
MOTIVATION LETTER

POOKHAO CHINPONGSUWAN

Hello everyone,

I'm Pookhao Chinpongsuwan, a first-year student from University College Twente, member of S.A. Atlantis, and I'd love to bring my skills and enthusiasm to the UCSRN community. I'm originally from Bangkok, Thailand; I was born and had lived there for most of my life until I moved to the Netherlands last August to begin my study at UCT. In my free time, I enjoy playing the guitar and reading. I also enjoy other creative pursuits like art and design; for example, right now I keep myself busy by working with my committee to design this year's yearbook for Atlantis. Before the pandemic, I enjoyed swimming and scuba diving and travelling is something I still hope to do more in the near future.

Leaving my family and travelling halfway across the globe to a country I'd never been to was quite a daunting experience for me, but the one thing that made me quickly feel at home was the friends I made – the *community*. I realised the importance of having a network of support that you can count on and that was what motivated me to run for Chair of the Social Committee today. One thing I discovered through being active in my study association was that I really enjoy being involved in the community and working on projects like organising events. That's how I got to know UCSRN: I – as part of the art committee of Atlantis – volunteered to help organise *The Voice of UCSRN*.

I envision UCSRN as a strong supporting network empowered by the shared value of University Colleges that your education is more than just academics. Especially in uncertain times like this, we need each other more than ever and I envision an inclusive, diverse, tight-knit inter-UC community – a second *home* – connected even when apart by the shared experience of Liberal Arts and Sciences education. Despite having heard the name mentioned from time to time, it took me quite long to really get to know UCSRN so the first step I want to take as SC Chair is to develop strategies to make UCSRN more known and accessible, placing more focus on helping UCs organise inter-UC events early on in the year to build a strong foundation of trust and friendship.

I believe my mindsets, skills, and experience make me the ideal candidate for the position of SC Chair. I see myself as a committed and visionary person who is eager to learn and improve myself to be successful in my function and produce work that I'm proud of. I see myself as a responsible and reliable team player; I have been told that I'm very aware of the team dynamics and can consistently stay on top of things. Adaptability is another quality I'm proud of, which makes me an asset as I can adapt myself to work well with teammates with different working styles and personalities, as will be the case for the new board. Lastly, I consider myself a good listener and an understanding person; these attributes have helped me a lot in leading committees/projects as they enable me to see things from multiple perspectives and hence make better decisions. I hope this letter gives a good introduction to myself and my motivation. Thanks for your time and consideration. See you at the GA!

Best wishes,
Pookhao