

Hello everyone! My name is Edgar Perez-Lopez and I am a DACA recipient running for Undocumented Affairs Officer position of the Graduate Student Association (GSA). I am a fourth year PhD student in the Mechanical Engineering program and have been continuously active in creating a more inclusive environment for all students. I have been part of the Graduate Dean's Advisory Council on Diversity (GDACD) for two years now, going on three, where I helped develop the Undocumented Grad Student Handbook whose purpose is to assist other incoming undocumented students find the resources needed to succeed during their graduate journey. Additionally, we are finalizing a guide for an antiracist graduate program here at UC Merced that will hopefully change the dynamic of discriminatory actions toward those underrepresented in their respective programs. All in all, I am not running for this position to add to my CV, but rather to do some work for underrepresented peoples at UC Merced in my time remaining here. Thank you.