

Teamwork Makes The Dream Work

I made a split-second decision to apply to serve on the EC for Y.E.S@Tuks. I didn't expect to get such a great team to work with.

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The day I applied for Y.E.S@Tuks wasn't much different than most: I got up, drank my morning coffee, and reluctantly attended my online classes. You get the picture. But then I got a message alert from the EKN 244 group chat I joined in the hopes of not missing any important information pertaining to that module... or to just add new stickers to my collection whenever people complain after a test. The former Chairperson for Y.E.S@Tuks was advertising that applications for the committee were open.

"The Young Economists Society", I thought to myself. It sounds like a great resumé bedazzler for an Economics student hoping to go into the field. My heart was saying I should apply but my head was telling me that I lacked the leadership skills necessary; that my presence wouldn't add any value to the team. I'd like to say that I had a spiritual awakening of sorts - a whole *Eat, Pray, Love* situation where I realised my worth - but it actually took a lot of encouragement from my family and friends for me to finally decide to bite the bullet. My mom said it would be fun for me to do something out of my comfort zone.

And how right she was.

Don't get me wrong, I still believe my term of service to be a resumé bedazzler, but more than that now I've come to appreciate the development of character my position on this EC has granted me.

I've learned a lot about admin, writing agendas, taking minutes and planning events. Though, that's not going to be the biggest takeaway from my year on the Y.E.S@Tuks EC.

No, my biggest lessons have been taught to me by my teammates.

From Yajna, I learned to make a healthy mind my top priority, no matter the chaos of life, and that being part of a team doesn't just mean sticking to your corner of responsibility but always reaching across the table (even if it is as big as the one in the Commerci office) and to help where you can. From Rose, I learned that being soft-spoken doesn't mean I can't hold a leadership position - her grace commands a room in a way a loud leader never could. From Austin, I learned that being a quiet person doesn't mean I can't speak my mind. I think I speak

for the whole team when I say that he also showed us how to swim when thrown into the deep end as our Treasurer. From Kwena I learned that laughing is an integral part of the success of any team. Having fun helps a lot to mitigate the stressors a position like this can sometimes hold. As our Outreach Officer, Celeste has taught me that a team is only as successful as the community it serves. Success is only achieved if you help others up. From Liezl, I learned that having a passion for what I do is vital if I want to do it well. Her dazzling smile when she talks about anything relating to marketing speaks for itself in that regard.

And, lastly, from myself, I learned that I'm capable of much more than I think.

8 months ago I made a split-second decision that has provided me with a lifetime's worth of lessons. So, thank you Y.E.S@Tuks EC 2021/22!