Hello SFU!

My name is Cameron Nakatsu, I am a third year Education student, and I am running to fill one of the three Undergraduate spots on the SFU Senate. As an Education student, I am exposed to the educational practices that occur within the University. With this opportunity at hand, I am extremely excited for the opportunity to work collaboratively with the other student senators to ensure that the academic journey for students in university are smooth and effective.

**Battling the Bell-Curve**

I am a strong believer that classes should be marked based on student proficiency, rather than comparing the grades of one student to another. I believe that the bell-curve system pits students against each other, thus creating a negative classroom environment. More specifically, I believe that classes shouldn’t be scaled down solely due to the class needing to “fit a specific grade scale”. I would like to put the bell curve into question, and give all students an equal chance to succeed in their classes, so that instead of competing with other students, you are simply competing with yourself.

**Fall Reading Break**

During stressful times of the year, student burn out can be a serious problem. Reading breaks were introduced for the spring semester to alleviate some of this stress. If we are having reading breaks in the spring, I believe that the same practice should occur during the winter, to ensure that stress levels are regulated, and students have an opportunity to take a break from all of the intense studying.

**Opportunities for Alternative Test Taking Environments**

Through classes in Education, it is clear that some students need a certain environment in order to effectively perform in intense examinations. Classes should make clearer note for students in situations such as these that alternative environments are available for students in the case that they need a private, or silent room to take their examination. By doing so, students are in their preferred learning environment, allowing a much easier experience leading to success.

As an Education student, I understand that the academic experience at SFU can be stressful, and if voted into this position, I will work towards this academic experience being as effective and rewarding as can be. If you would like to contact me at any time, you can reach me at cam.nakatsu@gmail.com.