



September 2016

Hello, and welcome to Western.

I have been here for a few years now as a mature/transfer student, and one lesson that I have learned here is that those of us who are beyond the traditional age of undergraduate students are greatly valued in this community. For the past two years I have been working with the Student Success Centre and the USC to make life better for all of us.

Getting involved in activities beyond the classroom has greatly enhanced my experience here, and I hope you will find a similar experience during your time at Western. Many of us arrived here through non-traditional routes and at various stages of life, but the principle still applies that we get out of the student experience what we put in. I hope you will not hesitate to get involved in activities, clubs and events to firmly become part of the fabric of this community.

In particular, the SAGE society will be running social events through the year which are geared to mature students so that we can get to know each other. If you are reading this today, you are probably already part of our list to receive email notifications, but if you have not seen anything so far and would like to be included, please feel free to email [sagecoor@uwo.ca](mailto:sagecoor@uwo.ca) or contact us through the Student Success Centre in UCC 210.

Another initiative that has come forward over the last year and into today is a Mature and Transfer Students' Caucus through the University Students' Council (USC). As an undergraduate student you are already paying a fee to be a part of the USC which provides many services and also advocates the concerns of students. This is the first time in many years that the mature student voice will be formally heard by the Council, and we are excited about the possible advantages for non-traditionally aged students as a result of this initiative.

The Caucus will be open for applications late in September, so watch your email for details if you are interested in joining us.

I hope you will reach out and make the most of your Western experience by becoming involved in these or other ways. This is an active campus with lots of extra-curricular fun available! Please feel free to contact me at [sagecoor@uwo.ca](mailto:sagecoor@uwo.ca) for any reason if you feel another student would be able to help.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Keyin Dunklee", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Keyin Dunklee  
SAGE Student Coordinator