

## Angelie “Gee” Salas - PCC Co-Chair Personal Statement

I have been involved in FSA for the past three years. I started out as a member of the Kuya-Ate Mentorship Program, and now I am currently one of the heads of the Ninoy Aquino family. Within my three years I branched out to People Power and volunteered for ASF 15 and the QPC/Queer Pin@y Conference. I have also attended numerous FSA events, such as: Community gatherings, General Body Mtgs, Friendship Games, Alay Open Mics, and much more. Since my first year, I have also been part of PDT/Pagkakaisa Dance Troupe, where I interned twice and then became one of the three coordinators. I participated in the past three PCC's: XVIII, XIX, and XX. This past year, I have been given the opportunity to work closely with FSA and PCC XX Core through my PDT Coordinator position.

To me, FSA is a space where individuals of different backgrounds can come together and be part of a community that strives for greatness; whether it's promoting higher education to underrepresented communities, retaining fellow peers, or creating awareness around the UCSC campus. It's a place where people can learn more about Filipino culture and history. It also provides individuals with opportunities to bring out their talents to the table. Through FSA I was able to create bonds with unforgettable faces, and grow into the person that I am today.

I am running for PCC Co-Chair because PCC gave me a sense of belonging, and I want to others to have the same feeling. Every year PCC is one of the few things that I look forward to. Through these past three PCC's, I learned to appreciate history, culture, and the importance of our presence. And I feel that these aspects can strengthen identities. PCC is where my heart belongs and whatever struggles we may face I am willing to do everything in my power to make sure this community gets what it needs and deserves.

If elected one of my goals is to keep the PCC momentum going throughout the year, for example: bringing back commercials, having PCC screenings, and emphasizing the importance of Mainstage and PCC, as well as cast bonding. I feel that commercials would encourage community members to unleash their creativity. PCC screenings, on the other hand, would not only stir up excitement but it would also educate the community with our untold stories of Filipino history and/or experience, and give incoming members a sense of what PCC is about. As for the Mainstage Issue, I feel that it's important to never take it for granted and that it's our duty to continue educating our community about this never-ending issue, because the current condition that our state is in doesn't guarantee anything for the future of our production.

Being a PDT Coordinator I learned many new things, for example: how SOAR, FSA Core, and PCC Core work. Working with two cores, as well as my own aspect, I learned how to work with different people and styles. I feel that I have the necessary knowledge to continue on to the next level, and I have the willingness to learn more. I also have the passion and drive to serve my community and provide everyone with what they need.