



SOCIETY OF ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

2020 Elections

May 9 – 11

VIA SFU WEBSURVEY

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SASS 2020 Elections

All Candidates

President

- Ekaterina Letunovskya

VP Administration

- Kayla Tso

VP Internal Relations

- Kayla Chow

VP External Relations

- Téah U-Ming

VP Student Life

- Hannah Kazemi

VP Communications & Marketing

- Jaymie Cristobal

VP Finance

- Zak Thompson

VP Academic Affairs

- Jeanifer Decena
- Mughees Abid

Council Representative

- Simran Jir

EKATERINA LETUNOVSKAYA

FOR SASS PRESIDENT

ABOUT ME:

Hey! I'm Katya. I'm a 2nd-year Criminology major. I'm running to be the next President of the Society of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS). I'm currently the FASS and Faculty Representative of the Criminology Student Association and through that role, I've helped plan FASS Formal and FASS on a Boat.

As the president, my goals are to increase student engagement within FASS and increase support for incoming FASS students, build a stronger relationship with student unions and the SFSS, and further promote student advocacy at SFU.

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 KLETUNOV@SFU.CA

EKATERINA LETUNOVSKAYA

BUILDING STRONGER RELATIONSHIP WITH DEPARTMENTAL STUDENT UNIONS (DSU)

Student Unions play an integral role in allowing students to connect with their department and faculty. DSUs provide a variety of events ranging from socials where students can get to know others in their departments to career nights, events where students are exposed to professionals within the field and can find out about post graduate opportunities that are available to them. To increase engagement, it is important for SASS to build stronger relationships with DSUs.

HOW?

- Semesterly meetings with DSU Presidents and Reps to discuss the future of DSUs and the support they require from SASS
- Prioritize the support of DSUs in their planning of events and ensure they have the support they require
 - Example: One of the obstacles that smaller DSUs face is the 10% DSU funding required when requesting a grant from SFSS.
- Make Arts Week a structured event with printed brochures containing a timetable of DSU socials and events
- Promote DSU events on SASS Social Media and other FASS Socials (@sfusass, @fass.engage)

EKATERINA LETUNOVSKAYA

BETTER COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPARENCY WITH THE SFSS

As DSU executives probably know, communication between SFSS and student executives can sometimes be a confusing process. While the canvas course is informative, many aspects of a DSU executive role are unclear and it's left up to the students to find their way around.

HOW?

- Push for clearer guidelines on funding, grants, and reimbursements as well as a more straightforward process regarding room bookings
- Implement practical skills workshops geared towards specific DSU roles. For example:
 - Workshops geared towards treasurers regarding funding and the process of grants and reimbursements.
 - Workshops towards event managers regarding room bookings, MECS navigation, and event planning.
 - Workshops for marketing roles on how to best promote events on social media and increase engagement.
- Work with the SFSS FASS Rep to establish more efficient communication channels between the SFSS and DSUs.

INCREASE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AT SFU

A lot of students feel that SFU is a commuter campus and that there are not enough opportunities for student to become involved. As the faculty union, SASS should ensure that students are aware of possible events and ensure that all events are accessible.

HOW?

- Stronger presence of SASS on campus
 - Open and accessible meeting minutes.
 - Allow general members to vote/participate in discussion regarding future plans.
- Centralized point of information regarding involvement opportunities, DSU updates, and events.
- Improve accessibility and affordability of events for students by utilizing SFSS and SEF funding options.
- Plan and execute more events and workshops as well as events on other campuses
 - Academic: practical skills workshops, discussions about the different degrees and programs within FASS
 - Career Workshops: resume, cover letter, interviewing workshops
 - Socials: study nights, pub nights, board game nights

EKATERINA LETUNOVSKAYA

BECOME MORE INVOLVED WITH STUDENT ADVOCACY

Student advocacy is extremely important to ensure that the voices of students are heard. As the student union of the biggest faculty at SFU, it is up to SASS to help bring forth areas of student concern and guarantee that the needs of all students are considered.

HOW?

- Work with the SFSS FASS Rep (Sude Guvendik) to advocate in favour of student concerns in front of the SFSS council and bring forth student concerns to the SFSS.
- Increase social media presence on platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to allow for dialogue between SASS and students within FASS.
- Spread awareness regarding resources available to students, especially those provided by groups within SFU such as:
 - SFPIRG, Out on Campus, SOCA, Women's Centre, etc.
- Keep students updated on the policy changes brought forth at the SFSS council meetings
- Support causes in favour of student interests and concerns such as:
 - Tuition Freeze Now and SFU Student Walkout

EKATERINA LETUNOVSKAYA

INCREASE SUPPORT FOR FIRST-YEARS

The transition from school to university requires a lot of adjustment and adaptation. International students especially, have to adjust not only to SFU but to Canada and Canadian culture. I believe that increasing support for new students would help ease their transition to SFU.

HOW?

- Establish practical skills workshops targeted towards first-year students
 - Examples of these workshops will include how to use myschedule, course selection and how to navigate canvas.
- Create a blog section on the SASS website for upperclassmen to share their experience in posts such as “what to know in your first year” or “what to consider before declaring a major”
- Create relationships with incoming students prior to Welcome Day and Orientation.
 - This will be done through the active presence of SASS and its members on social media sites
- Provide support for international students in their transition to SFU and Canada
 - Provide a space on the SASS website where current international students can answer questions and share their experiences

EKATERINA LETUNOVSKAYA FOR SASS PRESIDENT

TL;DR

I BELIEVE THAT SASS HAS THE POTENTIAL TO POSITIVELY CONTRIBUTE TO THE STUDENT BODY AND HELP BETTER STUDENT LIFE ON CAMPUS. I'M EXCITED TO WORK WITH THE FUTURE SASS TEAM TO ENSURE THAT EVERYONE IN FASS GETS THE MOST OUT OF THEIR TIME AT SFU

IF I'M ELECTED PRESIDENT I WOULD DO MY BEST TO ENSURE THAT ALL THE GOALS I HAVE PRESENTED IN MY PLATFORM ARE FULFILLED. MY GOALS ARE TO INCREASE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT WITHIN FASS AND INCREASE SUPPORT FOR INCOMING FASS STUDENTS, BUILD A STRONGER RELATIONSHIP WITH STUDENT UNIONS AND THE SFSS, AND FURTHER PROMOTE STUDENT ADVOCACY AT SFU.

**BE
HEARD**

 KATYALET0309

 KLETUNOV@SFU.CA

Hello! My name is Kayla Tso. I am a third year World Literature Major and running for your 2020/2021 VP Admin for the Society of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS). I want to run because I feel that SASS is a wonderful organization that will allow me to become more connected with the student body! I am a hardworking and organized individual, and personally think that I would suit the role of VP Admin quite well. I think SASS's presence in the lives of FASS students, while impactful, can still be improved, and I would like to aid in this endeavor by accomplishing three main goals!

Better communication with SFSS

- Meetings with Sude Guvendik (SFSS FASS Rep) to strengthen the relationship between SASS and the SFSS.

Why is this important: By speaking with our FASS Rep allows us to establish a connection with the SFSS, and therefore learn about current affairs that otherwise would not have been known

- Create FAQ page on an updated SASS website (SFSS, FASS and SASS) to answer questions that Departmental Student Unions (DSU's) / FASS students may have

Why is this important: Many students may find themselves uncertain about the logistics of how these governing bodies work, and what their responsibilities are. By creating an FAQ page, these concerns or questions can be answered in a centralized space for students to seek out

Easily accessible information

- Create and edit blog posts such as updates on SASS event planning, testimonies from DSU executives for advice on courses, job experiences from FASS students, and many more on the SASS website to allow FASS students access to current news on SASS

Why is this important: These blog posts allow for SASS to keep engaged with students and for students to understand what SASS is working on, and what exactly SASS is responsible for. Moreover, by having DSU Executives and FASS Peer Mentors contribute to the blog with their own student testimonies, SASS is able to provide insight into the lifestyle of our volunteers and their stories to create a stronger community and inspire new students to get involved

- Post meeting agenda and minutes to keep up to date

Why is this important: Before now, SASS has not been as transparent with their information. By posting these minutes and agendas in a centralized space, it will be easy for interested students to find and look into

- Format meeting schedule early so those who would like to attend can organize their schedules

Why is this important: Having a cohesive meeting schedule ensures that all executive members of SASS are organized and able to attend, as well as making meetings accessible for all FASS students to attend if they choose to. This way, everything will remain organized and meetings can be an easy event to attend each week

Strengthen SASS' presence

- Organize biweekly/weekly DSU meetings to keep in touch with unions

Why is this important: While SASS aims to work with all FASS students, engaging directly with DSU representatives allows for this connection to be more easily achieved. DSU's advocate for their program and its students, so by working with them, a stronger connection between SASS, DSU's and students will be established

- Keep in contact with DSU presidents to see what they need/what they are up to by sending out biweekly email check-ins for them to respond to

Why is this important: Keeping up to date with presidents will allow for SASS to be able to help out in any way that it can, and ensures that DSU's know that if they need any help, SASS is there for them to assist

- Work with Brian Fox (Student Engagement Coordinator) and the Engagement Programming Assistant (EPA) to establish strong foundations and responsibilities between SASS and FASS

Why is this important: Currently, the lines of communication between Arts Central and SASS's responsibilities are not very clear. By working with the FASS EPA and Brian Fox, establishing these responsibilities will make it more understandable as to what SASS is in charge of, and what FASS is in charge of in order to create a cohesive relationship between the two

- Oversee SASS executives to ensure tasks are completed in a timely manner by making sure that tasks are delegated and kept track of so they are completed

Why is this important: It is imperative that SASS have a strong structure and even stronger executive team who are able to complete their tasks to ensure that SASS can remain organized and professional. If any executives are not upholding their responsibilities, it will reflect poorly on the entirety of SASS. Therefore, making sure that everyone remains accountable will ensure that SASS's organization and professionalism is upheld.

TL;DR If I am elected, I will do everything in my power to ensure that SASS's presence is strong in FASS society by implementing these three goals. I want to make sure that all FASS students are comfortable in their understanding of SASS and what we have to offer for them. I look forward to working with the SASS team to make sure that these goals can be seen through to fruition, and I look forward to making sure that this upcoming year can be great!



KAYLA CHOW FOR SASS VP INTERNAL

MAY 9TH -11TH
VOTE VIA SFU MAIL

PLATFORM:

1. HOSTING EVENTS AT SURREY AND BURNABY CAMPUS ALLOWING STUDENTS TO BE MORE INVOLVED
2. COLLABORATING WITH OTHER DSU AND FACULTIES TO HOST DIFFERENT EVENTS
3. CONNECT WITH STUDENTS AND BRING CONCERN TO THE SASS EXEC TEAM

Bio

My name is Téah U-Ming and I am running to be your VP External Relations for the Society of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS)! I'm a fourth year French major with a Political Science extended minor. I'm looking forward to being involved in SASS as I want to have a greater connection with my faculty and to provide the same opportunity for other FASS students! My passion to be engaged in my faculty and engage others is evident in how I have previously served the FASS community through my role as a Welcome Leader on past Welcome Days, and how I have also served the SFU community at large through various volunteer positions. Such positions include my mentorship role in the Exchange Buddy program and my role on the Events & Outreach Team for SFU Health & Counselling Services.

As VP External Relations, I plan to focus on four main goals: improving rapport with our event sponsors, improving transparency to students, unifying our faculty (FASS) and faculty union (SASS) through rebranding of events, and promoting student engagement. **While I do have these goals set, if elected I would also like to collaborate with SASS executives in order to help rebuild SASS's foundation and thus strengthen its representation to our FASS community, rather than just focusing on my own priorities.** With this in mind, we as a team would like to work with our faculty to bring you opportunities and events that cater towards your diverse interests and facilitate your growth as FASS students.

TL;DR: Both within my role coordinating with external organizations and working together with SASS Executives, I would like to make sure you as a FASS student are able to make the most out of your university experience by knowing what resources are available to you and how you can get connected.

VP External

Goals

1. Increased transparency and building rapport in sponsorships

- **How do I plan to accomplish this?**
 - Active and continued communication by following up on sponsorships from external organizations and companies by:

- *Creating a Primary Report*
 - In emails when coordinating for use of external organizations' services at events, State our intended use of their contributions and services, and lay out details of events where they will be used
- *Creating a Secondary (Follow-Up) Report*
 - When coordinating sponsorships, clearly explain purpose of sponsors' monetary contribution and how it was used in a follow-up report sent to companies. This would include details such as which event it was used at, prizes won, who won the prize, etc.
- Coordinate external sponsorships for academic events such as Arts Week, FASS career fairs, while working with VP Internal Relations who would coordinate internal sponsorships for these events
- **Why is this important?**
 - Through this, we will be able to represent SASS in communities outside of SFU and building connections with local businesses
 - Communication is a process continued overtime to build trust and recognition for future partnerships for other large faculty events
- **Outcome of this objective**
 - As a result, SASS will be involved not only within SFU but in supporting our local communities as well (i.e. through supporting small local businesses)
 - To reiterate, built trust and recognition ensures future partnerships for other large faculty events

2. Increased transparency to FASS students

- **How do I plan to accomplish this?**
 - *Create a monthly summary report*
 - Work with VP Administration to write up an end-of-month report available to the public, summarizing all of SASS's actions and decisions each month. This will be done by uploading it onto the SASS website, SASS social media for easy access (specifically, this would look like having a link to the report posted monthly in SASS's Instagram bio and on its Facebook page).
- **Why is this important?**
 - Accountable governance: We want FASS students to be aware of what goes on and what decisions are made in their faculty by the union that represents them.

- These decisions directly affect students
- We (SASS) would like feedback and suggestions by FASS students on what they would like to see and change in the faculty: in academics, in student life and events, in services and other aspects
- **Outcome of this objective**
 - In doing so, this would encourage student involvement as students are able to learn what goes on in SASS's meetings. They will therefore be more aware of planning of events, programs, and decisions. Easier access to students provides them a chance to influence our decisions.
 - This will increase our involvement internally at SFU and our foundation to represent ourselves externally. It also unifies our faculty and reiterates that instead of SASS being a separate entity struggling to engage with students, we as a faculty student union would be properly providing for and representing students' needs and interests.

3. Promotion of SASS and rebranding of events

- **How do I plan to accomplish this?**
 - Work with VP Marketing and Communications to unify faculty (FASS) and faculty union (SASS) and create sense of pride and school spirit in branding and events
 - Work with VP Marketing and Communication to contact and coordinate with external companies to create merchandise and swag
 - Choose faculty colours for merchandise and social media branding
 - Work with VP Marketing and Communication to re-design and update SASS's website
 - Make FASS resources and services on our website available and known to the public
 - Give input to Student Engagement & Retention (SER) in their meetings for events
 - Voice ideas to SER about liaising with local businesses to create smaller events
 - Work with VP Internal Relations to give input to SER on also coordinating with internal groups such as clubs to create these events
 - Work with VP Internal Relations and VP Marketing and Communication to bring back events such as Arts Week and FASS career fairs in a meaningful way to showcase FASS's diversity and academics
- **Why is this important?**

- Purpose of working with outside communities to build rapport is to better represent SASS and SFU to external organizations and greater communities
- Rebranding and rethinking events because we want to make them fun, worthwhile to attend and attractive!
 - Facilitate social connection for new students, provide low-barrier and low-commitment spaces to meet new people and make new friends
- Give input to Student Engagement & Retention because:
 - It is sometimes hard or daunting for students to commit to high-stake and large faculty events
 - Voice ideas and facilitate potential for lower-commitment, low-barrier, ideally smaller events that are designed for students to develop connection instead of feeling intimidated
- In updating the SASS website, I would like all FASS students to have the same advantage of being aware of the resources, services and opportunities available to them, whether that be academic advising, Arts Central, events, or volunteering
- **Outcome of this objective**
 - Meaningful events that will attract more students and promote a sense of belonging and faculty pride
 - Increased student engagement by attracting more students to events
 - I personally experienced this after attending FASS Formal this past fall semester and by being a Welcome Leader on Welcome Day. Meeting people involved in planning and facilitating these events really piqued my curiosity about what my faculty is about and the people I could get to know!

4. Collaborate with other SASS Executive members and FASS staff to work towards increased student engagement and awareness of resources

- **Finally, here I would like to add that while many actions that would work towards accomplishing this goal do not fall directly under the VP External Relations' Role, I would like to work with SASS Execs and FASS staff towards this goal because these issues matter to me.**
- **How do I plan to work together with SASS Execs and FASS staff to accomplish this?**
 - Active communication
 - Work with Student Engagement Coordinator Brian Fox, FASS Events Programming Assistant, and VP Marketing & Communication to facilitate online engagement through social media. This could look like:
 - Facebook groups for specific groups of students, ie. new students, international students, and general FASS

students still exploring degree options → Used for both for social connection and to plug events and opportunities

- Tutorials on how to use essential online tools at SFU ie. Canvas, SFUmail, GoSFU, and Zoom
- Have SASS contribute to the current FASS student life website in helping departmental student unions (DSU's) provide their academic and social information along with SASS's information
- Raising awareness of Arts Central services and FASS online resources through social media
 - Ie. Raising awareness of the website put together for FASS students on COVID-19 FAQ's

- **Why is this important to us?**

- Social media use to promote student engagement and awareness of resources
 - In our current time of remote learning during COVID-19, we could all use some knowledge in knowing where to turn to for help with academics, online tools, and opportunities to stay connected
 - Moving forward, it is also going also help students to grow in any other learning situation as well to be aware of these tools and resources

- **Outcome of this objective**

- Facilitate students' growth and connection in three main aspects through this: Academic (awareness of resources), social (improving events), and professional (awareness of volunteer/work/Co-op opportunities).
 - This not only provides a new and improved university experience for FASS students but gives them the necessary tools for post-graduate life as well
- A more unified faculty with proud FASS students

SASS Elections Platform

Hello! My name is Jaymie Cristobal and I am a second-year student majoring in Psychology. I am running to become SASS' VP Communications and Marketing. I am currently volunteering as a Research Assistant at the Eyewitness Memory Lab. In my brief time of involvement at SFU, I was also a part of the executive committee for this year's FASS On A Boat (FOAB). I was involved in the creative process of creating promo materials and FOAB advertising. With my previous experience in this area and my overall passion for creative work, I believe that I would be a perfect fit for this position. Working with SASS in organizing FOAB has been one of the highlights of my time at SFU, largely because of the team who was made up of driven and exceptional humans! I am running to become VP Communications & Marketing to further showcase the wonderful work that SASS does.

My main goals are to ensure you are well informed of all the opportunities available within FASS and your respective DSUs and heighten SASS' presence both online and offline.

Here is my action plan:

Increase exposure of SASS in the SFU Community

WHY: A lot of the students I asked are not well aware of what SASS is and all the wonderful events it organizes for the student body. Representing the largest and most diverse faculty at SFU, I want SASS to bridge this gap and strengthen connections to YOU.

- Create SASS Merch like water bottles, laptop stickers, tote bags and other cool swag!
- Rebrand the large scale faculty events like FASS Formal, FASS on a Boat → SASS on a Boat, SASS Formal
- Create eye catching social media posts and interactive virtual promotion of leadership and volunteer opportunities to all students especially to new incoming students from high school, transfer students, mature or international
- Work with the Engagement Programming Assistant and Coordinator, Student Engagement in both campuses to ensure that FASS academic and social opportunities are well advertised
- Compile media data to see which posts on social media gain the most traction in order to notice where we can improve on outreach and bridge the gap of connectivity with our FASS students

Enhance the scope of student engagement in both Burnaby and Surrey Campuses

WHY: To complement the goal to increase SASS' presence, both campuses need to be involved equally and should be well represented. Majority of the events hosted by SASS in the past were

held in Burnaby but we have a large number of FASS One students in Surrey. All events should be inclusive to everyone.

- Collaborate with Surrey and Burnaby FASS peer mentors to mentees about FASS events and opportunities
- Work alongside the VP Student Life to conduct more outreach activities in both campuses such as hosting DSU Arts Week and tabling for Club Days
- Collaborate with Surrey based groups and Coordinator, Student Recruitment & Advising [Rosaline Baik] in getting more FASS One students to be involved with events hosted SASS
- Conduct surveys of students' interests and use their feedback in order to improve future SASS-led events

Easier access to information, special news and events in FASS

WHY: With the many events happening within the FASS community, it can be sometimes hard to keep track of all of these announcements for engagement.

- Remodel the website to provide a clear statement of SASS' mission and act as a centralized page for DSUs to provide a better channel for communication.
- Create a FASS Engagement Calendar within the website of all the events happening hosted by SASS and DSUs each semester
- Active promotion on social media platforms and newsletter sign ups

TL;DR SASS is passionate in making your university experience worthwhile and I am here to do the same. My goal is to help bring you all the opportunities that spark your interests.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out via email at jcristob@sfu.ca or Facebook. :)

Hannah Kazemi

SASS VP Student Life Platform

Hi! My name is Hannah Kazemi. I'm a 2nd year Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) student, and I'm running to be your Vice President Student Life for the Society of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS)!

I have a lot of experience in planning and executing large-scale events. Most recently, I was a Logistics Executive Member for FASS On a Boat with SASS in Spring 2020. Moreover, I also worked with the current SASS Executive Committee to plan for the upcoming year and make changes to SASS that will benefit all FASS students.

In SASS, we are a group of students who are passionate about bringing you a university experience that is catered towards your interests, and that will help you build connections within the faculty. As the largest and most diverse faculty at SFU, we strive to facilitate engagement, advocacy, and success through the events and opportunities we offer. Our goal is to increase student engagement and provide transparency about what goes on behind the scenes at SFU.

I am confident in my skills and abilities to bring memorable, inclusive, and accessible events to FASS to ensure that students have a memorable experience in their time here in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at SFU. Here are some goals I hope to achieve as your VP Student Life:

Goal 1: Increased First-Year Student Engagement

Why: Many first-year students don't know all that SFU has to offer! Increasing outreach and growing our mentorships opportunities will ensure that our first-year students feel welcome and involved at SFU.

How:

- Work with our Engagement Program Assistant and Student Engagement Coordinator
 - o Build connections with faculty members and staff in order to gain support and access to resources for events and volunteer/leadership opportunities
- Increased advertisement on social media (@sfusass, @fass.engage, and @hannahkzmi)
 - o Examples: FASS Formal, FASS Fest, FASS On A Boat
- Opportunities for mentorship, student involvement, gain leadership experience
 - o Examples: FASS mentorship program growth, Welcome Day engagement & advertising
- Outreach to those who are unfamiliar with FASS and SASS by letting them know what we offer as a faculty and student opportunities
 - o Example: Implement a first-year workshop that includes myinvolvement familiarity, resume building, etc
 - o Example: Q&A opportunities and panels with upper-year students

Goal 2: Increased Student Advocacy

Why: Your opinions matter! It is important to me that as SASS VP Student Life, I help to facilitate events and provide opportunities in which you can advocate for what is important to you in terms of needs and wants.

How:

- Social media activity & engagement

- Examples: Instagram & Facebook polls, suggestion boxes, Q&A's with quick text and email response time
- Work with VP Communication and Marketing, Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS) Board of Directors (BOD) and SFSS FASS Rep to ensure students are aware of what we are doing and have the ability to provide input on events and opportunities
- Work with VP Internal and External Relations, VP Finance, SFSS BOD and SFSS FASS Rep to secure sponsorships and funding to ensure we make use of all resources available to us
 - Examples: Increase FASS On A Boat funding and sponsorships
- Work with the surrounding vendors at SFU (Club Ilia, The Study) to put on more social events throughout the year
 - Examples: Pub nights, Trivia nights

Goal 3: Increased Department Student Union (DSU) Collaboration

Why: DSUs are some of the most valuable groups in FASS! Working together with each DSU ensures that I maximize the resources, people, and power we have available to us. A community coming together gives power to the people that are part of it.

How:

- Act as a liaison between DSUs and SASS
- Attend FASS DSU meetings
 - Bring questions and event options to DSU members
- Communicate and promote DSU events in collaboration with SASS
 - Work with DSUs to share opportunities on social media
 - Facilitate and lead DSU Arts Days
- Bring more academic-centred events to celebrate your achievements!
 - Partner with DSUs to hold more department-centred mini-conferences & academic journal and blog opportunities, among others

Goal 4: Accessible and Inclusive Events

Why: Everyone should be able to enjoy the things SASS has to offer! We are the largest faculty at SFU, so it is important to me that we celebrate the diverse group of humans in FASS. I will work to ensure that every single event and opportunity is accessible for people of all abilities, and that we provide a safe space for students to feel welcome.

How:

- Use resources and funding from the faculty and SFSS to provide low-cost options to students
 - Work with VP Finance and VP External and Internal Relations
 - Work with SFSS BOD and SFSS FASS Rep
- Work with our Engagement Program Assistant and Student Engagement Coordinator
 - Collaborate with staff and faculty members in order to design events and activities that are accessible and inclusive
- Accessible and inclusive programming
 - Build transit and Uber routes to externally located events
 - Work with event coordinators to make sure events are accessible for people of all abilities

- Work with student groups such as SFU Out on Campus to create inclusive and safe spaces at all events

I am so excited to continue working with SASS and hope that as your VP Student Life, I can provide all FASS students with a year full of amazing events and opportunities. My goal of working with DSUs and other groups at SFU to facilitate events and opportunities that are accessible, inclusive, and fun is only made possible by YOU! Vote Hannah Kazemi in the upcoming SASS elections to be your next VP Student Life.

You can reach me at hkazemi@sfu.ca or on Instagram @hannahkzmi

VP FINANCE PLATFORM

Zak Thompson

Hey there, my name is Zak Thompson. I am currently a 2nd year student studying Cognitive Science, and I am running for the position of VP Finance of the Society of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS). Last school year I held the position of VP Finance of SASS, being one of the executive leads in planning and running both FASS Formal and FASS on a Boat. I thoroughly enjoyed my time spent with the team, and I am eager to see the group further grow and develop this year, which is why I am interested in running again for the position.

My main goal if elected is to enforce a stronger financial connection between SASS and the Department Student Unions (DSU's) involved in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS). I want to provide and facilitate a stable system where both the SASS executive team and the accompanying DSU's are able to provide any necessary financial support to help assist each other in our goals and endeavors. I hope to establish a sense of connection before the start of the fall semester by attending the weekly DSU meetings to know who I am working with and what their needs are. It is important to bridge that connection beforehand to ensure that every group involved in the mix understands that support will be provided at the ready.

1. Enforce a Stronger Financial Connection between SASS and DSU's

- I want to provide and facilitate a stable system where both the SASS Executive Team and the accompanying Departmental Student Unions (DSUs) are able to provide any necessary financial support to assist each other in our goals and endeavors.
 - Ex: covering some of the costs for smaller student unions whose costs and trust funding do not provide them with enough
 - I would establish a sense of connection before the start of the fall semester by attending weekly DSU meetings to know who I am working with and what their needs are. It is important to bridge that connection beforehand to ensure that every group involved understands that support will be provided at the ready.
 - During the preparation of the annual SASS budget, I would allocate a certain percentage of the funds towards the financial aid of the DSU's

- I hope to see this as a dependable system for both the surrounding DSU's and SASS to rely on one another when in need of necessary funding.

2. Prepare the Yearly SASS Budget

- With the annual preparation of SASS's budget coming up, I hope to take that time to organize our funds so that there is enough for SASS to both run its large traditional events, but also provide ample funding for the DSU's to utilize
- I also hope to separate enough funding in order to have SASS merchandise this year, as well as enough to cover Executive Team needs.
 - I would account for the different factors of each separate budget in order to determine how much to give to each
 - I would set up separate accounts for each fund to maintain proper organization; this includes setting separate budgets for each of SASS's three big annual events
 - If properly executed, I expect there to be a enough for every fund, so that not only SASS can carry out its objectives, but its neighbouring groups have the support to carry out their own

3. Host Financial Workshops for DSU's

- As SASS shifts further into more of an academic resource that its members can benefit from, the group is starting to implement different tools in order to accomplish this.
- I want to provide financially-related workshops to the DSU's in order to share the necessary knowledge for the groups to carry out their tasks at a higher caliber
 - Ex: how to properly request funding for projects; how to build better relationships with sponsorships
 - I would accomplish this by seeking out the assistance and guidance from members of other groups, such as the SFSS Board of Directors
 - I would collaborate with members of SASS during the planning stages of the workshops
 - Ex: working with the VP External in order to strengthen the workshop on getting better sponsorships
 - I see this as an excellent opportunity for SASS and its associates to share knowledge in order to help each other with their group's intentions.

In summary, as VP Finance, my main goal is to create a space where the various branches of FASS can collaborate and depend on one another in order to thrive to the best of their abilities. The general goal of SASS for the 2020/21 academic year is to branch out more as an umbrella group by improving and providing both academic benefits, but also enhance the personal growth and experience of those involved. With the rebuilding of SASS, I hope to continue that trajectory with the group's finances, bringing forth the idea that our group has the necessary network to collaborate, and create a stronger faculty.

Hi everyone, my name is Muhammad Mughees Abid. I am a third-year undergraduate student pursuing Political Science. In this election I am running for the position of VP – Academics.

In the last few years I have experienced that students might not be getting the best out of way our courses are taught. Not everyone is a fast learner or writer. As your VP Academics I want to work on:

- **Accessibility for student**
- **Student engagement during the academic year**
- **Transparency in the society initiatives**

Experience:

- I am currently the Faculty of Arts and Social Science Representative for the Political Science Student Union
 - As the representative I have had the opportunity to meet and engage with the SFU staff
- I was a member of my high school student union for 3 years running in different capacities
 - First as a representative of the 9th grade which helped in polishing my leadership skills and interaction skills.
 - Second, I became the VP Communications for our student body helping me become a medium to relay information between the students and the school faculty.
 - Third, I had the opportunity to lead the student council as the Interim President this opportunity meant that I learnt how being in a position of power meant you could work for the people.

Platform Summary:

- Accessibility for students
 - Online office hours for student so they can coordinate with professors/TA's and arrange a time convenient for both.
 - Student are often not able to make it to the set office hours due to multiple reasons and there should be some other means for them to ask questions which they need to.
 - Having online office hours allows students to coordinate with the professors/TA's and figure out a time which would be suitable for both this way students can get clarification on their queries and be on a path of success.
 - Discord channels for classes with the professors/TA's as members
 - Often students have class groups in which they discuss their queries
 - Having a discord group which includes the professor or TA allows students to have proper discussions and have the instructors input on the query.

- Student Engagement
 - Improving student engagement with the faculty is another thing which I would like to work on
 - Online advising for students
 - DS advising for student still figuring out what they would like to pursue.
 - Career nights/ alumni meets for students who would like to learn more about the degree and opportunities they might have with them.
 - Better learning experience and more informed decisions regarding course selection.
 - Google forms for queries and concerns
 - In an attempt to learn more about problems students face there would be a google forum where students can put down their queries or concerns about the course or anything which they might feel needs to be looked into.
 - Helping improve the experience of students at SFU who are currently attending or are incoming.
- Transparency
 - Introduction of SASS Representative in Department Student Unions
 - This allows the council to know what the departments need in view of improving the student experience.
 - More student would be willing to engage in the DSU's
 - Event Reports/ Meeting summaries
 - Providing summaries of events planned, what the council learnt from the event.
 - Engagement and transparent actions from the council

I want to work with the student for the students as this is our SFU experience.

Thank you for reading my platform. If you have any questions, then you can contact me on mabid@sfu.ca.

IG – Mughees_abid97

Facebook – Mughees Abid

JEANIFER DECENA – BIOGRAPHY AND PLATFORM

Hello Students!

I am re-offering for SASS Vice President - Academic. For the past year I was busy trying to make life for you, the student, more fun as we ran various events.

I hope to continue my work for you in the same role for the coming year. My goals are to promote academic honesty by students in our classrooms. To bring about the best in people by supporting honest efforts to get the best grades. By working together we can make academic life fair for everyone.

I hope you were able to come out and attend some of the things we planned for you last year. I know we are social isolating and we need to modify how we do events. That means we need to be creative. Working as a team we can make the year as fun or more than the last.

Here are some of the events we ran in 2019/2020 that demonstrate our creativity:

- Social Paint Night Burnaby Campus
- FASS Fest- (Member of Logistic Committee)
- Paint Night (Surrey Campus)
- FASS Formal
- FASS on a BOAT (Event Suspended due to Covid-19)

I hope to continue to represent the prevailing views of you, the student, at all of the faculty committees here at Simon Fraser University.

I have many dimensions and I invite you to review a snapshot of some of my past activities.

SOCIAL & POLITICAL EXPERIENCE

SASS Vice President Academic 2019 – 2020

SFSS Women of the Year Nomination

Shop Steward (Local City Center Lodge/ Cooper Place Downtown |East Side (2020 -Present)

Member of the Housing Research Action Team (RAT) of Metro Vancouver Alliance

Observer and speaker at the Vancouver and District Labour Council 2018 and 2019.

Attended rallies for the fight against climate change

Attended demonstrations to support locked out hotel workers

Attended April 28 Day of Mourning in 2019 for working people injured or killed on the job.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCES

Volunteer and Flag Bearer, Vancouver Pride Parade 2019

Volunteer, Recreation Assistant- Windermere Care Center

Volunteer and Awardee of Educational Committee on Computer Literacy for Overseas Foreign Worker, Jeddah KSA

Thank you for voting!

ABOUT ME

- My name is **Simran Jir** and I'm running to serve **SASS Council Representative**. I am a second-year student pursuing a degree in **Criminology**, alongside a certificate in social justice. As the Council Representative of SASS, I will actively push transparency and keep the best interest of students in mind. I guarantee to act as a liaison between SASS and SFSS effectively and efficiently. I am someone that will dedicate my time and support to students and make sure that their concerns and inquiries are being heard and acted upon. I will make sure that I connect with students and be able to establish a strong connection between SASS and students. As someone that is organized and driven for results, I will try my very best to increase student engagement with events students would like to see.

MY ROLE

- As a Council Representative I will be responsible for attending SASS Council and SFSS Council meetings. Also, I will act as a representative for SASS during SFSS council meetings monthly. I will make sure that I give SASS Council detailed feedback from each meeting with the SFSS. I am someone that is always willing to try something new and enjoy working in teams. I am very punctual and organized. I will make sure that I have enough time to address anything that was brought to my attention and make sure I attend all meetings. As mentioned earlier, I want to strengthen the connection between SASS and the students. As a Council Representative I am representing a team. I enjoy working with people and seeing different perspectives. I will always motivate others to do their best and stay positive. As cliché it may sound, motivation and positivity are roots to a successful teams. Besides motivation and positivity, I will make sure I assist anyone that needs help in anything.



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: [simranjir_](https://www.instagram.com/simranjir_)

OUTSIDE OF MY ROLE

- Outside of my role, I would like to introduce smaller events more often. We can have surveys for students and see what interests them more and then plan out smaller events that we can happen more frequently to increase engagement in our faculty. FASS on boat, FASS formal are popular events on a larger scale, we can try having some smaller events as well, so we keep involvement up and increasing. Along with increasing student engagement, I want to engage and connect with students in various ways and be able to form a sense of community. As students, everyone deserves to be included and enjoy events.

Goal#1: Increased Transparency



I will make sure I work closely with all members of SASS and be sure that issues/topics that need to be addressed with SFSS will be discussed and worked upon to make changes or alter them in a positive way for all students and SASS.



Attend all meetings to ensure that I am up to date and stay on track to make sure I connect with SASS and other DSU's effectively



Work with the current FASS Representative to enhance the power of the student body to enact positive change for all FASS students.



Increase online availability of online documentation for FASS students to review current initiatives.


Goal #2: Increasing Student Engagement


Increase a sense of community and diversity that'll be inclusive towards everyone on all campus'. Changes that would be imposed are the ones that'll result in positive changes that endorse the idea/goal that everyone is being included and increase engagement in the SFU community.

Provide opportunities for FASS students to directly voice their opinions to student bodies and increase engagement opportunities by holding more information sessions and discussions.

TL; DR

- I am very enthusiastic about representing SASS and being able to help increase student engagement and voice student opinions to better the university experience. If elected I will make students and SASS my priority and make sure that student opinions are always taken in consideration. As well as making sure I effectively increase transparency between students and SASS.

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