



TASNIA IBNAT

OFFICER AT LARGE CANDIDATE

————— GSA General Election 2026

ABOUT ME

Tasnia Ibnat is a Master of Engineering student in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Calgary. Her research focuses on sustainability assessment, life cycle analysis (LCA), and environmental remediation, with a commitment to finding practical, evidence-based solutions to environmental challenges. Before joining UCalgary, she earned a Bachelor of Science in Textile Engineering from Khulna University of Engineering and Technology, Bangladesh, where she received the Dean's Award for academic excellence. Beyond academics, Tasnia has a strong commitment to student leadership. She served as Vice President of the KUET Research Society and as Dining Manager of Rokeya Hall. She has also volunteered extensively in community relief efforts, supporting at COVID-19 pandemic response initiatives. Currently, she is completing a micro-placement with the GLOCAL Foundation of Canada, supporting civic engagement and policy research through the University of Calgary.

EXPERIENCE & STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Micro-Placement Student , University of Calgary GLOCAL Foundation of Canada	2026
Industrial Intern (H&M Production Facility) Bitopi Group	2024
Vice President, KUET Research Society Khulna University of Engineering & Technology	2023–2024
Dining Manager, Rokeya Hall Khulna University of Engineering & Technology	2019–2024
Volunteer, KUET Textile Club & KUET Math Club Khulna University of Engineering & Technology	2019–2024
Volunteer, TRY (Non-Profit Organization) Khulna University of Engineering & Technology	2019–2024

WHY I AM RUNNING

Graduate students keep the university moving through research, teaching, publications, and lab work yet many of us still face preventable friction: unclear funding and fee information, inconsistent departmental practices, long waits for support, and too many decisions made without meaningful student input. I'm running to make graduate advocacy more responsive, more transparent, and more grounded in what students actually experience week to week.

VISION

Make the GSA genuinely visible, accessible, and responsive for every graduate student, in every department.

POLICY PRIORITIES

Priority 1: Make Graduate Funding and Costs Clearer

- Push for plain-language, centralized information on typical funding structures by program (timelines, conditions, milestones, and common deductions or fees).
- Advocate for predictable pay and appointment practices including clear workload expectations for TA/RA roles and timely contract communication.
- Use council and committee processes to ask better questions early in budget cycles, so students aren't hearing about changes after decisions are already final.

Priority 2: Wellness That Works in Practice

- Advocate for access-oriented supports: faster pathways to care, clearer navigation to services, and proactive outreach during peak stress periods (August–March).
- Bring graduate-specific issues forward: supervisory relationships, lab safety culture, isolation, burnout, and the reality of balancing research with teaching responsibilities.
- Ensure health and dental decisions reflect graduate student needs, including international student realities and dependents where applicable.

Priority 3: Better Communication and Real Engagement

- Hold regular, lightweight check-ins with my assigned faculties and DGAs (monthly updates plus quick pulse surveys during busy periods).
- Publish "You said / We did / What's next" updates so students can track outcomes and see that their input leads somewhere.
- Show up in departmental spaces and orientations to recruit volunteers and build awareness of GSA events and committees.

Priority 4: Student-Focused Governance and Service Accountability

- Treat committees as delivery mechanisms, not just meeting calendars with clear goals, timelines, and public facing progress updates.
- Strengthen feedback loops on GSA services so student concerns translate into concrete recommendations and, where relevant, budget conversations.
- If appointed to chair a committee (Finance and Services, Awards/Quality Money, or Student Experience), I will prioritize transparent criteria, consistent practices, and clear reporting.

HOW I WILL REPRESENT STUDENTS

- I will actively liaise with DGAs and faculty leadership while staying accessible to individual students.
- I will bring forward issues with evidence: patterns across departments, specific examples, and practical options the university can act on.
- I will advocate with one principle in mind: measurable improvements to graduate life not performative wins.

IF ELECTED, I FULLY PLEDGE TO MAKE SURE NO GRADUATE STUDENT AT UCALGARY FEELS UNHEARD, UNSUPPORTED, OR INVISIBLE.