



Associated Students

Recognition # 5

Author: Amy Truong

Signature: Amy Truong

Author: Nicole Espino

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Author: Hugo Fulcheri

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Author: Claudia Fierros

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Author: Aya Garawi

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Subject: Kian B. Bidari

Date: May 29, 2020

Whereas:

Kian Bidari, an esteemed Honors student majoring in Political Science, has attended Mt. San Antonio College for three years. While attending Mt. SAC, Kian has successfully founded the Political Science Club and served as the treasurer and president. He has also participated in student support programs such as the Arise Program, the Bridge Program, and El Centro. Furthermore, his student leadership from the Political Science Club then expanded into the Executive Board of Associated Students (AS). He was appointed as the Co-Chair of the Inter-Club Council (ICC) for the 2019-2020 academic year, where he bridged a transparent relationship between ICC and Recognized Student Clubs and Organizations (RSCO). On top of his academic studies and co-curricular engagement, Kian also makes time to work for his father's civil defense business, where he is able to gain experience for his career path. Finally, Kian Bidari will be graduating with an Associate's Degree for Transfer (AA-T) in Political Science, and will be transferring to the University of California, Davis in the Fall.

Whereas:

In class, Kian Bidari exemplified as an intellectually curious student with a quick-witted, observant mindset and a passionate heart. During class lectures and Socratic seminars, he was able to ignite thought-provoking insight and inspiring advocacy of open mindedness. With his intellectual interests in politics, history, music, mathematics, and philosophy and with his superior academic performance

as an Honors student, Kian has been a positive, well-informed, and attentive academic contributor for the Mt. SAC campus.

By initiating study groups with classmates, Kian was able to build a network of connections with a diverse array of Mt. SAC students. Through his insightful connections, he recruited and recommended multiple classmates to student resource programs, RSCOs, RSCO officer positions, and AS officer positions. Due to his diligent devotion in connecting students to leadership roles and campus opportunities, Kian was able to provide co-curricular opportunities and accessible leeway for his classmates.

During the Fall Semester of 2017, Kian found the Political Science Club with other student leaders. During club discussions, Kian utilized the Socratic Seminar method as a way to question and enhance the critical learning of club members and officers regarding any current political issues and events. During the Spring Semester of 2018, Kian quickly became the pillar of the club by being elected as the treasurer of the Political Science Club. Not only did he managed and assembled the financial budget for the club, he also innovated the multiple series of fundraising and political events through intense planning and food distribution.

During the Fall Semester of 2018 until Spring Semester of 2019, Kian Bidari was elected as the President of the Political Science Club. During his presidency, he was a catalyst in introducing Mt. SAC students, faculty, and staff the importance of local and contemporary politics. Through progressive activism, Kian attended the March for Our Lives in Santa Ana and registered students to vote for the 2018 Midterm elections on behalf of the club. Furthermore, Kian was instrumental in a joint Associated Students collaboration to host a 39th Congressional candidate primary debate at Mt. SAC and was critical in the planning of a Mt. SAC Trustee Candidate of Area 2 Forum during Fall 2018.

During Fall of 2019, Kian was selected as one of just three students to travel to Sacramento in the spring for an academically cathartic and transformative trip to the State Capitol. On behalf of the Political Science Club and the 2018 Climate Action Plan formulated by Mt. SAC, Kian met with experienced lobbyists of non-profit organizations and the Associate Dean of Humanities and Social Science Dr. Jeanne Marie Velickovic in order to develop their knowledge and skill in lobbying. On March 4, 2019, Kian, the Political Science Club officers, and Professor Kelly Rivera flew out to Sacramento in order to lobby for the establishment of compost bins in all California community colleges. At Sacramento, the research he spearheaded was cultivated and examined everything from environmental effects between composting and climate change to the political policies that demand sustainable efforts through composting. All done in his free time without earning any college credit, Kian Bidari became a student advocate of sustainable transformations in all California community colleges and a student leader in initiating intersectional solutions for political, environmental, social, and economic adversities on Mt. SAC campus.

Kian placed his name on the ballot for the Associated Students Elections of 2019-2021, where he ran for Inter-Club Council Co-Chair alongside Amy Truong. In spring of 2019, Kian was sworn in as the ICC Co-Chair to solve the underlying adversities that potential student leaders possess. Oftentimes, RSCO officers and potential student leaders do not seek out guidance in creating their RSCO or collaborating with other clubs and organizations due to the inherent work that leaves them perplexed and confused. Occasionally, student leaders wanting to initiate campus events do not know or realize how to execute their ideas, as the bureaucratic paperwork and numerous connections might seem overwhelming and even daunting. However, Kian reassured and broke down the complexities of the work for student leaders wanting to initiate clubs or receive funds for their RSCOs. He created an open environment where students can express their apprehensive concerns and inhibited obstacles in their personal, daily lives and campus experiences. As an ally for minority groups, Kian made sure that RSCOs such as NAISA (Native American Inter-Tribal Student Alliance) expressed their student voices to Associated Students and the overall students of Mt. SAC. Furthermore, Kian provided possible solutions that would enhance the visibility of newly formed clubs and their possible goals during his office hours and at RSCO meetings. Moreover, Kian advocated campus unity and bridged polarized communities between student leaders of RSCOs and Associated Students, one that has rarely been done for. Kian enacted as the catalyst of campus change when he integrated all RSCOs for a dynamic common goal: collective solidarity and peaceful coexistence.

During Join-a-Club in the Fall and Spring, Kian successfully directed the events by ensuring a great participant turnout and promoting Associated Students to prospective applicants and RSCO officers. Kian was able to assist RSCOs in setting up their decorative booths and network with RSCO officers in order to increasingly raise Associated Students awareness. Simultaneously, Kian introduced them bills, resolutions, appropriation forms, and the appropriate Senators and Student Court officers that might assist with their specific, oriented goals. Not only did Kian become a trustworthy channel between RSCOs and Associated Students as ICC Co-Chair, but he invoked a brave space for all to embrace and express.

Alongside his ICC efforts, Kian has integrated himself into campus life by committing over a hundred hours for the betterment of Mt. SAC campus. From the AS election booths to the AS Visibility booths, he actively engaged with students and faculty through civic, political discussions while increasing awareness of the ongoing adversities and marginalized communities of Mt. SAC. For two and a half years, Kian was a diligent representative for the Political Science Club and Associated Students during the Constitution Day lecture series. Beyond the walls of Mt. SAC, Kian devoted his time to the Voter Registration Drive by educating students and visitors the American history of disenfranchised minority groups and the power of perceiving a vote as a voice. Through

accessibility and civic engagement, he opened up the world of politics and social issues for many.

While engaging in political and social dialogues regarding the local to nationwide adversities of our American society to other students and faculty, Kian meticulously devoted his fervent energy into his career path. In his father's law firm devoted to civil defense, Kian was able to intensely gain knowledge and experience in the field of law. This, in combination with his devoted volunteer hours and political experience with Associated Students, has only strengthened and enhanced his aspirations to become a lawyer. It is plainly evident that the academic and political success of Kian Bidari, an engaged scholar and leader, is imminent.

Whereas: Kian Bidari evolved into a catalyst of charismatic change in classrooms, RSCOs, student services, the Inter-Club Council, and the Associated Students. By actively engaging in civil discourse, Kian embodied the perfect version of an Associated Student whose endeavors are to increase social awareness and expand collective unity. Kian strives to motivate students to get involved and participate actively in campus life. His exceptional efforts in these many groups and categories exemplify the role model leader.

Therefore: Be it resolved, that the A.S. Senate, the A.S. Executive Board, and the A.S. President approve this recognition of Kian B. Bidari.

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| A.S. Senate | | | |
| For: _____ | Against: <u>UNANIMOUS</u> | Abstain: _____ | Date: <u>5/26/20</u> |
| A.S. Executive Board | | | |
| For: _____ | Against: <u>UNANIMOUS</u> | Abstain: _____ | Date: <u>5/26/20</u> |
| A.S. President | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approve | <input type="checkbox"/> Veto | Signature: _____ | Date: _____ |