

## **Bio/Vision Statement for Nomination as 2023-2024 TRAS Constituency Director**

My name is Alsu Kuznetsova. I am a Research Associate at the Department of Renewable Resources of the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences (ALES) and I am putting myself forward for re-election as Director of the TRAS constituency for AASUA for the 2023 - 2024 term.

I received my PhD in Biology from the Lomonosov Moscow State University and in 2010 I joined the University of Alberta as a Research Associate. Since then, I have participated in several scientific projects related to biogeochemical transformations of oil sand tailings, and also in projects studying the interactions of prion proteins and soil constituents.

I became an AASUA councilor in 2018 and served as a TRAS representative on Executive for 4 years (2019-2023). During this time I have worked with many of you to prepare the list of priorities and for our last round of collective bargaining. I have participated in the day-to-day governance of the AASUA, bringing the TRAS voice to the Executive table. I have served on the Member engagement Committee, Job action Committee and Executive Appeal Committee. Along with other AASUA representatives, I have worked with our Negotiation team to get fair and reasonable new collective agreement. Now we started to create a new list of priorities for the new round of bargaining.

If re-elected, I will continue to work to ensure that Research Associates and all members of AASUA are well represented and don't negatively affected in the next bargaining round. I believe that TRAS members are a real engine of research in U of A and I will work tirelessly to protect their rights and to achieve specific goals to benefit all Research Associates. I will try to make substantial contributions to the academic environment so the TRAS members can achieve better job security, and to find effective ways to engage our members in meaningful conversations about the issues facing us as members of the University Community and as an Association. With the Alberta provincial government posing numerous threats to post-secondary education, it is imperative that we work towards greater unity and resolve among members to face the upcoming challenges of cuts and restructuring. To achieve this, we must find effective ways to engage members in meaningful discussions about the issues affecting us as a University community and as an Association. As a TRAS Director, I am committed to maintaining active and open communication channels with TRAS members and contributing in a productive and meaningful manner.

I will try my best to work towards creating a dynamic and inclusive academic community and contributing in a productive and meaningful way by maintaining active and open lines of communications.

Thank you for considering me.

Sincerely,

Alsu Kuznetsova