

**Claremont Graduate University • Graduate Student Council**  
**Statement of Intention to Run for Executive Board Position**

**Natalie Dymchenko – running for Treasurer**

**1. Why do you wish to run for this position? What are your goals and objectives?**

Having attended CGU over the past year, I have experienced the many opportunities provided by organizations like the GSC and SAA to get to know students in SBOS, as well as the other schools. These events were instrumental in creating a setting for out-of-staters like myself to socialize with peers and faculty. And though there were a great many of these occasions at the start of the year, they seemed to wane towards the end of the first semester. As treasurer, I would like to contribute to planning events that draw even greater numbers of students in from all of the schools at CGU, and perhaps find ways to economize in order to provide even more of these opportunities.

As a complement to that effort, I would also like to see a greater variety of activities provided to CGU students. Many of the events I have attended over the past year were centered on dining and alcohol-related recreation – and while this is a great way for students to socialize, CGU should focus on providing other types of opportunities as well.

**2. How will your leadership in this position benefit the student body at CGU?**

As a member of the GSC, I would like to explore a greater diversity of activities for CGU students to participate in. Over the course of the year, I noticed that many students in my program did not attend events hosted by GSC and SAA. For this reason, I would encourage GSC and other organizations to listen more closely to students' ideas and suggestions in planning future events. What would they like to see more of? What types of activities would draw students in and increase participation and community among CGU's schools?

I feel that we would do well to take a lesson from the 5Cs. Their plethora of resources and events are not well-publicized at CGU and students often remain ignorant about all the opportunities available at the Claremont Colleges. If the GSC can facilitate greater communication and cooperation with the 5Cs, students would benefit exponentially.

**3. What skills or abilities qualify you for this position?**

Over the course of the year, I have explored the various activities and resources available at all of the Claremont Colleges. What struck me almost instantly was that CGU often lagged behind the other schools in drawing participation from their student body. Age differences and workload aside, students at the 5Cs are constantly finding creative ways to involve their peers in events ranging from activism to gardening. As my contribution, I would like to foster more of a relationship between CGU and the 5Cs.

Having experienced many of the services offered by the Claremont Colleges, I have gained knowledge about their resources and would like to open these up to CGU students in an accessible, coherent way. During my undergraduate education, I participated in extracurriculars like Habitat for Humanity and various psychology associations, engaging in fundraising as well as reporting. My experience in these activities would serve me well as treasurer of the GSC.