Oceanic Student Association

Information Item: Club Name Change

SY: 2021 - 2022

The Oceanic Student Association would like to formally change their club name to be the “Pacific Islander Student Association”. We have heard from previous and current club members that finding a Pasifika (Pacific Islander) centered space has been difficult because the term, “Oceanic “ isn’t a clear representation of the pacific island communities. Members have mentioned that they thought the club was a Marine Biology club, or something related to that nature which turned them away initially. During our first fundraiser of the year we were met with a lot of excitement, however this came after we answered the initial question on everyone’s mind, “what does Oceanic mean?”. Pacific Islanders make up one of the smallest ethnic populations on campus, and establishing this clear sense of representation with our club name could work to bring our community together. Stripping ourselves of colonial labels such as “Oceanic” also works to uplift Pasifika voices, and highlight our experiences within the diaspora.