## UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS:
### At-Large Constituency

(NINE to be elected)

The following undergraduate students have been nominated for membership on Senate in the At-Large Constituency for the July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 term. Candidate statements are provided below.

1. **ABDELELLAH, Lana** – Political Science / Science  
2. **AZARM, Elham** – Social Science  
3. **BADYAL, Sahiba** – Ivey & Law  
4. **BAHADDOOR, Sophia** – Science  
5. **BEECROFT, Jenna** – Brescia / Social Science  
6. **BERRY, Iman** – Political Science & Business  
7. **BINOY, Jeff** – Science  
8. **GUPTA, Bhumeet** – Science  
9. **HENRICUS, Kathleena** – International Relations & SASAH / Social Science  
10. **KALAYDJIAN, Emilie** – BMOS / Social Science  
11. **KOGUTEK, Joshua** – Political Science & History / Social Science  
12. **LIU, Angela** – BMOS & Political Science / Huron  
13. **O’DONNELL, Meah** – Biology / Science  
14. **TEMPESTA, Dante** – Nursing / Health Sciences  
15. **YANIKOMEROGLU, Esin** – Health Sciences
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<tr>
<th><strong>ABDELELLAH, Lana</strong></th>
<th><strong>Political Science / Social Science (3rd year)</strong></th>
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<td>I am running for USC Senate at Western with the aim of contributing to shaping the future of our institution. As a dedicated and passionate political science student, I have participated in various student organizations and have acquired valuable skills in leadership, communication, and teamwork. Furthermore, my engagement in community service projects and government elections has helped provide me with a deep understanding of the concerns and needs of the student body. I am confident that my qualifications and experiences make me a suitable candidate for the Senate position. My ability to listen, work collaboratively and find solutions that benefit all students, as well as my inclination towards creative thinking and presenting new ideas make me an asset to the position. As a visible minority, being a woman, Muslim, Arab, and immigrant, I believe I am an asset to the student council with a unique viewpoint. I am eager to be a part of the team that is committed to enhancing the student experience at Western University and am willing to put in the effort to ensure that all students' voices are heard and their needs are met.</td>
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<th><strong>AZARM, Elham</strong></th>
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<td>Hi, I'm Elham Azarm and I'm a double major student in history and computer science at Western! My interests include fitness, basketball, trivia and music. Although I have not participated in post secondary student leadership before, I have in secondary school; both as a member of my high school's student activities council and as the captain of my school's reach for the top team (trivia). My interest in joining the student senate at Western and becoming a senator-at-large, is two-fold; first I plan to advocate for my fellow students and second, I plan to raise awareness for issues around campus. As for a unique perspective, over the summer I've had the privilege of working for the Social Science Academic Counselling office, and directly dealing with students and their issues. I believe this experience has placed me in a unique position to not only better understand the problems students face at Western, but also to try to help solve them. Furthermore, I understand the importance of diversity through my own experiences as an Afghan immigrant in Canada today. With these experiences and unique perspectives I believe that I can offer the students at Western the representation they need.</td>
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Having been at Western pre-COVID-19, during the pandemic, and now as we emerge into a “new normal”, I have seen the university change in many ways. One especially troubling change has been seeing students become more disengaged with what is happening in terms of university governance. With that, students are becoming less aware of the power they have to inspire positive change on campus. Having been involved with the Western Student Senate for the past two years, originally as a director and now as a Senator-at-Large, I am seeking another term on the Senate to continue to work towards better engaging students and generating impactful academic policy. I remain committed to conducting meaningful advocacy for Western students, evidenced not only by my roles in Senate but also by my participation on the Student Accessibility Advisory Committee, where I work directly with Student Experience Western to improve accessibility on campus. My greatest hope is that my work as a Student Senator will leave a lasting positive impact on both today’s students and the future students to come. I believe my experiences and my passion for advocating for others demonstrate my capability to represent Western students in the way they deserve.
BAHADOOR, Sophia  
Science (2nd year)

Good morning, good afternoon and good evening, WesternU! My name is Sophia Bahadoor, and I’m running to be one of your next four Senators-at-Large. This year proved to be one of monumental change on campus. Yet, our new normal brings forward new challenges. With post-pandemic blues and higher expectations, stress has reached a peak within our community. As the times shift, so will the Senate. Our focus should center on the overall campus body, prioritizing mental health, student support and community-building. I believe in tangible SRA replacements, an inclusive exam conflict policy and keeping our curriculum accountable by implementing a Reconciliation Committee to Senate. Even more, I believe in transparency within the Senate. Active updates on social media and bookable office hours will allow myself and other senators to keep ourselves responsible throughout our terms. With my experience in the Science Council as Deputy Speaker, residence leadership as Programming Assistant and club organization as President of the French Club, I’m ready to support YOU. If you’re a student who feels overworked, misunderstood and unheard, vote for real, measurable change. Vote for Sophia.
Hello, I’m J! As your representative in the Senate, my advocacy focus pillars will be accessibility, sustainability, and decolonization. In the Senate, I will advocate for meaningful decolonization of teaching, curriculum, and learning while promoting the integration of sustainability principles across disciplines. I will push for increased academic accessibility, focusing on cementing DAWDs (Declared Absences with Documentation and Without Documentation) in academic policy as a sustainable replacement for SRAs (Self Reported Absences). I will also advocate for strengthened connections between senate and faculty councils, affiliates, and the USC. In my time as a senator, I will work to increase universal access to adequate and timely academic counselling, to ensure these services align with accessibility goals. Transparency between the Senate and the student body for clarified communication will also be at the forefront of my platform. I am confident that through my skills of effective communication, dynamic leadership, and prudent advocacy, I will successfully achieve the promises laid out in this platform. My past involvements on campus include Community Outreach Director for the USC Accessibility Committee, Accessibility Commissioner for the Brescia University College Student's Council (BUCSC), Coordinator for Climate Crisis Coalition UWO, and Social/Political writer for the Brescia Buzz.
### BERRY, Iman  
**Political Science & Business (4th year)**

Hi Everyone, I am excited to be running as your Senator At Large! I am currently a business and political science dual degree. Throughout my time at Western, I have been able to explore various leadership roles. I have been on the USC Board of Directors and served as a Senator At Large for the past two years. I am excited to run for senate because I believe there is much work to be done. The policy I am currently working on as a Student Senator relates to creating a compassionate academic absences system. This past year we saw the discontinuation of Self Reported Absences (SRAs) which were absences to be used under compassionate circumstances. Currently, there are few systems in place for such concerns. I want to continue to bring a policy that meets faculty, students and academic advisors part way so that we can create an effective policy that will be used in the long run! I am always available to chat, you can reach out to me at my email iberry@uwo.ca or @iman.berry!

### BINOY, Jeff  
**Science (4th year)**

My experience at Western has been filled with diverse, challenging, yet wonderful experiences. Western has continued to provide its students with an excellent student experience. In my remaining time here at Western, I seek to help contribute to creating an even more successful student experience, bringing forward pressing student issues faced by our students, in all the faculties, and hopefully providing working and advocating for resolutions to many of those issues. My experience this current year, as Science Senator and the roles and responsibilities of a Senator, will most definitely be of help to me, as I seek to serve the students of Western as Senator for another term. My leadership roles and involvement in USC clubs and Science student council has also provided me with many distinct tools to help serve the Western community. Let us together strive to create for our Mustangs, the best academic and student experience in Canada!
GUPTA, Bhumeet  

As a dedicated and passionate student, I believe that I would be an excellent addition to the team of senate and would work hard to represent the views and concerns of my peers. I have always been interested in the inner workings of the university and how decisions are made that affect the student body. I believe that being a member of senate would give me the opportunity to have a direct impact on the issues that matter most to students. I am confident that I have the skills and experience to be an effective senator and would work tirelessly to ensure that the voices of my fellow students are heard. I have a strong academic record, with a 3.99 GPA, and have been actively involved in extracurricular activities on campus, including USC Club Governance Board member, VP for a western research group, WWF representative for sustainability and co lead on a WHO project, which has given me a strong sense of leadership and organization. I am confident that I would be an asset to the university senate given my combination of academic achievement, leadership experience, and understanding of student needs. I would be honored to represent my fellow students.

HENRICUS, Kathleena  

My name is Kathleena Henricus and I’m a second-year student in International Relations & SASAH. I’m a current Senator-at-Large seeking re-election to continue the fight for a compassionate academic consideration model, to increase communication and transparency between students and Senate, and represent you, the main stakeholders in academic policy. I’m passionate about student governance, currently serving as the Vice-Chair of the USC Board of Directors, and as the Associate Vice-President Academics on the Social Science and Arts & Humanities Faculty Councils. As your senator, I want to ensure your voice is valued and your academic experience at Western is positive and well-supported!
KALAYDJIAN, Emilie  
**BMOS / Social Science (3rd year)**

Academics is one of the most intricate and widely discussed topics across campus. Throughout my two years on the Student Senate, I have developed a strong passion working within the Western community. Amplifying the voices of those who wish to see change is an important first step to help them achieve an education that is both fair and rewarding based on their unique needs and experiences as a student. Through the pillars of advocacy, community and engagement (ACE), my platform presents tangible goals that have been curated through the guidance of diverse members within the student body, which hopefully resonates the idea that action must be taken.

KOGUTEK, Joshua  
**Political Science & History / Social Science (3rd year)**

As an undergraduate at Western, I've gained an incredible amount from the last two and a half years, from my classes, to clubs, to just the people in general, and I feel as a Senator I could help give back to Western some of what I've gained from it. What I want to bring to Senate is a perspective that seeks to empathize with those I may be arguing against, looking to understand other's perspectives, and as a result work towards real solutions. As the son of a professor (Wilfred Laurier University), who grew up around academics my whole life, I know the struggles and concerns professors feel towards academic policy, and wish to use this background to collaborate and bring about effective change to benefit students. Currently, my primary contributions to Western University have been as a Student Writing Advisor, where I volunteer to help my fellow undergraduates, assisting them with their course work, and secondly, as a member of the USC Grants Committee, where I participate in discussing and allocating funds for events that best improve student welfare. Beyond this, I'm active in campus life, primarily through The University of Western Ontario Debate Society.
Hi there! :) My name is Angela and I'm a third-year student doing an Honours Double Major in BMOS and Political Science at Huron University College at Western University. Currently, I am an Undergraduate Senator At-Large where I sit on the Registrar Selection Search Committee, Senate Review Board - Academic (SRBA), and Honorary Degrees Committee. I am also a liaison to the Huron University College Student Council. This past year on Senate, I have had the privilege to explore what it is like being a Senator and have done a lot of learning on Western’s procedures and practices. Through this position, I have gained exposure to student governance at the university level and would like to continue pursuing this experience as a member of this campus-wide institution. To Senate, I bring the perspective of a London local, an affiliate student, and a student heavily impacted by COVID-19. I have developed a wide network of relations with students across Western’s campuses and look forward to representing them for a second term as a Student Senator At-Large. Student representation is extremely important, and I have the qualifications necessary to succeed in this role. Thank you for this opportunity!
O’DONNELL, Meah

Biology / Science (2nd year)

After running for high school Student Senator from grade ten onwards, coupled with my background, I am confident I would make a valuable contribution to the Student Senator position. I have experience listening to student concerns and can use this to help advocate for policy changes, and I am excited to have the opportunity to continue my work prioritizing student success. I am seeking election because, throughout my two years on campus, I’ve had the privilege to learn about the varying needs of my peers, and, specifically, as a Residence Don, I gained insight into some of the unaddressed academic, social and physical challenges facing students. My campus involvement has taught me essential skills for this role, but most importantly, they have allowed me to learn about, experience and connect with Western’s diverse student culture. Through sports, volunteering and club membership, I have access to unique communities whose opinions and perspectives need to be heard. Along with these connections, I bring a crucial viewpoint to help represent student voices and opinions that have been underrepresented in the past, especially those of Women and individuals with visible and invisible disabilities. I am confident that I can effectively contribute to the Senate.

TEMPESTA, Dante

Nursing / Health Sciences (2nd year)

I am a 2nd year Western Nursing student (BScN) looking to graduate in 2025. I have engaged in a plethora of leadership roles, most notably my term on Senate during 2022-23, it is this role that I’d like to return to for the 2023-2024 term. In 1st year, I acted as a Floor Rep. where I represented my floor in large meetings and helped organize residence wide events, such as a formal. In my final two years of high school I acted as Vice President of my student council, where I also had responsibilities with organization, advocacy and student engagement. I greatly enjoyed my time on the Senate as I got to represent student’s voices in a setting that made an actual difference, it is this that I wish to continue doing in the upcoming term. I bring a unique perspective to senate, one that encompasses an holistic view of student life. I hope to take all of your concerns and relay them to people that can beneficially alter our student experience. My main goal is to make western as enjoyable, equitable and community-focused as possible.
YANIKOMEROGLU, Esin  

Health Sciences (1st year)

The UWO Student Senator’s commitment to serving students resonates with me. Being elected as one of two Co-Presidents from 11 candidates shows that the 1200 students of my high school felt I was qualified and committed to advocating for their needs. Ensuring students feel heard in the school community is crucial. Through consistent opportunities for feedback, I ensured students’ voices were tangibly documented. As Co-Chair of all the board’s schools’ Presidents, I represented our students’ concerns at a higher level – to Superintendents. Open communication between students and board representatives allowed valuable initiatives to be implemented, such as the implementation of free menstrual products at schools. When elected as Valedictorian of my graduating IB class by students and teachers, I worked hard to place key relatable experiences in my speech to address each and every individual. I believe in the power of community. My interest in seeking election in the Senate lies in skillfully listening to all perspectives and creating an unbiased solution that serves individuals equally. Complex problems require a sophisticated approach; my perspective remains valuing all viewpoints without jeopardizing our core values. Ensuring cordiality among the school community is vital to our collective success.