

Mirei Fukushima

VP of Diversity and Inclusion

Candidate Platform

Hello! My name is Mirei Fukushima and I am currently a Sophomore studying finance with a double concentration in alternative investments and global business at Fordham's Gabelli School of Business. I believe I'm qualified to serve as the Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion for the year 2023-2024 because I have gained valuable experience throughout the 3 semesters I have been on Diversity Action Coalition and currently serve as the co-vice chair. I am passionate about the work that goes into diversity and inclusion and hope to implement it more in the community if I am elected.

Since I joined the Diversity Action Coalition during the Spring semester of my freshman year, I have been an active member in contributing to the various events and proposals that have taken place. As a freshman, I supported the tenure track program proposal which implemented DE&I into the tenure process and further incorporated the DEI statement into classrooms and the curriculum. And now as the co-vice chair, I have worked alongside the different subcommittees on DAC such as the Bronx Appreciation Week committee, programming, and the publicity committee. This past school year alone, I was able to help program events on campus such as Bronx Appreciation Week, the Black History Month Speaker event, mental health intersectionality tabling, and others. Working closely with the current Vice President, DAC has grown and shown a more significant presence in the Fordham community and if I am elected, I hope to continue to serve the community.

For the 2023-2024 year, I plan to continue all initiatives and programming events that have run DAC so far to meet the goals of current subcommittees. I hope to expand these initiatives further, Bronx Appreciation Week being a main one. Rather than having a concentration number of events in a week, I would work towards having more monthly events that celebrate the Bronx. I would also like to work towards implementing D&I into the Gabelli school by collaborating with different clubs and professors to encourage adding this topic of discussion into the classroom. DEI is an important heart of education in enhancing students' learning experience. Additionally, I would collaborate further with cultural organizations such as

ASILI, OMA, ACE, El Grito, and even CSA. By collaborating with these clubs, we will get a more diverse set of ideas that will welcome students from all backgrounds.

Joining DAC during my freshman year allowed me to learn more about the efforts behind making an inclusive environment that impacts the Fordham population. I hope with the initiatives I plan to work towards, will actively better the student community. I have spent most Monday evenings at DAC for three semesters and I hope this will give me an opportunity to continue and carry out the initiatives I have stated in implementing my ideas for diversity, equity, and inclusion.