



Get to know University Councillor Siena Margorian:



SIENA Z. MARGORIAN. BSC'23, BED'24, Montreal, QC, MSc Student in Renewable Resources. McCall MacBain Scholar. Current volunteer with Sustainable Youth Canada. AT QUEEN'S: CoPresident of Queen's Backing Action on the Climate Crisis 2022-2024. Responder with Queen's First Aid 2022-2024. Co-Founder and Co-President of the Queen's Armenian Student Association 2020-2023. Virtual Coordinator of Helping Young People Excel 2020-2021. Member of the Queen's Novice Rowing Team 2019-2020.

1. Why did you select Queen's University?

I first saw Queen's University when I visited Kingston in grade 8 on a school trip and when I came home, I told my parents, I knew where I wanted to go to university. It really solidified for me in grade 11 once I heard about the Concurrent Education program.

2. Most memorable moment as a student?

One of my most memorable moments was during a protest that QBACC and Seniors for Climate Action Now had organized against fossil fuel investments. The extraordinary environment of student life at Queen's taught me about engaged community activism and gave me many opportunities to put my passions into practice.

3. What is your job?

I am currently completing my MSc in Renewable Resources at McGill University.

4. What's the best career advice you've ever received?

The best career advice (although not technically advice) I ever received was when someone asked me mathematician Richard Hamming's classic questions: "What are the most important problems in your field? Why aren't you working on them?"

5. What's the career highlight you're most proud of?

My career highlight as of right now is likely my MSc thesis. I am working at the complex issue of American eel conservation in Canada.

6. How do you spend your free time?

I enjoy running, painting, and exploring Montreal!

7. What motivated you to stand for election for University Council?

Since I had spent a considerable amount of my free time dedicated to working with university administration on sustainability initiatives when I was a student, I decided that it would well worth my time as an alumnus to continue giving back to Queen's.

8. Your aspirations for being on University Council?

I recognize that this is an incredibly challenging time for Queen's as North American universities (especially our counterparts south of the border) are under tremendous pressure. During my term on the University Council, I want to help Queen's uphold values of integrity and intellectual exploration. It is vital that Queen's, along with other Canadian institutions, remain beacons of hope and places of learning for the thousands of young adults that arrive at their doorsteps. Therefore, if I am elected to the University Council, I will be sure to advocate for maintaining academic rigour despite budget cuts, make sure that we are on the right track to hit goals of the 2016 Climate Action Plan, and to ensure that this university is a great place for undergraduate and graduate students alike.



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