


2023 University Council Election Candidates

25 candidates – alphabetically by last name




<p>Tazrian Alam</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST</p> <p>I am motivated to join the University Council because the four years I spent at Queen's helped shaped me to be the strong and assertive person I am today. Having attended Homecoming as an Alumni and experiencing bouts of nostalgia at every visit to Kingston with my former "housemates," encouraged me to serve on the University Council as an effort to say 'thank you' to my alma-mater.</p> <p>I want to contribute by helping maintain the reputation of Queen's U as a top academic institution, while growing the capacity to welcome students from diverse backgrounds. People with marginalized identities and diverse experiences can thrive at Queen's with the help of a strong and supportive social network. From my own experience, I am deeply aware of the support I received from my campus community to overcome seemingly insurmountable challenges.</p> <p>During my term on the council, I aim to facilitate the same sense of belonging I felt at Queen's for other diverse students on campus today. My wish is to foster a more connected campus where students are enabled to build community, be their true selves and are encouraged to adopt an inclusive mindset. I want to ensure that the equity, diversity, inclusion, and belonging agenda continues to be a priority at Queen's. The university was a safe space for me, as it should be for all students and faculty-- a place where everyone feels they truly belong, free of discrimination, and able to have a wholesome experience at Queen's.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH</p> <p>Tazrian is Senior Manager at Royal Bank of Canada's (RBC) Financial Crime Team where she leads and manages quarterly reports to RBC's Board of Directors and Risk Committees. She is a Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist and a graduate of the Queen's University (BAH'13, PolSci) and University of Western Ontario (MA'14, International Relations). During her time at Queen's she was a member of the Queen's Model United Nations Team and Model Parliament Team. She also worked at Stauffer Library while studying at Queen's. Tazrian remains an active community member through her volunteering. Former Board of Director, Canadian Association of Urban Financial Professionals 2020-2022; Former Financial Coach for Human Trafficking Survivors 2020-2022; Former member of Halton Audit Committee 2018-2020. Tazrian is a current volunteer with Ascend Canada and Sanctuary Toronto.</p>
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<p>Marc Ballantyne</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST</p> <p>Through my nomination to the Queen's University Council, I am looking to give back to Queen's, represent a broader spectrum of programs, and bring forward my global cross-cultural experiences.</p> <p>I have been extremely privileged to graduate from such a great school, and in giving back I hope I am able to assist others in receiving a strong education. Through participation on Council, I can help promote and enhance Queen's University across the globe, making it even more attractive for students and faculty. As a Councillor I believe Queen's will benefit from my experience on scholarship foundations, business associations, and professional societies.</p> <p>My dream is to help already strong programs at Queen's flourish. I have particular interest in Sciences, Business, and graduate programs. I am prepared to offer my support for these programs by working with other council members on clear, long-term strategies that will enhance the programs, and the student experience.</p> <p>I believe my unique professional experience will complement the Council by bringing forward representation of Alumni from a broader range of industries and geographies. Half of all Canadians work in industrial & manufacturing industries where I've spent over a decade at Global, National, and Local levels. I've managed up to \$30 Billion across the world and grew multiple facilities with over 200 employees. Having been based on New York for 5 years, I've been able to work across more than 50 countries, visiting colleagues and facilities, learning & enjoying each culture. These are experiences and skills that I am bringing to the Council, helping build more links between Queen's, the world, and it's future Queen's students and faculty.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH</p> <p>Andrew Marc Ballantyne, B.Sc. (Chem. Eng) '08 Alberta, MBA '21 Queen's, MBA '21 Cornell. P. Eng., Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta. Halifax, NS. General Manager, Atlantic Breweries at Labatt Breweries of Canada (AB InBev). Director Supply, Logistics, & Craft, Labatt Breweries of Canada (AB InBev), Toronto. Global Supply Director, AB InBev, New York. Current volunteer with Halifax North End Business Association, Phi Delta Theta Canadian Scholarship Foundation. Previous volunteer with Appeals Board Member CPA Alberta, Chapter Advisory Board Member Alberta, Chapter President Alberta.</p>
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<p>James Barsby</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST</p> <p>I am seeking to be elected to University Council because: 1) I want to bring a Northern perspective to Queen's University, and 2) I wish to bring my skillset to assist with the continued development of Queen's University.</p> <p>1. I have been privileged to live in Northern Ontario, Nunavut, and Yukon. I have worked within various treaty regimes and for First Nations, the Governments of Ontario, Nunavut, and Yukon. Living and working in these communities has dramatically enhanced my worldview and made me realize that these perspectives were uncommon during my time at Queen's. While I am a settler and not originally from the North, I hope to bring a Northern perspective to University Council and advocate for the action items identified by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Task Force.</p> <p>2. I was involved in various student governance opportunities at Queen's, which helped my professional and personal development. Since my time at Queen's, I have grown my professional legal and policy skills and have volunteered for several boards. This skill set has equipped me to return these services to University Council to ensure that students can have fulfilling experiences as I had and guarantee the future success of Queen's University.</p> <p>Thank you for your time, consideration, and your support.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH</p> <p>James Attila Barsby, BAH'15 (Art History), MPA'16, JD'19 (Lakehead), Whitehorse, YT, Legal Counsel at the Government of Yukon. Member, Law Society of Yukon; member, Canadian Bar Association; and member, Institute of Public Administration of Canada. Bader College 2011-12, Bader College Student Council Representative 2011-12, Student Constable 2013-2014, Agnes Etherington Art Centre Intern 2014, Clubs Manager of the AMS 2014-15, SGPS MPA Graduate Representative 2015-16. Current Vice-President of the Canadian Bar Association-Yukon Branch, Treasurer of the Yukon Film Society, and Board Member of Opportunities Yukon.</p>
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<p>Paolo Berard</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST</p> <p>As a bilingual legal executive and proud Queen's University alumni, I bring over 24 years of corporate and leadership experience to the table. I have lived and worked in Canada, the United Kingdom and the USA and my international experience has broadened my perspectives - both on the opportunities for graduates beyond Canada's borders and the important role that Queen's, and other institutions of higher learning, can play in the ever more global community in which we live.</p> <p>I fully support Queen's University's ambition of striving to solve society's greatest challenges through research, teaching, and community engagement and would be honored to serve as an ambassador in this role. As an executive in the energy industry, I am witness to the complexities of global transformation as we work to progress toward a more sustainable future and believe this experience would serve me well as member of the University Council.</p> <p>I am a strong ally for diversity, equity and inclusion and believe in the importance of different opinions and the need for constructive dialogue. I am a creative problem solver, a known and trusted collaborator who can work with stakeholders from across the Queen's community including its other governing bodies. Having spent some time on campus over the past few years, I am eager to re-connect with my fellow Queen's alumni and look forward to the opportunity to join the University Council and support the Queen's University mission.</p> <p>As a University Councilor it would be my privilege to serve as a bridge between the past we share as alumni and the bright future of Queen's University that lays ahead.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH</p> <p>G. PAOLO BERARD, BA'94 (Queen's), LL.B. ('97) (U of Ottawa), Houston, TX. Vice-President and Assistant General Counsel NRG Energy, Inc. Called to the Bar of Ontario ('99) and the State of New York ('02). Prior memberships in the Canadian Bar Association, Ontario Bar Association, International Bar Association, New York State Bar Association and the Association of Corporate Counsel. Volunteer Speaker - Queen's Life After ArtSci' Fall 2021. Member Board of Directors of Covenant House Texas since 2018.</p>
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<p>Arlette Boghoskhan</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST</p> <p>As a proud alumna of Queen's University, I am excited about the opportunity to serve on the University Council. My motivation for wanting to serve on the University Council stems from a strong desire to give back to Queen's and contribute to its continued growth and success. I believe that my diverse background and experiences make me an excellent candidate for this role, and I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to the university's mission in a meaningful way.</p> <p>During my term on the University Council, I aim to contribute towards the University's Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Indigeneity (EDII) and mental health objectives given my passion and professional background in both Human Resources and EDII. My professional expertise can be instrumental in developing and implementing policies and initiatives that foster an inclusive and supportive academic community. Additionally, my experience in human resources may be particularly valuable when it comes to addressing issues related to student wellness and support. I believe that the University Council can play a crucial role in shaping the policies and practices that govern the University's operations and I'd be honoured to work with other council members to advocate for policies and programs that foster inclusivity, promote social justice and enhance mental health for all.</p> <p>In addition to these goals, I also aspire to promote greater engagement between the University and its alumni community. As an alumna, I understand the importance of staying connected to one's alma mater and how this can enrich the overall university experience. By working towards developing more opportunities for alumni engagement, I aim to foster a stronger sense of community between the University and its graduates.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH</p> <p>Arlette Boghoskhan, MIR '14, Montreal, QC. Arlette is a Chartered Human Resources Professional and works at the National Film Board of Canada as the Advisor of Labour Relations, Diversity and Inclusion. She proudly serves as a Queen's Professional Master of Industrial Relations (PMIR) Ambassador, and formerly served as Director-at-Large, Graduate Alumni on the Queen's University Alumni Association (QUAA) Board, member of the Alumni Volunteer Summit Champions Committee 2016, and QUAA Montreal Branch President and Communications Director. Outside of Queen's, she formerly served as Coordinator of the Montreal Brain Tumour Walk and as President of the Marianopolis College Alumni Association.</p>
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<p>Doug Bruce</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST</p> <p>It has been an honour to serve on Council for the past 9 years and I seek re-election for a final term. Council needs a mix of new recruits with fresh ideas and more experienced councillors. I compliment the new comers with an in-depth knowledge of the issues and challenges facing Queen’s (both current and in recent history), a strong knowledge of the inner workings of the school, and knowledge of the opportunities to continue to improve the student experience and pedagogy.</p> <p>I have 9 years of experience on Council, as well as 8 years as a member of the Board of Trustees at Queen’s, serving as either chair, vice-chair, or a member of numerous committees as outlined in the bio below.</p> <p>I am very focused on our efforts to improve the student experience from a teaching perspective, but primarily regarding our efforts aimed at ensuring that we provide a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for all students, staff, and faculty. As chair of the Non-Academic Misconduct Committee I was directly involved with the process for dealing with misconduct as well as reviewing the policies aimed at providing a comprehensive structure for awareness and prevention (ie the Sexual Violence, Harassment and Discrimination, and the Student Code of Conduct policies). However, we now need to take this further to ensure that students have a means to voice concerns directly to senior administration, that we improve our training and awareness about all forms of harassment, and that we continue to progress our support for all equity seeking groups such that inclusion is an ever-increasing aspect of the education that all Queen’s students receive.</p> <p>Complimenting this, we also need to maintain focus on the pillars of the strategy, including research, raising our profile (domestically and internationally), community involvement, and the culture on campus.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH</p> <p>BSc(Eng)'85, MBA'01 Edinburgh School of Business, UK. Co-founder of a software company in Ottawa. Member of the Council Executive Committee (3 years) and Council Program Committee (4 years including 2 years as chair). I’m in my third term as elected rep to the Board of Trustees serving on the Non-Academic Misconduct Committee (2 years, 1 year as Chair), Audit and Risk Committee (7 years, 4 years as Vice-Chair), Board-Senate Advisory Committee (4 years, 2 years as Chair), External Relations and Development Committee (3 years). Community volunteer work includes 12 years of soccer coaching and 5 years of leadership with Scouts Canada.</p>
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<p>Colin Cantlie</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST My years at Queen's developed by knowledge, skills and interests during my undergraduate and graduate studies in Engineering, and in no small part from extra-curricular activities. I want to give back to the Queen's community and renew my connections. I have visited a number of universities for Engineering undergraduate program accreditation and see how much has changed especially with on-line engagement spurred by COVID-19. I want to see Queen's maintain the vibrant student experience and extra-curricular environment which is part of what makes a Queen's degree so special and valuable to Queen's graduates.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH COLIN S. CANTLIE, Science'79, MSc(Eng)'83, Ottawa, ON, Professional Engineer, Defence Scientist (Retired). Formerly 20 years in high-tech with Bell-Northern Research and Nortel. Member, Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario. Life Senior Member, IEEE. Project Management Professional (PMP). Former Queen's Radio (CFRC) broadcaster. Student Senator while attending graduate studies. Tricolour Award (1981). Professional Engineers Ontario, Order of Honour (Officer) 2009. Current volunteer with Engineers Canada and with The Ottawa Hospital.</p>
<p>Safiah Chowdhury</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST My undergraduate years at Queen's were both challenging and, in retrospect, very rewarding. I served as AMS President because I desired to see critical changes to how the university dealt with issues of equity and sustainability. This was in the early 2010s and times were different, the work was not easy. Since then, Queen's has taken many important strides and I believe more is possible. I see the amazing work underway as the Co-Chair of UCARE (University Council on Anti-Racism and Equity). I would like to contribute to further realizing the great potential of Queen's, especially for Black, Indigenous, and racialized students. There are many things I wished for as an undergraduate and look forward to the opportunity to actualize it for generations to come. Working in the field of social policy and being connected to many different communities, I believe I can contribute important ideas and experiences as a member of the University Council. I am greatly inspired by my friend Bruce Alexander, who served as AMS President 50 years before me, and always believed in the potential of Queen's to be a global leader. It would be a great privilege to honour his memory in this way and continue the important work of ensuring Queen's is a place for all students to thrive and contribute.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH SAFIAH CHOWDHURY, BA(H)'11, Toronto, ON. MPhil, University of Oxford, 2014. Currently Manager, Social Policy for the City of Toronto. Co-chair of the Queen's University Council on Anti-Racism and Equity (UCARE). Served as AMS President in 2010-11 and prior to that as an executive member on a number of clubs, including QUMSA. Remain very involved in many local and continental community endeavours, youth groups, and advocacy.</p>

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<p>Mervin Dewasha</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST I would like to focus on aboriginal matters. I would like to also focus on increasing the enrolment of underrepresented groups including women and members of the black community.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH BSc '71, Wahta First Nation. Professional Engineer (P.Eng), Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.), Civil Engineering. Semi-retired Civil Engineer, over 50 years of experience within the public and private sector. Vice-Chair of the Equity and Diversity Committee with the Professional Engineers of Ontario. Volunteer Director at the Miziwe Biik Development Corporation, supporting aboriginal housing. Chaired the Indigenous Committee for Habitat II, during the United Nations conference in Istanbul, Turkey. Recognized with over 10 professional awards, including a National Aboriginal Achievement Award and more recently the Queen's "Engineering Excellence 125th Award". Elected to the Queen's University Council in 2019 for a four-year term to 2023.</p>
<p>Mary Drinkwater</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST I am honored to be nominated to serve on the Queen's University Council, for a second 4-year term. In my first 4 years on University Council, I served as a member and the Chair of the Program Committee as we created a full year Continuing Education program, leading to our Annual General Meeting. I have also served 2 years on the Nominating Committee. I have a strong understanding of the needs of the University, as well as the vibrant, innovative and bold Strategic Plan (For the Future) that Principal Deane, together with the Queen's Community, have advanced to take Queen's into the future, with an aim for tackling some of the world's most significant and urgent challenges. I bring a PhD in Education, with a background in Leadership, Policy, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. At the same time as we are moving forward, it will be vitally important to examine our history and take bold steps to address inequities, and to value, promote and celebrate the diversity within our institution that comes from an increasingly globally mobile and interconnected world. As a Kingston resident, I am excited to be able to continue contributing to the work that Council has been doing over the past 4 years, working with students, faculty, Senior Administration and the Queen's and Kingston communities to support the vision, mission and values that will be needed to take action at both the local and global levels, as we move Queen's into the future!</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH BA/BPHE '77; B.Ed. '78; MPA '08 (Queen's U). PhD '14 (Univ of Toronto). Kingston, ON. Lecturer and Adjunct Professor in graduate courses in Faculties of Education at OISE/Univ of Toronto, Yorkville University and Queen's University. Extensive scholarship in critical, decolonial and transformative education and leadership, including 4 published books. Founder and Principal, Transforming Learning Spaces (2016-current); Queen's U Athletic/Service contributions: Alfie Pearce Trophy '73; W.H. MacInnes Scholarship '76; PHE '55 Alumnae Trophy '77; Member of Queen's Women's Basketball team ('73-'77), Track & Field team ('73-'77), Diving team ('73-'75); Coach-Queen's University Diving Team ('75-'80); Member & Chair, University Council on Athletics-'75-'77; '91-</p>

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		<p>'94; Member & Chair, Queen's Alumnae Association-Kingston branch-'00-'04; Kingston Community Service: Project Lead-INSTILL (Improving North-End Kingston's Success for Teens: Initiative, Literacy & Life); Past Chair-CanAssistAfrica Relief Trust.</p>
<p>Letitia Golubitsky</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST</p> <p>My graduate studies at Queen's University from 2003 to 2006 were a life changing experience and as a former alumnae I would like to contribute back to the Queen's community.</p> <p>I would like to be a source of inspiration for the young students and be able to participate as a Queen's councilor in the decision-making process of their studies. I have more than a decade domain knowledge in mathematical modelling after working at three top Canadian investment banks. In my work in industry, I have developed strong collaboration skills working with people from different academic background and different cultures and I have learned that the main breakthroughs happen at the intersection of different fields, different disciplines, and different cultures. I have strong interpersonal skills facing multiple stakeholders: regulators, model developers, model validators, academics.</p> <p>I am a lifelong advocate for cutting edge education and research. I hold a PhD in Mathematics and Master degrees in Mathematics and Financial Mathematics from top Canadian universities. Last year, I was the Chair of the Canadian AI 2022 conference leading the industry track. AI is pushing the innovation boundaries across all disciplines, and industry has been investing heavily in various AI technologies. There is a high demand for graduates with an AI background from industry and research labs.</p> <p>I believe I will be a responsible Queen' councilor who thinks first and foremost at the personal and academic development of the students.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH</p> <p>I hold the following academic degrees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -PH.D degree from Western University (awarded in 2011) -Master degree from Queen's University (awarded in 2006) -Master degree in Financial Mathematics from McMaster University (awarded in 2012) -Master degree in Mathematics from University of Bucharest, Romania (awarded in 2002) -Bachelor degree in Mathematics from University of Bucharest, Romania (awarded in 2001) <p>I have worked in the financial industry for the past decade across 3 top Canadian Investment Banks: TD Bank, CIBC and Bank of Montreal.</p> <p>I am active contributor/donor to the United Way charity campaign held every year at BMO.</p> <p>I am a member of Global Risk Institute and Women in Capital Markets non profit organizations.</p>

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<p>Nick Jewitt</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST I've enjoyed my time returning to Queen's as an employee, supporting many new and exciting initiatives. What I have enjoyed most is engaging alumni and hearing their excitement in how Queen's is moving forward. I would love to be able to continue to represent Queen's in an expanded capacity.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH Nick Jewitt, BAsc'12 MASc'15, Inverary, ON. Former Assistant Coach Queen's Men's Rugby Football Club 2015-19, Member of the Queen's Men's Rugby Football Club 2008-14.</p>
<p>Ali Meghani</p>		<p>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 witnessed Queen's efforts in responding to student issues and how it has embraced diversity while celebrating inclusion and our diversity.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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!</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH ALI MEGHANI, 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.</p>

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<p>Jennifer Nieradka</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST I am interested in joining the University Council at Queen's because my connection to the university has been so strong throughout my adult life and I wish to increase my involvement and commitment to contributing to endeavours that make Queen's truly the best university in Canada. Areas of special interest for me are improving access to student bursaries, studies at Herstmonceaux Castle, and online Masters programs for students like me who benefited greatly from these programs and processes during my time at Queen's.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH Jennifer Nieradka, BA'05, MEd'19. Ottawa, ON. Board Certified Behaviour Analyst with the Ottawa Catholic School Board. Former Queen's student who studied at Herstmonceaux Castle, worked for Campus Security during my undergraduate studies, and volunteered as a Gael during Orientation. Current member of the Ontario Association of Applied Behaviour Analysis (ONTABA) and Applied Behavior Analysis International (ABAI).</p>
<p>Patrice Oliveira</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST Queen's University is unique – offering a one-of-a-kind experience that transcends the classroom. Students grow and learn about themselves through extracurricular activities, community involvement, and building lifelong connections and friendships. My perspective is also unique. During moments of adversity and celebration, Queen's offered me growth, support, community, and friendship. The connections I made and resources I gained from my experience helped me successfully launch my career. But not each experience is the same. As an engaged alumnus, and former student leader, I understand the challenges students face related to curriculum, mental health, equity, and ultimately life after graduation.</p> <p>Queen's continues to shape my life personally and professionally, post-graduation. Remaining involved allows me to continue my advocacy for current students, provide an alumni perspective, and meet incredible alumni across industries. I am thrilled to be put forward for a position on Council. As an advisor and ambassador, I am committed to providing feedback and perspectives benefitting the institution, the students it represents, the alumni it serves, and the future generations to come.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH Patrice D. Oliveira BA (H.) '21 Political Studies, Toronto, ON, Marketing & Management Consulting. Current Queen's Young Alumni Council Advisor. Current Toronto Branch Member. Former AMS Director of Communications (2020-2021). Former Member, Queen's University Mental Health Working Group (2020-2021). Former President of Queen's Political Studies Department Student Council (2019-2020). Former Member of Queen's University Political Studies Curriculum Committee (2019-2020). Former ASUS Marketing Co-Chair (2018-2019). Three-time Queen's Model Parliamentarian (2018-2020). Former Queen's Random Acts of Kindness Club (2017-2018).</p>

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<p>Colby Pereira</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST</p> <p>As the child of immigrants, I was the first person in my family to achieve a degree; this experience has given me insight into the importance of higher education. During my time at Queen's, I was privileged to serve as an intern in the AMS, as a graduate ambassador, and also as a member of the ethics committee. These opportunities enshrined in me a love for Queen's that I have carried with me for years. Getting to know the university in several leadership roles - as a student, a teaching assistant, and researcher - allowed me to see it in new ways and has inspired me to carry on my mission of being an ambassador of positivity, hope, and change as a council member. From my first day as a member of your university council, I will hit the ground running. As part of my priorities, I will work tirelessly to promote women and diversity. As the first woman in my family to obtain a degree, I understand the value of education in the empowerment of women and people from diverse groups. Additionally, I will work to expand diversity at Queen's by ensuring that the university prioritizes the continuous opening of its doors to people from all backgrounds, creeds, and abilities. By promoting the Queen's brand in new and unexpected places, I will ensure that the university is known as a place that welcomes all and enshrines lifelong learning and pride into its graduates.</p> <p>It is time for me to give back to a place that has given me so much. As a member of your university council, I will be an ambassador who influences others to attend Queen's so that they too can have the experience of a lifetime, all while proudly representing great alumni like you.</p> <p>Cha Gheill!</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH</p> <p>Colby Pereira, BAH, Sociology, Queen's University (2013); MA, Sociology, Queen's University (2015); PhD, Sociology, McGill University (ex: 2023). Proud member of the Canadian Sociological Association. Served as an intern in the Alma Mater Society (Commission of Internal Affairs) 2009-2010, Graduate Ambassador in 2013, and as a research co-ordinator on the Queen's Ethics Committee from 2014-2015. Proud former teaching assistant from 2013-2015 in the department of Sociology. Former policy chair for local associations and currently an active volunteer on various local campaigns. Acted as a peer mentor to undergraduate students during my graduate studies, the president of my graduate society, and as a peer-reviewer of academic articles. Current member of a women's association. As an alumni, participated in letter writing to new graduates and attended convocation as the alumni representative. Spend my free time tutoring and supply teaching. Hobbies include reading, painting, and baking.</p>
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<p>David Pick</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST I spent 6 great years at Queen's and firmly believe it changed me for the better. Ever since, I have been an enthusiastic supporter of and advocate for the university. I have reached that point in my life where I have the time, energy and knowledge to devote to worthy causes, of which Queen's tops the list. I would relish the opportunity to have even a small role in making Queen's a better place; and with a 14 year old daughter already expressing her commitment to the school, I have added incentive to make sure that happens. In addition, having a legally blind son, I am all too familiar with the barriers to entry and accessibility that face those with disabilities. I have a special interest in ensuring institutions like Queen's are accessible to everyone. Finally, as someone born and bred in Calgary, I would hope to bring a Western Canadian perspective to Council, including how Queen's is regarded here and what might be done to raise the profile nationally.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH David M. Pick, Arts '89, Law '92, Calgary, AB. Lawyer and Managing Partner (Calgary) at Brownlee LLP. Insurance lawyer. Trial advocacy instructor at the University of Calgary. Queen's highlights: member of University Council on Athletics (1986-88); AMS Internal Affairs Commissioner 1987-88; ASUS rep to AMS 1987-88; Chair AMS Board of Directors 1988-89; Student member of University Senate 1990-91; member of Queen's Cross Country running team 1985-86; Queen's Journal writer; ASUS award winner 1987-88; Tricolour Award winner 1988-89.</p>
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<p>Tracy Pitcher</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST</p> <p>I volunteer to learn and to help organizations and people reach their goals, creatively. I cannot think of any other organization that excites me more as a volunteer, and to which I am indebted, than Queen's University. Queen's provided me the best undergraduate experience and education, introduced me to my husband, and is now educating my children. Further, Queen's inspired me to pursue career and volunteer opportunities in educational marketing and community development. Whether I was working at a post-secondary college, volunteering as a parent leader at my children's schools, or supporting a women's social club whose members came from countries around the world, I always found it a joy to translate my cherished Queen's experience into initiatives that developed that 'feeling' of collegial connection, for example.</p> <p>Queen's vision and evolution to solve the world's greatest challenges – through innovation, inclusivity, and scholarship – is an inspiring journey that I very much want to partake in, close-up. Specifically, I wish to provide my alumni perspective to The University Council to help achieve its mandate, and to help develop university life to the fullest. I hope to be an active member of The University Council, and would bring creative thinking, strategic planning, governance experience, enthusiasm as well as strong networking and philanthropic skills to any task at hand. I am an engaged alumna, return to campus as often as I can, and thoroughly enjoy being a Queen's ambassador wherever I am. It would be an honour and my pleasure to volunteer with passion on The University Council.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH</p> <p>TRACY PITCHER, BAH'93 (English Lit), MBA (Laurier)'99. Business consultant, former marketer/digital strategist within the education and pharmaceutical sectors, and Queen's ambassador wherever I am! Morris Hall rep and president (1988-90); Tracy House (1991-92) and McNeil (1992-93) residence don; alumni chapter member in Toronto, Calgary and London, UK. Volunteer and board experience with women's organisations in Toronto and Surrey, UK as well as international schools and local community initiatives where I volunteered my marketing, business development and fundraising skills to reach our goals and have fun along the way.</p> <p>I am married to Charles McLeod, BAsc'95, MSc'97, MBA (Schulich)'05, also from Toronto, and we are about to relocate from England to Boston. We are delighted to have a son studying mechanical engineering at Queen's and a daughter who is in high school. Cha Gheill!</p>
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<p>Patricia Romans</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST My life at Queen’s, particularly my years in residence, gave me the freedom to grow up while developing broad academic interests and having few other responsibilities. I learned from an introductory Geology course taught by a truly gifted professor that science is about the unknown, even more than it is about what is already known: In 1966 he lectured for the first time, while "still a sceptic", about what we now call plate tectonics. I learned that to be a scientist, indeed, to be any deeply involved professional, is to be a modern-day explorer in a highly focused way, to have a licence to be curious and to ask questions. During my second year a biology professor facilitated my application for a summer job at Canada Agriculture and I transferred that understanding to my own research. After advanced formal study at the doctoral and postdoctoral levels, I became a Malaria Systems Biologist, albeit from a mosquito’s point of view. As an academic at the University of Toronto teaching a range of Biology subjects, I was rewarded through mentoring large numbers of students, formally in my lab, also informally and ongoing, and by having colleagues all over the world. I became involved in women in science initiatives beginning as a PhD student. These have continued until the present. I remain passionate about helping create opportunities for students, broadly, not just in science. At Queen's, my formal instruction extended beyond science only to courses in English and Philosophy. Since Queen's, I have enriched my experience and outlook through courses in Indigenous Studies, Contemporary Literature, Contemporary Politics, Art History and History of Music. As a member of the Queen's University Council, I will listen, learn, debate, and help establish initiatives that enrich students' lives and the University community.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH PATRICIA ROMANS, BSc (Hons.)'70, MSc'73 (Alberta), PhD'85 (UC San Diego) Biology (Molecular Biology, Genetics), Postdoctoral Fellow, US National Institutes of Health, NIAID, Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases studying Malaria Vector Genetics. Toronto, ON since 1990. Currently Professor Emerita, Department of Cell and Systems Biology, University of Toronto. Activities at Queen’s, Kingston Symphony, Queen’s University Biological Society, CFRC. Since graduation, invited seminar speaker and external examiner, PhD thesis in Biology at Queen’s, NIH Tropical Medicine and Parasitology Study Section grant review panel, Editorial Board, Insect Molecular Biology. Co-founder of the Romans Family Scholarship at Victoria College, University of Toronto, the Al Downe Memorial Lectureship in Biology at Queen’s and the Romans Memorial Fund, Queen’s School of Medicine. Recent and ongoing volunteer activities include various women in science initiatives, annual Victoria College Book Sale, and three years as Treasurer of the Scholarship Committee, Canadian Federation of University Women - North Toronto.</p>
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<p>Vishrut Shah</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST</p> <p>Queen's holds a special place in my heart as a proud graduate. Queen's has given me not only an exceptional education, but also lifelong friendships and significant support during my time there. As such, I am eager to give back to Queen's by joining its University Council.</p> <p>There are three main reasons why I believe I would be a valuable addition to the Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. I bring a unique perspective. Unlike most current Councillors, I did not do my undergraduate degree at Queen's. As an international graduate student who pursued a Ph.D. in engineering, I experienced Queen's culture and utilized its services differently. My different perspective would add valuable insight to Council discussions.2. I have experience in research. In the years since I joined, Queen's has fallen from 223 to 246 in the QS rankings, and the ranking of the engineering subject has seen a drastic reduction (material science ranking reduced from 167 to 318). As research is an integral component of these rankings, my experience in research at Queen's would be beneficial in guiding the university in developing strategic priorities.3. I am an experienced management consultant with expertise in higher education. As a management consultant with experience in high-ed education, I have worked with several Canadian universities to support them in navigating the current changing education landscape (reduced provincial funding, increased emphasis on equity, diversity, and inclusion and reconciliation, and the need to improve the student experience in hybrid education settings). I intend to use my consulting experience to support Queen's in navigating such environment. <p>Overall, I am confident that my professional and personal experience can contribute meaningfully to the Council and its committees. I am eager to help Queen's evolve to meet the challenges and opportunities of the future, while also maintaining its traditions, values, and vibrancy.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH</p> <p>Ph.D. (Eng.) '21, Toronto, ON, Senior Consultant at Nous Group. Queen's Affiliations: Queen's Graduate Management Consultant Association Co-President (2019-2020); Association of Indian Graduate Students at Queen's Vice-President (2018-2019); Queen's PhD-Community Initiative Member (2019-2020).</p>
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<p>Keith Siva</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST My name is Keith Siva, growing up in three different countries provided me with a unique perspective on culture, and opportunities to witness interactions between employees and businesses during times of growth and downturn. I was born in Sri Lanka and came to Canada from Germany in high school barely speaking English. Rather than get discouraged, I quickly realized that if I wanted to succeed, I needed to place great value on getting an education. I worked hard, learned English, graduated high school with good grades and set off for university, where I played varsity soccer and achieved two degrees in Science (University of Windsor, 2001) and Commerce (University of Windsor, 2005). After working 15 years at some of Canada’s leading companies, I completed an MBA specializing in Financial Strategy at Queen’s University in 2020, and LLM (Master of Laws) at Queen’s University in 2022. Throughout my career, I have been involved in mentoring students and advancing their educational endeavours. I was a Treasurer at Fort McMurray’s Human Resources Association, and I founded Education Tree, a not-for-profit organization that provides school supplies and technological resources to children in need. The issues and challenges facing educational institutions require commitment, courage, and creativity to change. I have the understanding, time and enthusiasm needed to thoughtfully explore regulation and policy directives to encourage sustainable education for everyone. I believe in inclusive education, and with your vote I hope to encourage strategic decision making to ensure students, and the university shines, even under challenging conditions. Together we can pave the road to sustainable, innovative learning!</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH KEITH SIVA, BSC’01,BCOM’05 WINDSOR, ON, MBA’20,LLM’22 QUEENS, CPHR’14, ALBERTA. Founded two nonprofit organization in Alberta (educational tree and the black panthers basketball team).</p>
<p>Jessica Weshler</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST Instead of running through all my credentials, I’m going to tell you who I am. I’m a mom, digital marketer, and wife. My husband and I met at Queen’s in the technology engineering and management program (TEAM). I am an avid hiker, runner and biker. I love travelling and being outside. I live in Toronto but would love to move to Kingston permanently one day. Most of all, I love Queen’s, I met my best friends and my husband here, and had the best 4 years of undergrad, and year of my masters. I want to ensure we keep Queen’s an amazing place for current and future students.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH Jessica Weshler Toronto ON. Bachelor of Commerce 2013, Master of Management Analytics 2017. Works at Achievers as the Marketplace Promotion Manager. Former member of the Queen’s business club, QEC and Queen’s Commerce Council. Current member of the Achievers Women’s Network, and previous member of the St Michaels Young Leaders.</p>

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<p>Yanique Williams</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST</p> <p>It would be a privilege to be re-elected to the University Council to continue my advocacy focused on strengthening the services and support offered at Queen's to all students while enhancing the brand and profile of the University as a leading and more inclusive academic institution at home and abroad.</p> <p>I am an experienced policy manager that has been working in the mobility tech sector for over two years. In my role I am focused on the company's national safety policy including road safety, personal safety and women's safety. I am also working on policies related to labour and sustainability.</p> <p>Before I joined the private sector, I served as a political staffer in Canadian politics for over 8 years, at the provincial and federal levels, holding various roles including serving as the Director of Policy to the Federal Minister for Women and Gender Equality. Through these roles I had the wonderful opportunity to make real progress in policy development to advance gender equality, diversity and inclusion; building inclusive policies focused on gender-based violence (GBV) and advising the GoC on how to deliver on its diversity and inclusion commitments including on addressing Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. For instance, I worked alongside Members of the Federal Black Caucus to advocate on behalf of Canada's Black Communities. This work led to the GoC's official recognition of the UN International Decade for People of African Descent, the targeted funding for Black Communities in Federal Budgets and specific naming of Black Communities in Ministerial Mandate Letters.</p> <p>If re-elected, I will continue to bring my transferable skills, lived experiences, and expertise to this role to contribute to creating lasting solutions.</p> <p>Thank you, I hope I can gain your confidence to continue this important work and I hope I can count on your vote.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH</p> <p>BAH'08, MPA'13 (Glendon College and Master's Exchange at Sciences Po - Paris). Toronto. Public Policy Manager responsible for Western Canada at Uber. Queen's: Gael '05; House President - Morris Hall '05-06; Residence Don - Vic Hall '06-08; ACSA '05-08; ACSA Culture Show '05-08, Co-Chair Exposure '07; CultureShock '08; TAPS '07-08; AMS Candidate '07-08; QMP; Committee Against Race & Ethnic Discrimination, Black History Month Kingston, VCFS. Current: Queen's University Council (Current term ends 2023), Confronting Anti-Black Racism Partnership & Accountability Circle (PAC), Queen's University Board of Trustee (elect), Banff Forum, Ms. Letna Healing Hope Fundraiser Co-Founder.</p>
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<p>Marcus Wong</p>		<p>STATEMENT OF INTEREST</p> <p>Over the last four years, I’ve represented you on University Council and the Board of Trustees. I am running again because I want to finish the important work that’s been started. Queen’s is tackling major reputational, fiscal, and operational challenges, while trying to make a global impact despite limited resources; therefore, Queen’s needs to be able to leverage leaders on University Council who can bring proven world-class board governance and corporate experience to the table.</p> <p>I also have the necessary experience in getting things done by bringing together divergent stakeholders, having worked for the Canadian Olympic Committee and the Canadian Embassy (Washington, DC), where I helped to build relationships with members of the International Olympic Committee, the World Olympians Association, and the US Congress.</p> <p>Despite the pandemic, we’ve made major investments into our future, from research capabilities, to global standing, to student learning outcomes. But we must keep pushing forward as Queen’s re-shapes its role in a rapidly changing world, one where Asia is a rising sphere of influence and issues like environmental sustainability, diversity, and inclusion, are more than trends.</p> <p>We also need to do more work to foster a closer relationship with Kingston First Nations. As the first and only person of colour to ever serve on West Vancouver city council, I know what it is like to not belong, in a place where I’m supposed to. However, I’ve also seen how a community can be positively transformed just by forging a renewed indigenous relationship. Therefore, I want to ensure that Queen’s will continue to be a place where many will find a life-long sense of belonging, and where the constant achievement of excellence, is not just a lofty aspiration, but a non-negotiable part of our identity. I look forward to continuing and finishing this important work.</p> <p>BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH</p> <p>MARCUS WONG, BAH’03, West Vancouver, BC, Recent city councillor. OTHER PUBLIC OFFICES HELD: BC welfare tribunal adjudicator, West Van Police Board. CORPORATE EXPERIENCE: Public relations professional. BC dairy industry lobbyist. Spokesperson, major utility company. Communications advisor to cabinet ministers. Canadian Olympic Committee. Canadian Embassy (Washington, DC). MSc (Birmingham). BOARD GOVERNANCE EXPERIENCE: University Council Exec Cttee vice-chair (2020-2023), Queen’s Board of Trustees (2021-2023), University Council (2008-2014, 2019-2023), Salvation Army Advisory Board, BC Athletics, Canadian International Council (Vancouver Branch), Queen’s Alumni Association, BC Association of Police Boards, Canadian Association of Police Governance, West Vancouver Track & Field Club, Pacific Baroque Orchestra, BC Luge Association, Richmond Art Gallery, Canada Games Council Governance Cttee, St. John Ambulance (BC/Yukon) Governance Cttee, University of Birmingham Senate. Member, Institute of Corporate Directors. WHILE AT QUEEN’S: Solar car team, MCRC/Residence Society, Queen’s Bands, student conference exec, Reunion Coordinator.</p>
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Jackson
Wright



STATEMENT OF INTEREST

I often think back to my time at Queen's with fondness. During my time at the University, I received a world-class education from a dedicated network of faculty and discovered my passions while immersed in a supportive community of peers. I also experienced hardship – and I bore witness to the strategic, educational, and moral failures of the University firsthand.

If elected to the Council, I would champion initiatives that reinforce the University's strengths while advocating for policies and programs to correct its indiscretions. Specifically, I would push the University to take a more active role in the student housing affordability crisis, encourage substantial investment in undergraduate programming, and advocate for enhanced diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in the admissions process. I would also encourage the university to proactively plan for the future by embedding technological skills, digital capabilities, and new ways of learning at the core of academic programming.

If you believe in unlocking the potential of Queen's University, please consider voting for me in the upcoming University Council election. I am confident that my vision, skillset, experiences, and leadership capability will enable me to make an immediate and enduring contribution to the Queen's University Council and the broader Queen's University ecosystem. Thank you for considering my application.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Jackson Wright. BCOMM'21, Toronto, ON. Associate, Boston Consulting Group (BCG) (2022 – Present). Business Analyst, Diversio (2020-2021). Summer Associate, Boston Consulting Group (2020). Data Science, Birch Hill Equity Partners (2019). Managing Director, CREO Solutions (2017-2021). Founding Member, Reform Smith (2020). Undergraduate Teaching Assistant (2019-2021). Staff Member, Common Ground Coffee Shop (2019-2020). Sponsorship Director, Queen's Women in Leadership (2017-2019).