

## 2022 University Council Election

Candidates for the 1, two-year term position

- 5 candidates (listed alphabetically, by last name)

### Heather Black



#### STATEMENT OF INTEREST

As a ten year member of Council, I very much want to continue an ongoing and close connection to the Queen's Community and an active role in the work of Council. I hope that with the waning of the pandemic we will enjoy more in person and on campus events where I can develop stronger relationships with current students that will continue once they graduate.

As a returning Councillor I will look to extend my work on the Program Committee. Over the past 2 years we have expanded offerings from a once a year meeting to adding multiple virtual educational sessions throughout the year which assist in strengthening the role of Councillors as both Ambassadors of Queen's and advisors to the administration. I will also continue my work as a member of the Queen's Board of Trustees (elected from Council) where I serve on the Audit and Risk Committee and Chair the Queen's Board Senate Advisory Committee.

In all my Queen's volunteer roles I want to continue to be a strong ambassador for Queen's University and to support existing links as well as forge new connections across the Queen's Community and the various governance and volunteer roles.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

SC'80, Toronto, ON. Retired Vice President, Architecture and Planning, Latin American Systems at Scotiabank. Morris Hall and Leonard Field Residence Councils. Elected to Queen's Board of Trustees 2020 (Audit and Risk Committee; Chair QUBSAC; Board Retreat Planning Committee). University Council since May 2012 (re-elected in 2016), currently on Executive, Nominating and Program Committees and act as Council Rep to QUAA Assembly. (Previously on Chancellor Selection Committee, Principal's Advisory Committee on Non-Academic Misconduct, University Council Reform Committee, Executive, Program and Nominating Committees multiple terms), QUAA Past President (2010-2012) and member of the QUAA Board (from 2005) (Queen's Advancement Committee and Capital Campaign Cabinet).

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### Matthew Gaiser



#### STATEMENT OF INTEREST

A century and a half ago, Queen's faced financial ruin when the bank holding the endowment collapsed. A fundraising campaign saved her.

133 years ago, had Robert Sutherland, a Queen's alumnus and the first university student of colour in Canada, not stepped up and funded the university, we would all be graduates of the University of Toronto.

A century ago, Queen's once again faced a financial crisis due to the First World War and was saved by a million-dollar alumni fundraising drive.

While it appears that Queen's has managed to adapt to the challenges posed by the pandemic, the next few years are likely to be financially challenging, for the university, governments, employers, and Canadians

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as a whole as the costs of the pandemic come due. Governments could cut education grants to control the deficit. More students may require financial aid to attend university as the cost of living rises.

The ability of Queen's to remain at the forefront of innovation, continue the excellent student experience we all enjoyed, and maintain its top tier spending on student scholarships depends on its financial capacity. To protect that financial capacity, we must do two things well.

First, we must fundraise and build the endowment. A large endowment is what allows schools to weather economic storms and uncertain times without painful cuts to instruction.

Second, fundraising capacity is dependent on having financially stable alumni. It is said that the Great Recession set back the careers and earnings of graduates by 5 years. The alumni network must be leveraged to generate more internship and graduate opportunities.

These would be my priorities if elected to the University Council. A strong financial foundation enables all the other things candidates here want to do. A strong alumni base makes that possible.

### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

SCI'19, Calgary, AB. Software Developer for AltaML. 4 Time Queen's Model Parliamentarian and winner of the 2018 Best Speech Award for my rhymes. Member of the 2018 Dunin-Deshpande Queen's Innovation Centre Summer Initiative cohort. Student winner of the 125th Engineering Excellence Award. Student collaborator on 'synapse' (the art installation in the foyer of Beamish-Munro). #1 ranked innovator globally on the crowdsourcing innovation website MindSumo. Member of the Top 50 MLH Hackers of 2020.

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## Frank Handforth



### STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Queen's could benefit from more regional input. Perhaps an elected board of higher education for Eastern Ontario might be appropriate, where elected representatives would help oversee all institutions of higher education in the area.

While Queen's constantly strives for improvement, the student body ought to better reflect the demographics and gender balance of the region.

Enhanced intercollegiate sports could raise the public's interest and potential students' awareness about the university. This could generate additional revenue for the university. Home games could serve to improve public relations and provide a opportunity for fund raising. For athletes, enhanced intercollegiate sports could help improve their athletic performance. In addition, athletes learn valuable life skills such as teamwork, time management, and balancing extra responsibilities.

### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

BEd'75. Frank enjoys music, swimming, canoeing and camping. He has been cultivating some of Ontario's rarer trees such as pawpaw, sassafras and redbud. He has a good background in both education and the financial aspects of management.

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### Evan Keys



#### STATEMENT OF INTEREST

During my time at Queen's University, I thoroughly enjoyed my studies, I appreciated the opportunity to pass on knowledge as a teaching assistant, and I took pride in serving the Queen's community through Queen's First Aid and various committees. I became involved because I loved the school, the people, and the environment. It was always a dream of mine to attend Queen's University. Now as a Queen's alumnus, I could not be prouder to have been educated there. I am interested in serving on the Queen's University Council as a way of continuing to give back to the Queen's community. As a member of the council, I will be expected to be an ambassador for the university and a representative for the alumni. These are both roles I am quite familiar with. As an undergraduate student, I represented my institution at various open houses, outreach events, and the Ontario University Fair. As a graduate student, I advocated for the interests of students on the Queen's University School of Nursing Directorship Succession Committee. As a member of the Mount Sinai Hospital Emergency Department Unit Council, I now advocate for the needs of my colleagues in the emergency department. As a member of the council, I will bring a young yet experienced perspective and a high level of enthusiasm and dedication. Also, with a partner who is from Kingston, I have strong ties to the Kingston community and can be actively involved in the council's operations.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

MNSc '19, Toronto, ON, Clinical Research Coordinator/Registered Nurse for the Clinical Cardiovascular Physiology Laboratory at Toronto General Hospital and Registered Nurse in the Emergency Department at Mount Sinai Hospital. Current member of College of Nurses of Ontario, a Canadian Nurses Association certified emergency nurse, reviewer for Clinical Simulation in Nursing, and staff representative on the Mount Sinai Hospital Emergency Department Unit Council. Former Queen's School of Nursing Teaching Assistant (2017-2019), member of Queen's First Aid (2017-2019), and graduate student representative to the Queen's University School of Nursing Directorship Succession Committee (2018-2019) as well as the Queen's University/Kingston Nursing Research Conference Committee (2018-2019). Former Search and Rescue Coxswain/Team Leader (2016-2017) and Crewmate (2013-2015) for the Canadian Coast Guard. Recipient of the 2019 Alice J. Baumgart Outstanding Achievement Award and the 2017-2018 Mary N. Francis Fellowship in Nursing Science, both from Queen's University.

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### Ali Meghani



#### STATEMENT OF INTEREST

I am honoured to have been nominated to Queen's University Council. I have been a volunteer for the Queen's Alumni Association since 2020, and I am inspired to contribute to the Queen's community in a greater capacity as a member of the University Council. I have been involved in mentoring aspiring Queen's students and helping them in advancing their educational endeavours. Queen's holds a special place in our hearts, and like many of us, I feel enormous pride and privileged to be part of Queen's community. In the past few years, I was fortunate to visit our beautiful campus and have engaged in discussions on current issues. I have

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witnessed Queen's efforts in responding to student issues and how it has embraced diversity while celebrating inclusion and our diversity.

My desire to join the University Council is inspired by Queen's values and respect and appreciation for this community and the institution. As a Council Member, I would ensure that our University remains robust, adaptable, innovative, progressive and globally relevant. I would work towards University's strategic priorities, increasing Alumni engagement and promoting the University's interests. I hope to encourage a strong stakeholder relationship between Queen's and its alumni and assist in initiatives to improve student well-being, diversity, policy and overall approaches to effective governance. I would like to play a meaningful role to help, support, guide and promote the University as it continues to prosper.

I would be very humbled by the opportunity to contribute to Queen's and commit myself to its success and growth. I truly appreciate your consideration. Cha Gheill!

### **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

M.PL'16, Toronto, ON, Queen's Toronto Alumni Branch Ambassador since 2020. Registered Professional Planner (RPP) and Project Management Professional (PMP). Planner Urban Design, City Planning Division, City of Toronto. Elected Queen's University Student Representative for Ontario Professional Planners Institute 2014-16. Awarded International Experience Award by the School of Urban and Regional Planning, Queen's University in 2016.

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