

# 2024 ICSS AND ICC BY-ELECTION

## Candidates for ICSS first-year students' representative: Chestnut/other residence (1 position)

### Aarush Gupta

Living at Chestnut and socializing over the last three weeks, I have enough information to know what's going on and how to best contribute to the community of Innis. Having this position will be an important way for me to demonstrate my commitment to the College, improve student life, and support students who live at Chestnut and are part of Innis. INNIS LOVES YOU!

### Oluchi Ibekwe

Hi, my name is Oluchi Ibekwe, and I want to be your first-year student representative for those living outside Innis Residence. I want to be the bridge between all Innisians living outside residence so that they can also feel like they are part of the community. As your representative, I will be approachable and open to criticism and suggestions. I will make your vote worth it!

### Leon Nguyen

Hello! I'm Leon Nguyen, a first-year student who plans on studying mathematics and lives in residence at New College. I would describe myself as somebody who actively attempts to create memorable times, as demonstrated by my silly self-promotion during the Innis Orientation opening ceremony and my former experience in running events. In high school, I was chair of the "TurnerHacks" hackathon — a computer science competition — in which I managed a budget of over \$5,000 with 100+ participants. So, I understand the logistics of running events. Namely, I recognize the importance of selecting executive members primarily for their commitment and passion for the club/event. I tackle projects that I believe will amass joy, instead of doing something solely for the sake of my resume. Hence, when I first learned about the ICSS during academic orientation, I was enamored by its role within Innis College and specifically the support, events, and programs that it implements for the entire student body. As a non-Innis resident, I understand the need to promote these events/programs to unite all Innis students. Ultimately, I plan on being with the ICSS for the rest of my academic journey and wish to be involved as a first-year representative.

## **Ruhi Neelkamal Shah**

My name is Ruhi, and I'm from Kenya. I plan to major in actuarial science and economics. I'm a friendly person who is easy to talk to. I hope to contribute by taking in everyone's problems and assisting in the best way possible. I work well in teams and would love to bring new ideas to the college.

## **Zoe Smith**

Hello Innis! I'm Zoe Smith, and I'm running for the first-year students' representative from Chestnut/other residence. I live in Chestnut, which is 25-30 minutes away from most of my classes. So, I understand the difficulty of living away from campus and having to make the long trek there every morning. If elected, I will advocate for opportunities for off-campus students to meet each other and build community through events and socials. In addition to that, I want to focus specifically on helping Innis students from the same off-campus residences meet each other and form friendships, so that community can be felt both through Innis College and the respective off-campus residences we belong to. Finally, I want to create a program where Innis students from the same off-campus residence can find each other at the end of the day and walk home together, both for safety and to allow a small portion of time for socializing, even when the University picks up speed. I hope to serve you to the best of my ability and will always leave room for you to speak since my job is to be your advocate! Thank you and happy voting!

## **Candidates for ICSS first-year students' representative: Innis Residence (1 position)**

### **Oscar Robert Nguyen Hollingsworth**

Hey! I'm Oscar, I'm a first-year social sciences student living in Innis Residence — *Go, Vlad!* — and I want to join the ICSS this year to be your Innis Residence students' representative. Innis as a college is not completely made up of its residence, but it certainly defines a large portion of our community that I want to make sure is recognized by the College, the ICC, and the Student Society. I want to ensure a bridge of connection between the Student Society, the IRC, the houses, and everyone involved in the Residence to solidify the Innis Community as a place where anyone we call an Innisian can feel at home — especially those living here! Events are an important part of our community, and I want to hold events at the Residence that aren't just for the sake of the residents, but for anyone from Innis to participate in within the wonderful available space in Innis. I've got experience planning events, from Trivia Nights, Game Nights,

mini-and-fun award shows, large-scale Model UN Conferences (though that won't be coming to Innis, yet), and a variety of smaller things that I'd like to bring to Innis and our first-year community here.

## **Yasmeen Jafarzadeh Jahromi**

Hi everyone, my name is Yasmeen and I'm a first-year Rotman commerce student. I'm super excited to run for first-year Innis Residence students' representative! Starting a new chapter in your life as a first-year university student can be exciting but also overwhelming, especially when you're living in a new, unknown place. Still, I'm here to make sure that every first-year student at Innis Residence feels supported and part of a warm and welcoming community. I want to help create an atmosphere where we all feel comfortable speaking up, getting involved, and sharing ideas on making life at Innis even better. As your representative, I'll be your voice when addressing concerns and advocating for changes that matter to us. Whether it's better resources, organizing events to unite us, or simply making sure everyone's voice is heard, my goal is to build a space where we all feel comfortable, connected, and empowered. What matters to you, matters to me. Let's make Innis a place we're proud to call home! Vote Yasmeen for first-year students' representative (Innis Residence)!

## **Janice Lee**

Hello, my name is Janice Lee, and I am excited to be part of the Innis College community. I am running for first-year representative since I believe I can help make our first year an inclusive, supportive, and memorable experience. Through my time in cadets and working with non-profit organizations, I have learned the value of teamwork, leadership, and ensuring everyone feels they belong. Whether it was leading teams, organizing events, or creating spaces where people felt welcome, I always made sure to listen to others and work together to achieve the common goal. I want to bring the same energy to representing first-year students at Innis. If elected, I will focus on organizing engaging events that unite us and ensure that all first-year voices are heard. From social activities to academic support, I am dedicated to helping us navigate this new chapter. I will be your voice on the student council, and ensure our concerns and voices are heard and acted upon. I am passionate about making this year unforgettable for all of us, and with your support, we can create something extraordinary this year.

## **Cade Sylvester**

My name is Cade, and I'm a first-year student in computer science and urban studies. I've had the privilege of holding several leadership roles, such as house captain in my high school's student union, president of the environmental group, and secretary for the Blue Dragon Children's Foundation. These experiences have sharpened my leadership,

planning, and community-building skills, and I'm excited to contribute to the Innis student community. I believe in fostering an inclusive environment where everyone's passions and interests are reflected. By working with peers and other representatives, I aim to help build a strong and connected community. As someone who enjoys engaging with different parts of the community, I'm committed to ensuring that everyone feels heard, creating a welcoming and fun space for all. This position would allow me to get to know our residents better and to support the vision students have for their living space. Being an international student from Vietnam, I also understand the unique challenges faced by first-year international students and am eager to represent and support them within our community.

## **Candidates for ICSS first-year students' representative: international (1 position)**

### **Eva Gao**

Hey everyone! My name is Eva Gao, and I'm running to be your first-year international students' representative! As someone who's just taken the leap into the exciting university life far from home, I totally get what it's like to be figuring out a new country, a new campus, and a whole new world of experiences. The transition can be both exhilarating and overwhelming, but together, we can make it an unforgettable adventure! I'm here to be the person who listens to you and makes your voice heard. Whether you're battling homesickness, looking for ways to celebrate our diverse cultures, or simply in need of some solid tips on where to find the best late-night snacks or quiet study spots, I've got your back. With my passion for connecting with others and being a successful event organizer, magazine publisher, and mental health support centre volunteer, I'm committed to bringing positive vibes, fresh ideas, and a sense of belonging to all international students. Let's make our first year not just great, but one for the books! Vote for me, and let's make this journey as fun, supportive, and memorable as possible!

## **Candidates for ICSS first-year students' representative: off-campus (1 position)**

### **Friedrich Budanitsky**

I imagine myself contributing to this role by helping plan events for commuters and get them more involved with the Innis life! As a commuter myself, I feel a little disconnected from Innis due to the physical distance and not getting the chance to be at the College,

or the student residence as often as I'd like to be. By being in this position, I'd love to help come up with events and activities to give commuters more opportunities to interact and hang out at Innis College and the student residence areas.! I appreciated the commuter orientation last month and the pancake breakfast the other week, so I'd imagine myself further contributing to similar events and activities to encourage commuters to be less disconnected and become closer to the Innis community. Thank you!

### **Avis Imhangbe – Isinomhenayo**

Hello to the Innis community. My name is Avis, and I am a first-year student in life sciences. As a commuter, I know how hard it is to enjoy university life, make friends and attend late parties, when you are constantly thinking about the fastest route to get home so you have enough time to study. I plan to make space for commuters and give them opportunities to meet others and find people who are like them at Innis and the whole U of T community as well. I would love to advocate for extra bus passes, if possible, or even a breakfast club because I know when you are in a rush you might forget a lot of things. It would also be nice to hear from you as a community about what things might be helpful to have a safe and smooth year. Thank you.

### **Maya Nasiriahmadabadi**

My name is Maya, and I've just begun my first year as a life science student. I'm passionate about helping people build meaningful connections and making student life more enjoyable. With my diverse interests in photography, film, music, and sports, I can bring a creative and dynamic perspective to the team. I am a strong communicator and love to meet new people and work as a team, which I think is important at Innis. Whether it's organizing events, helping students find common ground, or using my photography skills to capture memories, I'm eager to contribute in a way that enhances the student experience and brings people together. As a commuter, I understand the challenge of staying connected to the community, so I'm particularly motivated to create more opportunities for commuter students by joining the council. I'm excited for my first year at university and can't wait for the memories I'll make.

### **Yangyue Zhou**

My name is Yangyue Zhou, a first-year student in Rotman Commerce. I am an outgoing person with a strong passion for community work, who possesses strong organizational and teamwork skills. I have various hobbies like painting, hiking, and dancing. In the past, I have actively participated in various activities, gaining valuable experience. For instance, I served as the vice-president of my high school student union, and organized singing competitions, debate competitions, and a spring festival gala. These experiences

have helped me hone my leadership abilities and taught me how to communicate and collaborate effectively. If elected, I will serve my peers and listen to their opinions and suggestions, strive to solve any problems they encounter in their studies and daily life, and be a good friend and helper to everyone. Finally, I will organize activities, I will actively organize meaningful events to enrich our extracurricular life and strengthen the cohesion of our class and school.

## **Candidates for ICSS graduating students' representative (1 position)**

### **Osarumen Ekhaton**

HEY INNIS! HEY WHAT!? I'm Meme, and I was the ICSS VP of finance last year and one of the photographers for Innis Orientation 2024. Innis Residence was my home for two years, and the last four years of my life have been all about Innis, and I love it. I'm passionate about our community, and being a grad rep, this year would be the perfect way to wrap up my academic journey right where it all began!

## **Candidates for Innis College Council (ICC) representatives (13 positions)**

### **Avni Agrawal**

Hello! I'm Avni Agrawal, a third-year international student. As the International Representative of ICSS last year, I realised the importance of creating a home at Innis for everybody, especially international students. Innis is our home away from home, so it is important to foster an inclusive and engaging environment where all voices are heard, and I will work tirelessly to ensure that student concerns and perspectives are at the forefront of every discussion. As a Council representative, I aim to contribute to the development of policies that not only reflect the diverse needs of our students but also promote equity, diversity, and accessibility within the College. I look forward to the opportunity to represent you and make a meaningful impact on our community!

### **Teniola "Teni" Awoleye**

My name is Teniola Awoleye. I'm a second-year student double-majoring in health & disease and physiology, with a minor in bioethics! I love all forms of art, including music, fashion and visual arts. I am nominating myself to be a part of the ICC as I am in agreement with the Council's ethos; I believe that a multitude of perspectives (especially

our various viewpoints as students) are imperative when it comes to governing the College. As a Nigerian-Canadian, and a current don at Innis Residence, it has become evident to me just how pervasive discriminatory sentiments have become at the University and in Ontario as a whole. If I were nominated to the role of ICC representative, I would ensure that the College's actions and policies are first and foremost equitable, inclusionary, and accessible. It is critical that this is done, so all students can feel supported at Innis! Furthermore, I would advocate for policies that provide community and trauma-informed aid for students who have experienced any form of discrimination during their time at the University. Lastly, as a current member of the Black Student Network, I would ensure that the 24 calls to action are being upheld!

### **Friedrich Budanitsky**

I imagine myself contributing to this role by helping make decisions to help better Innis life. By giving my perspective as a first-year commuter, I can provide a different perspective as well. I'd work with all the other representatives with the shared goal of improving the Innis experience at U of T, whether it be by planning events, setting up, or discussing problems and solutions during meetings. I also have graphic design, digital art, and video editing skills that may prove helpful for posters, posts, and marketing for Innis events, activities, meetings, and more! Thank you!

### **Manit Butalia**

My name is Manit Butalia, and I am a second-year student in ethics, society, & law, who has had the pleasure of being a part of Innis since my first year. Living in residence last year gave me the chance to connect with a wide array of individuals that make Innis special. As a student hoping to become an ICC representative, I strive to carry forward the College's reputation and make it a special place for future students. As a representative, I would bring my knowledge of the College's culture and my experiences as a Varsity athlete to ensure that every student within our community feels heard and supported. I am looking to work on initiatives that improve student life through organizing athletic and social events that bring us together. With Innis's support, I am confident that I can make meaningful impacts as an ICC representative and would be honoured to work on behalf of all students.

### **Jenny Chen**

Hello, fellow Innisians! My name is Jenny Chen, a first-year Rotman Commerce student and Innis resident! It is a pleasure to run to be your ICC rep this year, and hopefully I can be at your service. I moved to Canada from Shanghai, China at 11, and this unique experience has shaped me into an inspiring storyteller with a global vision. During my leisure time, I like to draw, swim, and explore exhibitions and cafés. As an absolute team

player, problem-solver, and community activist, I am eager to contribute my part to make a difference at Innis by increasing the sense of community and extracurricular engagement and improving campus life. With rich experience in event-organization, collaboration, leadership, and community service, I am confident in my ability to represent and reflect your needs and voices. With the recognition of the importance of both campus and residence life during your post-secondary journey, I aspire to be an Innisian liaison, bridging and closing the gap between students/residents and the school. Please kindly vote for me to be your advocate, who will serve your best interests, and feel free to reach out anytime! 😊

## **Johnson Dang**

Hello! I am Johnson, I am a first-year life sciences student who is excited to meet new people and provide an inclusive and welcoming environment for first-year students at Innis. During my 12th grade in high school, I always felt that the student council overlooked the needs of the more closed-off students. As an ICC member, I will aim to work with my peers to actively engage the student body and amplify diverse voices. I am particularly interested in contributing to the Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, & Accessibility Committee to ensure all students feel represented and heard. With my experience in working as part of a team to mentor children, I ensured that my colleagues' perspectives were heard and considered before moving forward with the next step of a project. This role honed my communication, empathy, and decision-making skills, which I believe are crucial for effective governance. Thank you for your consideration! While the development of my leadership and teamwork skills are still in progress, I am eager to contribute my enthusiasm and dedication in improving the quality of life here at Innis. I look forward to working with other ICC members in making positive changes.

## **Eva Gao**

Hey Innis! My name is Eva Gao, and I'm excited to be running for a position on ICC! As a passionate student, I believe in the power of community and making our university experience something truly special. Whether it's through encouraging meaningful connections, organizing fun events, or addressing student concerns, I'm eager to represent all of you and make sure your voice is heard. Coming to university, I've experienced firsthand the challenges and opportunities of transitioning into this new chapter of life, and I want to help make that process smoother and more enjoyable for everyone. From making sure students feel supported both academically and socially to boosting involvement in all the amazing things our college has to offer, I'm ready to bring my energy and ideas to the table. Innis College is known for its creativity and spirit, and I want to enhance that by building an inclusive and vibrant environment where every



student feels welcome. Vote for me, and let's make our college experience one we'll remember for years to come. Together, we can make Innis College the best it can be!

## **Samantha “Sam” Guevara**

Hey, Innis! I am Sam, a fourth-year student in cinema, geography, and politics. From being an orientation coordinator this term to being re-elected editor-in-chief of *The Innis Herald*, I am an active and involved Innisian. Since my first year at the College, I instantly connected with the community, and Innis became a home away from home throughout my undergrad. By joining the ICC in my graduating year, I hope to help fellow students find and feel that very sense of connection within the college community. If appointed to our parity governing body, I would prioritize diversity in this opportunity to make a difference in student life. Overall, with my ICSS and Innis Office of Student Life experience, as well as other contributions at the College and across U of T, I plan to contribute to the governance of Innis by encouraging equity and accessibility.

## **Elijah Gyansa**

Hello Innis fellows! My name is Elijah Gyansa, and I am a fifth-year life sciences student. I have been an Innis Residence don for three years and a part of ICC as a representative also for three years. I love the tight-knit community at Innis and hope to continue serving the wonderful people on ICCI again. As always, I will advocate to improve all students' well-being, activities, and opportunities. Please feel free to contact me and I'll do my best to support you or find the right person who can!

## **Chase Halliday**

Hi! My name is Chase Halliday, and I'm running for a position on ICC. As someone committed to fostering a vibrant and inclusive community, I chose Innis because it is the only college on campus that upholds parity governance — where both students and faculty have an equal voice in decision-making. This one-of-a-kind model embodies the principles of collaboration and transparency, which are essential to building a supportive academic environment. In this role, I intend to be an advocate for all students, ensuring their concerns and ideas are not only heard but acted upon. I'll work to improve student resources, expand academic and CCR opportunities, and support initiatives that promote equity and student wellbeing. Additionally, I'm committed to enhancing communication between students, faculty, and staff, ensuring that governance reflects our diverse student body. I believe that my leadership experience along with my passion for meaningful engagement, will allow me to effectively contribute to the growth and development of the Innis community. Together, we can make our Innis a space where every student feels cared for and represented.

## **Pak Lam “Samuel” Ho**

Hello! I’m Samuel, navigating my third year of the double helix trek through biochemistry and nutritional sciences. You might recognize me from the ICSS Council where, as an international representative, I tuned in to the vibrant symphony of global voices, ensuring they weren’t just background noise in our decision-making mixtape. Now, I’m ready to turn up the volume on inclusivity and crack open the windows to fresh perspectives. ICC’s magic happens when every voice finds its way into the conversation stew — whether they’re whispering or shouting from the rooftops. I believe that ICC plays a crucial role in ensuring that the decisions made reflect the values and needs of our diverse Innis community. My goal as a representative is to contribute to making the ICC an even more inclusive and responsive body by advocating for students from all walks of life. Whether they’re issues related to academic programs, student services, or equity and accessibility, I will work to ensure that all students — especially those from underrepresented backgrounds — have a seat at the table. Vote for me, and let’s brew some real change together (and maybe better coffee in the newly opened lounge too!).

## **Yasmeen Jafarzadeh**

Hi everyone, I’m Yasmeen, and I’m excited to run for ICC representative! As someone who believes in the power of community, I want to establish every voice at Innis to be heard and valued. To ensure that every student feels included and empowered in our community, I want to make sure that university is about growth, connection, and finding your voice. If elected, I’ll work to create a space where all of us, from first years to upper years, feel supported, included, and able to shape the future of our college community. My focus is on fostering a sense of unity and inclusivity, ensuring we all have the resources and opportunities to thrive both academically and socially. I’ll advocate for more engaging events, improved academic resources, and stronger communication between the council and the student body so that every voice is included in decisions that affect us. It would be my privilege to represent your voice on the council, and I’m dedicated to shaping a welcoming community. Let’s work together to make our time here truly unforgettable! Besides, we are INNIS together! Vote Yasmeen for ICC representative!!

## **Jiya Jakher**

Hi Innis, and welcome (back) to campus! ♡ My name is Jiya, and I’m a second-year student studying pathobiology and global health. This past year, I’ve been proud to grow, learn, and live in Innis’s vibrant and close-knit community. Growing up near the Rocky Mountains, I have developed an insatiable passion for adventure, from camping and hiking to paddleboarding and kayaking. This love for new and unique experiences

extends into every aspect of my life. At Innis, I serve as the athletics director for the ICSS, where I organized our first-ever sold-out Blue Jays game and coordinated our intramural teams. I'm also the creative director of *The Innis Herald*, our very own student newspaper. Outside of Innis, you'll find me running, playing basketball, conducting biomedical research, or working for the Human Biology Students' Union. With various interests, I resonate with the rich diversity at Innis. I'm here to advocate for ALL aspects of student life through ICC, from experiential learning to sports. One of my goals is to eliminate barriers that make students hesitant to seek support from the Registrar's Office. I want to develop initiatives that make these underused resources accessible, having experienced their value in my transition.

## Parham Bokaei Jazi

Hello Innisians! My name is Parham 🙌, and I'm thrilled to be running for a position on ICC! I'm a second-year student specializing in pathobiology and majoring in psychology. When I'm not at Robarts studying, you'll likely catch me watching football (soccer) or relaxing with a good sitcom. Innis had a huge impact on my first year, and now I'm eager to give back and get more involved by representing and advocating for you in all college decisions. If elected, I'll focus on enhancing both academic and non-academic aspects of student life, while creating new opportunities for everyone to connect, grow, and thrive. Let's make this an amazing year together, cheers! 🍷

## Chimdinma “Chimdi” Kingsley-Emereuwa

Hey, my name is Chimdinma Kingsley-Emereuwa, fondly called Chimdi. I am currently in my second year, studying a double major in sociology and women & gender studies. As a passionate student, who has always been committed to being a voice for others, my long-term involvement in leadership roles will enable me to collaborate and advocate for the Innis student community. I will listen attentively to students' troubles, concerns, and ideas and do my best to provide solutions and platforms where and when necessary. I believe in creating a space where everyone thrives academically, socially, and mentally. I will advocate for more academic resources, which are staples to students' needs, and plan events that promote mental breaks from the stress of academics. Ultimately, I hope to foster strong connections between students, faculty, and the administration in order to create a stronger, meaningful sense of belonging within the Innis community.

## Cindy Lei

Howdy Innis! My name is Cindy and I've been serving the Innis community for all four of my years at U of T. I was a house representative, IRC vice-president social, and vice-president communications for the past three years, where I ran events to foster

community and advocated for policy changes that improved residence life. Right now, you might know me as the ICSS clubs+merch director, where I support the diverse range of clubs at Innis and make cute merch for y'all to represent your favourite college ❤️ ! I served on ICC last year, and I contributed significantly to the Student Services Committee, where we funded student-run projects such as the Community Pantry, the Student Lounge, and the Innis Garden. If elected, I will continue my work from the past year, further supporting the ongoing student projects in the College and starting support for many more initiatives. Above all, I will use my extensive experience to advocate for your needs. Thank you, and I hope to count on your vote!

### **Xinyan “Cynthia” Lin**

Hey everyone, I’m Cynthia! As an Innis student and resident, I have developed a deep appreciation for the diversity within our community. I am an advocate for collaboration, so I am excited to build meaningful connections with fellow Innis students and ensure that everyone's voice is empowered. I am an active member of the Innis community! As the equity & outreach director for the ICSS, I am committed to creating rewarding opportunities related to inclusivity, equity, and charity! Taking the role of a residence don, I strive to address residents’ unique challenges and to foster a sense of community. I would be a great addition to ICC, and I would genuinely appreciate your trust and support 😊

### **Alice Lo**

Hi Innis! My name is Alice and I’m in my fourth year studying biodiversity and environmental science. I have been part of the ICSS since my first year creating community-bonding events and projects — such as pottery at the Gardiner Museum and the Innis Garden right at the corner of the College building! By joining ICC, I hope to become another voice to advocate for student initiatives and get further inspiration to introduce more engaging programs at Innis. I believe my experiences gaining ICC-approved funding for multiple projects and participating in The Insider and Innis Alumni Mentorship Programs will provide an insightful view of the council and its operations. Finally, Innis has been a huge source of support, and I wish to further contribute to its wonderful community. Thank you!

### **Yujun “Alice” Lu**

Hi everyone! I am excited to nominate myself for a representative position within the ICC. I am committed to serving the student community and ensuring that the voices of all students are heard and respected. With my strong sense of responsibility and dedication, I aim to contribute meaningfully to the work of the ICC's boards and

committees. I am particularly interested in the Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, & Accessibility Committee, as I believe creating an inclusive and accessible environment is essential for a thriving campus. I will work diligently with my peers to address important issues and advocate for positive change.

## **Vinay Malik**

My name is Vinay Malik, and I am running to be an ICC representative. I feel that advocating for students' needs in the areas of finances, housing, and academics will be some things I make the utmost priority of doing. As a student who has encountered difficulties in all three of these areas, I understand the problems and issues students face daily. Therefore, I feel that I can best contribute to being a leader within my community by fighting for students as a representative in the ICC.

## **Ananiya Narmathan**

Hey everyone! I am Ananiya Narmathan, a first-year student in social sciences, hoping to major in criminology and economics. I am passionate about community engagement and, as a new Innisian, I am eager to bring a fresh perspective to our vibrant college. Joining ICC would allow me to actively advocate for issues that matter most to us university students — whether it is promoting diverse voices in Innis decisions, enhancing academic support, or improving our access to resources. With previous experience in community governance and advocacy, I'm committed to seeing that no issue gets overlooked, and concerns are dealt with head-on. If selected, I'll always work hard and diligently to ensure Innis remains a community where you feel valued, supported, and cherished, because, at the end of the day, Innis loves you ❤️

## **Kyle Newcombe**

Hello Innisians, I'm Kyle! I'm entering my fourth year and am looking to return to ICC for a third year. I've previously been involved with ICC in an ex-officio capacity via being president of the IRC for the last two years. During my time on the ICC, I've actively participated on multiple boards and committees, including the College Affairs Board, for which I was the moderator; Student Affairs Board; Residence Committee; and the Recruitment, Admissions, & Awards Committee. I have also been a student ambassador for the Innis College Renewal & Expansion Project. Through my involvement with various college initiatives, I've become a pointed advocate for student interests of all kinds within Innis College. ICC and its boards and committees are tasked with making some very important decisions each year, and I'm confident I can use my voice to further the interests of all students at Innis. I hope I can count on your vote!

## Oscar Robert Nguyen Hollingsworth

For ICC, I want to join the group of people working in the council to continue strengthening the gap between our resident students, like myself, and the commuter students that populate a large portion of the College. Innis College is such a small and tight-knit community that the council's presence as a way to solve problems and make the College a better place for everyone seems like a fantastic opportunity that I want to contribute to. I'm only in my first year here but I can already see the strength within Innis and the community that has formed around our college. I want to be a part of that to learn about the intricacies of our college and to participate in improvements for everyone. It seems like a cool idea that we even have a council like this, and it feels like a great opportunity to meet both my peers and the staff who work within Innis. I want to join the ICC because it seems like one of the best ways to help the people of this college and to get to know the world of Innis, while getting to help for the better.

## Maahi Patel

Hey everyone, I'm Maahi! I'm a second-year student double majoring in economics and statistics. I'm an avid Formula 1 fan, who doesn't miss a single race (even if it means waking up at 5am to watch one). I like to read as much as I can in my spare time, and I particularly enjoy mystery books. Rock is my go-to music whenever I need to lock in or go for a run. That's enough about me! I would love to get to know you all — your needs, interests, and concerns — representing and prioritizing them as a member of ICC. By contributing to you and the council, my main aim will be to work towards improving, managing, and coordinating our operations towards developing our student community and establishing a connection among us all.

## Jake Pereira

Hey Innis! My name is Jake, and this is my fifth year at the College. I have been a residence don at Innis for the past four years and have been involved in other Innis groups like the ICSS and IRC throughout my time here. I also run the INNtro to Salsa club which will be starting up again soon this year 😊. I am running to be one of your ICC members this year! I have been on the ICC for the past three years, and I hope to use my experience to continue to advocate for and represent my peers in the College. I am always available if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, and I strive to always represent our student body well and accurately in my time on the ICC. I hope I can count on your vote this year!

## Ruhi Shah

My name is Ruhi, I'm a first-year student in math and physical sciences, and I plan to do a double major in actuarial science and economics. I enjoy playing the guitar and love hiking. I would like to be a part of ICC as I am a friendly person who is easy to talk to, and I can work well in teams. I know how hard it is to be a part of the Innis community as a first-year international student who is also staying in another residence. Therefore, I would like to make it easier for all my fellow first years commuting/staying in other residences to be more involved at Innis by acting in their best interest and helping to organize more events catered to all Innis members at the University. In addition to that, I am a great listener and would consider everyone's opinions and ideas and make Innis a more engaging and vibrant area.

## Cade Sylvester

My name is Cade, and I'm a first-year student in computer science and urban studies. I've had the privilege of holding several leadership roles, such as house captain in my high school's student union, president of the environmental group, and secretary for the Blue Dragon Children's Foundation. These experiences have sharpened my leadership, planning, and community-building skills, and I'm excited to contribute to the Innis College community. I believe in fostering an inclusive environment where everyone's passions and interests are reflected. By working with peers and other representatives, I aim to help build a strong, connected, and engaging student community at Innis. As someone who enjoys being involved in many different areas of the community, I'm committed to ensuring that all voices are heard and that we create a welcoming and dynamic space for students. This position would allow me to help shape Innis into a vibrant community where everyone feels included. Being an international student from Vietnam, I also understand the unique challenges faced by first-year international students and am eager to represent and support them within the Innis community.

## Shreya Vasudeva

As an ICC representative, I envision contributing to the student community by fostering an inclusive environment which takes into account the perspectives and lived experiences of all members of the Innis student body. I aim to foster a collaborative environment where students feel their voices are heard in the council's decision-making and that the decisions made are reflective of their values. Moreover, my involvement in research and volunteering has taught me the importance of evidence-based decision-making. I am committed to advocating for policies that enhance the student experience and hold the values of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility at their core. Additionally, I would like to leverage my background in neuroscience to address issues



related to student wellbeing and academic success. Together, I hope we can create a vibrant and supportive Innis community.

## **Olive Mwea Wachira**

Hi everyone! My name is Olive Wachira and I am a second-year student doing a double major in molecular biology and pharmacology and a minor in computer science. Innis, and the community it fosters, played a big role in my experience as a first-year student. I am therefore very passionate and dedicated to providing the same support and sense of community for my fellow Innisians through facilitating events that promote inclusivity, and a safe space for students to voice their concerns. Being part of the council will provide me with the opportunity to bridge the gap between students and university faculty and administration. In summation, I would advocate for more resources to help students achieve their goals, both academically and socially, while still having the fun uni experience.

## **Sophia Wang**

Hi all! I would love to come back to the ICC as a council rep and do what I do best, helping fellow Innisians! I have many ties with the Innis community through my experiences as a past orientation coordinator, current ICSS social director, past ICSS social associate, and current residence don. I love Innis and only ever want the best for it, so I want to continue showing my love through student advocacy ❤️. I'll see you at Democracy Night and hope to have your vote! Much love, Sophia 😊.

## **Michelle Zi Hui Wang**

As an enthusiastic Innisian, I've been steadfastly dedicated to the Innis community for three years through involvement such as the Student Wellness Advisory Group (2022-23); vice-president social for the IRC (2023-24), where I organized many lively, engaging, and inclusive events; and working closely with Student Life to improve community experiences. Currently, I am an Innis student ambassador for the Renewal and Expansion Project (2023-now), where I volunteered for two alumni reunions and consulted with college partners for accessibility in furniture and space design. From high school until now, I proudly hold 400+ hours of volunteering and am experienced in student governance, mental health initiatives, student voice, volunteer organization, and community art projects!

In student governance, I am committed to ensuring that underrepresented voices are heard and work diligently to help make meaningful change to our community. I will be a friendly, approachable member of the community to talk with and help create opportunities and initiatives that align with student interests. By communicating



students' ideas to the boards and committees of the ICC, we can collaboratively strategize to find the best solutions to build an inclusive and responsive system that prioritizes student wellbeing and creates opportunities for everyone to thrive.

## Anson Wong

Hi Innis! As part of the superior and proud community of only 7.5% of U of T students, you DESERVE a college that you can truly call your second home — a safe, supportive, and inclusive space that you can run to when you are inevitably overwhelmed at your primary residence: ROBARTS COMMONS at 4am some time in December. My name is Anson, a second-year Rotman Commerce student, and I'm here to bring fresh, student-centered ideas that create opportunities for social and academic growth. I promise to cut through the noise and make a difference in areas that actually matter to you. I will advocate AGAINST increasing fees, ensure the efficient use of Innis resources, and improve the accessibility of Innis initiatives. We're Innis Together, and together, we'll make Innis a place where every student thrives!

## Tonia Xu

Hey Innis! My name is Tonia Xu, and I'm a first-year Rotman Commerce student living in residence this year. Born and raised in Scarborough, I enjoy video games, sports, and reading. I want to contribute to the Innis student community because everyone has been so kind, helping me make friends in such a short time.

Back home, I was the president of the Mentor Council and was a section leader in the Wind Symphony. These experiences taught me the importance of listening to different perspectives and advocating for students' needs. I hope to bring that same commitment to Innis, creating a vibrant and inclusive atmosphere where every student feels represented and empowered!

I want Innis College to be a welcoming space for all of you during your time at U of T!! After all, you'll be here for the next four years (or more), so why settle for anything less? If you see me in the halls, please come and say hi! 😊 Remember, Innis loves YOU!

## Kristine Yang

Hey everyone, I'm Kristine!! 🙌 You may know me as your Insider Mentor or intramural teammate or you have just seen me around in residence. I'm running for ICC student rep, which is a position that advocates for longer-term changes surrounding Innis's services and programs. After two years of living at Innis, my knowledge and strong connection to Innis's community will make me a great ICC rep! 🙌 As a rep, I would start by ramping up Innis' Art Committee, by collaborating with Innis Art Club and giving students the

opportunity to display their art in rotation around residence 🖼️. Similarly, I would increase visibility of Innis's unique programs like cinema studies and creative writing. I'll advocate for a system where students can submit their own short films 🎬 or creative writing 🖋️, which will be screened at Innis's theatre or sent out via email, and then the student body can vote for their favourites! 😊 I'll also advocate for longer-term changes at Innis. I would support increasing scholarships at Innis by prioritizing alumni relations 📧, and support furniture renovations 🪑! I would really appreciate your vote for ICC student rep and am excited to give back to Innis! ❤️

## Wing Yu Yip

Hey Innisians! I'm Wing, a third-year student in physiology, nutritional sciences, and linguistics. From my very first day, the Innis community has felt like home to me. I've made some incredible memories through events, programs, and residence life, and now it's my turn to give back by joining ICC as your representative. Having served two years on the IRC as both a house representative and VP of communications, I know firsthand how important it is to listen to feedback and make sure it reaches the right ears. My goal with ICC is to make sure that all students, whether they're in residence or commuting, feel heard and represented. I'm committed to keeping the lines of communication open between students and the College, so your needs are not just acknowledged but acted on. I'll do my best to uphold the core values that make Innis so special — our tight-knit, inclusive, and respectful community. Thank you for considering me, and remember, we're Innis together!