Hello PTK members!

I am Jasmine Olea Acuna, a committed double major in early childhood development and pre-nursing at Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College. This is my second year at Santa Ana College, and I'm currently enrolled in Santiago Canyon College's unique Early Childhood Education Apprenticeship Program - the first of its kind in Orange County. Upon completion of this 18-month program, I will receive my certification and be qualified to work as a lead educator with young children. In addition, I plan to complete my pre-nursing major by the end of 2025. I intend to enroll in Santa Ana College's nursing program after receiving my pre-nursing major.

I was a fairly shy and nervous person before I joined PTK, but it has given me so many opportunities for personal growth. I'm a member of the oldest chapter in California, the five-star Alpha Beta Chapter, located at Santa Ana College. I became involved as the chapter secretary the week I joined PTK in the summer of 2023. I saw it as a chance for me to get over my social anxiety, and I've been succeeding ever since. I got a chance to contribute in the HIA Project "Economics At Play" and go to the Fall Leadership Conference in 2023. There, I met regional officers, members from other chapters, and my current best friend who all encouraged me and inspired me to run for the VP of the Southwest District position!

My greatest source of inspiration is my family because, as a first-generation student, I want to seize every opportunity that my parents were not awarded. I am my parents' nurse, secretary, and interpreter for everything, and I wouldn't have it any other way! Because my parents never attended school, they were never taught how to read or write. They came from nothing and were able to leave their home and families in Mexico to come to the US and give their kids a better life. They have worked incredibly hard to get me to where I am now, and I will always be grateful for what they gave up. I consider it an honor to be able to achieve my goals with their support.

My life experiences and educational background have equipped me with exceptional problem-solving and time management abilities, as well as a strong sense of determination and good organizing skills. I'm sure I can use these abilities and pick up knowledge from my advisor, peers, colleagues, and other officials to succeed in my role as Southwest District Vice President. I'm eager to see what lies ahead and determined to show everyone what PTK is all about with my performance if given the chance! I truly appreciate it.