

Hello, Bonjour, Ni how ma, Como esta, Vanikam, Salaam, Kumusta, Sawadee ka, Xin chao, Marhaba, Apa khabar!

GSA (Graduate Students Association) of the University of Calgary is by the students, for the students and with the students.

I am Vincent Yong, a 1st year thesis-based Masters, at the School of Architecture, Planning, and Landscape (SAPL). I am a 1st generation Canadian Resident, running to be your next VP Finances and Services for the year 2020-2021.

Since last year, I am a GRC Representative, and a volunteer in the GSA Community Engagement Sub-Committee. My experience as a volunteer and interaction with multitude of students have given me the motivation to step up my commitment and put my expertise, and passion to be at the service for all the graduate students of the University of Calgary. My prior BBA in Finance and MBA in Finance and Applied Investment has built the cadence to handle the meticulous number crunching and analysis in accounts and financial statements.

My promises to you are built around 3 major pillars:

1. Prioritize Student Engagement with all levels.

- Prioritising students in all GSA matters/committees.
- Ensuring that issues that are pertinent to the students be addressed in the meeting with the University and external stake holders.
- Bringing GSA closer to the SA Student Associations' and promote the 'One for All, all for One' culture among graduate students.
- Focus on lobbying student support on common issues through cooperation with the existing committees in GSA, SU and similar affiliated student clubs.

2. Continuing the Financial Portfolio Transparency with the end objectives of Students' Benefitting and Interest as the main thrusts.

- Develop a long-term plan to decrease the GSA reliance on student fees.
- Strategic short- and long-term plans from GSA Student Think-Tank (to be formed within a month) to tackle the tuition fees increase and financial difficulties faced by students owing to the COVID 19 pandemic by providing immediate financial support.
- Be a critical observer and analyst of the Government and the University of Calgary budget. Offer viable and best possible solutions in the interest of Canadian students and the public.



3. Being the Champion Student Advocacy

- Be the voice of the graduate students without fear or favour.
- Focus on the graduate students who need the support from GSA through compassionate grassroots listening and community action approach.
- Implement and support initiatives to encourage LGBTQ+/non-binary, and Indigenous involvement in student bodies.
- Ensure that GSA continue to provide valuable, high-quality community programming through its organizational revenue to the students.

Any clarification on my by-election platform, you can reach me at vincent.yong@ucalgary.ca

Vote for **VINCENT YONG** for VP Finance and Services on 28th April 2020.

Thank you, Merci, Xie Xie, Gracias, Nandri, Mamnoon, Salammat, Khopkun ka, Kam ung, Shukran, Terima kasih.