

# 2024-2025 UNBC Board of Governors Graduate Student Candidates

## Eric Dampson

As a dedicated and passionate member of the UNBC community, I am excited to submit my nomination for the Board of Governors. My diverse background, commitment to academia, and strong desire to serve and represent the student body make me an ideal candidate for this position.

I have been an active participant in various extracurricular activities, including leadership roles volunteering assignments in clubs and organizations such as ISACA Professional Body Vancouver, ISACA Professional Body, Ghana , University Students association of Ghana (USAG), University of Cape Coast association of Business Students and many more which have allowed me to develop a deep understanding of the needs and concerns of the student body. My academic pursuits in Master of Business Administration (MBA) have honed my critical thinking and problem-solving skills, which will enable me to address the complex challenges faced by the university.

In addition to my academic and extracurricular experiences, I have a strong interest in governance and policy-making. I believe in the power of education to transform lives, and I am committed to working collaboratively with fellow board members to ensure that UNBC continues to provide an inclusive, supportive, and enriching environment for all students.

### **If elected, I will prioritize the following goals:**

1. Promote equity, diversity, and inclusion by advocating for policies that support underrepresented groups and foster a welcoming campus culture.
2. Enhance student engagement and representation by actively seeking input from students and ensuring their voices are heard in decision-making processes.
3. Support sustainable and responsible growth by balancing the university's financial health with the needs of students, faculty, and staff.

I am confident that my unique combination of skills, experiences, and passion for UNBC will enable me to serve effectively on the Board of Governors. I would be honored to have the opportunity to represent the interests of the student body and contribute to the university's continued success.

## Dakota Den Duyf

My name is Dakota Den Duyf, I am running to be the Graduate Student Member for Board of Governors. I am in the Master of Education Program specializing in Multidisciplinary Leadership. I am just finishing my first year in the program, but I have been at UNBC for the past 5 years working as the Student Leadership and Engagement Coordinator. In this role I have been able to work alongside students to better understand issues/challenges they face and help make change to better the student experience. Now that I find myself in the role of a student, I want to be able represent those views of graduate student body when it comes to decisions made at the board level. I believe my experiences in both spaces will make me a strong advocate to voice the perspective of graduate students.

## Lucas Middleton

I firmly believe I would be an asset to this position because I deeply enjoy the work involved and have significant experience in university governance positions. I had the privilege of being elected twice as the Arts student representative and senator at St. Francis Xavier University and participated in nine

committees working towards strategic planning, bylaw and policy, and code of conduct improvements, among other things. I am confident that my experience and passion make me an outstanding candidate for this position.

## Janet Ocloo

I am Janet Ocloo, a first-year PhD student in the Department of Health Sciences at UNBC. My academic journey spans continents, holding a Master of Science degree in Public Health Promotion from Leeds Beckett University, UK, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Laboratory Sciences from the University of Ghana. My commitment to lifelong learning is evident through my certifications in Leadership and Management in Health from the University of Washington, as well as Project Management from the University of Adelaide, Australia. Currently, I am enhancing my skills with a certificate course in Monitoring and Evaluation in Global Health at the University of Washington.

Beyond academia, I am deeply involved in the UNBC community, serving as a student representative on the PhD Committee and contributing my perspective to university governance. Additionally, I am an active member of the Photography Club, where I find solace and inspiration amid my academic pursuits.

With over two decades of experience as a clinical instructor and researcher, coupled with seven years in health advocacy for marginalised populations, I bring a wealth of expertise to the table. My diverse background has instilled in me the importance of innovative thinking and evidence-based strategies in addressing complex challenges. I aspire to be a member of the university's Board of Governors because I am eager to leverage my experiences to ensure that the voices of graduate students are heard and valued.

I firmly believe that representation matters, especially for international students and women facing unique challenges. As an advocate for diversity and inclusivity, I am committed to championing the interests of all students. Having spearheaded health advocacy efforts at the national level in Ghana, I am well-equipped to advocate for the needs of fellow graduate students on the governing board.

In conclusion, I am honoured to seek your support as I embark on this journey to represent your interests on the Board of Governors. Together, let us work towards a more inclusive and vibrant university community. Thank you for your consideration.

Warm regards, Janet Ocloo

## Miley Yang

**MBA Student | School of Business, University of Northern British Columbia**

***I would like to acknowledge that I live, work, and play on the traditional and unceded territories of the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation.***

### ***Miley Yang's Biography***

Miley Yang is a dedicated and experienced professional in the fields of education administration, student engagement, and international student programs. Miley embarked on her educational journey at Langara College in Vancouver, where she completed a University Transfer Program between 2012 and 2014. Her passion for business and management led her to the College of New Caledonia (CNC) in Prince George, where she pursued a Business Management Program from 2014 to 2016. Furthering her academic credentials, Miley is currently enrolled in the Master of Business Administration (MBA) Program at the University of Northern British Columbia, aiming to complete it in 2025.

In 2017, Miley transitioned to a career more aligned with her passions. Miley joined the College of New Caledonia (CNC) as an International Student Engagement Coordinator in 2017. In this role, she excelled in recruiting host families for the CNC Homestay Program, planning and leading activities for international

students, and developing leadership programs. Her work was instrumental in enhancing the student experience at CNC, particularly for international students.

In 2022, Miley's career took another step forward as she became the Communications Administrative Assistant at CNC, where she managed website content, supervised event staff, and drafted important communications to the CNC community. Her skills in administration, project coordination, and stakeholder engagement flourished in this role, showcasing her ability to manage diverse tasks efficiently.

Currently, Miley serves as an Administrative Assistant and Project Coordinator at CNC. Her responsibilities include coordinating special initiatives, developing effective procedures, leading service satisfaction surveys, and ensuring the smooth onboarding of new staff. Her role is pivotal in maintaining the efficiency and effectiveness of the Policy & Planning services at CNC.

Outside her professional endeavors, Miley is actively involved in community and professional activities, contributing to various organizations such as Theatre Northwest, the Canadian Cancer Society, and the Immigrant and Multicultural Services Society. She has served as a member for the CNC Black History Month Committee for the last past seven years. She has also engaged in professional development through the Coaching Out of the Box 5/5/5 Coaching Skills Training and Mental Health First Aid.

Miley received the nominations for the Canadian Bureau of International Education Leadership Award in 2016 and being a finalist for the 2018 Prince George Top 40 Under 40. These accolades reflect her leadership, dedication, and positive impact on her community and the field of education.

Miley Yang is a working professional with a robust blend of skills in administration, student engagement, and community involvement. Her career trajectory demonstrates a steadfast commitment to enhancing educational experiences, particularly for international students, and her ongoing involvement in community service highlights her dedication to making a positive impact in her community.