

Hello, my name is Sara Wysman. I am a fourth year Honours student in the Department of History. I am on the autism spectrum and I have a Non-Verbal Learning Disability. I am heavily involved in student groups and initiatives such as the Have A Heart Campaign, where I am a member of the planning committee, and the Students' Historical Society where I serve as Consul Secretary. I am a passionate believer in the power of advocacy. As a student with a disability I have had to learn to advocate for myself. Since I became involved with advocacy work during the Have A Heart Campaign, I began to realize that my experience with self-advocacy could help me advocate for the needs of others.

During the last URSU election, I became aware that we students with disabilities need ongoing representation on the URSU Board of Directors in order to fully have our concerns about accessibility heard and addressed. I find that a lack of representation means a lack of awareness, and this lack of awareness means that the concerns of some of the most vulnerable students on campus are ignored.

As Director for Students With Disabilities I will represent and advocate for these constituents in order to make sure that our accessibility concerns are heard on campus. It is also important to me that we create a campus environment where all students, whether they have disabilities or not, feel safe and included in our campus community. To that end, I want to promote student groups and initiatives that work to create inclusion at the University of Regina.