



A New kind of Texas

22 February 2019

TJCSGA Region II Student of the Year Award

The Student Government Association(SGA) at Cedar Valley College (CVC) is a new and fresh experience for Rachel Rimmer. This year, Ms. Rimmer has taken on a more invective role as Vice President. Her main goal in this position is to influence and empower students to be more involved in everyday decisions for campus life. Just as the “Sun” of Cedar Valley, she gives warmth and passion to every person she meets. Her commitment to service shaped her appreciation for justice, integrity, credibility, and a strong student focused campus culture.

Due to the magnitude of her work this year, her expectations exceeded her original perception of her role. Rachel has been on the Cedar Valley Campus since she was 16 years old, being a dual-credit student, and has personally encountered numerous amounts of issues that needed to be addressed. However, being a younger student, she was a novice to change and wished for someone to make improvements. Now, as Vice President, she has successfully become the person she envisioned. Attending regular meetings with Department Deans and the President’s Cabinet (PCAB), she presents student concerns that need to be addressed.

Rachel believes that integrity is crucial for a healthy campus community. She has focused her moral compass on upholding the rights of students. She feels that her representation in Student Government Association. gives her voice a credible amplification of student needs and agitations. She wants the administration to understand that the philosophy of thoughts and behaviors are ever-changing. Thus, the college must adapt and evolve to generational fluctuations.

Her service to CVC's SGA this year has been a thorough process filled with mediations and activity. Rachel is constantly meeting with upper administrations about student feedback, complaints, and approvals. Her vigilance to gaining insight led Student Government to create the "Speak Out" tables. This collaborative event allowed for direct and unanimous staff and student input on subjects relating to improvements of the campus. Students and staff were allowed to put their thoughts and frustrations on paper without discrimination.

Rachel's magnanimous contribution for student outreach propelled CVC's SGA involvement in the community. She reached out to several organizations including: Scottish Rite Hospital, City of Dallas Library, Lancaster's Senior Retirement Center, Lancaster Fire Department, and the Reverchon Park "Round Up", all of which are within SGA's community. She believes that Student Government Association should model the behavior that she is requesting of others.

While attending the 2018 TJCSGA State Conference, as a new delegate, she witnessed the dynamics of the organization's dedication. She was amazed by the opportunities offered, the information perceived, and the indirect implications to apply what she learned to her life. The State conference inspired her to seek out more influencers in her community. As Vice President, she attended TJCSGA's Region II Spring conference with an open-mind, while extending her networking contacts to prestigious students. Rachel's undeniable aptitude for community equity, student communication, and servant leadership distinguishes her as a poised contributor to this community. She joined the Social Committee and displayed her charisma and integrity with her team. Doubtful of her own path in life, she attended the transfer/university workshop that constructed the baseline for future institutions.

The battle of balancing school life, organization involvement, and personal duties is

familiar territory to Rachel. SGA dominates a portion of her attention, yet, her current job continuously provides a challenge. Employees within CVC's Office of Student Life (OSL) saw the potential driving Rachel toward success. She was recruited by an inspiring team, and she worked with empowering individuals at OSL for over three years.

Rachel's dedication and skills as an employee transfers to her attitude as a CVC student. She upholds the vision of an involved Cedar Valley student and represents student ambition. Although she has admitted to resorting to procrastination and doubt - burdens that every student faces - Rachel repetitively recovers and, once again, resume her duties. Although her personal life brings about challenges, Rachel perceives these barriers of success as hurdles and jumps over them with ease.

The fruits of her labor are displayed through her accomplishments. Rachel was a member of the Student Leadership Institute (SLI) in 2018, where she improved her leadership skills while participating in workshops and presentations. Her determination to refine her knowledge earned her a certificate of completion under the supervision of SLI. Rachel also received a certificate for being an active member in SGA last year. Her active contributions in SGA evolved into a position that exceeded her expectations. She executes the importance of Vice President with sheer tenacity.

As a full-time student, Rachel excels as a constructed, self-motivated individual and works to accomplish her career goals. Once she earns her Associates of Arts Degree, she plans to attend Texas State University in San Marcos. Her ultimate goal is to become a teacher to inspire and inform future generations. A teacher is a position of power, leadership, and observation. The

growth Rachel has accumulated from SGA, OSL, TJCSGA and her personal life are lessons she hopes to teach to others.

Rachel is an awe-inspiring individual whose charisma radiates like CVC's "Sun" and whose attentiveness on campus formulates eminent rectification. Cedar Valley College's delectations are heightened by such an outstanding figure. CVC would be esteemed to have Rachel Rimmer represent DCCCD as TJCSGA Region II Student of the Year. Rachel is honored to hold the nomination as Student of the Year, and shall continue to show her gratitude through servant leadership.