

for all things actuarial

APRIL
2023

UMAC Newsletter

I. EXAM SUCCESS

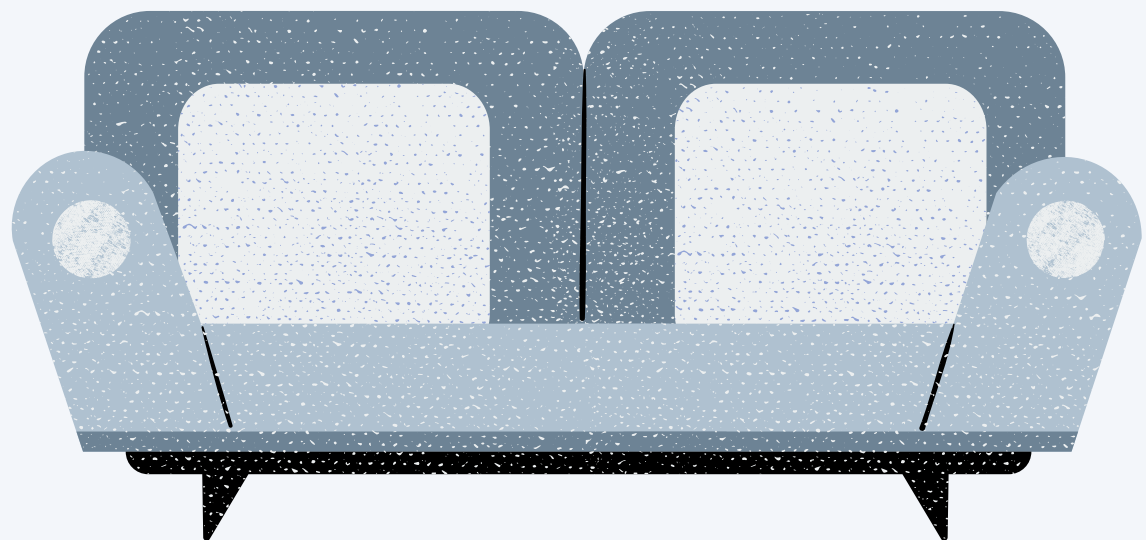
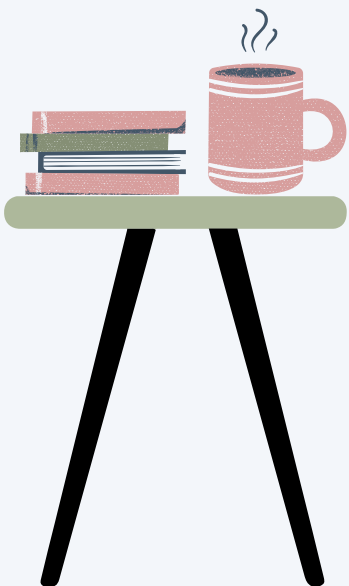
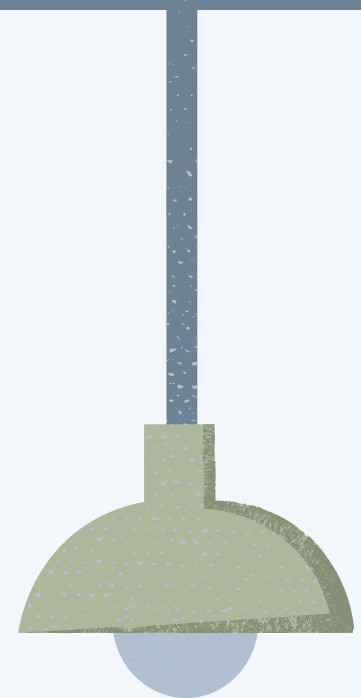
II. CASE COMP WINNERS

III. 2023/2024 EXEC TEAM

IV. WHO'S TEACHING YOU?
with Adrian Ferens

V. GRAD SURVEY

VI. GRAD YEARBOOK



@umactuarialclub



University of Manitoba Actuarial Club



www.umactuary.ca

Thank you!

From your Communications Chair

Dear UMAC,

What a year it's been! We've had some fantastic events, supported each other through the ups and downs, and built a community that I am proud to be a part of.

I truly hope that being a part of UMAC has been a valuable resource and support system in your actuarial journey. Our mission is to enable every member to reach their fullest potential and create a lasting positive impact that extends beyond graduation.

It has been a pleasure to engage with you through the UMAC Instagram, LinkedIn, and newsletters over the past year. I look forward to seeing you again next year as your 2023-2024 Special Events Coordinator!

Cheers,

Alissane Ruest

ASNA 2023



12/01/2023 - 14/01/2023



Pancake Breakfast



28/02/2023



EXAM SUCCESS

Congrats Fall/Winter Exam Passers!

Mylea Hildebrand - FM

Melani Fernando - FM

Harlan Kumps - FM

Shaun Moore - FM

Conrad Pragnell - P

Ryan Wiebe - P

Eric Strick - P

Alyssa Crymble - P

Rutik Patel - IFM

Alex Crupi - FAM

Matthew Lehmann - MAS 1

Coaching Actuaries Success Story

"CA Learn has allowed me to efficiently prepare for both Exams FM and P by pinpointing the exact knowledge required to be successful. ADAPT offers both written and video solutions for each problem, which helped me avoid making the same mistake twice. The levelling system within ADAPT is motivating and clearly indicated when I was Exam-ready!"

-Conrad Pragnell

Coaching Actuaries Discount Codes

UMAC members get exclusive access to CA discount codes!

Adapt : 25% OFF

Adapt+Manual : 50% OFF

Adapt+Learn : 75% OFF

Email us or send us a DM to receive the codes.

MUNICH RE CUP WINNERS

Congratulations on First Place!

On March 23rd, the team representing the U of M presented their work at the Munich Re office in Toronto for the 9th Annual Munich Re Cup. Here's how it went...



Team Members:

**Ryan Wiebe, Alissane Ruest,
Conrad Pragnell, Vianca Gamboa**

What was the most fun part?

Alissane: Trip to Toronto with friends!

Conrad: Trip to Toronto, networking, listening to the other teams' approaches to the problem.

Ryan: Spending time with friends

Vianca: Learning about the different aspects of insurance

What was the most challenging part?

Alissane: Practice presentations

Conrad: Constantly reinventing our solution.

Ryan: Starting over when an actuary doesn't like your ideas

Vianca: Keeping the bigger picture in mind

What is your favourite part about winning?

Alissane: Major sense of accomplishment

Conrad: Knowing that our long days at the Drake Centre paid off.

Ryan: The big cheque

Vianca: Our hard work paying off and celebrating our success

Describe the experience in 3 words

Alissane:

Challenging yet rewarding

Conrad:

So much research

Ryan:

Lots of fun!

Vianca:

Demanding but rewarding

What did it take to win?

Alissane: Hard work and lots of feedback

Conrad: Constant research, discussing our ideas with industry professionals

Ryan: Teamwork and confidence

Vianca: Lots of practice and stepping outside of our comfort zones

Advice to future participants

Alissane: Step out of your comfort zone!

Conrad: Make your presentation as comprehensible as possible; it shouldn't be difficult to understand. Slides should be visually appealing, but technically minimalistic.

Ryan: Just do it

Vianca: Manage your time well and seek lots of feedback



UMAC CUP WINNERS

Describe in 3 words or less...

...your favourite part:

Darbara: Table Tennis with Matthew (even though I couldn't hit the ball two times in a row)

Matthew: Finishing the presentation

Rutik: Teaching presentation techniques

Tara: Matthew's Latte Art

...one thing you learned:

Darbara: How to tell an interesting story with bunch of numbers

Matthew: Practice presenting

Rutik: Keep it simple

Tara: Rutik's ruthless when it comes to breaks/ sleep



Team Members:

**Rutik Patel, Matthew Lehmann,
Tara Cyr, Darbara Kaushal**

...what it took for you to win:

Darbara: Building a community!

Matthew: Commit to idea

Rutik: Commitment and teamwork

Tara: Teamwork and truly believing our idea

UMAC Cup Runner-Ups

2nd Place

Alyssa Crymble

Steven French

Stefan Hewitt

McKenzie Rosenberg

3rd Place

Arsha Arsha

Gurkaran Kaur

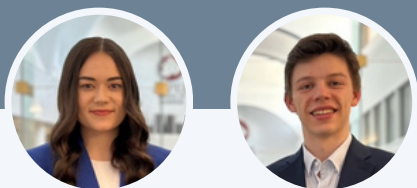
Harmeem Kaur

Manvir Kaur



UMAC EXEC TEAM

2023-2024



Matthew Lehmann & Tara Cyr
Co-Presidents



Alyssa Crymble
Communications Chair



Alissane Ruest
Special Events Coordinator



Griffon Neufeld
Promotions Coordinator



Ryan Wiebe
ASNA Rep



Anna Kowalchuk
Secretary



Rutik Patel
International Students' Rep



Meg Murray
Treasurer

Who's Teaching You?

with Adrian Ferens

Why did you decide to take a go at teaching?

Adrian: I started getting into teaching pretty early on in my life, through both tutoring or teaching piano, and especially did a ton of it during university. I got passionate about it very quickly as I found being able to help people reach their goals is extremely fulfilling and rewarding. Ultimately, what I want out of my career is to help people as much as I can, and I find that combining two of my greatest passions is a perfect way to accomplish this. My end goal is to be able to help actuaries/students prepare for what life is like after graduating, including actuarial exam preparation and what actual industry practice looks like.

Adrian Ferens graduated from Asper in 2020 and is currently pursuing his designation through the SOA. He is currently working as a Senior Actuarial Associate at Sun Life, working in the Capital Finance/Financial Optimization team. You may have seen him around campus this Winter semester as he is teaching Risk Management (ACT 2210).

What does your life outside of work/studying look like?

Adrian: Outside of work/studying, I love to dive into music - I put a ton of hours into the piano and also do a little bit of DJing and making music. Aside from that, I love going to music festivals, traveling with my girlfriend and dog, and I'm a die hard fan of the Toronto Maple Leafs and watching them lose in the first round each year!!

FUN FACT!

"I've been playing the piano for over 20 years, starting when I was super young. I was involved with lots of competitions before graduating which made for some of the best memories of my life!"



What is your favourite UMAC memory?

Adrian: My favourite UMAC memory has got to be going to ASNA in 2020. You meet so many amazing people in the program and being able to travel with them makes for incredible memories. Overall, just getting into some of the events that UMAC holds, such as Fish Dinners and Poker Nights was so much fun and was a great way to meet some great people.

Advice Corner

Adrian: My biggest advice for students is to really **take advantage of the time you have in university**. As a student, it is the perfect time to be able to try new things before you move on to full time work.

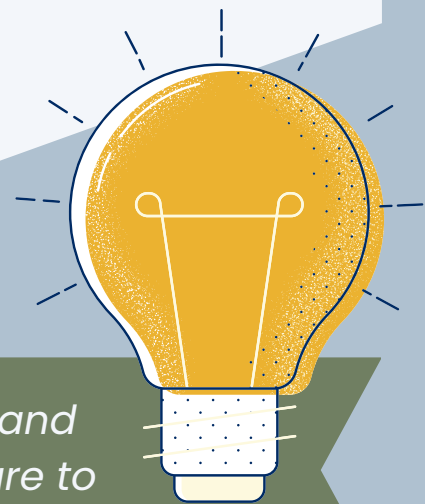
Career-wise, it is an amazing opportunity to try to **pursue internships with several employers** to try out different areas like life insurance, P&C, reinsurance, etc, and especially seeing what life is like living outside of Winnipeg for a semester. Definitely take advantage of opportunities outside of your comfort zone, as you learn a lot about yourself and have experience that defines what you're looking for outside of graduation.

It's also a great time to **build your network**, which can be done through attending events like info sessions, networking opportunities through university, and especially going to the amazing events held by UMAC - the people you go to school with are going to be some of the people you work with which is a lot of fun! I'd also highly recommend to **get involved with UMAC** as much as you can.

Finally, the most important advice I have is to **take time for yourself**. Explore new hobbies, make time to travel and hang out with friends as much as you can. I can't stress this enough, but make sure to take some time before diving into full time work and take some time to recharge after graduating and do some travelling if you're into that!

Similarly with actuarial exams, I definitely agree that completing a few while in university is great, but at the end of the day, you're going to have your whole life to study and work, so make sure you make time for yourself as well.

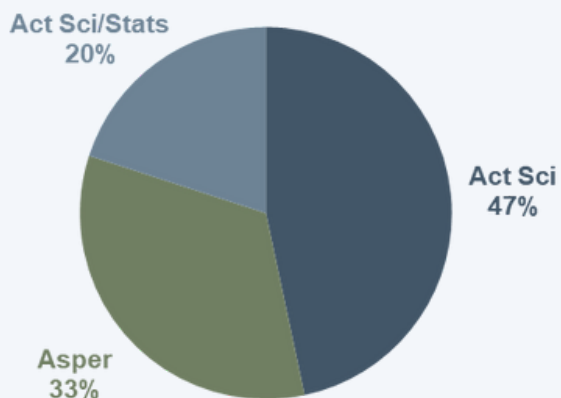
"Now is a perfect time to try new things and make some great memories, so make sure to enjoy the student life as much as you can!"



2023

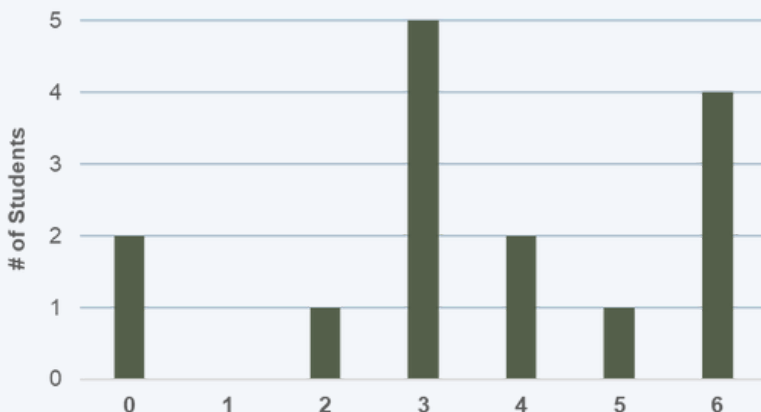
GRAD SURVEY STATS

FACULTY BREAKDOWN



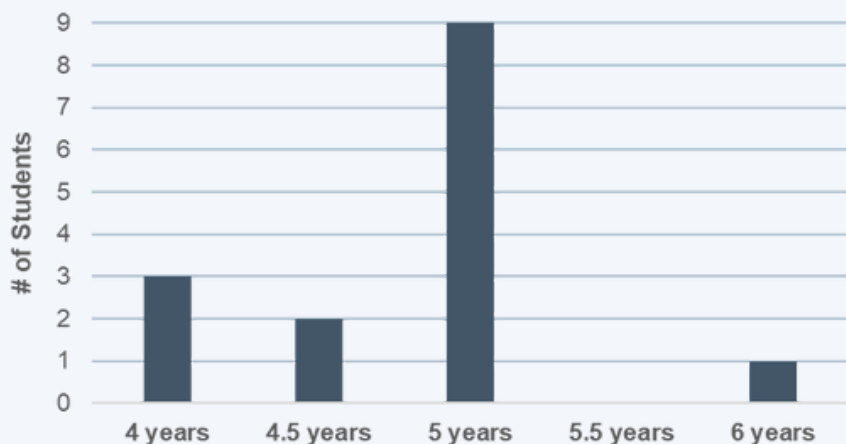
| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Number of Graduate Responses | 15 |
| Faculty of Science | 10 |
| Asper School of Business | 5 |

NUMBER OF EXAMS PASSED

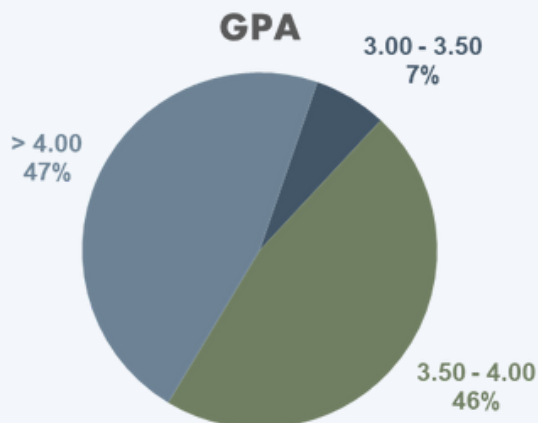


Average Exams 3.9
(This is higher than last year's average of 3 exams.)

YEARS OF SCHOOL



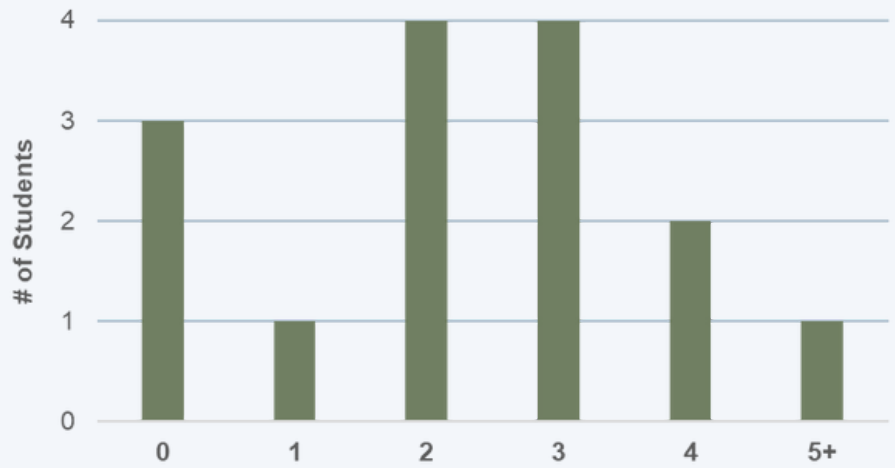
| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Average Years in school | 4.8 |
| Average - Fac of Sci | 4.8 |
| Average - Asper | 4.8 |



2023
GRAD SURVEY
 STATS

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Average Number of Co-op Terms | 2.27 |
| Average - Fac of Sci | 2.1 |
| Average - Asper | 2.6 |

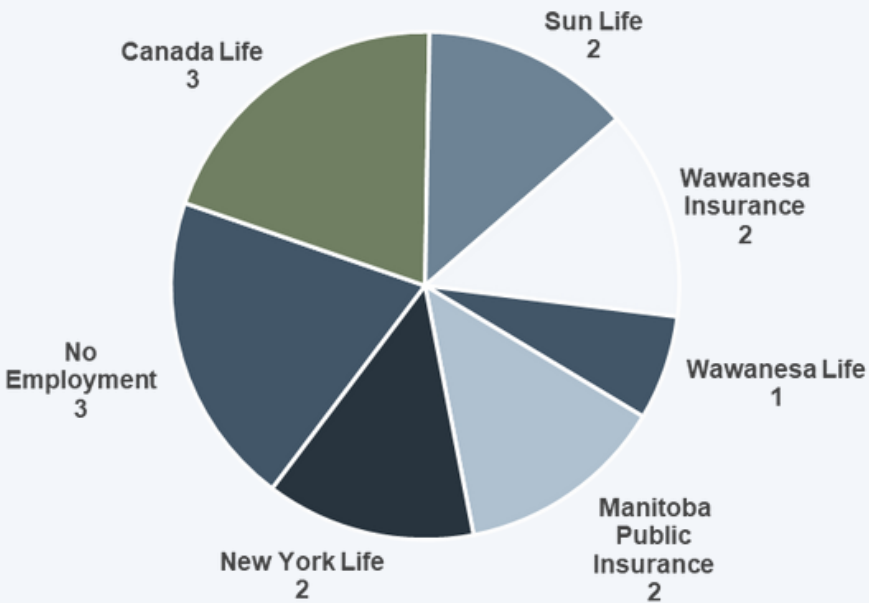
NUMBER OF INTERNSHIPS



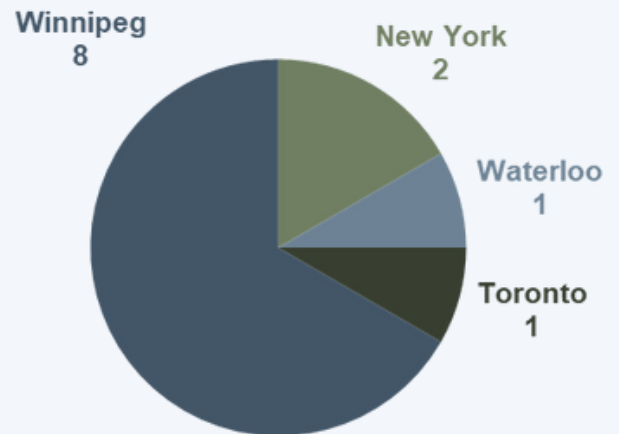
FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

| | |
|---|------|
| Students in Science with FT employment | 70% |
| Students in Asper with FT employment | 100% |

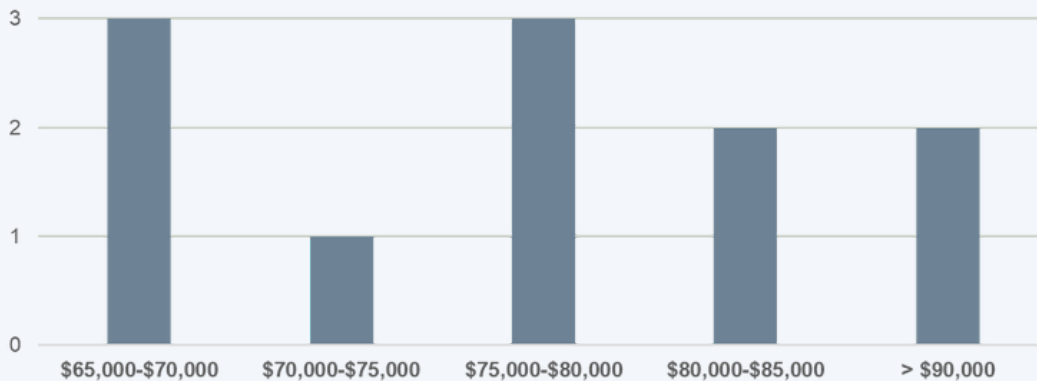
| | |
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| Students with completed internships who received FT offers | 100% |
| Students who have interned at the same company prior to receiving a full-time offer | 75% |



Location of Full-Time Employment

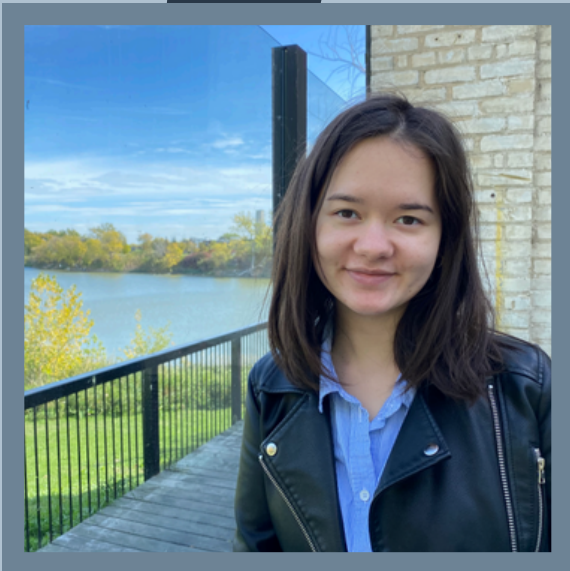


SALARY RANGE





GRAD YEARBOOK 2022-2023



Katherine Stobbe

Fave quote: Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment, until it becomes a memory. – Dr. Seuss

Fave memory: ASNA 2020

Go-to advice: Don't stress too much about classes or grades – enjoy the time with your friends and family! And be sure to take full advantage of all the services UMAC offers!



Aqua-Jade Podgurnycormier

Fave quote: My favourite quote will always be something my grandmother told me when I was made fun of in school for being “weird”: “There is nothing wrong with talking to a wall, only be concerned when that wall starts talking back.”

Fave memory: Taking Risk Management with Steve pre-COVID and he brought non-alcoholic champagne for the last day of class. He even got students to try to pop the cork!

Go-to advice: There is absolutely no shame in having to repeat a class, because everybody has done it at some point!



Luke Alevizos

Fave quote: "You'll never know what you can't achieve, until you don't achieve it." - 21 Jump Street

Fave memory: Bar hopping after the UMAC fish dinner.

Go-to advice: Get involved! There are so many amazing opportunities for your taking while studying at U of M.

Don't be afraid to go outside of your comfort zone!

Go-to advice: 2 SOA exams in 1 month isn't worth it.



Christopher Unrau

Fave quote: "The world ends with you. If you want to enjoy life, expand your world. You gotta push your horizons out as far as they'll go" - Sanae Hanekoma

Fave memory: I had a great time participating in a couple of the UMAC case competitions, even managed to snag a little bit of prize money in one of them

Go-to advice: Assume textbooks are optional until proven otherwise



Ashish Kumar

Fave quote: What's the worse that could happen?

Fave memory: UMAC Fish dinner & Playing pool at IQ's

Go-to advice: Start doing it instead of thinking about it.



Vianca Gamboa

Fave memory: ASNA 2023 & winning the Munch Re Cup

Go-to advice: Network!! So attend as many UMAC events as you can.



Jack Richards

Fave quote: *"Our greatest freedom is the freedom to choose our attitude."* - Viktor Frankl

Fave memory: Living out my mattress empire dreams as "Mattress Jack" with the one and only Steve Scoles.



Simon Neufeld

Fave quote: "The Universe is under no obligation to make sense to you" - Neil deGrasse Tyson

Fave memory: My favourite university memory was doing an exchange semester abroad in Haifa, Israel. I got to meet so many people from around the world and learned so much while I was there.

Go-to advice: Take things one step at a time. Don't overwhelm yourself by focusing on big goals that are farther away, celebrate the smaller wins too.



THOUGHTS?

Want to write in the newsletter?

Have an idea to share?

Contact your 2023-2024 Comm. Chair, Alyssa Crymble!



crymblealyssa3@gmail.com