

# ASUS

THE ARTS AND SCIENCE UNDERGRADUATE SOCIETY

## Executive End-of-Summer Report 2022-2023

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# OPENING REMARKS

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Dear ASUS Assembly and the Arts and Science Student Body,

We cannot believe that the summer has come to an end and that we only have eight short months left in our term. Luckily, we have been able to find solace in this fact as we reflect upon what has been a very busy and productive summer. Here, you will find all of the items we have been working on since the release of our [Executive Midsummer Report](#) in early July. With both internal and external updates listed here, please do not hesitate to reach out to us with questions, comments, concerns, ideas, or anything in between. Both our real and figurative doors are always open to you.

We cannot wait to welcome you all back to campus in just a few short days!

All our best,

Yara, Emma, and Aloka



# AMS and ASUS Assembly Reports

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Below you will find our AMS and ASUS Assembly Reports from the summer months. These were written each month, with the exception of June which is when our Midsummer Report was released. As such, this end-of-summer report will be more condensed to be concise and to avoid redundancy.

## AMS Assembly

- [May AMS Assembly Report](#)
- [June AMS Assembly Report](#)
- [July AMS Assembly Report](#)
- [August AMS Assembly Report](#)

## ASUS Assembly

- [May ASUS Assembly Report](#)
- [Executive Midsummer Report](#)
- [July ASUS Assembly Report](#)

# Internal Updates

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## Strategic Planning

We are currently finalizing all levels of strategic planning for the executive, council, and committee or director plans. These plans will be presented and passed in our first ASUS Assembly of the year set to take place on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned to see these plans published on our website in the fall, along with this year's live General Operating Budget.

## Council Pre-Week

By the time you are reading this report, Council Pre-Week 2022 will have just finished. Pre-Week is a longstanding tradition at ASUS, marking the start of the academic year. This week aims to bolster council morale, foster team cohesion, and present council with a number of vital trainings which they will undoubtedly utilize throughout the year as student leaders on campus. A large portion of the month of August was spent planning for this week through

trainings, activities, and scheduling times to increase council presence on campus, especially during the Orientation Period.

Some of the trainings included topics such as leadership, communication etiquette, sustainable event planning, societal finances and compensation, visual identity standard, equity, policy writing, and more! Most training was delivered by members of our Council, who did a phenomenal job in facilitating and planning workshops. We also welcomed guest speakers like Mitch LePage who presented our behavioural reports and predictive indexes so that our team can assess the best ways to work with one another. We also invited Jasmine Lagundzija to speak who was the ASUS President from 2017-2018.

## **Fall Hiring**

In coordination with the Human Resources Office, we have created a timeline for the major ASUS Fall Hiring Period this year. Hiring officially opened August 29<sup>th</sup> and is set to close September 16<sup>th</sup> for the bulk of our positions.

We are in the process of meeting with the entire HR team, specifically the Talent Acquisition Deputy to find innovative ways to bring ASUS closer to students, both Incoming and Upper-Year. We hope to see a rise in uptake this Fall and are in the process of working with the Director of Workforce Development and the Deputy of Training and Analytics to see what data we can leverage from past years to improve practices and optimize engagement.

Further, we are also in the process of streamlining the new Director of Workforce Development role to continue onboarding volunteers in a new system than previous years. All of this has been done to increase efficiency and allow more time for students to directly serve their peers within ASUS.

## **Policy Updates**

We are continuing to go through a policy overhaul this summer, updating outdated policy and continuing a past Governance Officer's plan to remove gendered language from all ASUS policy. You can read more about these updates in the council reports section from Governance Officer Caitlin Sankaran-Wee.

## **Website Updates**

Since our last report, we have continued to make updates to the ASUS website and have recently had a strategic planning session with our Web Director to discuss website-oriented goals for the year. We want to make the website more accessible, while also increasing the quality of its content. Part of this goal is consistently updating the ASUS Calendar on a rolling basis with all ASUS events so that students have a centralized place to find all that is going on within the Society.

Importantly, we have recently made updates to the Wellness pages of the site in collaboration with Student Wellness Services' Health Promotion team and our Wellness Director, Megan Crosby. With her help, we are planning to leverage this page and continue to promote wellness both within and beyond ASUS this year.

## **Humanizing ASUS**

Our Marketing and Communications Office has been hard at work this summer planning and researching the best ways to reach and engage students in what will undoubtedly be a semester of content saturation from all Queen's clubs and organizations. Given this, our Marketing and Communications Officer, Monica, has been planning to increase the volume of ASUS' video content by finding creative ways to introduce council and bring the individuals within ASUS more visible to students. This is all in accordance with our platform goals and Monica's personal goals of humanizing student government. We will hopefully be able to provide students with a warm welcome back to campus in the Fall!

## **Consultations on Internal Reforms**

We also spent this summer reflecting on the changes and improvements we can make to the Society as a whole. A conversation that was passed down to us from the past year's Executive team was the potential dissolution of the Services Commission and making the various committees that currently fall under the Commission report to the Vice President of Operations. This suggestion was made considering the introduction of the three-executive structure, and potentially looking at increasing compensation for various director positions. This summer, we engaged in drafting a formal proposal, briefly outlining the possibility of a dissolution and engaged in consultations with the Executives and Services Commissioners from the past three years. This year's Executive team has compiled incredibly helpful notes and insights from these consultations and will be reflecting throughout the Fall term as we assess the first semester of a three-person Executive and

the possibilities this presents for structural reform. We may or may not move forward with the suggestion for dissolution of the Services Commission, but we will ensure to take the Fall term to reflect on the insights gathered this summer to come to an informed decision which will be announced by the end of the Fall term.

## **Operations Updates**

As the summer comes to an end, we are closing an exciting chapter in ASUS operational reform. With the transfer to our new banking partner of RBC being completed, we are now looking into how this platform can be utilized to further benefit Arts and Science students through opportunities for financial literacy. Another exciting update is that we have been able to grant all financial assistance requests thus far as pertaining to orientation. Furthermore, we worked diligently over the summer to distribute financial assistance to make ASUS Camps more accessible to individuals and families, going over the budgeted amount for financial assistance. This is a decision that the Executive and Camps team made in sight of the higher-than anticipated registration which allowed financial flexibility to further our ongoing commitment towards making Camps more affordable.

Our IT Director, Sylvie Garabedian, has also taken the steps to streamline IT processes in the Society such as requesting password resets. We have introduced a new password reset request form which has been circulated internally among Society members and will also soon be included on the Internal tab on the ASUS website. ASUS Accounting Director and Store Manager are also in the final stages of their transition, ready to take on the fast-paced nature of operations in an in-person school year.

As we move to the school year, a greater focus will be shifted towards operations project planning, namely introducing a new policy on societal surplus, furthering financial assistance through the introduction of a bursary, and enhancing financial literacy among Arts and Science students. Stay tuned for more updates on these exciting projects!

# External Updates

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## ASUS Garden

The ASUS Garden is back for its second year and currently thriving! Since we last reported, we have made two donations to the AMS Food Bank which provides a confidential food service to students within the Queen's community. From growing tomatoes to fresh herbs to lettuce, we are very lucky to have the space and capacity to have this garden right outside of the ASUS Office. We hope to continue donations into the fall!

## ASUS City Engagement Program

We are continuing to work with our Community Outreach Commissioner, Elisabeth McHarg, to plan for this year's ASUS City Engagement Program. We recently made a trip to City Hall to meet with Paige Agnew and Craig Desjardins to solidify more plans for the program this year. We are delighted to announce that we will be expanding the program to hold sixteen second-year interns, rather than the original eight. These interns will be paired with a member from the City of Kingston along with a member of ASUS Council to work on projects throughout the year. We are making important improvements to the program's logistics this year by integrating a more consistent feedback mechanism throughout and providing interns more opportunities to showcase their work to ASUS, the larger student body, and the Kingston community at large.

With this, we plan to work with the city's Communications Office to gear ASUS messaging to various demographics across the City of Kingston to highlight the incredible work students are already doing for their community. We hope to present these efforts in a report to the City during a City Council meeting at the end of the program to also display the ACEP intern projects for Queen's students and Kingston residents alike.

## Sustainability

In our last report, we outlined the exciting Broom Stick Buy-Back project taking place this year. Our Sustainability Director, Katelin Boles, is continuing to plan for this to take place after the ArtSci cup reveal. We will be setting up a booth at this time to collect used brooms from Gaels and will be offering them back to Gaels next year, allowing for continued use of these items that would otherwise be thrown out. We will also be offering waste disposal for Orientation Group signs at this time as well.

On this note of Orientation, we will also be continuing the t-shirt scrap donation bins stationed at various events during the first days of Orientation. These will then be donated to the Diabetes Association of Kingston where they will be repurposed. For this initiative, we are reaching out to other sibling societies and faculty societies beyond ASUS to expand the sustainability reach across campus.

In this same vein, we have recently welcomed two newly hired Sustainability Auditors to the team! These individuals will work with our larger sustainability team to audit ASUS events and assist with various sustainability initiatives, most notably Orientation. Beyond Orientation however, these auditors will attend various ASUS events such as formals, galas, and open houses to help us improve our practices and set the Society up to make strides in our sustainability practices for the future.

## **Academic Advocacy**

Part of the President's, VP's, and Academics Commissioner's role that is not as well-known is sitting on various boards, panels, and committees as student representatives. During the summer, the President sat in on a number of hearings for the Academic Integrity Conduct Panel, while the Vice President of Society Affairs took on hearings for appeals to the Board of Studies. We feel very privileged to be able to sit on these boards and panels alongside faculty members and advocate for students on an individual and collective level. We will continue to sit on these committees for the remainder of our terms and advocate for students within and beyond these spaces.

Additionally, we recognize that as student representatives, we cannot represent every single student concern. To address this, we are hoping this year to make many Associate Deans within the Faculty of Arts and Science more accessible to students so that a reciprocal relationship of support is facilitated. As such, we will be inviting James Fraser to one of our ASUS assemblies this coming fall as the first of many assembly guest attendees! We look forward to seeing the conversation and actions that are born out of this more direct collaboration.

Furthermore, we are hoping to foster relationships with offices that ASUS has not been heavily involved in in previous years such as the International Student Office and ArtSci Online so that we can collaborate on collective advocacy efforts and support students in an interdisciplinary manner. As always, we encourage students to connect with us and share any questions, concerns, or ideas pertaining to their academic experiences with us as we are always eager to hear student input which spearheads our advocacy efforts. Our main

priority for the next eight months continues to be to foster a welcoming, accommodating, and successful environment in and out of the classroom for all ArtSci students!

## Orientation

This August, we had the pleasure of working alongside the Orientation Chairs as they were working in a full-time capacity for this month leading up to orientation. This gave us the opportunity to support and assist their planning in a new and more direct fashion.

The three of us are very grateful to have the opportunity of participating in various aspects of orientation and represent all of ASUS' supports, services, and opportunities for student involvement. This year, our involvement comes in the form of boothing at Sidewalk Sale and Queen's in the Park, assisting with events like coverall distribution, and attending events like Frosh Olympics & Carnival. We are also very excited to be speaking at the Welcome Forum alongside several notable community and Queen's members to welcome the Class of 2026! Additionally, our Council will also have their own involvement in orientation as they will be speaking at events like *ArtSci 101*, *Traditions*, and *How Do You Deal*. We are particularly excited to bring our Council's roles, services, and faces to the forefront of welcoming the incoming class!

In our ongoing efforts to make orientation as financially accessible as possible to incoming students, we have distributed financial assistance after going through a confidential granting process involving Head Gael Kate McCuaig and Vice President of Operations Aloka Wijesundara. We are happy to state that all financial assistance applications have been granted at the full amounts requested by the students! We are also continuing to grant financial assistance to orientation leaders to make their experiences supporting first-year students more accessible as well.

## OnQ

With the support from the OnQ IT Services, the input from our Council, and feedback from other ASUS volunteers, we are very excited to be finalizing the ASUS OnQ page. This page features all of our academic services and supports. For example, one of the features includes our "how to?" page on the academic appeals process, applying for accommodations, talking with professors, and more. The OnQ page is anticipated to be released for the start of the fall semester and will be accessible to all ArtSci students. We look forward to hearing feedback from students on the success of this page and how we can best present ASUS' supports and services in the most accessible and engaging manner.

## **ASUS Student Undergraduate Research Fund**

Throughout the summer, the President and Vice President of Operations have had the pleasure of overseeing the 14 successful ASURF candidates. Earlier this summer, we also reformed ASURF to become a more streamlined process. With the summer coming to a close, we have successfully distributed a total of \$35,166 to 12 students to take part in various research opportunities and projects within their departments, communities, and even across the nation. ASUS takes pride in fostering an accessible and meaningful way for students to invest their time and knowledge in research and gain invaluable skills that they can carry with them into their professional lives. We look forward to seeing through ASURF Fall 2022 for the upcoming cohort. One of our largest goals this year is to increase awareness of ASURF to students across ArtSci and in our sibling societies as well as showcase the wonderful research initiatives completed by ASURF recipients!

## **Sexual Violence Prevention and Response**

Over the past couple of weeks, the Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Director Kerry Roe, has been working hard on completing a short ASUS video featuring various campus and community resources on safety, prevention, and response. We are in the final stages of video editing and plan on releasing this video for the start of the Fall semester as well as circulating it on various other Queen's social media pages to ensure that students receive a comprehensible understanding of their rights as students and navigating existing procedures.

## **Professional Development**

Over the past month, we hired our Professional Development Director, Aidan Carli, as well as Isabelle Bannister and Berkeley Carrington as the two coordinators to fulfill the roles of Alumni Connections and Industry Relations respectively. We are currently working diligently alongside the advancement office on the Life After ArtSci events as well as the Alumni Mentorship Initiative. We are excited to be releasing more information on how students can attend and get involved in these initiatives in the coming weeks! Moreover, in collaboration with the Advancement office, we are also gearing up for homecoming as we will be participating in the Alumni Meet and Greet, distributing ASUS jackets, and sharing all the wonderful things that ASUS and our volunteers are doing!

# Council

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## Academics

Dear Arts and Science Students,

As August flies by, it is exciting to see students begin to return to campus! Orientation teams are busy preparing for the Class of 2026, Dons and Residence staff are moving back in, and we're only a handful of days away from move-in day and the start of Fall Semester! We can't wait to see you back on campus.

In the last couple of months, the Academics Commission has been busy reviewing each project's plans and budgets for the year. Our DSC Deputy Becca has done an incredible job reviewing the nearly 30 strategic plans under her purview and has been a phenomenal support to the DSCs already! We are also excited to start booking our first DSC Assembly meetings in the fall and see our teams return to campus.

The journals have worked hard to draft their publishing timelines, ideate themes for their upcoming volumes, and plan some very exciting events to take place this summer. ASUS Review is already in contact with professors and working to confirm their roster of exam review sessions for 2022-2023. ASUS Peer Tutoring is preparing for a relaunch this September and ASUS Appeals Resource Centre is eagerly preparing to expand their services to include more asynchronous resources and events.

In my own Strategic Plan, it has been a pleasure to plan some of the upcoming advocacy initiatives and collaborations with Faculty. We are already beginning to plan for Fall semester's UGxDSC for the Department Student Council Presidents to discuss important topics and issues with the Undergraduate Chairs from their departments. We are also introducing a new DeansxDSC event this year for the DSCs to interact directly with the Associate Dean of Teaching and Learning and Associate Dean of Academics. Additionally, I am excited to see the DSCs engage in a handful of new taskforces this fall to create positive change on campus.

Finally, I am excited to work with the rest of Council on the ASUS onQ as well as collaborate with Marketing to update our online Academic Assistance Portal to provide ease of access to academic resources. Above all else, I am very excited to get started working with students to improve their academic experience. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out with questions or requesting support, or to share your ideas and feedback to the Academics Commission's initiatives. I can't wait to hear from you.

I wish you all the best in your upcoming academic year, and hope to see you on campus soon.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Parker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alicia Parker

Academics Commissioner

[academics@asus.queensu.ca](mailto:academics@asus.queensu.ca)

## Community Outreach

Hello student body!

I am so excited to inform you all about the progress my Commission has made thus far and cannot wait to see what this upcoming school year brings!

Since my last report, I have been working with my 21 co-chairs to make strategic plans and budgets for the year. Moving forward, I cannot wait to welcome more volunteers to the Community Outreach Commission as the co-chairs undergo hiring in the fall semester.

I am continuing my work in conjunction with Emma Farrell, Vice President of Society Affairs, to re-implement the ASUS City Engagement Program with the City of Kingston. This program provides second-year students the opportunity to explore and research their passions while advocating for and implementing change within the city. The reimplementation of this program coincides with one of my overarching goals of increasing student engagement and participating in Community Outreach initiatives.

With this goal in mind, I am continuing to find new and creative ways to reach a broader audience through implementing a general volunteer program at the September Assembly. More immediately, my committees are gearing up to participate in Queen's in the Park in early September, an event that ASUS Orientation puts on each O-Week to introduce all Incoming Students to the wide variety of clubs on campus. I hope that this will be a good introduction to not only the Community Outreach Commission, but also ASUS as a whole and the various opportunities available to them.

Looking forward to this upcoming school year!



Elisabeth McHarg

Community Outreach Commissioner 2022-2023

Arts and Science Undergraduate Society

## Equity

Hello again to the Arts and Science Student Body!

It is with much excitement that I am writing this end of summer report, marking the true beginning of the 2022/2023 school year and the beginning of my 8-month term as Equity Commissioner. The past few months of the summer, July and August, have been full of exciting new opportunities and projects for the Equity Commission in general and for all the roles within the commission.

To begin, the various committee co-chairs have all been hired with the newest additions of Therese Di Rivera as the Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (DNA) Co-Chair and Amaiya Walters as the Queen's Equity Conference (QEC) Co-Chair. These individuals are two lovely additions to the Equity Commission, and I cannot wait to see the creativity and passion they bring to the team. In addition to this, most committee co-chairs have submitted their committee strategic plans and budgets as they are preparing for the excitement of the quickly approaching fall semester. Their plans are well thought out and full of incredible initiatives and events that will undoubtedly thrive throughout the year.

As for the core team of the commission, the Deputy of Committees position will be opening for fall hiring so keep an eye out for that! My strategic plan and budget are in the final steps of completion and approval with a few of the following goals. I hope to improve mental health supports for all students within the student body (and for all Queen's students in general), expanding equity finances and budgets across the society, implementing advancements within ASUS and the council team in general including changes of the Equity Commission policy, removing educational barriers for students and humanizing the commission, and finally creating bonds between the society and faculty equity representatives. While these are large goals, I am confident that with the help of the Deputy of Special Projects and the First Year Intern, these goals will be attainable and will aid in supporting all Arts and Science students long-term.

I am incredibly excited to represent this lovely and large faculty as the Equity Commissioner and cannot wait to fulfill all my passion projects along the way. I feel very lucky and privileged to be able to do so and I am very grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with nine other incredible women on the ASUS Council team!

See you all in September!

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Layla Haddad". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a horizontal line underlining the name.

Layla Haddad (she/her/hers)

Equity Commissioner 2022-2023

[equity@asus.queensu.ca](mailto:equity@asus.queensu.ca)

Arts and Science Undergraduate Society | ASUS

## Governance

Hope you are cherishing the last moments of Summer.

For the months of July and August, my Deputy Governance Officer, Kiana Pilon, and I have been finalizing the ASUS Assembly calendar. The Elections team have also proposed their timelines for the year.

In relation to the Governance Office strategic plan and budget, it is with pleasure to announce that the final versions are complete. Some overarching goals for the upcoming year include increasing transparency, maintaining accessibility and inclusivity plus expanding our reach through external collaborations. The Office strategic plan and budget will be shared with the ArtSci community at ASUS Assembly come September.

In my term, I am most excited to run the three ASUS Elections periods: Fall, Winter and DSC. It is an honour to be able to provide an outlet for student voice and advocacy. I look forward to learning from each candidate's innovative campaign aimed at representing their peers to better our shared university experiences.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with your ideas and feedback. I look forward to connecting with my team, ASUS and the ArtSci student body as the year progresses.

Yours in governance,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Caitlin Sankaran-Wee', with a horizontal line underneath.

Caitlin Sankaran-Wee (She/Her/Hers)

Governance Officer

[governance@asus.queensu.ca](mailto:governance@asus.queensu.ca)

## Human Resources

Dear Arts and Science students,

I hope your summer has been going well!

At this time, my portfolio positions have been fulfilled and we are in the process of working on a course of action to strategic planning to set in motion goals and budgeting for the upcoming school year. My portfolio, although small, has some large items to work on. At this time, my portfolio has been working on devising a plan to 'the return to in-person learning,' and how we can best accommodate for all students following the uncertainty with the past two years, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Most saliently, we have opened Fall Hiring and are working with my Talent Acquisition Deputy to find innovative ways to connect to students during Orientation specifically, drawing them to the hundreds of positions that are currently available. Ultimately, targeting the first-year audience, and working on bridging gaps for students to access support and or seek out opportunities that are provided within ASUS and across Queen's as a whole will be a major focus.

The Human Resources Office is extremely excited for the upcoming school year!

Best,

Kristin Papaconstantinou (She/Her/Hers)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'KP' with a stylized flourish underneath.

ASUS Council Human Resource Officer

## Marketing and Communications

Dear Members of Assembly,

I hope that everyone has had a relaxing and fulfilling summer! There's many emotions surrounding returning back to campus this September however I hope everyone has a great transition back.

The ASUS Marketing and Communications office has had a productive summer for sure! Hiring for general team members is ongoing, which includes graphics, photography, and videography. We hope to introduce many students into ASUS with these positions, it is a great opportunity to explore MarComms opportunities. In addition to this we had made some promotional material made to be added into first year orientation bags. This includes an ASUS notebook, a phone back card holder and a sticker. We hope for first years to get an immediate introduction into ASUS so that a relationship can be maintained during the year and the rest of their time at Queens. In addition to this, a lot of planning has been done for the upcoming year in terms of content creation, and inspiration for various events. One goal of the Marcomms team is to create content that is engaging and intriguing. I'd love for more photo and video based content to promote various ASUS initiatives.

There's a great value in enjoying summer breaks as we have them. Now as the semester begins we look forward to actually putting plans into action and begin creating and communicating with the rest of ASUS to make this an unforgettable year in the MarComms office.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me for any questions, concerns, or discussions surrounding the marketing and communications office at [marketing@asus.queensu.ca](mailto:marketing@asus.queensu.ca). See you all so soon!



Monica Szalajko (She/Her/Hers)

Marketing and Communications Officer

[marketing@asus.queensu.ca](mailto:marketing@asus.queensu.ca)

## Services

Dear Arts and Science students,

I hope you are continuing to have a great rest of the summer! I am beyond excited that the school year is starting in less than a month away!

During July and August, the Services Commission has been working tremendously hard to kickstart the backend processes to ensure that every committee is ready to operate smoothly in September. The wonderful Directors and Chairs—with their strong leadership skills and passion—have been busy completing many tasks throughout the summer. This includes finalising overarching goals, creating timelines, and beginning the hiring process of executive members and volunteers. To highlight some of our portfolio work, my Services Deputy Cole Olidis has been planning the Poster Sale collaboration with the Engineering Society. Additionally, the Services Commission intends to play an active role as part of ASUS Orientation through our participation in Queen's in the Park and the Sidewalk Sale.

In relation to the Services Commission strategic plan and budget, it is at its final stage to be revised and edited. As the Services Commissioner, my overall goals for this year are to build a comfortable team environment, optimize student engagement, streamline operations for certain committees, and introduce new initiatives. I cannot wait to share the finalized strategic plan and budget with the Arts and Science community!

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me! I am looking forward seeing you all in September!

# General Manager

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Dear ASUS Assembly and the Arts and Science Student Body,

For those of you that don't know me, my name is Sean Thompson, and I am the General manager for ASUS. I have been in this role since April 2021 and am working with my third team of ASUS Student leaders. My role is largely one of compliance, support, institutional memory, and mentorship for the Council and Leadership team. I am a Queen's ArtSci '83 alumnus and coming full circle returning to ASUS after a 30+ career in technology sales and non-profit senior leadership has been a very rewarding experience for me.

It's hard to believe that it is already the end of August, and another academic year is beginning. This summer, compared to last year, has seen a different transition with the three-executive structure that was included in ASUS130 plan. My role hasn't changed significantly with the transition, I have just reallocated time and support where and when necessary. Previously, Finance and Payroll/HR were under the VP role, with the dual VP structure Finance falls under VP-OPS, and Payroll/HR falls under VP-SA. This provides me with lots of opportunity to work with both Aloka and Emma.

Camps has been extremely successful this year, a huge shout out to our Team; Camp Director-English Liv McElrea, Camp Director-French Leah Smithson, Camp Operations Director Caroline Jarrett, and our team of dynamic and enthusiastic Camp Counsellors. This year the business side of Camps was managed by Caroline through our Accounting program, QuickBooks. She did an amazing job! Integrating our camp operations with our accounting program streamlined the process for my role of financial support and compliance. By all accounts this was a very successful year for ASUS Camps financially, and more importantly, experientially for our Camp Staff Team and the Campers that attended.

Orientation is back in-person this year and I have been touching base with Kate throughout the summer as the plans of her O-Team have come together. It's going to be a memorable start for the class of '26.

As the summer wraps up, we are into our 2021-22 Year End Financials Reporting with our Accounting Firm, MNP (Our Fiscal Year is May 1 to April 30). As part of our transition last year in taking over the Microsoft Tenancy with our asus.queensu.ca Domain we are utilizing MS Teams and OneDrive for secure file storage. This has allowed us to migrate completely to a digital storage for our documents rather than paper files facilitating the access to documents for our Year End reporting, and for archival storage. This past year, working with MNP, we consolidated the past 10 years of financial returns and made a submission to CRA to confirm and report our Non-Profit status.

Finally, the biggest transition has been our banking. I am pleased to report that our transition from BMO to RBC is mostly complete. By switching banks, we are saving the Society over \$1500 a year in needless bank fees and charges. The final step was our Investment Account, moving from BMO to RBC we have also taken a position as ethical investors. What this means is that all our investment funds integrate material environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors into their investment processes:  
*Environmental: Air and water pollution, Climate change, Natural resource management and use.*  
*Social: Data privacy and security, Gender and diversity, Labour practices.*  
*Governance: Board structure and independence, Executive compensation, Shareholder rights.*  
By investing in this manner, we best reflect the character of ASUS and what we aspire to.

As the new academic year starts, I look forward to working directly with Council and the Executive, supporting them as they deliver the best programming and services to you, the ASUS student body.

Good luck as you start classes!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sean Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sean Thompson  
General Manager, ASUS

# ASUS Camps

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It's hard to believe that it's our last week of camp! We have had an amazing eight weeks filled with fun, friendship, and creativity, and they've absolutely flown by. While our campers have now moved on, the memories we made with them will last a lifetime, and we can't wait for them to return to camp next summer. It's difficult to encapsulate the whole summer in just a few paragraphs, but here are some of our highlights:

## Operations

- At the beginning of the summer when ASUS Camps first opened registration to the Kingston community, we projected that we would welcome around 40 campers per week and set our budget accordingly. We are happy to say that for all 8 weeks of summer camp programming, we have had over 60 registered campers join us!
- This summer, the ASUS Camps team partnered with 'KEYS Employment and Newcomer Services' to provide childcare and camp experience to a number of children who recently sought refuge and immigrated from Ukraine to Kingston. We were able to provide a camp experience for over 10 Ukrainian children and their families using our bursary program to help with accessibility to programming in the Kingston community.
- With a higher registration rate than we originally projected, and partnerships with businesses like 'KEYS' we at ASUS Camp were able to provide over \$6000 worth of bursaries to families in need within the ASUS Camp community and welcome children and their families to an accessible camp experience.

## English Programming

- Over the course of the summer, we welcomed over 1000 campers between the ages of 4-8 back to ASUS Camps for the first time in three years.
- Every week was comprised of a different theme with a corresponding special guest – allowing for creative engagement from the campers whether that be during our Amazing Artists week or during Master Chef Jr. We explored the intersections of arts and science with physical activity, as we spent most of our time outdoors this summer!

- ASUS Camps began the summer with 9 councilor staff and ended it with 12! We added Akash, Anna and Sherry to our team at the end of July as we had more campers sign up for ASUS Camps and we began to need more helping hands. We want to thank all our staff for their hard work this summer and their enthusiasm for the job!

### French Programming

- This summer, we launched our first ever French Immersion stream of ASUS Camp programming! We saw lots of interest from parents and campers alike and were overjoyed to welcome 53 different French Immersion campers over the course of the summer, with many coming back week after week!
- Our French Immersion counsellors showed great creativity and initiative in the activities they led with our campers. Camp songs and games, specifically chosen for their French qualities, made learning a new language so fun! We were able to see great growth in language skills over the course of each camper's time at camp, and it's all thanks to the hard work of our wonderful French counsellors.
- We are especially proud of the academic support we were able to offer our campers. With many families opting to join ASUS Camp's French Immersion stream in order to 'catch up' to French grade-level expectations, we were pleased to see a strong improvement in the literacy skills of our French campers. French reading and writing skills were strengthened, and oral communication improved significantly as well. We are confident that our campers are ready for a new school year and new opportunities come September!

As we wrap up our report, we'd like to say a massive thank you to Emma, Aloka, and Yara for all of their support this summer. ASUS Camp would not have been nearly as successful without their help supporting our operations! Whether they were stepping in to cover a lunch break or baking cookies for our counsellors, they always showed their care for Camps, and took time out of their very busy schedules to support us. On behalf of our campers, staff, and ourselves... thank you YEA!

We have had a wonderful summer and are so grateful for the opportunity to give back to the Queen's and Kingston community by offering affordable, educational, and accessible childcare. We have learned so much in our roles as Camp Directors, and will take what we have gained from this experience into all our future positions.

We hope you've all had as great a summer as we have, and we wish you the best of luck this school year!

Best,

*Caroline Jarrett Leah Smithson Livi McElrea*

Caroline Jarrett, Leah Smithson, and Livi McElrea

ASUS Camp Directors

# Orientation

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Hello Arts and Science Students,

I hope you have all enjoyed your summers as the Orientation Team cannot wait to welcome you all back on campus! Since our last report our team has been running full steam ahead to prepare for the Class of 2026 to arrive. We cannot wait to show each of you what we have planned!

## CARE Portfolio Updates:

Since our last report, CARE has been gathering vendors for two community-based events. Sidewalk Sale and CCS Tour of the Town are well underway and are further strengthening community relations. In addition, the CARE fundraising portfolio "CAROT" has also conducted multiple fundraisers for the CCS foundation.

## SOCIO Portfolio Updates:

Each of SOCIO's events have been finalized, and they are now creating purchasing lists. This is centered around their preliminary budgets and conducted after run-throughs of spaces.

## ACS Portfolio Updates:

Each keynote speaker ACS requires has been finalized and has been sending over their transcripts. These transcripts are approved by the Orientation Coordinators and are available upon request by all students attending the events.

## OPS Portfolio Updates

OPS has begun purchasing for each of the events and storing them in our storage facilities. In addition, they have stored each of the purchasing lists items for each event and our itemizing in reflection of our budgeting.

Since our last report, orientation week has gotten up to lots of updates! Our Gaels and orientation Coordinators are now in Kingston till the start of the orientation period begins. Through this, we have been able to conduct training sessions and bring back traditions that have not run since 2019! In addition, the events that are to be put forward for the orientation period have been entirely finalized and purchasing for equipment has begun.

Through these operational updates, each event has since been signed off by Dean Stephenson and Risk and Safety at Queen's. This is an excellent step as many of the orientation events have been adjusted to reflect greater accessibility for the Queen's University students of today. These changes include EDI+I focus present at all events, great financial accessibility and intensity adjustments present at all events.

First-year registration is also continuing onward, and over a thousand students have purchased the orientation package. VPOPS Aloka and I have been going through orientation bursaries on a rolling basis for all students who apply and advertising it forward to all students.

See you all in September!!

Head Gael Kate McCuaig 2022

## **Academics and Campus Support Committee**

Hello! My name is Arielle Baguio (she/her) and I am the Academics & Campus Support (ACS) Chair for ASUS Orientation 2022. The ACS Committee is responsible for events designed to introduce incoming students to various opportunities and resources available to them at Queen's University. Our events aim to ease the transition to university for all incoming students, help to alleviate concerns, offer community, and make incoming students feel at home at Queen's. I oversee the work of seven portfolios: Welcome Forum, How Do You Deal, ProspectsxPriorities: A Student's Guide to Wellness, Traditions, ArtSci 101, Queen's in the Park, and the Gael Guide. In addition to these portfolios, I also have the responsibility of organizing trainings for the Orientation Coordinators. These include mandatory trainings outlined by ASUS policy as well as any supplemental trainings that the Chairs feel would be beneficial for the OCs. During the month of August, ACS has mainly been focusing on official agreements from speakers, speech transcripts, and information from several clubs around campus. The OCs have been working hard obtaining said information from external bodies to Orientation. They have also been putting together numerous resource guides, which focus on topics such as health and wellness, inclusion at Queen's (especially for students of marginalized communities), clubs on campus, and academic resources. This past week, I facilitated a Land Acknowledgement Workshop, with aid from Dr. Ian Fanning, to help the OCs reflect on how to write land acknowledgements more personal to them. As August comes to a close, we are very excited to wrap up final arrangements for our events and welcome the Incoming Class of 2026!



Arielle Baguio (she/her)

Academics and Campus Support Chair

## Operations Committee

Hello ArtSci!

Exciting things are happening in the Operations portfolio in preparation for our first in-person Orientation since 2019! All eight of the Operations Committee members have been busy preparing master logistics, leadership, and situational training for our Gaels, and curating the online event, ASUS and Beyond. For this last portion, they have been working diligently with myself as well as various members of ASUS Council to ensure the Incoming Class understands what exactly ASUS is, what its structure is like and the multitude of services/opportunities it provides. Since Operations is responsible for tasks related to the logistical backend of Orientation Period, the committee and I have been taking the past few weeks to finalize materials and equipment, oversee and conduct purchasing for supplies and support other event partners as they put on their finishing touches. As for myself, I have also been working through master lists, scheduling, risk and safety measures and vehicle rentals. We cannot wait to meet all ArtSci Incoming Students next month and spread the positivity and energy that comes along with Orientation. If anybody sees us rocking our black and red uniforms driving around, please stop and say hi! Buckle up, ArtSci!

Victoria Mills (she/her)

Operations Chair

## Sociocultural Committee

Hello there!

My name is Callum Fraser (he/him) and I am the Sociocultural (SOCIO) Chair this year for the Arts & Science Undergraduate Society Orientation. I oversee the SOCIO committee, where we create and execute events that strive to help students alleviate any feelings of stress, isolation, or discomfort they may be experiencing while making the transition to university. These events typically allow students who may be experiencing these feelings to step outside of their comfort zone and explore new and old interests. Queen's has a diverse student body with each student coming from a different background, with different abilities and lived experiences, each of which may choose to participate in a different way. The overall purpose of the Sociocultural committee is to create a diverse range of events that can meet the needs of every Incoming Student. As such, we create events of varying

intensity providing all with equal opportunity to participate in whatever level they feel comfortable. We strive to make these events accessible and appealing to students of all abilities so that everyone is made to feel welcome in their new environment.

During the first few weeks of class at a new school, students may be hesitant to reach out to others and at times struggle with aspects of this transition in different ways. By providing these SOCIO events, Incoming Students are also provided with a safe space to be themselves while positively interacting with peers and upper year students during which time they may be introduced to the positive resources and attitudes the university and its student body have to offer. I oversee the work of seven portfolios within SOCIO: Arts & Science Cup, Frosh Parade, Festival, Frosh Olympics, Semi Formal, Spirit, and an event in collaboration with the CARE committee this year, CCS Carnival. In addition to these Orientation events, I am also responsible for designing and organizing several peer bonding socials throughout the year for our Orientation Executives.

Throughout the month of August Socio has been hard at work finalizing event plans and specifications, along with making necessary modifications to events that require it. Working with the Socio Orientation Coordinators we have worked on event modifications to account for additional accessibility with low intensity alternatives to high intensity events, and made changes to account for pricing, environmental impact, and logistical concerns. In addition to this, one event that has had some major modifications this year is Spirit, formally known as USHR (Ultimate Scavenger Hunt Race). This year after careful consideration we decided to rebrand to a name that inspires students to take interest in school heritage while including clubs and speakers that may introduce them to useful academic and mental health resources. In addition to this, the OCs have been hard at work contacting external bodies such as a student DJ for the Semi Formal event, a Zumba Instructor, Union Gallery and the Agnes Etherington Art Centre. They are now focusing on putting together the final touches to their events - building components, finalizing bookings, and planning logistics of event setup. This past month I have also confirmed invoices for event rentals, coordinated external bookings of several event spaces and equipment rentals, and have worked extensively on logistical aspects of events including budgeting, time management, and event space layout.

As August comes to an end, and with it Orientation quickly approaching, I am excited to be ironing out the final touches to these events alongside the OCs as we prepare to welcome the class of 2026.

Callum Fraser (he/him)

Sociocultural Chair

## Closing Remarks

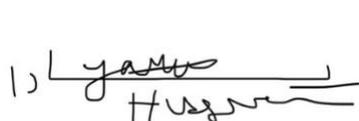
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We can never emphasize enough how grateful we are to be surrounded by such dedicated, passionate, and driven volunteers and employees. This report, and the body of the work done at ASUS would not be possible without them.

In particular, we would like to thank our summer staff – Caroline, Leah, Livi, and Kate. You have all exceeded our expectations this summer and have accomplished more than we could have ever imagined. We feel so grateful to have been a part of it and want to extend a huge thank you on behalf of the larger Society.

We thank you for taking the time to read our updates today! We hope that this same work is able to continue, on an even larger scale, come September and into the academic year. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at any point – no question is too big or too small!

All our best,



**Yara Hussein** (she/her)

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