

**Canidate Name:** Julie Luo

**How do you work with or lead a team?**

Leading by example and encouragement are ways that I have found success when in charge of a team. Ultimately, I want to bring the best out of my teammates and work together to push outside our limits on what we can accomplish. In my experience, having a positive, inclusive, & creative attitude has allowed for me to set the tone to not only bring out the best in my teammates, but also adapt to my teammates needs. While my approaches are mostly logical with a focused intent on the goal, they are still multi-faceted and allow for me to manage and work with team members at large due to the trust that I worked to establish. I want my teammates to know that I have their backs and that I will do everything in my ability to assist in any way I can for them to succeed

**What leadership experiences have equipped you for the District Trustee role?**

Prior to joining IUSD, I served as the Development Coordinator for the Florida Asian American Student Union as well as President of the Chinese American Student Association at the University of Central Florida. As Development Coordinator, I along with my executive board planned two conferences that promoted collaboration, diversity, and networking for students throughout Florida. As President, our organization hosted a Chinese New Year event with ultimately 300+ attendees while working through the intricacies of sponsors, vendors, student organizations, and administration. As one of the Event Coordinators for District 7, I got an insight on how to plan and execute the annual District 7 conference. I had the opportunity to work with other student leaders from around the Midwest which culminated into new friendships, growth, and memories. This year, I was Advocacy Chair for my local chapter and through this role I was able to dive deeper into the world of organized Dentistry and advocate for our community. I worked with my committee to promote the importance of advocacy, plan events for Advocacy Month, and attended meetings to see what Dentists were lobbying for.

**Why are you interested in the District Trustee role and what do you hope to accomplish in this position?**

For over a year now, I've been interested in the District Trustee role because of the positive impact ASDA has had on me. Being a Florida native, transitioning to the Midwest would not have been as seamless without ASDA. If elected, I want to further strengthen our dental community by providing additional opportunities outside of conferences for interaction. I want to be a resource for local chapters in whatever they need in order to accomplish their goals and grow their ASDA chapter. The duties of the District Trustee role align with my passions for dentistry, advocacy and leadership.

**What are 2-3 issues important to dental students?**

**Mental Health and Well-being:** The demanding nature of dental school can take a toll on students' mental health. Creating a supportive environment, offering mental health resources, and promoting a healthy work-life balance are vital for the well-being of dental students.

**Diversity and Inclusion:** Dental students often advocate for a more diverse and inclusive environment. It is important to promote diversity in student admissions, faculty representation, and patient care. Seeing the issue firsthand, I helped form an organization to promote diversity and inclusion on campus.

Student debt: The cost of dental education is increasing year after year and many students graduate with substantial student loan debt. Addressing ways to alleviate this burden, such as scholarship opportunities, loan forgiveness programs, or tuition assistance, is a major concern.