



1. If anything was possible, what would your dream job be, and why?

If anything were possible, my dream job would be to be a cafe business owner. Ever since I was in kindergarten, I have always found little cafes in our neighborhood amusing. The main reason why I find it amusing is because the nearest cafe in our school has a lot of colorful designs, mixed with cartoon characters like Hello Kitty and Snoopy. As someone in that age who is still not allowed to get his "caffeine fix," I would still visit that cafe and order a drink that is suited for my age, like chocolate or strawberry milk. During that time, little me already told himself that he wanted to own a cafe like that someday. As time flew by and as preferences shifted from cartoonish, maximal designs to simple, minimalist ones, I still have the same ambition to own a cafe someday. One indicator as well of why I really wanted to have a cafe is because as early as during my teenage years, I already couldn't survive a day without my caffeine intake. Up until now, I have still been the type of person who needs coffee every single day. Therefore, owning a cafe business is really one of my dream jobs if anything in the world is possible.

2. Have you ever experienced a stressful situation in your past workplace (college if fresh graduate), what was it and how did you overcome it?

During my college years, aside from my academics and internship, I was also able to join student organizations and other extracurricular activities. In our university, it is indeed a challenge when taking up student leadership roles because of the high standards and expectations from the student body, offices, and the entire community on how you will be able to execute your role properly during your term. I would like to share regarding my experience during my senior year, where I was given the opportunity to be elected as the University Student Government Executive President and have to serve the entire Lasallian community. One of my main duties is to serve as the student representative in all events of the university where a seat is given to the student sector during important meetings, town halls, and dialogues with the higher administration. From all the events that I was able to experience, one of the most stressful situations that I had encountered was during the Tuition and Other School Fees Increase Dialogue. In the University of St. La Salle – Bacolod, regardless of its special considerations and scholarship programs that help aid students who are in need of assistance to support their tuition fees, there is still a big chunk of the remaining student population that is adversely affected by it. It was a major challenge because it is indeed a part of my responsibility to be able to mobilize movements, surveys, and responsive actions to be able to cater to the needs and concerns of the student sector. These key activities are needed, for they are crucial in having effective and productive discussions with the higher administration so that the voices of the student body will be heard and accounted for. So, the actions mentioned are the initiatives that I was able to mobilize, materialize, and conduct following a series of stressful and challenging situations and processes. It also took a lot of pressure, most especially when having to present our data from the collective surveys and initiatives that will be presented to the higher administration. It was a long, straining dialogue with the administrators, but we eventually were



able to meet halfway and successfully lowered the tuition fee increase from the proposed 5% to 3%, which is the first in the university's history. It took a lot of mental prowess and stability to overcome those challenges. What also helped was staying grounded and true to the mission of having to represent the student sector well, as well as having to effectively collaborate with the different student branches, commissions, councils, and clubs of the university for us to come together with a united front to overcome the hurdles in regard to the tuition fees increase. It is also by having patience and discipline while still being able to effectively follow the systems, policies, and due processes of the institution.

3. In your previous position, what task did you find most challenging and why? What task did you enjoy most and why?

In my latest given role example as the Executive President of the University Student Government, the task that I find the most challenging is during our coliseum events. It is because aside from production, it also entailed a lot of technicalities. From the logistics and administrative work to finding internal or external talents, suppliers, and its overall execution during event day. It would need a lot of mental prowess to be able to pull off a successful event in the coliseum given that my team are also fellow students who are still learning about the field. It took a lot of practice, trust, orientations, and extreme preparations for us to be able to execute our show and event well. The tasks that I enjoy the most are more on the advocacy side. It will still need a lot of logistical and administrative work; it also needs public relations like poster creation, creative writing, photo documentation, and videography. It is because when representing an advocacy, it is also very important that we get to represent it well, especially if it contains sensitive topics and information. I enjoy it the most because I get to serve my purpose for why I ran for office in the first place: to serve, provide, and give back to the communities, especially those who are in need.

4. How would your past colleagues or managers describe your work ethic?

I believe that my past colleagues or managers (moderators) will describe me as someone competent at work. I am also someone who empowers through proper guidance and delegation. They would also add that I am detailed, organised, and systematic, for I always follow the due processes and create internal systems that I believe would work best based on factual and comprehensive analyses, depending on the departments' roles and needs. During my term, I was able to implement comprehensive workflows and structures that helped our operation run smoothly and efficiently. These also involved newly established frameworks, protocols, and systems that we streamlined down to our entire team for us to be able to practise and apply. These systems helped in making our tasks easier and more efficient in the student government, rendering us time to focus as well on our academics, internships, and other priorities at hand. I believe that it is through competence, trust, and proper delegation that we were able to materialise these newly established and effective internal systems in our organisation.



5. What personal or professional accomplishments are you most proud of?

During my term in the student government, I am most proud of having successfully pushed for lower tuition fees and other school fee increases in our institution. While we weren't able to push for the demand of 0% because of very important economic factors to consider, the very fact that we were able to mobilize student groups and encourage students to participate in this movement is already a huge accomplishment for me. During the previous years, even in this context, there was still an evident amount of student apathy in our university, where even in community and advocacy work, only a few students found themselves interested in participating. Even in the last academic year, there are still students who do not participate in any student and university-wide activities. In our movement on TOFI, even just for once, we were able to gather more than 50% of the entire student population to participate with us in our activities and initiatives, all while still being able to follow the correct due processes of the institution. I humbly consider it an opening and a steppingstone with the hopes that the next set of student leaders could also be able to tap students more to participate in student and university-wide activities, combatting student apathy.