

2023 Elections

Faculty of Health Disciplines Candidates

ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION



Elections Timeline

The 2022 Faculty Representative elections of the Association shall consist of the following periods:

- Campaigning Period: March 3 to March 9
- Polling Period: March 9 and March 10
- Newly elected officials notified: March 11

Voting Platform

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

With 2023 elections taking place on March 9th and 10th, there will be an election process for each of the following faculties:

- Faculty of Business
- Faculty of Health Disciplines
- Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

The Faculty of Science and Technology representative positions have been acclaimed.

Faculty of Health Disciplines



FHD Representative

Vanessa Fewer
Graduate Student
MN Program

My name is Vanessa Fewer; I was born and raised in a small town called Happy Valley Goose Bay in central Labrador. I graduated from Western Regional School of Nursing, a campus of Memorial University in 2012. While attending school I was an active member of the Nursing Society and worked to try and improve student life. Since graduating, I have been working as a Registered Nurse with my focus being on Emergency medicine; I have worked across Canada but currently I am enjoying remote nursing in fly-in communities of Northern Labrador. In addition to work I have remained active with the Salvation Army as a regular volunteer on the emergency services truck, with children's programming and general church fundraising. As part of this council, I feel I can help elicit positive change, and provide the input of students from rural and remote communities, those with indigenous background and also those dealing with mental health struggles. I hope you will give me the opportunity to bring a differing view to your council; I will strive to do my best to help create positive change and make sure all voices are heard. Thank you.

Faculty of Health Disciplines



FHD Representative

Skyler Todd

Graduate Student
MC Program

Hi there, my name is Skyler Todd (they/she), and I am in the Master of Counselling Psychology program. I'll be heading into my final year where I will complete my practicum and finish my thesis work, which focuses on parenting practices that best promote the gender health of children and youth. I have a background in curriculum leadership, specifically a passion for radical collaboration and developing school practices and policies aimed at DEI initiatives. Throughout my career as an educator, I have taught in Korea, United Arab Emirates, Tanzania, and Canada, and have had the opportunity to work alongside people from all walks of life. I believe the multitudes of cultural, social, and religious backgrounds people carry deserve to be centred and honoured within in a learning setting. As a student who's balanced my AU coursework, professional work, an interprovincial move, and welcoming a baby, I understand how important it is that AU is responsive to our needs. I would be grateful for the opportunity to serve you in the student council role.

Faculty of Health Disciplines



FHD Representative

Kelly DeCoste

Graduate Student
MN Program

My name is Kelly, and I am a Master of Nursing Student in the Faculty of Health Disciplines at Athabasca University, where I am conducting research with a focus on maternal mental health. Aside from being a student, I am a Registered Nurse and Nurse Educator at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. I have been involved with AUGSA as a Representative for the Faculty of Health Disciplines since 2022, and I believe my roles as a graduate student and post-secondary educator bring a unique perspective to the AUGSA team. I have served in several leadership roles including the Board of Directors for a local daycare, a local School Advisory Committee and as a student member on Senate at St. Francis Xavier University. It is a privilege to represent and advocate for graduate students in the Faculty of Health Disciplines. Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have any questions, concerns or are looking for more information about AUGSA. I am committed to representing YOUR voice on AUGSA, at AU, and beyond! I wish you all the best throughout your studies at Athabasca University.

Faculty of Health Disciplines



FHD Representative

Kyra Johnston

Graduate Student
NP Program

My name is Kyra Johnston, and I currently work as a general neurology nurse with Health PEI. I am working towards obtaining my master's degree in nursing, NP stream, with the goal of becoming a neurology NP.

Part of my neurology role is working in a Secondary Stroke Prevention Clinic where we see patients who have experienced TIAs or non-disabling strokes. Working in this clinic has been rewarding and our latest statistics indicate a decrease in hospitalizations for patients with TIAs by 46 percent in PEI. Last year I was excited to participate in the ACT randomized controlled trial comparing alteplase with tenecteplase in patients presenting with acute ischemic strokes, and the outcome of this trial is currently changing treatment for acute ischemic stroke care across Canada.

More than ever before, nurses have a pivotal leadership role in healthcare, and are much needed agents for advocacy and change. I feel incredibly lucky to be studying at Athabasca University to reach my educational and career goals, and I would enjoy serving as a Faculty of Health Disciplines Representative on the Student Council Committee to be a voice for students and an advocate for change.