 2024 since the COVID-19 pandemic prevented a complete freshman experience, leaving many new students unaware of the resources available to them and the information they need to succeed.

As your Sophomore Senator, I intend to serve as a voice for Ramblers of all backgrounds and as an advocate for the social issues that affect the student body. I also intend to hold Loyola accountable in regard to the values that they preach. I implore that you vote for the candidates that you believe will be the best representatives for you.

-Anushka Nanda