

My name is Chuku, Chimziebere Patience, I am currently a Graduate Student in the Department of Sustainability and Technology. As a dedicated and passionate individual with a proven record of accomplishment in leadership and advocacy back in my home country Nigeria, I am excited to express my interest in the role of the Vice President in the Association of International Students here at Eastern Illinois University. With a deep understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities that international students face, I am committed to fostering an inclusive and supportive community that empowers students to succeed academically, personally, and professionally.

As a graduate assistant for the central hiring unit housing and Dining Department, I have developed a strong passion for cultural exchange, diversity, and inclusion as I constantly communicate and engage with international students daily. I have also volunteered in various capacities here in school such as the Panther Palooza, fit to Serve initiative and Food pantry, and I have served as an International Student Ambassador to welcome new international students into the Eastern Illinois University Community.

As a vice president of the international student, I would leverage my skills in event planning and management, leadership skills, Communication skills, teamwork, and community building to create engaging programs and initiatives that promote cross-cultural understanding, academic success, and career development for international students here at Eastern Illinois University. I will contribute to this prestigious association by;

- Developing and implementing programs to support international students' transition to academic and cultural life here in eastern
- Collaborating with university departments and external organizations to provide resources and services that address the unique needs of international students, especially career fairs
- Fostering and advocating for policies and initiatives that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion on campus.

I am confident that my passion, experience, and leadership skills make me an ideal candidate for this role. I look forward to the opportunity to serve and positively impact the international student community here at Eastern Illinois University.