

Vice-President Communications Candidate Biographies

Lyndsey Hahn

I am currently a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry. I have completed a PhD in Rehabilitation Science from the University of Alberta. I joined the postdoctoral fellow association (PDFA) in March 2022 as a member-at-large. Since joining the PDFA, I have been involved in many activities. These include attending the monthly executive meetings, being a member of the Research Day and Appreciation Week 2022 Committee, judging travel awards, and helping at PDFA BBQ (social event). I am also currently a non-governor committee member of the Learning, Student Experience, and Research Committee.

I would like to take on the VP Communications role within the PDFA in order to continue to contribute to the association and support other postdoc fellows during their time at the University of Alberta. I believe that being a postdoc is truly a unique experience and often a period of transition for many. As VP communications, I would like to provide clear, relevant information for postdocs through social media and working alongside our valued colleagues at NASA. I plan to work with other members of the PDFA executive to organise additional social events and continue my work with the Research Day and Appreciation Week committee. I also plan to listen to the needs/feedback from postdoc fellows at the UofA in order to improve communication within our postdoc fellow community. Thank you for the opportunity to put my name forward for the role of VP Communications.

AKM Shahid Ullah

My name is AKM Shahid Ullah. I am originally from Bangladesh, from where I completed my BSc in Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering followed by a Master's in Public Health. I moved to Canada in 2009 as a graduate student in the Department of Biological Sciences and completed my MSc. Then I joined the Department of Physiology and completed my Ph.D. this year. Currently, I am a post-Doc in the department of medicine working on cardiac transplant rejection and angiogenesis.

Throughout my student life was engaged in volunteering in various forms including student governing bodies, photographic society, theatre, organizing festivals etc. At the U of A, I was greatly involved in the Biological Sciences Grad Student's Association. I also served as the vice-president of the Physiology Grad Student's Association. Outside U of A, currently, I serve as an executive director on the Board of Executives of the Muslim Community of Edmonton (MCE mosque).

I always wanted to make a change with even my smallest contribution to the community. As a post-doc, the PDFA members are my community now, and I want to contribute here as well. I am a fluent communicator and proved that on numerous occasions. It's not that I was successful at addressing issues and getting them fixed 100% times, but in many situations that were the key. With all my experiences from being involved in various organizing bodies at different levels, my enthusiasm and motivation to do something for the community make me qualified and well suited for the VP-Communication post of the PDFA.