

Hello Faculty of Arts Students' Association! I'm Juan Razon, a fourth-year History and Education student, and I am running to be FASA's next VP Events. Having been a member of FASA for two years, firstly as the Director of Arts Lounge Engagement and currently as the History Department Representative, and as well my background being a Community Ambassador for the University of Calgary for the past three years, I believe I bring relevant experiences to the position and the dedication to fostering an inclusive and engaging Faculty of Arts community.

The VP Events position of FASA aims to work alongside other FASA executives to plan and execute events targeting the different areas of needs within the Faculty of Arts. My platform aims to uphold the work and legacy of previous VP Events initiatives (such as the Arts Gala) and as well as address relevant gaps in the Faculty of Arts student life experience through new FASA events.

Cross-Departmental Relationships and Appreciation

As we all know, the Faculty of Arts is large and diverse. Working with FASA's Department Representative, I want to foster cross-departmental relationships and appreciation through an ongoing event initiative called "Department Nights". I want to work with the Department Representatives to host events open to all Faculty of Arts students that showcase and highlight their respective departments to the faculty, giving students within their department the opportunity to share their knowledge and passions with other Faculty of Arts students. In hosting "Department Nights", I hope to bring Arts students in a new way, grow appreciation towards one another, and foster a better sense of community within the faculty.

Career & Professional Development Opportunities

A gap that I want to bridge as VP Events is the one between students and career and professional development opportunities. UCalgary already provides excellent opportunities for students to explore different careers and professional development opportunities, however, there is a lack of such opportunities and experiences for Faculty of Arts students. Therefore, as VP Events and working with other FASA executives, I want to utilize my position to host a FASA Networking Event; bringing Faculty of Arts students, staff, alumni, and industry professionals to provide Arts students with the opportunity to explore potential careers and opportunities and learn how they can transfer the skills and experiences their degree provides to other professions and industries.

Food Security

An initiative started by FASA this year was the "Take What You Need Station" in the Arts Lounge. Next year, I want to continue this initiative by hosting Food Drive & Donation Events. Food security is an important issue that affects a large population of UCalgary students, and the "Take What You Need Station" is FASA's contribution in solving this issue. Through this event, not only do I plan on replenishing the Arts Lounge station with non-perishables and easy access food, but I also aim to highlight resources on campus that students who are facing this issue can utilize, such as the SU Food Bank, Fresh Routes, and Ladle Up.

In working with the FASA executive team, Department Representatives, event committees, and relevant campus partners, as your VP Events, I hope to create meaningful and impactful events that all students can enjoy, as well as improve the quality of Faculty of Arts students' lives and university experiences. As an underrepresented and undervalued faculty within UCalgary, I want to create a community where students feel represented, appreciated, and valued within their university. I believe with my time in FASA, my diverse experiences in fostering positive and inclusive communities throughout the university, and my passion for improving student life, I am an ideal candidate for this position.