

# MARIA TAVARES

I'm a third-year Physical Geography major passionate about amplifying the student voice. Having served on the Senate and three subcommittees this past year, I would be excited to continue serving as a student representative. Over the past year, I've gained valuable experience in university governance. I'm eager to continue working collaboratively with students, faculty, and staff to ensure that student voices are heard and valued.

What can I do for you: I bring a unique blend of academic and real-world experience to this role. As a former paramedic and supervisor, I've developed strong critical thinking skills and learned to navigate complex decision-making processes. This background has instilled in me a commitment to creating a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment for all students. I believe solutions require interdisciplinary approaches, diverse opinions, and respectful dialogue. With my attention to detail and commitment to advocacy, I hope to contribute to a Senate that truly represents the diverse interests of our student body.



## FACULTY OF ENVIRONMENT

# ALIREZA NOORY

I am currently a Ph.D. candidate in Natural Resources & Environmental Engineering at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC). My academic journey began with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Tehran University, followed by a Master's degree and a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering with a focus on Road and Transportation from Amirkabir University of Technology, where I graduated as the second top student. During my undergraduate studies, I gained practical experience working on civil engineering projects, including the Tehran subway project. In my Master's program, I joined a company where I learned microscopic traffic simulation while also conducting research in the laboratory. Additionally, I was an active member of the Student Council of the Faculty of Civil Engineering at Amirkabir University. After starting my first Ph.D., I became the project manager for the Iranian two-way road safety protocol and subsequently joined the Tehran Research and Planning Center. During my Ph.D. research, I was part of the negotiation team with the university, successfully advocating for reduced tuition fees for Ph.D. students, which resulted in several waivers. Upon graduation as a top student, I was promoted to manager of the civil engineering research group in the Research and Planning Center of Tehran, where I received the Outstanding Manager prize and an appreciation certificate from the Mayor of Tehran, who oversaw a city of ten million residents. Concurrently, I worked as a patent evaluator for Amirkabir University and led the civil engineering group for the Kharazmi student Festival. Seeking new experiences, I decided to move to Canada and continue my studies as a Ph.D. candidate in Natural Resources & Environmental Engineering. Since March 2024, I have served as the Director at Large for the Northern British Columbia Graduate Students Society (NBCGSS), where I have actively worked to enhance student engagement and representation. I also coordinated Students Week 2024 at UNBC, facilitating a workshop on intellectual property protection in collaboration with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). My teaching experience includes serving as a Teaching Assistant for the Transportation Systems course at UNBC.

I have authored several publications, including a book chapter on geosynthetics in pavement engineering and multiple journal articles related to transportation and infrastructure. My research has been recognized at international conferences, where I have received awards for outstanding presentations. Fluent in Farsi and English, with limited proficiency in Arabic, French, and German, I am committed to fostering an inclusive academic environment that celebrates diversity. My vision as a Senate member is to advocate for student needs, promote academic excellence, and enhance the overall student experience at UNBC.

I ask for your support in the upcoming Senate election to help ensure our voices are heard and our needs are met within the university governance framework. Together, we can create a vibrant and supportive academic community at UNBC.

