

My name is Biyas Harry and I am a second-year Bachelor of Science student. I am a biology major, so my life usually revolves around studying, working, and studying. I try to make time throughout my day and overall life, in general, to take part in some hobbies. These hobbies can lead me to my volunteer position at a local senior care home or they can take me to either the beautiful sunny weather or the usual Abbotsford rain. I have been at UFV for over a year and most of it has been online due to the current situation amidst us. What used to be gathering with classmates who became close friends and studying together, and having fun learning, has quickly turned into numerous hours a day in front of a computer. This is the situation we all face currently, and it is quite terrifying in the sense of the ambiguity of the conclusion or resolution to this. I want to help fix this for the students and even the faculty. Everyone is facing this threat whether we like it or not.

I want to primarily make online learning more interactive and engaging as it can be difficult to portray this over a computer screen, especially in science classes. I want to propose perhaps more events that not only science students would enjoy but anyone could. I would work with the respective departments to help create such things that would make this online environment more engaging as it is our hard reality for the near future. I want to be the voice for the students who feel they are not heard or who are afraid to speak up. There are lots of things that we as students can change, and should change, as we need to take the initiative of our learning. The ideas and opinions we share with the university will only benefit us and I want to help project our concerns, opinions, and ideas.

I have also had previous experience in my secondary education being one of the lead organizers of the leadership committee. I felt that this experience in the committee was very fulfilling for me. As a representative of students and UFV, I hope to help UFV stride towards their goal and mission of “engaging learners, transforming lives, building community”, whilst addressing the needs of the students. To promote and help achieve these goals I will help make classes more interactive, I will help students be heard, and I will help UFV bridge any gaps between the people. Outside of UFV, I am an ambassador of UFV, meaning I am proud to wear the name and my actions inside and out of UFV will reflect that. As to be a part of UFV is to be inclusive and honest, in the community.

As a student representative, I will keep what I am doing for the students and my goals and intentions are very clear as I am acting as the bridge between the students and the faculty. Transparency must be kept as the students must know that I am working for them and with them. I will give regular updates, most likely via email on what I am doing and trying to accomplish. My passion for cooperative and collective decision making, as well as my alignment with the UFV core values of “Integrity, inclusivity, Community, and Excellence”, is what led me to run this coming election. So, I ask for your vote this election and am open to any recommendations and ideas.