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# ENGINEERING SOCIETY 'B' ELECTION WINTER 2011

## The Engineering Society Executive Candidates

- |  |                              |   |
|--|------------------------------|---|
|    | <b>Alessia Danelon</b>       | President<br>3A Mechanical Engineering                    |
|    | <b>Erin Matheson</b>         | President<br>3A Chemical Engineering                      |
|   | <b>Angela Rossi</b>          | President<br>3A Chemical Engineering                      |
|  | <b>Owen Coutts</b>           | Vice President, Education<br>2A System Design Engineering |
|  | <b>Yasser Al-Khder</b>       | Vice President, External<br>2A Mechatronics Engineering   |
|  | <b>Midori Telles-Langdon</b> | Vice President, External<br>2A Geological Engineering     |
|  | <b>Alexandra Collins</b>     | Vice President, Finance<br>3A Management Engineering      |
|  | <b>Kal Sobel</b>             | Vice President, Finance<br>2A Mechatronics Engineering    |
|  | <b>Andrew Fisher</b>         | Vice President, Internal<br>3A Civil Engineering          |
|  | <b>Laurin Benson</b>         | WEEF Director<br>3A Chemical Engineering                  |

## A Message From Your Chief-Returning-Officer

**DOUG FOURNIER**  
CHIEF-RETURNING-OFFICER

The Engineering Society 'B' elections are upon us once again! Whether you've voted or let elections pass you by in the past, **I compel you to take even just a few minutes this time around to familiarize yourself with the candidates and make an informed decision.**

This term, it's even easier to get to the facts you

need to make an informed decision! Check out Eng-Soc's YouTube account @ [www.youtube.com/user/UWEngsoc](http://www.youtube.com/user/UWEngsoc) to find a quick run down of your candidates and to put a face to a name. I would then encourage you to dig a little deeper and check out the full candidate bio's in this election edition of *The Iron Warrior* which is also posted online for your convenience @ <http://iwarrior.uwaterloo.ca>.

Have questions for the candidates? Great! Bring those questions to the **All Candidates Forum in the**

**E5 Atrium just inside the main front doors on Thursday Feb 3rd at 11:30am.**

Voting will be taking place online from Friday Feb. 4th until Monday Feb 7th at 12:00pm (noon). I am very much looking forward to announcing the results of the election at TalEng on Tuesday Feb 8th. Get to know your candidates, make an informed vote. This is your chance to guide the Engineering Society in the direction that's right for you!

**ALL CANDIDATES FORUM** → Thursday February 3th @ 11:30 AM  
Bring your questions! Bring your friends! It's the perfect lunch date! E5 Atrium

# CANDIDATE PROFILES

## President Candidates

### Alessia Danelon

3A Mechanical Engineering



My name is Alessia Danelon and I would like to be your next Engineering Society President. I feel that I possess the experience and demeanour to accurately represent the ideas and values of the engineering students here at the University of Waterloo.

I have a plethora of experience from

my role as the President of the Engineering Student Societies' Council of Ontario (ESSCO), both from acting as president for the society, and from communicating regularly with the presidents of engineering societies across Ontario. I understand the dynamics of leading an executive team, and have experience working with and guiding a variety of personalities towards a common

goal. I have become well versed with remaining open to opinions, ideas and criticisms from council members, and am able to use feedback to improve the way a society functions.

Another skill I have gained from working with ESSCO is the ability to detach my own personal views from those of the society, and then effectively communicate them to the proper advocacy bodies in a firm yet tactful manner to ensure some level of implementation. I have attended a variety of meetings with various representatives and have experience maintaining a tactful and professional demeanour when necessary.

Despite my lengthy experience working with ESSCO, I am aware that being President of the UW Engineering Society will be a new endeavour. However, I have remained active in the Engineering Society at UW since my 1A term, be it through attending events, volunteering for initiatives, or directing them. I have recently spent a great deal of time trying to improve the services EngSoc is able to offer through my role as Academic Class Rep. Advisor and the Executive Review Committee. I have become extremely well versed in the portfolio of the President through my involvement, and

I feel I have an in-depth understanding of how this Society functions, where it is strong, and most importantly, where it can improve.

As UW Engineering Society President, the main thing I would want to accomplish, outside of the mandated portfolio, is transparency of our doings to a greater majority of the engineering students at UW. We are on our way, but there is still a lot to be done to combat the stereotype that "EngSoc is a club that only a select few 'involved' people take part in". EngSoc helps bring forth valid concerns with the curriculum, policies, while providing services and resources for the overall betterment of student life, be that socially, academically or professionally. As president, I would want to actively work with the executive team to make these vital contributions from EngSoc more visible to the general student body, and in turn improve the initiatives undertaken by society through expanded support and feedback.

In short, if you would like a president with experience, who still possesses an open mind to new ideas, vote AlessiaDanelon for EngSoc President the weekend of February 4th.

### Erin Matheson

3A Chemical Engineering



Hello fellow Engineering Students. My name is Erin Matheson, I'm in 3A Chemical Engineering and I want to be your next Engineering Society President. **First, let me ask you something – what has the Engineering Society done for**

**you lately?** For some students, the answer to this is rather lengthy, but unfortunately for most engineering students here, the answer is usually along the lines of *'not much'*. I find this troubling and as president, I will be determined to change this sentiment and have the Engineering Society work for you.

The Engineering Society provides many useful services, such as the exam bank, resume critiques, cheap photocopying, and many others. Unfortunately, these services are underutilized or underdeveloped for use by

the majority of society members. When was the last time you got your resume critiqued? As president, I will push for informative advertising and work to fully develop these services further to cater to as many engineering students as possible.

If elected, I wouldn't just stop at improving existing services as there is so much more that the Society can provide for its students. I will work to include more dedicated study space on campus in future engineering building plans, as well as work with administration to reserve space in the meantime for students to study on campus.

Events currently put on by the society are always lots of fun, **I will work to offer a more diverse selection of events and activities that cater to a wider audience.** Having more casual events like video game or foosball night every week in POETS or even **having space reserved in the PAC/CIF for some pick-up sports for engineering students** would provide a more welcoming and casual environment to meet some fellow engineering students, or to hang out with your favourite classmates.

Have you ever had your own great idea for an engi-

neering activity? I will work to develop a more robust support system for both returning and new activities directors to encourage more people to get involved with the society and bring their own ideas to the table.

When we come together as an entire student body we can accomplish tremendous change – **we were able to change PDEng because of all of the student feedback it received.** The current executive has done a tremendous job pushing to improve the structure of the society as a whole, student-administration relations as well as our image across campus and I will ensure this work continues, but I believe I'm the only candidate who will work to have the society provide as much as it can for its students as well. A student society closely linked to its faculty is only effective if it's just as linked to the community of students it serves as well.

**You pay an Engineering Society fee every term** – you should get some value out of it! To view my full platform to submit any questions or comments about what I will do if elected president, or even for a good laugh visit [www.erinmatheson.com](http://www.erinmatheson.com).

**Get more out of engineering – Vote MATHESON.**

### Angela Rossi

3A Chemical Engineering



Hi, my name is Angela Rossi and I am in 3A Chemical Engineering. I have been actively involved in the Engineering Society (EngSoc) since first year and I am very passionate when it comes to Engineering events, services and opportunities.

I am proud of the reputation that Waterloo's Engineering program has developed to date and look forward to seeing its impact continue.

Over my past 4 academic terms I have organized events such as Semi-Formal (thrice) and Canada Day 2010 as well as numerous Charity events like pancake breakfasts, float day, Movember and a Terry Fox Run. I have participated as a leader in Engineering Orientation Week the past two years and am looking

forward to O-Week 2011. This term I am a Semi-Formal Director, a Bus Push Director and a Charities Director.

My platform is based on three pillars which I intend to focus my time and energy if I were elected as your Engineering Society President.

#### Students

The Engineering Society was started for and is maintained by students for students. As such, I want to continue to reach out to all Engineering students and show them what the Engineering Society has to offer (services, clubs, events, opportunities, etc.). I would try to visit classes on a biweekly basis to elicit student feedback and encourage open communication between the Society's executive and its members. What more would you like EngSoc to offer (e.g. a new team)? How can EngSoc better serve you? How can EngSoc make your university experience unforgettable? What are your concerns, opinions and ideas? How can we make EngSoc run more efficiently and effectively? I want to voice student opinions, inspire change and see results.

#### School

I would like to continue to improve the Engineering Society's image through continued interfaculty events, such as Semi-Formal, and campus wide fundraisers, like Colour Me Educated. I believe that it is important that EngSoc have a professional and friendly reputation with the other societies, and think it is important that EngSoc encourage the idea of "One Waterloo".

#### Community

It is important to me that the Kitchener Waterloo Community be aware of all the positive things that the University of Waterloo and specifically the Engineering Society do for our local community. I would try to regularly communicate with the local paper and ask them to provide some media coverage when an event directly benefits the community, like a food drive, toy mountain or car wash. Waterloo students have hearts of gold and deserve some credit for our generosity.

My name is Angela Rossi. I am passionate, personable and professional and I want to be YOUR Engineering Society President. Thank you.

# Vice President, Education Candidate Owen Coutts

## 2A System Design Engineering

Hi Everyone!

My name is Owen Coutts and I'm running for VP education of the engineering society.

The job of VP education is to lobby on behalf of students to administration. In the last few years, the VP Educations have worked on issues such as PD-Eng and WAT PD, how co-op and CECS works, and expanding the availability of engineering counselling.

I think that I am the right person to continue the job of my predecessors and to start work on new initiatives for the following reasons:

• **Experience:** I have been attending attended multiple meetings on behalf of the engineering society as Co-op Rep and PD Rep. I have an understanding for how things work and how things get done.

• **Approachability:** One of the most important jobs of a VP education is to get feedback from engineering students and act upon it. Despite my unusual stature I am very friendly and will treat anyone who brings forward issues with respect.

• **Work Ethic:** I am a person who can devote a lot of time to this executive position. A lot of time needs to be spent to make progress. I think I am uniquely qualified to spend the time required working on issues that face students.

One of the main things I want to work on is Co-op and CECS: As the organizational structure changes, I want to make sure that the students' voice is heard. I'd like to help shape the answers to questions, such as "How will the new role of field coordinators be de-

finied?" and "What are different parts of the organization (and different parts of our co-op fee) doing to improve our co-op education?"

To find out more about my positions please come out to the EngSoc debates on Thursday or come find me and talk to me.



# Vice President, External Candidates

## Yasser Al-Khder

### 2A Mechatronics Engineering

Hello!

Before I begin talking about my platform and qualifications, I would just like to say thank you for taking the time to read the candidates' articles. I really appreciate it, and I know that you will take these as seriously as we do.

Now that that is out of the way, let's start with some introductions; my name is Yasser Al-Khder, and I want to represent you as your next Vice President External. I am currently in 2A Mechatronics Engineering and before I came to Waterloo I lived roughly on the other side of the Earth in Dubai. I'm very passionate about the Engineering Society, and I think that it does a great job representing the engineering student body and providing valuable services. However, I definitely see room for improvement and I want to contribute as much as I can to make EngSoc a better society for all of us.

One of the main duties of the vice president external is to represent the Engineering Society in provincial and federal engineering organizations such as Engineering Student Societies' Council of Ontario (ESSCO) and Canadian Federation of Engineering Students (CFES). I plan to represent you in these organizations and bring back any ideas and concerns

that we can benefit from.

With that being said, I want to focus on strengthening relations between EngSoc and other student societies and organizations within the university. I plan on improving inter-faculty relations by attending council meetings of other societies and invite them to our council meetings. I also plan to set up joint events with other faculties, maybe even have charity competitions and challenge other faculties to raise the most money, similar to The Colour Me Educated Campaign.

In terms of the directorships that are under the responsibility of the vice president external, I plan to be in close contact with the directors, especially prior to and at the beginning of the term so that we can establish goals and come up with new ideas for the directorships.

Lastly, I will follow the footsteps of the current executive team and try to be as professional as possible so that we are taken seriously as a student society. I will also create documentation describing the different directorships and detailing how they run, for smoother transition between directors.

Here are some of my qualifications and experiences that will show you that I am qualified for the job:

- Passionate about the Engineering Society and willing to improve it
- Have been the Mechatronics 2014 class rep since 1B
- Attended several external conferences representing Waterloo Engineering Society, where I was the head delegate for one of them
- Currently sitting on the Federation of Students (FedS) Council as an Engineering Councilor
- Appreciate the beauty of point form as opposed to a wall of text

If you have any questions about me or my platform, please do not hesitate to send me an email at [yyalkhde@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:yyalkhde@uwaterloo.ca). Or better yet, ask me in person!

Thank you for reading, and don't forget to vote!



## Midori Telles-Langdon

### 2A Geological Engineering

The University of Waterloo has one of the most notoriously involved engineering student populations in Canada. We are renowned for our high number of involved students and the sheer scale of our events, which all relates back to our amazing engineering spirit and pride.

My wish to be your Vice President, External is based on this tradition of overwhelming student involvement. I want to be the one to represent our students' unique needs and perspectives to external organizations such as the Engineering Student Societies' Council of Ontario (ESSCO) and the Canadian Federation of Engineering Students (CFES). As our student body grows, with increasing enrollment numbers across the board, the voice of our student body grows stronger and stronger. As we now represent a larger segment of the engineering student population our voice within ESSCO and CFES needs to grow stronger as well. I want to be this strong voice.

Closer to home, I would like to increase our vis-

ibility within the Waterloo community. I propose to do this by increasing the number of community-based events we host, such as Bus Push. These events present a strong, positive image of engineering students to the community as a whole, which will improve our interactions and relationships with community members. I would like to propose we host a student design team exposition event in Uptown Waterloo Square. Such an event would showcase some of the incredible work our students have accomplished.

On a professional level, I would like to ensure that we have representation at all future meetings of the Professional Engineers Ontario Grand River Chapter. These meetings provide us with valuable opportunities to network with local professionals and learn of any upcoming changes to licensing requirements. This information could then be passed on to the student body by way of the new UW Engineering Society blog, which I would post to regularly.

My desire is to keep students informed. Our ex-

ternal connections provide us with a lot of amazing opportunities, and I want to make sure you know about them. For example, attending conferences is a wonderful experience that I would like to see more UW students benefit from; students like you. For more information about my platform please visit [www.eng.uwaterloo.ca/~mmtelles](http://www.eng.uwaterloo.ca/~mmtelles). Now that you know more about the candidates and their platforms I do hope you will take the time to vote February 4th to 7th. Your opinions are important, and without input from students the Engineering Society has no purpose at all. So make your voice heard: vote!



# VOTE

Online

## FEBRUARY

## 4-7

# Vice President, Finance Candidates

## Alexandra Collins

3A Management Engineering



My name is Alexandra Collins. As you may have guessed by the location of this article, I am running for VP Finance.

Like all the other executive candidates I have a long history of EngSoc and Waterloo involvements that qualify me for this role. But my "grooming" for this position started long before my university days.

As a 3A Management Engineering student I have a passion for efficiency, supply chains, and the occasional binary tree, but my first love is finance. I can pinpoint the development of this love back to the tender age of four when, at my mother's instance; I maintained a general ledger for my weekly \$1 dollar allowance. Now at 21 I am ready to keep track of the Engineering Society's allowance, so here is my pitch:

**1. Involvement:** I would like to work closely with the executive team and directors of the Engineering Society during each term's budget preparation and monitor the spending throughout the term.

**2. Clarity:** To ensure that EVERYONE knows where their money is going I am proposing to publish updates on the budget on a more frequent ba-

sis.

**3. Stability:** I would like to investigate cost saving methods on the current spending so we can better support the diverse services provided by EngSoc and have the financial stability to support new initiatives that may arise.

**4. Feedback:** Using the EngSoc website or another medium, I would like to implement a way to gain your feedback on topics like budget recommendations or new products for Novelites.

So, from February 4th to 7th you have the opportunity to elect an executive team that is passionate about the future of the Engineering Society. Let Alexandra Collins be your first choice for VP Finance.

# Kal Sobel

2A Mechatronics Engineering



Hi, my name is Kal Sobel, from the class of 2014 Mechatronics Engineers. I like long walks on the beach, the internet, and most of all, EngSoc. I am running this term for VP-Finance, and if elected I have some big ideas I'd like to see happen.

I would first like to say that I love the new look of Novelities, and I feel that the outgoing VP-Finances had the right idea to give new life to Novelities. I plan on keep-

ing up their work after their term is over by continuing to rethink and revitalize the operation of Novelities. I also believe that the current financial management of EngSoc under the direction of the outgoing VP-Finances is going very well, so I plan to continue their high standards and practices throughout my term. If elected, I will meet with the outgoing VP-Finances prior to the end of term to discuss a smooth transition towards our goals.

Some of the major ideas I would like to see in place are:

- To get awareness of Novelities out to more people, especially first-years and incoming students. I would like to place medium sized Novelities advertisements in high traffic areas such as near the RCH fishbowl, in the entrance of CPH foyer, in the WEEF lab, and in or near the Engineering Office, along with a "new products" advertisement to get awareness of any new offerings of Novel-

ties.

- To uphold the high standards put in place by the current VP-Finances, and to work in close proximity with them before the beginning of my term to ensure that your money is used efficiently towards the best interests of the students and the society.

- To implement both a suggestion box inside of Novelities, and a mini-catalogue inside of the Orientation Kits which contains both pictures of our current products as well as a place for suggestions to be given.

Finally, I would like to conclude by saying that although I may be a little odd and scary looking, I am a very approachable person, and will gladly chat with you about anything you'd like to ask, suggest, criticize, or rant about; after all, if elected your VP-Finance, I will serve you, the citizens of the Engineering Society.

# Vice President, Internal Candidate

## Andrew Fisher

3A Civil Engineering



Hello Engineering! I hope your day has been fantastic so far! My name is Andrew Fisher and I am running for the Vice-President Internal position. I am from the small town of Dorchester Ontario, and am currently in 3A Civil Engineering.

If you have taken a look at my posters, you may have noticed that my campaign focuses on the slogan "Let me bring you into the picture." Let me delve into this further. My main goal if elected as Vice-President Internal is to expand the positive image of the Engineering Society to those

who don't already participate in Engineering Society events. This is of huge importance to me as it will make the Engineering Society more inclusive than it already is, and create a faculty which is united as one. This 'united as one' philosophy will help students feel more comfortable coming to Engineering Society events which will in turn increase event attendance. Some ideas to make this happen are revamping the P\*\*5 (Paul and Paula Plummer Participation Points) system, create a new form of video advertising and continue to expand the role of class rep directors and class reps.

My second goal is to make it easier for directors to plan their events. I hope to make event planning less of a logistical nightmare and more of an enjoyable experience. This will be done by creating a more comprehensive archive of past directorships which will include the rooms booked, companies used, contacts, budgets, and tips for improvement. To supplement this, I will maintain a strong communication link between myself

and the directors through a deadline planning session, periodic meetings and email updates.

So do I have what it takes to make this happen? Absolutely! My strong organizational and time management skills which I possess, and will further develop as a member of the Federation Orientation Committee will be a huge asset when overseeing the 23 directorship positions under the Vice-President Internal. I have a strong work ethic and will do everything in my power to ensure each event runs as efficiently and successfully as possible. To supplement this, I have held numerous directorships in the past and understand the challenges faced when planning a faculty event. My passion and dedication that I will bring to the position of Vice-President Internal will not only benefit the Executive Team, but to the students who we represent in the Engineering Society. Take the time this weekend to vote and remember, "Let me bring you into the picture."

## Information on How to Vote

You may have browsed through the candidate profiles, read them, or just looked at the pictures, and perhaps now you're wondering how to vote. See below.

### You have two options to vote:

**Voting Online** - You will receive an email regarding how to vote online. When you receive your email, click on the link provided in the email and follow the instructions to cast your vote. If you do not receive an email from by Saturday, February 5th, please contact the CRO at [dfournie@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:dfournie@uwaterloo.ca) in order to resolve the situation. Voting online will be open from February 4th-7th. Please note that the email will be sent to the email address you have registered in QUEST.

**Voting in Person** - During the election, a voting booth will be set up near the Engineering CnD in the Carl Pollock Hall (CPH) Foyer. Show up at the booth on February 4th or 7th and you will be able to put in your credentials to vote!

## Make an Informed Decision!

If you want to find our more information regarding each candidate and their platform, read their candidate profile. If you would like more information, check out their website and posters and come out to the Election forum where each candidate will be answering questions from fellow engineering students like you. **The forum is taking place inside the E5 atrium at 11:30 AM on Thursday, February 3, 2011.**

You will be voting for the Engineering Society Executive candidate positions for President, VP External, and VP Finance as they have more than one candidate running. The positions of VP Education, VP Internal, and WEEF Director are acclaimed pending a 2/3 majority vote of the Engineering Society Council at (insert next engsoc meeting here). In the event of the tie, the CRO will have sealed his ballots in an envelope. The envelope would then be opened to reveal the tie breaking vote to decide a winner. If a ties does not exist, the envelope containing the CRO's votes will be destroyed.

If you have any questions regarding the election procedure, please contact the CRO at [dfournie@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:dfournie@uwaterloo.ca)

# WEEF Director Candidate Laurin Benson

3A Chemical Engineering

Hello UW Engineering! My name is Laurin Benson of Chem 2013 (you may not recognize me without my dashing Engplay moustache) and I am running for Waterloo Engineering Endowment Fund Director.

My involvement with WEEF started in 2008 (The Year of the Potato, in case you were wondering) as my class WEEF Representative. I then moved to WEEF Assistant Director last year and have since supported the current Director in facilitating all of WEEF's responsibilities. We have seen some great accomplishments like WEEF's 20th Birthday, the 2009-10 proposal seasons, the opening of E5 (thanks to \$ 1 million from WEEF) and record WEEF participation rates.

As WEEF Director I will make sure that WEEF keeps accomplishing bigger and better things. My

goal each term will to make sure your money goes to the right places. And we are not talking about pocket change here folks - I'm talking about a principal of over \$ 9 million. By improving the funding proposal and student review process, I will ensure that it is easy for you, your department and your student team to make the UW Engineering Undergrad experience the best it can possibly be!

"Why do I want to do it?" you may ask. Well, to put it simply, WEEF IS GOOD! Amidst all of the questionable fees we pay each term (I'm talking to you, CECS) your contribution to WEEF goes unbelievably far. Like those new lab computers? THANK WEEF. Enjoying that new machine shop equipment? THANK WEEF. Having fun roaming the lovely halls of E5? THANK WEEF. Impressed by UW student

teams making an impression in global competitions? THANK WEEF. I think you get the picture.

As WEEF Director I will make sure that all Engineering Undergrads can continue to THANK WEEF for many terms to come!

