



# Fall 2023 Mason Korea Student Government Executive Report

December 26, 2023

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#### Overview



#### Dear Patriots,

Mason Korea Student Government for the 2023 academic year has come to an end! On behalf of the Jo-Choi Administration, I want to send my sincerest gratitude for your support and engagement in making our university a better place for all.

We live in tumultuous times today – when President Washington addressed the Mason Community on what it means to be a Patriot earlier this year, he mentioned that with "our differences come many world views, beliefs, experiences and expressions, and the only way we thrive is by providing a safe and open public square that allows these differences to comingle." Despite the disagreements many of us may come across in our daily lives, these differences are the very moments where our core identity and values of diversity and inclusion truly shine as a university.

So, we ask that you continue to be role models for our community here as well: even when it comes to concerns about our campus, each one of which has a heavy impact on our students' university life, academic success, and/or safety, we welcome critical – and healthy – discourse here. That includes not only students, but also our faculty and staff; the purpose of Student Government is to not only serve and advocate for the interests of the student body but also to educate the University community regarding the state of the institution, as per the Student Body Constitution.

Without further ado, we are excited to share our **Fall 2023 Executive Report** that recaps and summarizes on the progress that we've made this semester as part of our initiatives to improve our communication with the student body. You may find our Spring 2023 Executive Report and our Student Senate Legislation Logs on our website as well.

In sum, with your support, we were able to complete 50+ initiatives and projects over the course of this year, ranging from more on-campus events to building long-term relations within the Incheon Global Campus, the Incheon Metropolitan City, and with our counterparts at the Fairfax Campus. We are truly excited to see the exciting journey that future administrations embark on with the strong foundation that we've built this year as the first campus to transition to a more independent and open Student Government in the Incheon Global Campus.

Thank you all once again for making one of, if not the most memorable years of our lives serving our community this year as student leaders – an honor and privilege we owe you for.

Have a wonderful break!

#### Hyunwoo Jo

2023 Mason Korea Student Body President

#### Fall 2023 Mason Korea Student Government Roster

| Executive Cabinet      |                |  |                  |  |
|------------------------|----------------|--|------------------|--|
| Name                   | Pronouns       | Position   | Email            |  |
| Hyunwoo Jo             | he/him         | Student Body President   | hjo6@gmu.edu     |  |
| Dayeong Choi           | she/her        | Student Body Vice President  | dchoi22@gmu.edu  |  |
| Sunghee Bae            | she/her        | Chief-of-Staff   | sbae22@gmu.edu   |  |
| Miju Rahman            | she/her        | Secretary of Administration and Finance                              | mrahma40@gmu.edu |  |
| Jadzia Jean            | she/her        | Secretary of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs                     | jjean3@gmu.edu   |  |
| Yebin Choi             | she/her        | Secretary of University Life   | ychoi45@gmu.edu  |  |
| Yoonji Seo             | she/her        | Secretary of University Academics                                    | yseo7@gmu.edu    |  |
| Yejin Kim              | she/her        | Secretary of Public Relations  | ykim223@gmu.edu  |  |
|                        | Student Senate |  |                  |  |
| Name Pronouns Position |                | Position   | Email            |  |
| Hyunwoo Jo             | he/him         | Speaker  | hjo6@gmu.edu     |  |
| Dayeong Choi           | she/her        | Speaker Pro Tempore  | dchoi22@gmu.edu  |  |
| Sunghee Bae            | she/her        | Clerk  | sbae22@gmu.edu   |  |
| Minsuk Kim             | he/him         | BUS Representative and Chair of Administration and Finance           | mkim214@gmu.edu  |  |
| Hyunbeen Oh            | she/her        | GLOA Representative and Chair of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs | hoh23@gmu.edu    |  |
| Chaeyeon Lee           | she/her        | GAME Representative and Chair of University Life                     | clee200@gmu.edu  |  |
| Ran Kim                | she/her        | CONF Representative and Chair of University Academics                | rkim43@gmu.edu   |  |
| Woosung Lee            | he/him         | ECON Representative  | wlee38@gmu.edu   |  |
| Dain Min               | she/her        | Senator  | dmin4@gmu.edu    |  |
| Eunchong Yim           | she/her        | Senator  | eyim8@gmu.edu    |  |
| Hanseung Jang          | he/him         | Senator  | hjang30@gmu.edu  |  |

#### Jo-Choi Administration Initiatives

Student & Faculty / Staff ID Card Redesign



As part of Student Government's initiatives for the 2023 academic year, our ID Card Redesign Committee joined by students, faculty, and staff completed a total of 10 designs that were voted by our community. Unfortunately, we made the decision to postpone the redesign due to the current brand refresh taking place at Mason, which we anticipate will be completed in the next academic year.

We hope that these designs be used a reference in future cabinets should the redesign be restarted, and sincerely thank the following members for their hard work: **Bethel Yilma, Dayeong Choi, Hee Seo Kang, Hyunseo Kim, Hyunwoo Jo, John Preston Doran, Joung Min Kim, Junho Cha, Kyungyen Lee, Seoyoon Cho, Yebin Choi, Yeeun Lee, and Yunah Choi.** 

#### Room Reservation and Facility Updates

Starting this semester, Mason Korea Student Government, specifically the Diversity and Multicultural Affairs Department, is now able to reserve any rooms within the Mason Korea building on behalf of any individual(s) or student organization(s) in coordination with the Office of University Life.

You may find the link to the form on the <u>Facilities page of our website</u>, which includes links and information for other related facilities in the Incheon Global Campus as well.

#### Office and Email Changes, Office Hours

Student Government has moved to its new Office in G405 on the fourth floor of the Mason Korea building. This allows for us to have our weekly in-person meetings in our Office, where all members of our community are welcome to join. Additionally, our <u>Contact Us page</u> now includes our Office Hours where anyone wishing to meet with a Student Government member may do so in-person.

Finally, in line with our completed transition to Student Government, our email address has now changed to mksg@gmu.edu. Our old email address has now been retired and is no longer in use.

#### Renewed Sulpan MOU



We announced the extension of our partnership with Sulpan (술판), a restaurant located in Songdo Triple Street Building D until <u>December 31, 2023</u>. Students, faculty, and staff may receive <u>10% off orders over KRW 50,000</u> when presenting their ID Card – we thank the community and Sulpan for their continued interest in this exciting partnership.

Faculty-Student Engagement Program (FSEP)



#### **FSEP Recap**

#### **University Life**

- Expand residential community events to the faculty-level
  - Floor-wide events led by Resident Advisors with UL funding
  - Additional programs for first-semester students

#### Faculty + Academic Affairs

- Faculty/Staff Student Engagement Fund for events throughout the academic semester
  - Utilize on-campus facilities (MK classrooms, IGC Cafeteria) and off-campus discounts
- Host Major and/or Classroom Events on a wider scale and regular basis
  - 14 | George Mason University Kores

We presented the idea of increasing engagement between faculty and students outside the classroom environment, such as <u>meals or coffee on- or off-campus</u>, during Mason Korea's Faculty Professional Development Day on August 17. This comes as an extension and continuation of our engagement with our faculty and staff, first with the presentation on Classroom Assessment Techniques (CATs) in Spring 2023.

We thank the Office of Academic Affairs and Faculty Affairs for the invitation and opportunity to present in front of faculty and staff for such a program, which we hope to tentatively implement next academic year as a pilot program.

#### **IGC Music Room Reservations**

In addition to classroom reservations required by students, the IGC Music Room is now also available for students and student organizations to reserve through the University Life and Academics Departments at Student Government.

The link to the Mason360 form can be found <a href="https://example.com/here-on-our website">here-on-our website</a>, or via Student Resources > Facilities. This change comes as a direct result of a significant increase in student organizations, especially performing arts or music-related, which we are excited to see continue in future semesters to come!

#### Meeting with Dean Matz

After holding the Fall 2023 Town Hall on August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, to address submissions made by our community to Mason Korea leadership, Student Government's Executive Leadership team, on September 18, held a meeting with Campus Dean Robert Matz to discuss the upcoming Mason Korea leadership transition and continue the conversations that were made in August.

In addition to these matters, we touched on important details such as the planning and financial transparency regarding the recent renovation at Mason Korea and upcoming 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Meeting with Fairfax Student Government and Liaison Updates



On September 28, Mason Korea Student Government attended a meeting with our counterparts in the Fairfax Campus to further our cross-campus collaboration and partnership.

Joined by our Executive Leadership and Diversity and Multicultural Affairs (DAMA) Departments and Committees from both Student Governments, Mason Student Government in the Fairfax Campus has taken steps to add liaison responsibilities for our Mason Korea students, with plans to do the same for our international student body in Mason Korea Student Government as well within our DAMA Department. We look forward to where this exciting collaboration takes us in the future!

#### Affiliated Discounts with Megabox Songdo

We announced a new addition to our discount program available to our community for movie tickets and food discounts with Megabox Songdo, with detailed information available on our website.

Please note that food discounts are only available for purchases made in bulk quantities, i.e., for events by student organizations or groups. There are no set minimum quantities; please reach out to us if you plan to make any purchases.

International Student Identity Card (ISIC) Applications



Applications for the International Student Identity Card (ISIC) are now officially open for students as George Mason University Korea is now listed under an affiliated institution, as found on the ISIC website. This initiative, first proposed last year as one of the Jo-Choi Administration's yearly pledges, is the result of a collaborative effort between Student Government and the Office of University Life.

The ISIC card, according to their website, "allows students the world over to prove their official student status and make the most of thousands of targeted student benefits and discounts in over 114 countries/territories."

Students may apply for the ISIC, as seen above, through the <u>Your Mason ID</u> page on our website or <u>the</u> <u>direct application link</u>. The issuance fee is KRW 17,000 for a one-year expiration and KRW 34,000 for two years.

League of Legends Championship



We are proud to announce the successful conclusion of the Fall 2023 Mason Korea League of Legends Championship planned and organized by the University Life Department and Committee.

We had nearly 30 students that participated in the event – competing as part of a team and getting to know other peers within Mason Korea, all the while having fun playing League of Legends. We congratulate the winners of this year's inaugural competition and hope to expand and continue such an exciting event in semesters to come!

#### Collaborative Meeting with The Voice

This semester, Student Government began the foundation for a long-term and constructive partnership and collaboration with Mason Korea's official student-run media outlet, The Voice, starting with a meeting on October 18, 2023.

As student leaders and 'voices' of the student body, we had an insightful time catching up on what both of our organizations have done this year, talking about the recent concerns, suggestions, and feedback from our community, including Mason Korea's transition to a Spring-only graduation.

#### Winter Prom with PAC





Student Government and the Patriot Activities Council (PAC) collaborated to host the 2023 Winter Prom on December 1, 2023, as the final school event of the year.

Themed around a "Winter Wonderland & Masquerade Magic," the event was joined by nearly 100 students within the Incheon Global Campus to dress up and meet other peers.

#### Academic Affairs Town Hall, Focus Group Interview, and Meetings

Many of our members, including those in the Board of Major Representatives, attended many of the events organized by the Office of Academic Affairs such as the Town Hall on October 18, 2023, and the Focus Group Interview on November 6 and 18 to discuss the academic advising services, course offerings, and opportunities available to our students.

We thank the Office for continuing to engage with the student body to hear our ideas, feedback, and suggestions and for their willingness to meet with Student Government, especially the University Academics Committee, to continue this beneficial conversation and engagement with our students.

**Anonymous Question Form** 



This semester, Student Government introduced an Anonymous Question Form on Mason360 where students can submit any questions or thoughts that they would like to share to Student Government.

We post answers to submissions on our Instagram (<a href="https://www.instagram.com/mk\_stugov/">https://www.instagram.com/mk\_stugov/</a>) as a story – you may see answers to previous questions as a Highlight under "Q&As".

Roundtable Meeting with the Mayor of Incheon



After engaging in a series of meetings and discussions with the Mayor of Incheon, IFEZ Commissioner, and IGC Foundation CEO in Spring 2023, Mason Korea Student Government on December 20, 2023, joined other universities within Incheon for another roundtable meeting with the Mayor of Incheon.

The meeting was joined by leadership from both the 2023 and 2024 academic years to bring up many concerns regarding the Incheon Global Campus, such as its students' ineligibility to apply for Korean grant and scholarship programs.

#### **Executive Cabinet**

#### Chief-of-Staff: Sunghee Bae

#### 1. Basic Information

| Photo | Name                                | Sunghee Bae  |
|-------|-------------------------------------|--|
|       |                                     |  |
|       | Mason Email Address                 | sbae22@gmu.edu   |
|       | Major                               | Business B.S.  |
|       | Position                            | Chief-of-Staff   |
|       | CliftonStrengths<br>(if applicable) | Connectedness, Context, Empathy, Strategic, and Activist |

#### 2. Why did you join Student Government and what are your previous experiences?

I joined the Student Government in Spring 2023 semester as Chief-of-Staff and was grateful to continue this position in supporting the student body. As there was a big change in the system of Student Government itself (the name being changed from 'Student Council' to 'Student Government' and the three new senator positions), I felt a stronger responsibility in supporting the Jo-Choi Administration of the Student Government.

#### 3. What are the contributions you made in Student Government this semester?

As a Chief-of-Staff, I focused on organizing and communicating with the executive cabinet members for the better weekly meetings. I prepared the weekly meeting agenda and recorded the senate meetings. There were small to big events during this semester such as the Welcome Week, RSO Fair, Mason Cares, etc.

#### 4. What are some challenges you experienced and improvements that could be made?

The challenges experienced in the Student Government was when there were disagreements from the a few students over the school's decision. As the Student Government brought up these matters on the table during the meetings in the departments, there were sometimes unavoidable situations that the school had to make the decision. Therefore, I think it was a challenge to become a mediator between such problems. I think the improvements could be made when more students could participate in the matters of decision and the school reports the decision at a timing where more students can accept the decision.

#### 5. What tips do you have for future members?

For the future Student Government members, I would highly recommend them to participate in the meetings that are suggested by the Dean, Academic Affairs, etc. It is a great way to better understand

where our school is at. Also, it is a good place where the Student Government can bring up the Student Body's opinions and concerns.

#### Secretary of Administration and Finance: Miju Rahman

#### 1. Basic Information

| Photo | Name                                | Miju Rahman                             |
|-------|-------------------------------------|---|
|       |                                     |   |
|       | Mason Email Address                 | Mrahma40@gmu.edu                        |
|       | Major                               | Accounting                              |
|       | Position                            | Secretary of Administration and Finance |
|       | CliftonStrengths<br>(if applicable) |   |

#### 2. Why did you join Student Government and what are your previous experiences?

I joined the Student Government to gain some experience with many students at Mason Korea and be part of events. My previous experiences are working for CDC ambassador and writing tutor at ARC.

#### 3. What are the contributions you made in Student Government this semester?

I have kept track of the expenses that we have been using for the semester and updated the expense sheet regularly. I have taken part of events such as Welcome Weekend and weekly senate meetings.

#### 4. What are some challenges you experienced and improvements that could be made?

One challenge was communication with other since I was at the weekly senate meetings online. It was hard to know what was happening sometimes and to really understand what other students were saying if they were sitting far from the camera.

#### 5. What tips do you have for future members?

Manage your time well if you want to work for SG.

#### Secretary of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs: Jadzia Jean

#### 1. Basic Information

| Photo | Name                | Jadzia Jean    |
|-------|---------------------|----------------|
|       |                     |                |
|       | Mason Email Address | Jjean3@gmu.edu |

| de Mason | Major                               | Global Affairs  |
|----------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Jnty sty | Position                            | Secretary of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs (DAMA) |
| MISWAIDE | CliftonStrengths<br>(if applicable) | N/A   |

#### 2. Why did you join Student Government and what are your previous experiences?

I joined Student Government because I wanted to make a positive impact on the Mason community and be a friendly face to the student body. I do not have previous student council experience, but I did work with several student-staff committees in high school that focused on diversity, inclusion, and general school development and improvement. These committees included the Critical Concerns Committee (connecting parents, staff, and students for school improvement and current events awareness) and the Inclusive Curriculum Committee (students and some staff coming together to design an alternative underclassmen curriculum based around inclusivity and diversity awareness).

#### 3. What are the contributions you made in Student Government this semester?

This semester I worked with the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee to further develop several initiatives to make this school a more welcoming environment for students. I am now sharing this responsibility with my student government subcommittee for DAMA, as well as the DAMA committee for the Student Government in Fairfax. I have met with the Undersecretary for International Student Relations and Affairs multiple times this semester, most recently trying to include the other members of our respective Student Government members to plan how we can better collaborate in the future. Through these collaborations, the DAMA committee has been trying to create more platforms for information sharing and friendship building between the Korean and international students on campus, as well as in Fairfax. DAMA also handled letterman jacket orders this semester, and I was responsible for non-RSO room reservations within the Mason Korea school building.

#### 4. What are some challenges you experienced and improvements that could be made?

It became a real struggle this semester to keep up with all my extracurricular activities and school work, along with being an active member of student government. I have loved being a student leader, but it has definitely been overwhelming at times, especially organizing meeting times between members and preparing materials in advance for meetings with Fairfax Student Government. Another aspect that was a bit stressful was reserving rooms and staying updated on all requests and inquiries regarding reservations. It was fulfilling to handle this many responsibilities, but at times it became hard to keep track of it all. For improvements, I know the school is planning to change its reservation site, and that will make the process a lot easier for the next student government. I think that the overwhelming nature

of student government can be aided by good time management and a controlled amount of activities that are done at the same time as being a member of student government, as this is a big responsibility.

#### 5. What tips do you have for future members?

Don't forget that you have a whole committee to turn to if you need help with event planning, bill writing, or anything student government related. We should not feel like strangers in this committee, but we should be a team. Try to get to know the people around you and use this as a connection making opportunity.

#### Secretary of University Life: Yebin Choi

#### 1. Basic Information

| Photo  | Name                                | Yebin Choi                   |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
|  |                                     |                              |
| A Succession of the Control of the C | Mason Email Address                 | ychoi45@gmu.edu              |
|  | Major                               | Global Affairs               |
|  | Position                            | Secretary of University Life |
|  | CliftonStrengths<br>(if applicable) |                              |

#### 2. Why did you join Student Government and what are your previous experiences?

I joined Student Government for personal improvement. I believed this experience would leave me with a lot of takeaways at the end. Before joining 2023 Student Government, I took a role at n-Lingual. It is also one of the student programs at Mason Korea, aimed at advancing language development and cultural understanding.

#### 3. What are the contributions you made in Student Government this semester?

This semester, I learned to cooperate with others because handing over works was a challenge I hoped to overcome. Throughout the semester, I was able to assign tasks to committee members and reach out for help when the more people from the entire Student Government was needed. The first event that I was responsible for, was the Welcome Weekend event. I collaborated with other departments of Student Government and was able to prepare with less burden. Unfortunately, the activity got cancelled due lack of people, but it was a good experience. The second event was the Student Engagement booth. For this, I worked with the senators of University Life committee to plan out and get prepared for the activity. During the event, the committee members stayed at the booth and held the activity. The last event I contributed to, was the Masquerade Winter Prom hosted by Patriot Activities Council (in collaboration with Student Government). Some of the available members of the University Life

committee and I had weekly meetings with PAC. We brainstormed, planned, decorated, assisted, and cleaned up together throughout the entire process.

#### 4. What are some challenges you experienced and improvements that could be made?

Although I improved on working with others, I still had to oversee and lead the events. Occasionally, I was still overwhelmed by the responsibility that fell under my role even with having my work shared with other people. My conclusion for one academic year of experience is trusting others and learning to let go of overflowing pressure. It is essential especially for a leader position.

#### 5. What tips do you have for future members?

Student Government requires unity as it cannot be run without members. Again, the key to successful group work is having trust among members and active cooperation. You may think you perform the best when you work alone. However, as one of our school uniqueness is diversity, I encourage future members to take advantage of that. I want them to experience working with others and collecting various ideas that come from different people. I also hope they learn that the power of cooperation can show outstanding performance.

#### Secretary of University Academics: Yoonji Seo

#### 1. Basic Information

| Photo    | Name                                | Yoonji Seo  |
|----------|-------------------------------------|---|
|          |                                     |   |
|          | Mason Email Address                 | yseo7@gmu.edu   |
| (A)      | Major                               | Global Affairs  |
| <u> </u> |                                     | (Global Inequalities and Responses)                         |
|          | Position                            | Secretary of University Academics                           |
|          | CliftonStrengths<br>(if applicable) | Responsibility, individualization,<br>Learner, Input, Focus |

#### 2. Why did you join Student Government and what are your previous experiences?

As I began my second term in the Student Government as Secretary of University Academics, I had a strong commitment to making a positive impact on the campus community. I laid the groundwork for my journey as a freshman by actively participating in student council events and extracurricular activities. My desire to address current issues and strengthen the sense of community at George Mason University Korea motivated me to join the student government.

During the spring of 2023, I contributed to the Student Government by actively organizing the Welcome Weekend event. In my first position as an event representative, I was in charge of scheduling events, ordering snacks, and keeping track of budget invoices. I remained committed to participating in student government activities throughout the semester, such as Mason Day, sports days, and weekly senate meetings, in order to aid in the process of transitioning to student government.

#### 3. What are the contributions you made in Student Government this semester?

This semester kicked off with my full participation in key events, including Convocation, New Student Orientation, and Welcome Weekend. Along with welcoming new students, these events also sought to create a positive academic environment. Furthermore, my dedication included attending town hall meetings and weekly senate meetings. I did more than just participate in these conversations; I actively shaped the conversation. I gave questions on a variety of academic subjects, such as course options and student opportunities during these talks. Ensuring that our academic offerings and support services were in line with the changing needs of our diverse student body and that the voice of the student was heard were my main objectives.

I also kept taking part in the Academic Affairs Focus Group Interviews. Our relationship with the Office of Academic Affairs was maintained by this ongoing involvement, which made sure that the student government would always have a reliable and powerful voice when it came to decisions regarding academic policies and initiatives. During these conversations, I actively promoted enhancements to our students' opportunities, a varied selection of courses, and academic advising services.

#### 4. What are some challenges you experienced and improvements that could be made?

While significant progress was made this semester, challenges remain. One of the main priorities is still the need for unique and important events organized by the student government alone. I believe that we have a chance to close this gap in the upcoming semester and enhance our distinct identity. A concentrated effort should also be made to ensure that the active participation of Mason Korea patriots should be raised.

#### 5. What tips do you have for future members?

First and foremost, understand student government's collaborative nature, the roles played by the various committees, and the organizational structure. Learn about the processes used in meetings, how bills and resolutions are created and carried out, and the general objectives and difficulties that our student body faces. Additionally, I urge to actively participate in the many places where students can express their issues. Attend meetings, town halls, interviews, and other pertinent events. These channels of communication give you a clear picture of the student body's experiences, goals, and difficulties in the classroom.

#### Secretary of Public Relations: Yejin Kim

#### 1. Basic Information

| Photo Name | Yejin Kim |
|------------|-----------|
|------------|-----------|

| Mason Email Address                 | ykim223@gmu.edu               |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Major                               | Computational Data Science    |
| Position                            | Secretary of Public Relations |
| CliftonStrengths<br>(if applicable) |                               |

#### 2. Why did you join Student Government and what are your previous experiences?

In addition to cultivating my personal growth as a student, my initial attraction to Student Government stemmed from a desire to become an advocate for the student body. I envisioned the role as an opportunity to lend a voice to my peers and gain invaluable experience.

Over the course of my involvement, I have undertaken various roles within the Computational Data Sciences Delegation (CDSD). From serving as the event manager in Fall 22 to assuming the positions of vice president/PR manager in Spring 23 and eventually ascending to the presidency of the Registered Student Organization (RSO) in Fall 23, I have remained committed to understanding the importance of providing platforms for academic enrichment, fostering practical skill development, and promoting awareness of the vast potential of data science across diverse domains.

#### 3. What are the contributions you made in Student Government this semester?

Continuing from the previous semester, I've served as the secretary of Public Relations for the Student Government. My responsibilities included not only promoting student awareness but also disseminating information to campus and local media regarding events, news, and important decisions. Beyond this role, I've actively participated in weekly senate and executive meetings, contributing ideas and insights to decision-making processes. Additionally, my involvement extended to various student government events, allowing me to further engage with and contribute to the student body.

#### 4. What are some challenges you experienced and improvements that could be made?

One significant challenge I faced was meeting the communication needs effectively. Recognizing a lack of interaction with students, I dedicated considerable effort to connect with as many students as possible. This involved utilizing various platforms such as Kakaogroup chat (MK Groupchat), Instagram stories/posts, Mason Live email, and even Everytime, a popular app among Korean students.

#### 5. What tips do you have for future members?

For future members, I believe that effective time management and maintaining a balance between responsibilities within the student government and personal academic pursuits are crucial. As

representatives of the student body, each member of the student government should strive to exemplify the qualities of an outstanding GMUK student.

## Student Senators and Board of Major Representatives

Business: Minsuk Kim

#### 1. Basic Information

| Photo | Name                                | Minsuk Kim                 |
|-------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|       |                                     |                            |
|       | Mason Email Address                 | Mkim214@gmu.edu            |
|       | Major                               | BS finance                 |
|       | Position                            | Representative of business |
|       | CliftonStrengths<br>(if applicable) |                            |

Computer Game Design: Chaeyeon Lee

#### 1. Basic Information

| Photo | Name                                | Chaeyeon Lee  |  |  |
|-------|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|
|       |                                     |   |  |  |
|       | Mason Email Address                 | clee200@gmu.edu   |  |  |
|       | Major                               | Computer Game Design  |  |  |
|       | Position                            | GAME Representative   |  |  |
|       | CliftonStrengths<br>(if applicable) | Responsibility, Achiever, Positivity,<br>Communication, Harmony |  |  |

#### 2. Why did you join Student Government and what are your previous experiences?

Due to my high interest in the field of GAME major and my passion to care for students, I applied for the position of department representative. My main goal was to provide a more enjoyable and productive experience for the students within the GAME major, and I had confidence in achieving it. I organized various events and fostered communication to promote the department's growth, working closely with the students in the major.

#### 3. What are the contributions you made in Student Government this semester?

#### Chair of the UL committee

#### Fall 2023 'LOL Championship' Manager

As a manager of the MK Championship, which was held for the first time this semester, I assisted the organizer. I conducted surveys, wrote announcements, and distributed parts among the UL committee.

#### Fall 2023 'Game Student Year-End Bash

A party to celebrate our end of semester with pizza. It was an opportunity for professors and seniors, freshmen to gather in one place. Expression of gratitude to GAME professors for a year of teaching.

#### Fall 2023 'Game Major Network Gathering in IGC Campus'

An Network Gathering with GAME students in Utah University. This event is a unique opportunity for networking, knowledge sharing across university lines.

#### Fall 2023 'SG x PAC Winter Prom'

As the chair of the UL committee, I participated in forming ideas, preparation, and cleanup.

#### 4. What are some challenges you experienced and improvements that could be made?

#### 5. What tips do you have for future members?

- If you have an event idea in mind, go ahead and execute it without hesitation. Once you start, it will be easier than you think. On condition that at least still a minimum of one month left!
- Discuss the event idea with the board members. Working as a team will help you come close to perfection when running as department.
- Organize regular meetings with the professor and board members. Even if there are no major issues to discuss, maintaining connections between departments is essential for a strong department.
- Create opportunities for interaction between new students and senior students. It will provide meaningful experiences not only for you but also for all the freshmen. Forming teams and participating in the Progress@Play competition is one way to achieve this.
- Regularly check the schedule of Game Fairs held nationwide. It will be highly beneficial for the students in the major.
- Listen to the freshmen. There are a lot of things they're not used to, even the parts you didn't think of. Come forward and help.
- Ensure that all information related to the major is communicated to the students. If you don't speak up, no one will know.

#### Conflict Analysis and Resolution: Ran Kim

#### 1. Basic Information

| Photo | Name                                 | Ran Kim   |  |
|-------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
|       |                                      |   |  |
|       | Mason Email Address                  | Rkim43@gmu.edu  |  |
|       | Major                                | Conflict Analysis and Resolution                                |  |
|       | Position                             | Conf Major Representative                                       |  |
|       | Clifton Strengths<br>(if applicable) | Deliberative, Maximizer,<br>Responsibility, Command, Analytical |  |

#### 2. Why did you join Student Government and what are your previous experiences?

- I served as the Major Representative for Conflict Analysis and Resolution starting from the Spring 2023 semester. Given my active involvement within my major as an intern at PACSC Asia (Peace and Conflict Studies Center Asia) and as a learning assistant for the Conf 101 course, I was motivated to persist in my role as a major representative.

#### 3. What are the contributions you made in Student Government this semester?

- As the Chair of University Academics, I participated in a focus group interview organized by the academic affairs. Then I contacted academic affairs, facilitating the arrangement of a formal meeting that aimed for collaboration between academic affairs and student government.
- On November 30th, I collaborated with Dr. Roland Wilson, a program coordinator of the Carter School program in Mason Korea, and Hyunbeen Oh, a major representative of the global affairs major, and cohosted an event titled 'The Israel-Palestine Conflict: A Palestinian Lens and CONF x GLOA Come and Talk. It was a very successful event with 60 mason community RSVP and 45 people joined.

#### 4. What are some challenges you experienced and improvements that could be made?

- Deciding on the time and theme for the major event was a bit of a challenge. I am co-hosting a collaborative event with the Global Affairs representative, and I believe we should have scheduled it earlier as our event is taking place at the end of the semester and our term as a major representative is ending as well.

#### 5. What tips do you have for future members?

- As we have a scheduled time for the meeting, I suggest that future members actively participate and take responsibility for their roles. I encourage them to engage in the meetings when the Student Government has opportunities to meet with leadership and staff of various departments at Mason Korea.

#### Economics: Woosung Lee

#### 1. Basic Information

| Photo | Name                                | Woosung Lee    |  |  |
|-------|-------------------------------------|----------------|--|--|
|       |                                     |                |  |  |
|       | Mason Email Address                 | wlee38@gmu.edu |  |  |
|       | Major                               | Economics      |  |  |
|       | Position                            | Representative |  |  |
|       | CliftonStrengths<br>(if applicable) | N/A            |  |  |

#### 2. Why did you join Student Government and what are your previous experiences?

I joined the Student Government to actively participate in shaping the academic and social environment of our institution. My interest in economics and governance motivated me to contribute to effective policy-making and student welfare. Previously, I have been involved in various leadership roles in clubs and organizations, where I honed my skills in communication, organization, and teamwork.

#### 3. What are the contributions you made in Student Government this semester?

This semester, I contributed to the Student Government by participating in some events and as a UL and DAMA member, I organized and offered some ideas for events and activities. As an Econ Representative, I organized events to achieve our goal which is a gather Econ students to share information and help each other.

#### 4. What are some challenges you experienced and improvements that could be made?

One significant challenge this semester was engaging students in initiatives and events due to a general lack of initiative or interest from the student body. This often resulted in low participation in programs designed to benefit them. To address this, we could improve our communication strategies, perhaps by leveraging social media more effectively to reach and engage students. Additionally, involving students in the planning process could increase their sense of ownership and interest in these activities. Collaborating with popular student clubs and organizations might also help in boosting participation and enthusiasm.

#### 5. What tips do you have for future members?

For future members, my advice would be to actively listen to the student body, stay open to diverse perspectives, and be proactive in addressing their concerns. Building strong relationships with both students and faculty is crucial.

#### Global Affairs: Hyunbeen Oh

#### 1. Basic Information

| Photo  | Name                                | Hyunbeen Oh  |  |  |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| OBS TO PRINTS TO SEE TO |                                     |  |  |  |
|  | Mason Email Address                 | hoh23@gmu.edu  |  |  |
|  | Major                               | Global Affairs   |  |  |
|  | Position                            | Chair of Diversity and Multicultural<br>Affairs / Global Affairs Major<br>Representative |  |  |
|  | CliftonStrengths<br>(if applicable) | Maximizer, Harmony, Deliberative,<br>Analytical, Consistency                             |  |  |

#### 2. Why did you join Student Government and what are your previous experiences?

As I served the Mason Korea community as a Student Council member during the Fall 2022 semester, specifically as the Global Affairs Vice-representative, I was determined to continue my dedication and contribution to the school. Being familiar with the system, I wanted to make a change in a position that allows me to do so. Since February 2023, I have been working as a Work & Study student at the Career Development Center, and my experiences in this role have had a positive impact on my work in the Student Government, as I have developed skills such as event planning and promotion.

#### 3. What are the contributions you made in Student Government this semester?

As a Student Government member, I can proudly say that I have worked— even more so than last semester— for the betterment of the Mason Korea community.

Starting off, I was a Small Group Leader for the entirety of the Welcome Weekend before the start of the semester. I led a group of 6 freshmen students who had just enrolled in Mason, conducting icebreaking sessions, the campus tour, small group meetings every day, and more. I ensured they felt welcomed into the school and had a great experience with faculty, staff, and student leaders.

Next, I participated and assisted with all Student Government activities/volunteer opportunities, such as the Fall 2023 Convocation, Student Engagement Fair, Joint Meeting with Fairfax, etc. I made sure my contribution was useful not only to the Student Government but also to the entire student body.

As the Global Affairs major representative, I maintained clear communication with the professors of the Global Affairs program. We discussed potential ideas for major-focused events and how to improve our major in general. I also maintained a smooth relationship with Academic Affairs, participating in the Degree Info Session for GLOA majors to inform students of my plans as the Major Representative. Additionally, I participated in the Academic Focus Group Interview hosted by Academic Affairs to address concerns fellow Global Affairs students had about course selections and other academic-related matters. In addition, I organized the list of attendees for Delegate Shin's visit to Mason Korea and took charge of communication regarding the campus tour of Professor Ilona Moore, Undergraduate Director of GLOA. Lastly, I held an event in collaboration with Ran, the Conflict Analysis and Resolution Major

Representative, called the "The Israel-Palestine Conflict: A Palestinian Lens." We coordinated the event with Professor Wilson from the Conflict Analysis and Resolution Program and successfully pulled it off. The event comprised two sessions: the first session was a lecture by a guest speaker on Palestine, its contemporary history and issues, and the second session was a roundtable discussion with professors and students on the current conflict.

As the Chair for Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, I participated in two collaborative meetings with Fairfax Student Government members on ways to improve the connection and communication between the two campuses. Along with Jadzia, the Secretary of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, we had fruitful conversations as we brainstormed potential ideas for programs or events that could help the cause. I hope this collaborative meeting could be a regular occurrence for the next Student Government members, fostering even more progression on our ideas.

#### 4. What are some challenges you experienced and improvements that could be made?

As I wrote last semester, event planning and scheduling require a significant amount of time and effort, and we should always be mindful of this when planning any sort of event. Although my major event in collaboration with Ran went successfully, I would advise any major representative to always think and plan in advance when trying to hold an event.

#### 5. What tips do you have for future members?

Being a member of the Student Government is highly rewarding, and it is certainly a position worth pursuing as it offers numerous valuable experiences. However, it can become overwhelming when combined with other commitments in various organizations, not to mention the need to maintain academic success. In such cases, time management becomes crucial, so it is important to develop proficiency and flexibility in managing your time effectively.

## Senator: Dain Min 1. Basic Information

| Photo | Name                                | Dain Min   |  |  |
|-------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
|       |                                     |  |  |  |
|       | Mason Email Address                 | Dmin4@gmu.edu  |  |  |
|       | Major                               | Economic BS  |  |  |
|       | Position                            | Senator  |  |  |
|       | CliftonStrengths<br>(if applicable) | Responsibility, Positivity,<br>Communication, Harmony, Input |  |  |

#### 2. Why did you join Student Government and what are your previous experiences?

I applied to the student council to serve as a bridge between students and the organization. The student council prioritizes the needs of students to enhance their school experience, and I aimed to contribute to this effort by joining the council. I think I have demonstrated my dedication and initiative by attentively hearing out diverse viewpoints, articulating them, and implementing the subsequent course of action to act as a liaison between the students, school, and student council.

#### 3. What are the contributions you made in Student Government this semester?

#### Senator

#### **Member of UL Committee**

#### **Member of UA Committee**

#### Fall 2023 'LOL Championship' Event Manager

As an event manager of the MK Championship, which was held for the first time this semester, I assisted the organizer. My role was to run meetings with committee members, print posters, get permission and put them up.

#### Fall 2023 Welcome Weekend

As a small group leader, we collaborated with the PAC to familiarize students with George Mason University. We led a campus tour and engaged in group activities to foster a sense of belonging.

#### Fall 2023 Student Engagement Fair

This event aimed to introduce the student government to students. I prepared professor pictures for the mini-game and stayed at the RSO table.

#### Fall 2023 'SG x PAC Winter Prom'

As a member of the UL committee, I participated in forming ideas about prom, and preparation, and served at the prom.

Talk about school events with DSP.

#### 4. What are some challenges you experienced and improvements that could be made?

I found it challenging to express my ideas convincingly during the meetings that were held in English. I realized the need to enhance my English skills to confidently speak my mind in any situation.

#### 5. What tips do you have for future members?

- From the moment you enter, speak your mind, and act. Consider your fellow members of student government as family and depend on them equally and be sure to interact with both students and faculty. It's crucial to act as a liaison between the two groups, so if you have a great event idea, put it into motion. Just remember that with responsibility comes great accountability.

#### Senator: Eunchong Yim

#### 1. Basic Information

| Photo | Name                                | Eunchong (Grace) Yim                                       |  |  |
|-------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
|       |                                     |  |  |  |
|       | Mason Email Address                 | eyim8@gmu.edu  |  |  |
|       | Major                               | Global Affairs   |  |  |
|       | Position                            | Student Senator  |  |  |
|       | CliftonStrengths<br>(if applicable) | Harmony, Input, Connectedness,<br>Futuristic, Intellection |  |  |

#### 2. Why did you join Student Government and what are your previous experiences?

During my study in Spring 2023 semester, which was my first semester at Mason Korea, I realized that I loved planning and implementing projects that can show visible outcomes and effects that help the society to make a positive progress. The more specific and clear the problems were, the easier it was to come up with better solutions. And the best way to make the problems as detailed as possible was finding them in my nearby environments, like Mason Korea. It was happy to imagine making 'even better Mason Korea' and myself becoming a part of the process. I thought Student Senator would be the perfect position to explore how the process worked in my university, listen to students' voices, and make them a reality with other Student Government members. Especially, academic affairs regarding course registrations, majors and minors, and other academic programs were my top issues that I wanted to focus on when I first became a Student Senator.

#### 3. What are the contributions you made in Student Government this semester?

Like I have mentioned above, I mostly focused on the academic parts of Mason Korea. I attended the MKAA Town Hall Meeting and Focused Group Interview as a Student Government member and suggested a few opinions, such as expanding the opportunities for MK students to meet more alumni at Fairfax as well as MK campus, or lecture series that specifically cover concentrations of Global Affairs major and other majors as well. Another example was increasing the number of Express Advising during the course registration period so that more students could get the opportunity to talk to their academic advisors. Additionally, I helped advertising League of Legend Championship (E-sports competition) MK Fall 2023, by making the poster and participating in the discussions. Though I did try to speak up for students especially in academic fields, I know I can do better in wider fields and reflect on their opinions, and I will do so in my remaining one semester for Spring 2023.

#### 4. What are some challenges you experienced and improvements that could be made?

It was difficult to think of really 'creative' solutions that could solve the existing problems, because those were already addressed several times by other faculty and staff members at Mason Korea as well, such as increasing the number of various courses. Another challenge was that it was more difficult to listen to students' voices than I thought. It was tricky to come up with good questions that can actually draw specific answers about what students wanted about the university. They were often dispersed and

unorganized. Still, I do have one semester left for my Student Senator position. To improve these problems and others, I will more actively ask students' opinions through online anonymous forms and off-line forms as well with carefully refined questions. Also, to get some more professional and practical ideas, I will contact other RSOs and partner with them to make better Mason Korea.

#### 5. What tips do you have for future members?

After one semester working as a Student Senator, I think the significance lies on the speed. The entire process of discussing, planning and implementing an issue should be initiated and done early with active communication so that it does not lose the tension. The other point I want to make is that we need to have the same vision, which should be shared very openly and clearly in the beginning of the Student Senate meeting. For example, although we are some divided into several Committees, I suggest each committee to have a written document that decides and plans what visible outcomes it will make at the end of the semester. In this way, each meeting will not be lost and stay on the right track.

Senator: Hanseung Jang

| Photo | Name                                | Hanseung Jang                   |  |
|-------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
|       |                                     |                                 |  |
|       | Mason Email Address                 | hjang30@gmu.edu                 |  |
|       | Major                               | Computational and Data Sciences |  |
|       | Position                            | Senator                         |  |
|       | CliftonStrengths<br>(if applicable) |                                 |  |

## **Budget Report**

| Item                         | Date     | Amount        |
|------------------------------|----------|---------------|
| SP23 Welcome Weekend         | 2/10/23  | ₩93,770.00    |
| GAME Opening Social          | 4/13/23  | ₩189,000.00   |
| GAME Opening Social_2        | 4/13/23  | ₩26,110.00    |
| GAME Opening Social_3        | 4/13/23  | ₩22,500.00    |
| CDS Picnic                   | 4/21/23  | ₩90,000.00    |
| Mason Day 2023               | 4/24/23  | ₩23,060.00    |
| Mason Day 2023_2             | 4/25/23  | ₩176,500.00   |
| GLOA Feast Before Finals     | 6/5/23   | ₩49,000.00    |
| GLOA Feast Before Finals_2   | 6/5/23   | ₩77,500.00    |
| Prof. Edgar Farewell Party   | 6/1/23   | ₩177,700.00   |
| FA23 Welcome Weekend         | 8/16/23  | ₩6,150.00     |
| FA23 Student Engagement Fair | 8/25/23  | ₩34,320.00    |
| FA23 MK LoL Championship     | 9/13/23  | ₩175,000.00   |
| CONF x GLOA Come and Talk    | 11/30/23 | ₩250,000.00   |
| GAME End-Year Bash           | 12/8/23  | ₩145,400.00   |
| Total                        |          | ₩1,536,010.00 |

Mason Korea Student Government in the 2023 academic year utilized approximately 80% of its 2,000,000 KRW annual budget, the majority of which were put into events held per academic major. We did, however, expand on the scope of our events held, from our preexisting Welcome Weekend and Mason Day to inaugural League of Legends Championship.

The relative underutilization of the budget in the Fall semester comes in part due to the lack of a major all-school event such as Mason Day in the Fall semester, in addition to the comparatively low number of new students in the Fall compared to the Spring.

We did try to plan a collaborative all-school event with other universities to make better use of the budget in Fall 2023, including outside the Incheon Global Campus, but unfortunately ran into budget-related limitations when planning for performers and spaces.

For us to be able to plan a major large-scale event, we would require more extensive funding from the University or other organizations such as the Incheon Global Campus (IGC) Foundation, Incheon Free Economic Zone (IFEZ), or Incheon Metropolitan Government, in line with other Korean universities and universities on the IGC.

In the meantime, a suggestion for 2024, with a larger budget, is to draft non-binding, rough spending categories per department to maximize the range of events held and actual spending of the budget, such as the following:

| Department                         | Description          | Spring      | Fall        | Total       |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| University Life                    | Welcome Weekend      | ₩ 200,000   | ₩ 200,000   | ₩ 400,000   |
| University Life                    | Student Engagement   | ₩ 100,000   | ₩ 100,000   | ₩ 200,000   |
|                                    | Fair                 |             |             |             |
| University Life                    | Seasonal Event       | ₩ 500,000   | ₩ 500,000   | ₩ 1,000,000 |
| <b>Diversity and Multicultural</b> | Multicultural Events | ₩ 300,000   | ₩ 300,000   | ₩ 600,000   |
| Affairs                            |                      |             |             |             |
| <b>University Academics</b>        | BUS Major Event      | ₩ 150,000   | ₩ 150,000   | ₩ 300,000   |
| <b>University Academics</b>        | CDS Major Event      | ₩ 150,000   | ₩ 150,000   | ₩ 300,000   |
| <b>University Academics</b>        | CONF Major Event     | ₩ 150,000   | ₩ 150,000   | ₩ 300,000   |
| <b>University Academics</b>        | ECON Major Event     | ₩ 150,000   | ₩ 150,000   | ₩ 300,000   |
| <b>University Academics</b>        | GAME Major Event     | ₩ 150,000   | ₩ 150,000   | ₩ 300,000   |
| <b>University Academics</b>        | GLOA Major Event     | ₩ 150,000   | ₩ 150,000   | ₩ 300,000   |
| Total                              |                      | ₩ 2,000,000 | ₩ 2,000,000 | ₩ 4,000,000 |

In sum, we are pleased to have made transparent and efficient use of our budget throughout the 2023 fiscal year and to be the first administration to report our spending for the entire community to view.

The larger budget allocated for the 2024 fiscal year –  $\forall$  4,000,000 – is proof of Student Government's commitment to our student body throughout the 2023 academic year. We hope that future administrations to come will continue the strong foundation that we've built this year to plan and organize larger, more exciting events for our community.