



My Journey with TEDxYorkU



For the 2016-2017 academic year, I had the honour of serving as a Co-President of the TEDxYorkU club. This club is the student brand of TEDx at York University. The mandate of the club is to increase the knowledge of TED in the York community, inspire and empower students to become leaders and innovators, and to help share “ideas worth spreading.” Fun fact: TED is an acronym which stands for “Technology, Education, and Design.”

My love for TED Talks started in high school. One of the first ones I came across was a spoken word poem entitled “If I Should Have a Daughter...” by Sarah Kay. Kay’s artistry immediately blew me away! She had a rare talent for eloquently expressing her passion for the spoken word and engaging her audience.

In my second year of university, I joined the club as a member, and had the privilege of attending my first Salon Event. The speakers, the atmosphere, and the club itself allowed me to see the world from someone else’s perspective. This was such an empowering and enlightening experience, and I wanted to help other students and staff at York experience the same thing.

Sadly, the following year, TEDxYorkU was discontinued but my friend and I talked to the licenseholder to bring it back with a stronger foundation. It took some convincing, but long story short, we became the Co-Presidents for the 2016-2017 session!

Our TEDxYorkU Club consisted of a Marketing Team, Events Team, Operations Team, a Finance Director, and Senior Advisor. As Co-Presidents, we delegated tasks to each team to help build brand awareness. Our first step was to write the constitution. Next, we had to create social media pages for the club, as well as recruit members.

Our two main types of events were workshops, used to teach students essential presentation and public speaking skills, in collaboration with Toastmasters, with the second being “Think BIG Events.”

To ensure the legacy carries on, my Co-President and myself will act as the club’s Senior Advisors for 2017-2018. With what started out to be a simple idea to bring TEDx back at YorkU in 2016, the foundation we built for TEDxYorkU has grown into an empire. I am excited to see what the future holds for the club and its members.

Harleen Singh (4th Year, BAS Marketing)

One for All, and All for One



Becoming a part of New College Council was probably the best thing that happened to me. The friends and sense of community that came from it are what kept me happy and engaged throughout the school year.

I chose to apply for the position of Athletic Representative because I had started playing intramural sports in early September and I was very into it. Before I started playing intramurals I was really homesick during the evenings and on weekends. There was nothing for me to do and everyone would leave to go home. I figured since I loved intramurals so much, I would do more with it. I don’t think I realized how much work it was going to be but to be honest, I loved it. It forced me to play so many new sports that I would never have thought of playing. However, being one of the athletic reps on council was about more than just the sports.

I just love what council does. The community that it creates in Atkinson, in the lounge and the office, is like no other place at York, and all the events it plans are what make most students’ school year fun. The memories that council events create are unforgettable. Being on council teaches you a lot, but I think communication and accountability are the ones that are most prominent. As a first year student, I had never really been part of group like this, one where you are given responsibilities but without much structure or guidance. This isn’t a bad thing, it really teaches you that when you are meant to do something, you won’t have people constantly telling you how to do it. You need to bring your best at all times.

This is very applicable to me because as a first year student living on residence, I am away from home with no one telling me what to do and how to do it. Being on council allows you to learn the life skills necessary to function responsibly, independently and efficiently in a professional, yet friendly, group environment.

For these reasons, I can’t wait to come back next year as the Director of Promotions! This new position will allow me to try something new and learn new skills. I can’t wait to bond and grow with next year’s New College Council!

Matisse Gauthier (1st Year, BDEM, Athletic Representative, New College Council)





All Summer '17



And that's a wrap for the 2016-2017 school year! Assignments are submitted, exams are handed in and textbooks and notes are up for sale. That's right folks, it's summertime.

From May to August, most of us plan on working, sleeping in, partying, watching TV shows, tanning at the beach etc. but there's a whole other side to summer, especially at York.

There are some students who actually spend their summer continuing their education by taking courses either to get ahead in their studies, or to catch up in their studies. I've taken summer school before and it was one of my better ideas, and I'm not exactly the greatest decision maker. I was able to complete three courses, represent New College in softball intramurals, and appreciate this beautiful campus under the powerful summer sun.

Enrolling in courses over the summer was a huge reason why my second year was such a success. I was able to take a lighter course load instead of suffocating in a 30 credit semester, twice. This allowed me to attend all the social events with no hesitation and I was involved in so many sports that I actually considered moving into the Tait McKenzie Fitness Centre.

Don't get all caught up in the idea that just because you're still in school, you can't have fun. I made sure I had friends in my classes, planned study sessions together and we even went out together before and/or after class.

Summer school is actually a fantastic experience that, if done right, could make your summer a memorable one. We have such a beautiful campus here at York, why not enjoy it all year 'round?

Haya Alsayegh (2nd Year, BAS Finance)

Have No Fear, Find Yourself a Peer

I remember my peer mentor emailing me after the first week of school asking if I was alright, if I knew my way around campus and if I had any stories to tell.

Two years later I became a peer mentor. My transition to university was incredibly smooth which led to a passion in assisting the transitions of other students. Becoming a peer mentor is truly a great initiative that allows you to share your experiences and the inside scoop of York to new students.

As a peer mentor, I offer support to my mentees by answering questions and sharing useful York

programs, courses, services and resources. For example, I like sharing the SQ3R study method to first year students. I learned it at a workshop by Learning Services at York (<http://lss.info.yorku.ca/>) and found it very helpful when studying for exams. Student Papers & Academic Resource Kit (SPARK) (<http://www.yorku.ca/spark/>) is another resource I share. This kit is a beneficial guide that will take your assignments to the next level. Lastly, I like informing my mentees about the Career Centre and the internships (<http://internships.yorku.ca/>) they offer along the eligibility requirements.

Being a peer mentor lets you develop your leadership skills as you make a positive contribution to the New College community. I encourage all students to get involved with this program by visiting <http://new-college.laps.yorku.ca/get-involved/be-a-peer-mentor/>.

Veronica Rondinone (3^d year, BHRM, Master's Award Recipient 2016 and 2017)

WFG: More Than Just a Job



When World Financial Group visited York University, they informed us about their company, business acumen and job opportunities.

WFG is a marketing company which sells investments, insurance and various other financial products. The representatives from WFG are adamant in building and protecting the wealth of families and individuals from all walks of life, regardless of their economic status.

What intrigued me the most about their presentation was their ability to relate to us, students of York University. They spoke to us about their childhood, experiences in job hunting, life as a student and their early financial struggles. With the number of things we shared in common, it almost sounded like they were looking for friends and not future employees. The main component of the presentation was money management and how important it is to start taking control of your money now.

If this job or company doesn't intrigue you, don't worry because there will be plenty of other employers and recruiters visiting York. To find out who, when, and where, make sure you visit <http://careers.yorku.ca/students-and-new-grads/services-events/employer-recruitment-sessions/>.

Robel Adugna (2nd Year, BAS Management)

