



SASE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

JERRY JIANG

YEAR: JUNIOR
MAJOR: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE
BOARD POSITION: CO-TREASURER
RUNNING MATE: ABIGAIL CHIAOKHIAO

INTRODUCTION

Hey everyone - my name's Jerry Jiang and I'm a junior majoring in Information Technology Infrastructure - I was originally computer science, but then I realized that I wasn't really interested in programming and smashing my head against my keyboard for a living. In my free time, my hobbies include building custom mechanical keyboards, computers, and cooking! I also work on campus as a Technology Support Staff for HRL so if you want to hear some wild stories about some tickets, let me know!

WHY **SASE** LEADERSHIP?

I want to run for leadership since I want to have a chance to contribute the most I can to SASE in my last year in school - which I believe I can best do so through the president position. Having been involved in SASE since freshman year, I cannot quantify the sheer amount of memories and friends that SASE has brought me throughout the years. Traipsing through the streets of downtown Philadelphia at SASE National Conference 2019, dressing up as a plague doctor to pose alongside a banana at one of our Halloween events, getting to talk to recruiters behind the scenes at CSE career fairs — all because I decided to branch out freshman year and check out this student group because it seemed like fun. So I'd like to try and give



others as much of that same experience as possible by running for president, regardless of if next year is virtual or in person.

My experiences in student organizations throughout the years is what I believe I can bring to SASE as president. As treasurer for the Chinese American Student Association, Midwest Chinese American Association, as well as SASE in the past, I have a strong understanding of the financial implications of running a student group, and organize myself accordingly. Leading meetings both at work (I work as a technology support services student at Housing and Residential Life on campus) and with other student groups has allowed me to learn to lead by example - after all, if I'm not putting in the work, why should the rest of my team?

WHAT DOES SASE MEAN TO YOU?

As a freshman, I think the first time I heard of SASE was at this CSE Dean's Showcase event in March. They were showing off Anderson Labs to us wide-eyed incoming freshmen, and there was a dedicated table to showcase the CSE multicultural groups. Despite it being an afternoon on a Tuesday, SASE had 3 board members there that day, volunteering hours of their time to promote SASE to the few freshmen that were there. This extra step that SASE was willing to take really stuck with me, leading to me trying to get involved ASAP once school started. The organization has always tried to do so much, ranging from outreach at schools, volunteering at charities, and running professional and cultural events. While the board may be larger than most other student organizations', the workload is still significant, and managing all of that alongside classes, work, and sometimes even other organizations can get a bit much. Seeing this as a freshman, I was inspired to do more — as a sophomore and junior, I put in the hours alongside other board members. And every year, we still do it. That is what SASE means to me.

It is the group of individuals who would gladly sacrifice their free time to make the campus a more welcoming place for Asians in STEM, who spend



their weekends planning events for our members to network at, and who take on the extra workload to teach GA the professional skills to make them stand out in the workforce. It is the team that I hope to lead into another year of success.

WHAT/WHERE DO YOU WANT SASE TO BE BY THE END OF YOUR TERM?

SASE has always stood on a platform of 3 pillars - culture, professionalism, and philanthropy. Under Chae and Diane's leadership this year, we've managed to reinvigorate our SASE Junior initiative, continue our SASE Labs and Taste of SASE programs rather successfully despite the virtual setting throwing a wrench into things, and while our usual volunteering events weren't able to be hosted due to COVID restrictions, we instead had our volunteering coordinator pivot to focusing on the CSE Diversity and Inclusivity Alliance, offering input on discussions as well as keeping an eye out for volunteering opportunities.

I would like to build upon these strengths to further expand SASE. Along with our involvement in the CSE D&I Alliance, I would like to include advocacy as one of our priorities, standing up for issues that affect our members, as well as hosting open discussions. I would like to continue our collaborative events on the scale of the Midwest Networking event, where we take advantage of SASE's national presence to continue working with other SASE chapters to host bigger events. With all these various events and initiatives, I would like to emphasize our website as a central place for information on all upcoming events and opportunities as well as opening up the board to more communication from our audience through Discord as well as opening up a feedback form so that we can continue to improve throughout the year, whether next year is in person or virtual.

