

MARCH 2023

# 2023 Elections

## Faculty of Science & Technology Candidates

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ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION



Athabasca University  
Graduate Students'  
Association

# Elections Timeline

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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

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**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 Science & Technology

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## **FST Representative**

### **Rayees Khan**

Graduate Student  
MScIS Program

Rayees Khan (He/Him) is a student in the Master of Science – Information Systems program with the Faculty of Science and Technology (FST). 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 served as one of the Faculty Representatives on the AUGSA council for the academic year 2022-23. He also 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. If given the opportunity to serve again for the academic year 2023-24, Rayees would be extremely honoured to continue to advocate on behalf of the FST students and staff. Rayees will always strive for excellence and work hard towards helping make a delightful graduate studies experience at Athabasca University.

# Faculty of Science & Technology

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**FST Representative**

**Russell Rupok**  
Graduate Student  
MScIS Program

Hi, I am Russell Rupok, running for AUGSA FST Faculty Representative.

Why am I running?

AU has taken significant steps towards achieving its vision through advancements such as ILE, IDEA lab, and Virtual GRA to Nuksahtowin. While these achievements have positioned AU for continued success, the same cannot be said for the challenges graduate students are facing, such as increased tuition fees, student dropout, and disconnect between students. **If re-elected in the 2023-24 term, my focus will be to find answers to some of your questions:**

- Can tuition be affordable?
- Can we have a steady bargain agreement for our students?
- How do we maximize the interaction between our students?
- Can AUGSA work with AU to create more job opportunities for students?

I am an MSc in IS thesis student and GRA, IT Lead and outdoor enthusiast running for AUGSA council and seeking your vote. Having been privileged to serve as an FST Faculty Rep in 2021-2023 term, my successes include reviewing 2021 AUGSA by-laws, setting strategies for Bargain Committee, moderating 2021/2022 research conference, and orienting the new 2021/22 students. I feel AUGSA is very well-positioned to support our students and I hope to continue the momentum.