

S2E1: ESS Intro - Transcript

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VP Publications

You're listening to the official podcast of the Engineering Students Society of Lakehead University. We're here to facilitate engineering themed conversations outside of the classroom and connect you to other students, faculty and alumni. Thanks for tuning in.

Welcome to the ESS podcast season two! We hope your summer is going well, whether you're working at a cool summer job or internship, taking classes or enjoying some vacation time. We're excited to return to campus in the fall and connect with all of you not to mention a brand new class first years and transition students. If you're a current transition student, keep up the good work. So what can you expect from the podcast: season 2? Hopefully, we'll be able to interview some alumni and basically have a coffee chat slash field research meeting that the whole student body can benefit from and will hopefully inspire you to connect with industry professionals and role models yourself. So that's very exciting. Additionally, I would like to do an episode on a certain famous engineer who worked right here in Thunder Bay when it was Fort William. So keep your eyes peeled for that as well. We can do some students and faculty conversations and talk about ESS events. But we're open to new ideas so please reach out.

Now for the season premiere, we've got some of our society's executive members here. So we're each gonna go and introduce ourselves talk about our goals for the year and our favorite classes that we've had so far, just for fun, or an equivalent fun fact. So I'll go first. I'm Amanda Pacholczak. I'm the VP publications this year. My goals for the year are to continue making some fun posters and keeping you all excited and up to date about all of our events and also making the website really beautiful because I'm kind of addicted to WordPress. My favorite class, at least so far, is probably the vector one, I forget what it's called, but it was it was a good math class and it wasn't too hard. I very much enjoyed it, it was low stress. So I encourage you to take it. Okay, now we're gonna go to Kayla. So you have the floor.

Kayla

Okay, my name is Kayla Huneau and I'm the ESS president for this academic year. This will be my fourth year at Lakehead in chemical and this will be my fourth year volunteering with ESS and my last. My goals for the year basically to help ease the transition to a fully in person year, not having that like limbo state we were in last year, as well as trying to continue with last year's President was making a policy manual to try and ease the transition between executives and I'm





hoping to help with that as well. My favourite class at Lakehead probably is all of the chemical labs. I think that's it for me.

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Thank you, Kayla. Yeah, Kayla's was awesome. So well. Oh, I forgot to save my discipline and chemical, and I'm going into my second year. There you go. So now we're gonna go to Bugg. You have the floor, Bugg.

Bugg

Alrighty. Well, my name is Sajan Bugg. Most people just call me Bugg. I am the VP sponsorship for this academic year. I'm in mechanical engineering going into my second year. My goals for this year are to sort of get a better range of disciplines for this coming industry night and it's going to be moved from it's usually held in April. Now it's going to be in November because last year it got canceled three times in a row due to snow. So we're hoping that won't happen this year because it's November and that doesn't happen that time of year. And so you have a lot to look forward to. And I'd say my favourite class from first year was fluid mechanics because Birbal Singh was absolutely incredible Prof, but unfortunately anyone else coming won't get to experience his greatness because he's now retired. But other than that he got lots to look forward to everyone.

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Okay, thank you, but I agree fluid mechanics was so fun. Oh, last. Yes. So now we're going to go to Jackie. So take it away.

Jacky

Hey there. I'm Jacky. I'm part of the ESS, VP for Lakehead Georgian in Barrie. My goals for the year are really to start an ESS position, get used to it. Because we've never had an ESS in Barrie before. So I'm just trying to create events, trying to do a little bit of everyone's jobs, a little bit of Bugg's, a little bit Kayla's, a little bit of Amanda's, and trying to make it all copacetic. My plan eventually in the future is to have an ESS just for Barrie, so there's gonna be a Barrie version of Kayla, Bugg, Amanda, every ESS position, so that's gonna be something to look forward to. My favourite class was I think it'd be power systems, not because of the difficulty, because it was just extremely hard, but because that it kind of made sense of all the classes I've taken, and I'm going to take I'm going to take that to the bank. It was the only class that kind of clicked.

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That's great. Yeah, Jackie has been doing a great job. He's got a lot on his plate. Our VP social Marlies is up next. So I'm going to ask Marlies to introduce herself.

Marlies



Hi, everyone. My name is Marlies. I'll be your VP Social for this upcoming academic year 2022 2023. I'm currently in my second year of Chemical Engineering at Lakehead. And my goals this year are to run as many successful events as possible, especially considering that we haven't had much of a chance to run events in the last couple of years due to COVID. I want to pick up right where we left off in 2018. I just want to make sure that I can help everyone have as much fun as possible this year. My favourite class so far probably has to be unit operations. I found it to be one of the most interesting just because the problems that we're working through, I could see being used like in the future in our careers when we're designing heat exchangers or tube systems, etc.

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Thank you Marlies. Yes, she's been very busy planning all of our events. Jamie is up next.

Jamie

Hi everybody. My name is Jamie, and I am this year is 2022 2023 ESS VP Internal. I'm going into second year of chemical engineering. My main goals for this year are to represent the engineering students of Lakehead University on an internal level and more locally. I want to work with the ESS to try and make your year as great as possible. My favourite class I Lakehead so far was probably introduction to industrial chemical processes. I'm very excited to get to know everybody and if there are any issues that you'd like to bring up with me, you can always send me an email at essadm@lakeheadu.ca. Have a great year everybody.

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Thank you Jamie. And finally we have Wadika.

Wadika

Hi everyone. My name is Wadika Faisal and I am currently serving as the vice president external for the Engineering Student Society here at Lakehead, AKA the ESS. I decided to join the ESS because I one want wanted to become more involved with the engineering community but secondly, I kind of wanted a space where I can be a little bit creative and help make an impact and also help develop change within us. And I think it was a really cool time to do that just because we were coming right out of COVID and so we were coming at that crossroad again where it was like Alright, well how do we transition to back in person and so I thought the experience would become even more unique that way. What do I like to do outside of engineering? Well, I like to go to the gym, I'm a cyclist, so I really love doing that, lately I've gone into rock climbing, so that, I just moved into a new apartment here in Thunder Bay, so I've kind of just been scrambling around to get furniture and apparently a lot of people don't like e-transfer. Second thing is constantly at the bank withdrawing cash. So that's kind of fun as well. I'm actually



from Alberta. I'm from Edmonton, Alberta, and I came here for Lakehead and so far I've come to love Thunder Bay as this adorable little mountain town. And I really come to appreciate the little hidden gems. So if you also ever want to know about some cool restaurants around the place, feel free to send me a DM because I have honestly I've become a little bit of a foodie and walking around on my walking tours. Also, I don't I don't think I mentioned this but I'm currently I'm currently in my fourth year of civil engineering and I also have a minor in Computer Science. I did this because I kind of wanted to transfer over to software engineering, but that would have required me to restart my degree so I thought it would have been worthwhile to obtain a minor. That does extend my degree by a year but honestly I'm okay with that. Would that be said now I've come to learn that I do love civil. And this happened after a summer of working in oil and gas and realizing just how exciting infrastructure is and how great it is to actually work out there in the field and kind of get hands on experience. So with that being said, I hope everyone has an absolutely wonderful year. I can't wait to meet everyone, feel free to send me an email, find me on Discord, Instagram, LinkedIn, whatever floats your boat. If you ever want if you just ever just have some questions or want to have a quick little chat about just about anything, but that being said, have a great term guys.

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Things Wadika. Those are all of our ESS executives. So now we're going to move to Marlies who will explain all of the ESS events.

Marlies

So first of all, I knew the hosting back to the bay. It's kind of a welcome back for engineering students this year. It'll be posted at the Lakehead Beer Company. And it's just an event to bring everyone together to socialize meet one another and kind of get to know the engineering community. So that'll be Friday September 9, from 9pm to 12am. And there will be transportation to and from Lakehead beer company from Lakehead University. And then right after that, the Saturday September 10, and Sunday, September 11. There will be Frosh. Frosh is traditionally an event hosted for the first years, although it is open to the first few transition students, and this year it's open to all students are any students that kind of didn't get a frosh or felt like they missed out in their first year and just want to join in on the event. So it's kind of like the engineering initiation except it's all in good fun, don't worry. I will have some purpling, which is an engineering tradition. So those who are willing will be painted purple - not necessarily from head to toe, but you know, face, arms, maybe a little bit more than that. I will also have some friendly competition, some games outside, we'll learn some traditions engineering traditions, some songs. Get some swag, there'll be T shirts provided. And they'll also have a chance to purchase covies and bucket hats and learn how to decorate those covies. Also this year, I'm really excited for is we are going to have cardboard boat races on the Sunday, so if that's something you're interested



in, please sign up. Now after that, our next event is the bus pull. It's a fundraiser for Big Brothers Big Sisters. So we usually have a bus set up in the Agora circle and there will be teams that sign up to pull this bus and give a donation for the cause. And winners will receive a prize but all proceeds go towards Big Brothers Big Sisters charity, and this will be happening on September 28. Now after this, I don't have specific dates set. That'll be something I need to get going on but if you keep your eyes and ears peeled, you will be able to find out no problem. So in October, I will be hosting an Oktoberfest and not sure exactly. I haven't pinned down precisely what's going to be happening but we will likely have a pumpkin catapult and some other activities outside and probably congregate in the Outpost afterwards. In November we will have an Industry Night run by our very own VP sponsorship Sajan Bugg and this will be happening November 16. I'm very excited for this to be happening in November as opposed to March. I know Bug already talked briefly about it, so stay tuned for more details on that you don't want to miss it. Also in November, it will be the LEC, the Lakehead engineering competition. Now there'll be junior and senior divisions. So groups of about four will compete against fellow students in the engineering competition, so there'll be a challenge that you'll have to figure out write a presentation on and the winners of this will go to the Ontario engineering competition in January. So again, stay tuned on that because it's a pretty exciting opportunity. In December, unfortunately, I will not be hosting any events! I will be busy studying as you should be as well for exams. Now in January when we're back, I will be running a frost which is basically a winter version of frosh. So anyone who missed out on frosh or those who maybe started in the second semester, as opposed to the first will be able to attend frost and again similar to frosh so it'll be kind of an initiation. And then we will also have a mixer in January. I'm unsure right now about the theme and the location but stay tuned on details for that in February and this is probably one of the events I'm most excited for is the engineering nursing formal. In the past it has been held at a hotel, it's a big fancy dinner and dance, so make sure you dress up. And yeah, it's a lot of fun. So we'll have to come up with a theme and such for this year, but again, stay tuned. It'll be a lot of fun. Now also in February, we'll have speed dating in the Study in honor of Valentine's Day. And while you may not find your soulmate, it'll be good for laughs and you'll be able to meet some new friends. I would really recommend coming out to that and in March as its national engineering month. Our NEM committee will be helping me plan a number of events. Those also have not been completely figured out yet. So you'll have to stay tuned for details. And again in April there will be no events. Everyone should be busy studying for exams as that's what I will be doing. And yeah, so that's our events for the first year. If you're interested in helping out with any of these, please feel free to reach out to me or any of the members of the ESS as volunteers are always very, very helpful. But yeah, I'm excited for this year.

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Okay, so now we find all about our events, and we know what you're thinking. These are some great people and some really cool events. So how can I be a part of it? And Kayla will now explain our volunteer positions.

Kayla

Okay, so, to volunteer with ESS we have different directorships. So we have a general directorship application, which is on various things on the discord, the Instagram, Facebook, it'll probably be emailed out again. So there's at least 10 different positions. There's some event directors that can help with events in Barrie with Jacky as well as Marlies, here in Thunder Bay. There's different directorships for sustainability or diversity, things like that. And year representatives which will fall under myself, and that's just relaying the ESS messages to each year and in your classes and stuff like that. So that's just an application you'd fill out and then we usually pick the directors end of September, mid September once we're more organized and we're back actually, at the school. So some other things that you can do is join the engineering discord, follow our Instagram, Facebook, things like that to kind of stay informed. And then joining the duckling mentorship program. So basically, older students, which are mother and father ducks, get paired with students who are new to Lakehead and those would be the ducklings, whether you're a first year or transition student or anyone who would be new to Lakehead. It was founded a few years ago formally by Victoria Carlyle, who was one of the VP socials in 2019, I believe. So it's been around for a few years, and it's been pretty popular especially with the newer students. So Marlies is going to continue that and she also has a lot of different social events planned. It's a really great way to network with people.

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Okay, great. So check out our directorship application and our Duckling mentorship application, which will be open soon. So keep your eyes peeled. Now there's a lot of other engineering resources and opportunities available. We are not the only engineering organization around, so we thought we would highlight some of those. The OSPE virtual interview simulator is a free program that you can access on the OSPE website and you sign up by email, record yourself answering questions, whatever you'd like to answer, I guess, related to engineering and what you would see in a typical engineering interview and then seventy two hours later, you receive feedback from real interview coaches. It is free, as I mentioned, and it is never too early to start practicing your interview skills. So now you don't need to bother your roommates, or your family members to practice with you. Another thing that is happening this fall, is the Tech Stewardship practice program. So this is a 12 hour self paced free digital program based on the Tech stewardship movement, which aims to bend the arc of technology towards good. It's a chance to examine your impact as an engineer on society and the ethical implications of your work and then apply your learning to real life situations and converse with students across the country. Registration is



open throughout September, and you will earn a LinkedIn credential so you get to boost your resume at the same time as you learn. Now finally, the engineering student societies Council of Ontario Commissioner applications are open until August 22. So if you're looking to get involved in the engineering community on the provincial level, and meet engineering students from across Ontario, this opportunity is for you. So from sponsorships to marketing to eSports they definitely have a space for you on their team. Now you can check out the school by Instagram bio for the application link. You can email the provided contact in the application with any questions or concerns. It would be very, really great to get some kind of representation on the provincial level. I know our past president Julie Hauth was VP finance a couple of years ago for them but we're not sure how represented we've been since then, so please, please, please apply. Anyways, that's a wrap for our first episode of season two. We've introduced ourselves, ESS events and some programs and resources. So I hope all that was helpful. And we're looking forward to seeing you in the fall. Have a great rest of your summer.

We hope you enjoyed this episode of the Lakehead ESS podcast. Visit ess.lusu.ca to learn more about the society. And remember to follow us on social media to stay up to date on all of our events. See you next time.