# **2022 Elections**

## Faculty Representative Candidates

#### ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION





Athabasca University Graduate Students' Association

### **Elections Timeline**

The 2022 Executive Committee elections of the Association shall consist of the following periods:

- Campaigning Period: March 23 to March 29
- Polling Period: March 28 and March 29
- Newly elected officials announced: March 30

#### **Voting Platform**

The link to the voting platform is: https://elections.augsa.com.

With 2022 elections taking place on March 28th and 29th, there will only be an election process for the **Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences** representative candidates, given the remainder of the positions have been acclaimed.



**FHSS Representative** 

Heather McGilvary Graduate Student EdD Program Heather McGilvary is graduate student within the Doctorate of Distance Education program. She enjoys being involved and attending graduate student events. In her free time Heather enjoys reading and when the weather permits, she is an avid gardener. Heather has been actively involved with AUGSA and the AU community for several years and feels that advocating alongside graduate students is very important. As AU graduate students, our academic endeavours, our personal wellbeing, and our financial considerations need to be front and center. If elected to serve as the representative for the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Heather commits to providing the best possible representation, advocacy, and support.



FHSS Representative

Angelo Delli Santi Graduate Student MEd Program Hi, my name is Angelo Deli Santi. Why am I running as a Representative in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences?

To advocate on your behalf on hot academic topics, such as financial help due to the pandemic, tuition hike, mental health and wellness, and more.

To neutralize these hot topics by giving proper attendance to all meetings, as I have always done in my current teaching profession for the last 15 years.

To give everyone a voice, and it starts with you, by communicating with me regularly as I will supply this line of communication so your voice will be heard.

To excite the learning by getting involved in the faculty and finding how you can take part in your journey with my help.

To lead your faculty in another academic year of success.

To offer the best representative for you.

- Advocate
- Neutralize
- Give
- Excite
- Lead
- Offer

I respect and give my full attention to all queries, as I have always been told I am an excellent listener.

Do vote for Angelo Delli Santi for your faculty representative, so you get the chance to hear what is happening at Athabasca University.

To learn more visit: https://express.adobe.com/page/8cJJhBkgypf1M/



I am Khagendra Bhandari. Originally, I am from Nepal, a mountainous country sandwiched between India and China. I have been in Canada for 8 plus years. I have done a Master's in English Literature from Tribhuvan University Nepal. Additionally, I have done a Bachelor's in GIS program from SAIT, Calgary. Currently, I am doing my Master's in Education from Athabasca University with the goal of becoming an Instructional Designer.

**FHSS Representative** 

**Khagendra Bhandari** Graduate Student MEd Program I have been doing an internship with a non-profit American organization to design an eLearning course on career advising. I have also been volunteering with The Immigration Education Society to facilitate ESL classes.

I want to run in the AUGSA election for a Faculty Representative position. I am looking forward to contributing to the community by representing student concerns wherever and whenever necessary. I am hoping that you will vote me in to serve the community.



FHSS Representative

**Erica Grossi** Graduate Student MEd Program Erica Grossi is a graduate student in the Master of Education (M.Ed.) program and lives in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada. She enjoys being part of her academic and home communities. Erica currently volunteers for Athabasca's online graduate journal, Journal for Integrated Studies, as a layout editor. Erica works within her community, providing tutoring and assisting in course design for adult learners at a local non-profit organization. She also sits on the board of directors and the policy committee for a non-profit organization. Erica professionally comes from business and education in positions of an analyst. This year, she has held two assistantship positions within her faculty as a facilitator in Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) through Athabasca University and the Commonwealth of Learning.

#### **Faculty of Business**



FB Representative (acclaimed)

Margaret Clappison, BIS, MBA, CPA Graduate Student DBA Program I would like to make a difference on the AUGUSTA Council using my professional skills in strategic management, governance and ethics. I was the Vice President of Operations and Finance of the AUGSA for two years and have served on the Council.

In my view implementing regulatory standards and controls to ensure compliance is important to be able to guarantee sound internal controls and excellent financial reporting systems are in place.

I am currently enrolled in the DBA with a special interest in corporate social responsibility.

Find me at margaret@solarstreams.ca or Margaret Clappison@LinkedIn.

#### **Faculty of Business**



FB Representative (acclaimed)

**Ian Chitwood** Graduate Student DBA Program My name is Ian Chitwood. I am completing the final year of my DBA program in the AU Faculty of Business. My dissertation involves exploring the subjective experience of work in advanced manufacturing organizations. I am also an alumni of AU's faculty of graduate studies, having completed a MAIS degree in 2014.

I have over fourteen years of experience in business management. I have several years of board experience, serving on a board of a provincial safety organization, on a provincial commission with experience in government and industry affairs, representing the views of over 15,000 agricultural producers in Alberta, and serving on a theatre board in Calgary. I am interested in representing the Faculty of Business on the AUGSA Council, and advocating on behalf of fellow graduate students. When I am not working or completing doctoral work, I enjoy spending time with family, running, reveling in craft beer, reading, and completing new carpentry projects. I served as Faculty of Business representative on AUGSA last year, and enjoyed being able to represent perspective of business students on council.

### **Faculty of Business**



FB Representative (acclaimed)

**Gordon Chandler** Graduate Student MBA Program My name is Gordon Chandler. I am enrolled in the MBA program in the Athabasca University Faculty of Business, currently in phase 2 of the program. Prior to my studies at AU, I attended the Asper School of Business at the University of Manitoba, where I graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours).

I am a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA), and I work as Director of Finance and Operations at a non-profit organization. I've worked in the non-profit sector for over 10 years and have served on several nonprofit and charity boards.

I'm interested in contributing my time and professional skills on the AUGSA Council to advance the interests of my fellow AU graduate students.

I live in Winnipeg, Manitoba, with my partner, Sidney, and our cat, Jasper. Outside of my studies and work, I enjoy travelling, trying new restaurants, and working on DIY home improvement projects.

Thank you for your consideration!

#### **Faculty of Health**



FH Representative (acclaimed)

**Jillian Nickel** Graduate Student MHS Program Hello,

My name is Jillian Nickel. I am in my second year of my Master of Health Studies graduate program with AU.

I feel I would be an excellent voice for the students in this graduate program who aren't of a nursing background and are of a more healthscience/research based background. I feel our group needs a voice for us to be heard in that we are understood and taken into consideration with our respective backgrounds. My undergrad background is more health science related and heavily concentrated with human biologies such as immunology, micro, virology, genetics, cellular mechanisms of disease, etc. My thesis is revolving around lysin therapy as a potential biologic.

I worked in a pharmacy for 3 years while going to school for nuclear medicine (and afterwards). For nuclear medicine, I did a 12 month practicum at the DTHR Red Deer Hospital. I currently work at Alberta Health Services (10 years) as a clinical analyst who configures inpatient orders that clinicians use.

I have volunteered with the Alzheimer's association for four years in a row in the past – a cause very dear to my heart.

Jillian N. - Clinical Analyst - Alberta Health Services | LinkedIn Thank you!

#### **Faculty of Health**



FH Representative (acclaimed)

**Sabrina Martin** Graduate Student MHS Program My name is Sabrina Martin and I am currently enrolled in the Master of Health Studies program through Athabasca University. The value of continuing education is immeasurable and I have thoroughly enjoyed the collaboration, challenge and practical application my studies through AU have provided me thus far.

There are two reasons I wish to continue as a faculty representative for 2022-2023. On a personal note, being on council has allowed me to enhance my creativity, networking and communication skills. I have gained a better understanding of the dynamic and student focused institution that is AU. Second, and more importantly, is that I am to help connect my fellow students to events and opportunities throughout AU. The importance of making connections as we continue to recover from the pandemic is paramount and being a faculty representative is one way I can help my fellow students stay informed and feel connected. Thank you for your consideration.

### **Faculty of Health**



FH Representative (acclaimed)

**Charlesly Salter** Graduate Student MN Program Hello, my name is Charlie Salter. I hold a BSc (psychology) and a BN from Memorial University. I also hold two certificates from Memorial: Leadership, and Supervisory Management. I am currently a MN student at Athabasca.

I am currently working in Winnipeg, MB where I hold a few positions. I co-manage a medical practice with my husband as the clinic registered nurse, I am a trauma unit registered nurse at HSC Winnipeg, and I am a clinical research nurse with University of Manitoba.

I have some past experience with working and volunteering at student unions. While I was working of my BSc, I volunteered at Memorial's student union (MUNSU) for orientation weeks, fundraisers and as a peer mentor. I was hired as MUNSU's Student Legal Aid Liaison for a two semester term where I would communicate the legal needs of students requiring assistance to a team of lawyers. Later, I was hired at a research assistant for MUNSU's Leading Well program. This program was a self-care and wellness resource for students in leadership roles.

I have been a council member since December 2021 and would love to continue my role at AUGSA.

#### **Faculty of Science & Technology**



**FST Representative** (acclaimed)

**Rayees Khan** Graduate Student MScIS Program Rayees Khan (He/Him) is a student in the Master of Science – Information Systems program with Faculty of Science and Technology (FST) since 2019. Rayees has a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science from University of Missouri – Kansas City, and a certificate in Business Management from Ryerson University. He works full-time as a Database Administrator with a public services organization in Edmonton, Alberta.

Rayees is passionate about serving and giving back to the community. He has participated in a United Nations Online Volunteering program to create a website for an NGO (Non-Government Organization) in Central Africa. He also regularly served as a volunteer for the Markham Food Bank and the Calgary Drop-in Centre. As a Faculty Representative, Rayees would be honoured for the opportunity to serve as the voice advocating on behalf of the FST students and staff. I will always strive for excellence and work hard towards making the graduate student experience at Athabasca University a delightful one.

#### Faculty of Science & Technology



**FST Representative** (acclaimed)

**Russel Rupok** Graduate Student MScIS Program Anthropologist Margaret Mead said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." I am Russell Rupok and honored to put my nomination for Representative from the Faculty of Science and Technology. An MSc in IS final year student, IT Lead by profession, and outdoor enthusiastic seeking your support in this upcoming 2022 Graduate Student Election.

I had the privilege of serving IIBA Calgary Chapter and worked closely with local university students. Currently serving as a Board of Director of Calgary Fish and Game Association (CFGA), CFGA and IIBA taught me how to be part of a diverse group of people and give back to the community. I believe this diverse experience and willingness to help can be beneficial to all our students.

I am running because I want to serve students like you and me. If elected, I will be honored and give every effort to assist our university students.