



NBCGSS By-Election

Candidates' Biographies – March 2021

Chairperson

Abby Dooks

Originally from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Abby is a second year Masters student in the department of Global & International Studies- International Development. Abby has served on the NBCGSS for one year as Director of External Affairs, during which time she spear-head the UNBC Period Promise Campaign that hopes to provide free menstrual products on UNBC campuses. Abby is currently working towards the completion of her thesis project that researches the Canadian Government's Indigenous Guardians Pilot Project. Abby's main interest consists of the relationship between people and the environment and a sustainable future that can help both thrive. Abby is thankful for the opportunity to continue advocating for Graduate students at UNBC in any way possible.

Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Zhaleh Nazarpour

My name is Zhaleh, a Master's student in Business Administration. I am interested in social justice, gender equality, and anti-racism actions. I am passionate about raising awareness of the UNBC community regarding human rights and the benefits of equity (especially for visible minorities, Aboriginal peoples, and women), diversity, and inclusion.

Director of Internal Relations

Rahim Jafari

I am a PhD candidate in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (NRES) program. I started my study at UNBC in September 2018. Since I am so interested to be involved in the academic setting and to be among students, I became a Teaching Assistant (TA) for several courses at UNBC. I tried to serve students in different ways as well, such as being the graduate student representative in Provost's Advisory Committee and CSAM College Council. Then I joined NBCGSS board of directors, we did our best to deal with students' needs and resolve their problems as much as we can. As an international student I am familiar with needs of these groups and because of being a student representative in several committees plus being a former GSS board member, I know university departments and the different communities as well.

I always had the passion of working with students' clubs from the very beginning of my education in my bachelor, I was a member of Student Scientific Society for four years. During my master education I got involved in different extracurricular clubs and activities such as being a president of Student Scientific Society of Civil Engineers and being an editor in chief of Civil Engineering Student Journal. I really like to learn about different cultures. Fortunately, I could make lots of friends here from different nationalities and cultures, so I believe that I am capable of coping with this position very well.

I know there are some problems that students are dealing with especially with the pandemic situation, that's why I would like run again for board member so I can keep advocating for all students an try to be a service to them.

Director- at-Large

Confidence Ben

Confidence Ben who is originally from Nigeria, is currently a student at UNBC studying to obtain her Master's degree in Business Administration. Confidence has a deep-lying interest in matters concerning students, hence, she worked as a teaching assistant while taking courses to fulfil her master's degree. This gave her the opportunity to listen to students' concerns and offer assistance in the best way possible to help them have a well-rounded academic experience.

Having previously served as a board member and taken up leadership positions, she understands the importance of the board's continuous sustainability and relevance to the people it serves. As part of the Board of Directors for the UNBC Graduate Students' Society she will Promote the interests of the society, including that of the student body both within our prestigious University and community. Determining and ensuring strategic plans are in place, including developing measurable targets to assist the board in achieving its mission and values.

Confidence is dedicated to improving the experiences of graduate students here at UNBC. As part of the Board of Directors for the UNBC Graduate Students' Society, she has been able to offer valuable and creative solutions to matters arising, carefully deliberate and read all documents in preparation for each meeting. Further join in maintaining the already existing transparency and accountability of the board. Promote diversity, equality and integration amongst students.

Thank you for taking your time to consider Confidence Ben to continue her service on the board and hope you give her the opportunity to serve as Director-at-Large for the UNBC Graduate Students' Society.

Director- at-Large

Michael Lee

Hello,

I am Michael Lee and I am a first year student in the MBA program at UNBC. I am a husband and father of one. I currently reside in Prince George and have been since 2017 moving here from Smithers. I have been serving British Columbians for over 20 years as a paramedic and leader within BCEHS and I look forward to bringing that passion for serving to the Grad Students Society. I look forward to having a productive year with the NBCGSS with the goal enhancing the student experience where they can take what they have experienced here out to the world in a positive way.

Please join me in making 2021 – 2022 a memorable year.

Thank you,

Michael Lee,

Director- at-Large

Lindamarie Winfield

Hello fellow Grad Student! My name is Lindamarie Winfield. I am a mature student currently enrolled in my second year of UNBC's Master's of Education Clinical Counselling program. UNBC is a special university because it is based in the North for the people of the North and provides opportunities for personal development and training. My desire is to contribute to fostering a sense of community amongst our graduate cohort through all streams and disciplines. It is important to me to contribute to our graduate community in the best way I can and support how I can. I have been a member of the NBCGSS board of directors since last year and wish to run again as a Director-at-Large. I look to continue to be an active member of the board while in my active studies and support the graduate students.