

2022 – 2023 QUAA Board of Directors



Colin McLeod, Artsci'10
President, QUAA

Colin was born in Cornwall, ON and graduated from Queen's with a BAH in Political Studies. During his time at Queen's, Colin was a Senior Peer Advisor at the Summer Orientation and Academic Registration (S.O.A.R.), Head Manager of the AMS Walkhome Service, and President of the Queen's Student Alumni Association (QSAA).

After graduation, Colin moved to Ottawa and completed a Master of Arts degree in Public Administration at Carleton University. He also became involved with the Ottawa Alumni

Branch and founded the Branch's Young Alumni Committee.

Colin currently works at Global Affairs Canada, where he works on economic sanctions policy. Colin is happiest when hanging out with his wife, Laura (Artsci'10, MPA '11) and Portuguese water dog, Alfie.



Leigh Kalin, Artsci'92
Ex-Officio, Associate VP (Alumni Relations & Annual Giving)

Before her role as Associate Vice-Principal (Alumni Relations and Annual Giving), Leigh was a member of Queen's Office of Advancement executive team and played a leadership role in the university's successful Initiative Campaign. Leigh was a key strategist and major gift fundraiser (leading the central development team) directly contributing to the \$640M Queen's Initiative Campaign.

During her six years at the University of Toronto, Leigh was involved in the \$1B Great Minds Campaign — the largest campaign in Canadian history at that time — and subsequently serving as a major gifts officer at Upper Canada College.

She holds a BAH, Political Science, Queen's University, 1992.



Jackie Lewis, Artsci'11
Executive Vice-President, Operations

Jackie's first day on Queen's University campus was when she arrived for frosh week and she has been a supporter since that first day. She graduated in 2011 with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) with a major in history and a minor in art history. During her time on campus, she worked as a Telefundraiser in Queen's Call Centre, volunteered as co-chair of Queen's Foreign Policy Conference, and spent a spring semester at the Bader International Study Centre.

After her time at Queen's, Jackie completed a post-graduate certificate in Fundraising and Volunteer Management at Humber College. She also completed her Master of Business Administration while working at the University of Calgary.

Jackie was involved with the Toronto Branch as Director of Volunteers and later in Calgary as the Director of Events and Branch President. She had the good fortune to attend many signature events including Annual Dinners hosted by Kim Sturgess (Sci'71) and Johnson Awards. She also worked alongside volunteers to launch new events such as the Disrupt YYC speakers' panel.

She returned to Ontario in 2020 with her husband, Stephen Jackson, Sc'11, and is working as a Consultant with Marts & Lundy Canada.

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Lisa Hood, Artsci'04

Executive Vice-President, Volunteer Recruitment and Recognition

Lisa graduated from Queen's Faculty of Arts and Science in 2004 with a degree in biology and psychology. Although she loved her research experience at the Queen's University Biological Station (QUBS) it was her work as a student caller at Queen's Telefundraising Services and co-chair of the 2004 ThankQ program that led to her career.

Lisa worked for Queen's Annual Giving for six years, managing Queen's Telemarketing Students and then in the Faculty of Applied Science. During this time EngSoc honoured her with the Golden Pillar Award and made her an honorary member of EngSoc. In 2009, Lisa assumed the role of Associate Director, Annual Fund for the University of Guelph where she oversees a team responsible for raising approximately \$5M annually. At U of G, Lisa completed her master's degree in Leadership and earned the Dean's Honour recognition for her research on employee retention in the non-profit sector. In 2014, she was named to Guelph's Top 40 Under 40.

During her free time, Lisa mostly chases her two young children around. She is an active volunteer within her industry, as well as her community, and, of course, for Queen's (ArtSci'04 Class Giving Chair). She is a proud member of the [Grant Hall Society](#) and the [Royal Legacy Society](#).



Alec Attfield, Artsci'86, Ed'87, MPA'04

Director, Alumni Constituency Groups

Alec (he/him) was educated at Queen's and holds bachelor's degrees in Mathematics and Education, as well as a master's degree in Public Administration. He began his career as a teacher and was a management consultant before moving to Federal Public Service in 1992.

Over the course of 30 years, Alec served at the Treasury Board Secretariat, was an Advisor to the National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister at the Privy Council Office, the Chief of Staff to the President of the Canada Border Services Agency, a Counsellor at the Embassy of Canada in Washington, D.C., and Director General, Canadian Citizenship, at Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. Alec's expertise encompasses international treaties, citizenship, intelligence, national security, Canada-US relations, and customs and immigration.

Alec's spouse, Michele, is an artist and former public servant. His eldest child, Jasmine, is a lawyer and political advisor to the Ontario New Democratic Party. His youngest, Kieran, is pursuing Mechanical Engineering at Queen's. Alec's middle child, Aidan, is a dinosaur enthusiast and avid dancer. Alec, Michele, and Aidan live on the unceded and traditional territories of the Tsleil-Waututh, Squamish, and Musqueam Peoples.



Tuba Chishti, Artsci'15

Director, Alumni Volunteer Summit

Tuba was born in India and grew up in Saudi Arabia and Canada. During her time at Queen's, Tuba spent way more time broadening her out of classroom experiences – usually in student government – but eventually graduated in 2015 with a BAH in Economics and a minor in Biochemistry.

After attending Queen's, she stumbled into the professional side of working at a post-secondary institution and took her first job at the University of British Columbia, and then at the University of Guelph. Currently, Tuba is happily working in Toronto at Humber College with college and university residents helping them transition into post-secondary environments, build resilience, and take responsibility for their actions. She often jokes that she is slowly making her way eastward bound back to Kingston.

During her free time, Tuba is usually at a park with her many cousins' babies, reading a book, or catching up on Netflix.

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Zaid Kasim, Sc'22
Director, Young Alumni

Zaid is a recent graduate with a Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Civil Engineering. During his time at Queen's, he held the position of Vice-President with the Engineering Society and in his final year was elected as President of the Alma Mater Society (AMS). Seeing the incredible value of Alumni engagement at Queen's, Zaid had the QSAA President added as a member of both the President's Caucus and AMS Assembly.

It's not unusual to spot Zaid at the gym lifting weights in his spare time. He also loves music and singing, and always enjoys a good debate.



Lea Trotman, Artsci'17
Director, Special Projects

Lea holds a bachelor's degree in Global Development and Indigenous Studies, serving as the foundation to a critical equity and inclusion lens. She has stayed involved with Queen's in hopes to create a better environment for future students and alumni, having served as a member of the Young Alumni Advisory Council, a committee member for the Marty Royce Bader Fellowships, and a Queen's Black Alumni Chapter Representative for Alumni Assembly. Lea maintains involvement in her community, currently serving as Director, Community and Outreach of Elena's Club and a Mentor for Monday Girl.

In her short career as a DEI strategist and consultant, Lea has developed various successful projects and programs. She recently joined Corus Entertainment as Manager on the DEI team and previously held a role at Deloitte Canada as consultant, DEI. Some of her proudest moments were creating, implementing and project managing the Black Action Council and being a writer on the published piece Black in Canada: Acknowledging our past, owning our present, and changing our future. Lea was also involved on the advisement of many successful projects that enabled change and co-lead the DEI community of practice.

Overall, Lea strives to continuously engage with social, informative, and sustainable change in hopes of creating a better future for all.



Peter Reimer, Artsci'14
Director, Global Branch Network

After graduating in 2014, Peter sought out volunteer opportunities within the QUAA in Halifax as well as Kingston, eventually serving in communications and volunteer relations roles on the branches' executive committees.

While studying English Literature at Queen's, Peter channelled his passion for sports into writing for the Queen's Journal before taking a student job within Queen's Athletics & Recreation to produce content for the Gaels website and social media. Although several moves have taken him and his wife, Julie, Artsci'14, from Ontario to the East Coast and back, Peter has now been working in Kingston since 2018 as the Sports Information and Promotions Coordinator at the Royal Military College of Canada.

Aside from work, Peter's interests include sports, video games, and birdwatching.

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Elaine Wu, Artsci'98, MIR'00, Law'03

Director, Alumni Awards

After nearly a decade studying at Queen's and upon graduating with her Law degree in 2003, Elaine practiced labour relations, employment, and human rights law in Vancouver for two years before returning to Toronto. Elaine is a dedicated public servant, having spent most of her career since then with the Ontario Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Environment in various specialist and managerial roles.

Elaine was Vice-President and President of the Queen's Alumni Branch in Toronto. She has served as an elected member of University Council for many years, was part of the QUAA Gala Awards Subcommittee, represented Council at Alumni Assembly, and has fulfilled a number of other volunteer roles with Queen's.

Elaine has also been closely involved with QUAA Awards throughout the years, having successfully nominated many of her fellow alumni volunteers for awards. She is a proud member of the [Grant Hall Society](#) and a past recipient of the [Marsha Lampman Branch Volunteer Award](#). Elaine endeavors to ensure these awards truly recognize and celebrate the alumni community in all its diversity.



Megan Divecha, Artsci'22

Director, Marketing & Communications

As an active member of the Queen's community since 2018, Megan is a recent graduate with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Degree in Political Science. In her final year of undergrad, Megan served as President of Queen's Student Alumni Association (QSAA) where she grew her passion for strategic communication, public speaking, and social media content creation. During which, she frequently attended meetings with the QUAA Board and is now excited to be taking on the Board's role of Director of Marketing and Communications.

Megan brings experience in event planning, digital support, and community engagement. She has always enjoyed volunteering in the communities she has been a part of, as the former Financial Director for Queen's Female Leadership in Politics (QFLIP), a Campus Tour Guide for the Student Experience Office (SEO) and Mentor in the Q Success First-Year Mentorship Program. One of her favourite memories from her time at Queen's is volunteering as a dog walker with the Arts and Science Undergraduate Society (ASUS), to assist members in the Kingston community amidst the pandemic.

Apart from work and volunteering, Megan enjoys running outside and researching dream apartments in Toronto and NYC.



Allison Williams, Artsci '09

Director, Alumni Giving

Allison graduated from Queen's with a BAH in Political Studies in 2009 before completing her MA in Political Science at the University of Toronto in 2011 and her JD at Osgoode Hall Law School at York University in 2015. At Queen's, Allison held various student leadership roles including serving as Social Issues Commissioner for the AMS, residence don at Jean Royce Hall on West Campus, and as the inaugural President of the Queen's Student Alumni Association (formerly known as the Student Team on Alumni Relations). As a result of the depth and breadth of her extracurricular involvement, Allison was honoured with the Agnes Benedickson

Tricolour Award upon graduation.

After graduation, Allison worked at Summerhill for a year as a TD Meloche Monnex Fellow in Alumni Relations. She is a former Toronto Branch volunteer, and she remains a loyal and proud annual donor to Queen's.

Allison currently lives in Toronto where she works as a staff lawyer at Justice for Children and Youth a non-profit legal aid clinic providing direct legal representation to children under the age of 18 and homeless youth under the age of 25.

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Julia Reid, Artsci'08
Director, Reunions

After graduating from Queen's in 2008, Julia moved to London, England and attended Queen's Alumni Branch events to meet people and make friends. She met a young chap named James, Artsci'04, they married and now have two daughters.

While a student at Queen's, Julia majored in English Literature and studied at the Bader International Study Centre in her first year. Back on campus in Kingston she was a member of the Women's Empowerment Committee, Queen's Model UN, and Students Taking

Responsible Initiatives for a Viable Environment.

Julia has been part of the Queen's Alumni branch in New York City (Past President) and still works closely with the branch executive team helping to engage local alumni. She currently serves as the Artsci'08 Reunion and is a past recipient of the QUAA Rising Star Award.

Julia has over 9 years of marketing and communications experience working with digital and social media marketing agencies as well as with PR and management consultancies in London and New York. Julia and her family love to travel, ski, and enjoy meeting other Queen's alumni in NY.



Alisha Hobson, Artsci'17
Director, Digital Media

Alisha spent her first year of Queen's at the Bader International Study Centre. When she returned to Kingston, she involved herself with other extra curricular activities. During her time at Queen's Alisha was the Chief Marketing Officer of The Nyantende Foundation and Co-President of the Awareness of Sexual Assault Prevention Committee.

While in her fourth year at Queen's, Alisha took marketing classes through the University of Toronto because she knew this was the industry she wanted to get into upon graduation. Alisha graduated in 2017 with a degree in Geography. She got her first job at HiSO, a Canadian outerwear company, where she did social media and public relations. She is now the Email Marketing Specialist at HomeStars. Alisha is also the Social Media Manager at The American Marketing Association.

In her free time, you can find Alisha curled up with a good book or trying to get the hang of tennis and golf.