

CARLENE HUNTE NELSON

NON-TRADITION



Hi, my name is Carlene Nelson and I am a Junior in the Small Business Entrepreneurship program at BMCC. Once I have completed the program, I hope to go on to pursue a degree in economics. I hail from the island of St. Vincent and the Grenadines in the Caribbean where I worked as a middle school teacher, and have been a resident of New York City for more than a decade. I am a current member of the BMCC Finance and Banking Club and last year I was the Treasurer of the BMCC team that won the Maiden Lane Division of the National College FED Challenge. I am currently a Teacher's Assistant for the Finance 100 and SBE 100 classes.

I'm running for the office of Student Body President for several reasons. I have an 11-year-old son and back when he was 7, my husband ran for and served as the school's PTA Treasurer and a School Leadership Team member. I loved volunteering for school activities and was very interested in the inner workings of the educational system. I had just decided on serving myself when COVID hit and derailed those plans. Several years later I find myself again wanting to participate in a form of educational governance, only this time as a student! I hope to gain experience in serving the constituency of students in BMCC's community, dealing with bureaucracy, and one day leveraging this humble start into some type of participation in the larger world of public service and public policy. Three prime issues I tend to promote are:

1. "Bringing the Community Back to Community College" in a (hopefully) post-COVID world. I believe the BMCC in-person class community needs a kickstart to fully recover from the social distancing of the past years of COVID policy. I'd like to do what I can to inject some energy and immediacy into this process.
2. Improved new student onboarding. I had a very rough time figuring out class schedules and deciding on and registering for my major. I believe improvements in this area would be tremendously beneficial for student outcomes (and VERY helpful to the faculty as well).
3. Ways to introduce more ecological/financial sustainability discussion into the curriculum college-wide. Both as a way for the departments to operate a small amount more sustainably and through in-class discussion about how their industry/segment might perform more sustainably in the future. Thus, graduates would be better prepared for what will be an increasingly relevant discussion in our global future.

I plan to communicate with the student body through regular virtual and in-person meetings (whatever the dictates of COVID policy allow).

As Archbishop Desmond Tutu said, "Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world." In this spirit, I look forward to being of service and doing my bit of good as your Student Government Association President. Thank you.

Carlene Hunt Nelson