

Anna Graff, ASU Rep  
ASLC Goals

In order to improve the equity of and justice in Asian Student Union (ASU), I and the rest of the ASU leadership are working this year to integrate anti-racism and solidarity with communities of color into our meetings, our events, and our structure. We must wholeheartedly thank the Black leaders and activists in the US, in Portland, and globally who have risen up against systemic racism and police brutality and whose efforts have reinvigorated addressing racism as it exists in all communities. To achieve this, we are making increased efforts to cocreate open events with other student unions to ensure a holistic perspective is represented. Additionally, we will be holding closed events aimed at addressing and deconstructing anti-Blackness within the Asian community. This will be done both through education on this issue and through dissemination of resources regarding how to address it. In order to increase ASU's connection to the broader Portland community, we will try to form relationships with and make our participants aware of local activists groups such as Asians 4 Black Lives PDX and more. Though these actions are extremely relevant to the recent social justice movements in Portland and beyond, I hope that this focus on increasing equity and justice within ASU will not be bound by this academic year, and instead that these will be ongoing values that are integrated into the entire structure of ASU.

## **ASLC Semester Report Fall 2020**

I am satisfied with the amount that I learned this semester about ASLC and how it operates, but I wish I had taken more actions to promote the goals I set out at the beginning of the semester. After reflecting on the feedback we received from Elizabeth, I realized that I was unable to meet some of my goals for the semester because they lacked specific actionable tasks that would promote them. As a person who is new to ASLC, I'm happy that I was able to take this semester to learn more about what we do; I feel better prepared to take more action come the spring semester now that I have a better understanding of what I *can* do.

I think another issue brought up by this semester is that often because of the work I do in ASLC as the ASU representative, I take more of a backseat among the ASU leadership in order to not take too much on my plate. That leads to some disconnect between what I am doing with ASLC as the ASU representative and what ASU is actually doing, since I can't be as involved in the organization and facilitation of events. Next semester I'm taking a lighter course load, so hopefully that will provide me the opportunity to be more involved in ASU's events and promote the goals I set out at the beginning of the semester.