Bharath Kannan

Applying for Vice Chair, ISYY Executive Board 2027 | Kuopio campus | bkannan@student.uef.fi | linkedin.com/in/bharath-kannan-8b643a213

PROFILE

Master's student in Environmental Science and ISYY Executive Board Member 2026, interested in social entrepreneurship and in working towards policy-making and influencing on climate change mitigation. I bring a background in environmental projects, science communication, student advocacy and community work.

EXPERIENCE

Jan 2026 – Present
Executive Board Member | ISYY, Student Union of the University of Eastern Finland
Responsible for the International Affairs and Environment and Development Cooperation sectors, advocating for the interests of UEF's roughly 2,000 international students and for sustainability in a student union of over 15,000 members.

Nov 2025
Elected Member | Representative Council, ISYY
Elected with a focus on representing the international student community.

Dec 2025 – Present
Board Member | North Savo Entrepreneurship Society
Working to bring Finnish and international students together around entrepreneurship.

2026 – Present
Deputy Student Member | University Collegium, University of Eastern Finland
Student representative in the university's highest decision-making body, which elects the University Board and approves the annual report.

2026 – Present
Deputy Student Member | Faculty Council, Faculty of Science, Forestry and Technology, UEF
Student representative in the council that handles the faculty's strategic plan, budget, syllabuses and degree requirements.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

Oct 2021 – Apr 2024
Inclusive Head, Environment Club | Guru Nanak College, India
Led environmental awareness initiatives in the college and community, working with NGOs and running sustainability projects. Featured on Sun News for the club's sparrow cage awareness program.

Jun 2024 – Oct 2024
Climate School Trainee | Poovulagin Nanbargal, India
Took part in the first batch of the Climate School and surveyed the impact of heat waves.

Jun – Aug 2023
Project Head / Exchange Student | Veer Bahadur Singh Purvanchal University, India
Led a project on microbial degradation of Congo Red, a carcinogenic textile dye, looking for sustainable wastewater treatment.

May – Jun 2023
Project Intern | communiTREE, India
Worked on CSR projects including urban forest creation and helped organise 7 large corporate events.

Jul – Sep 2022
Team Guide | The Nature's Eye, India
Ran 10 environmental awareness events and competitions reaching over 1,000 people, and led a team through planning and delivery.

2022 – 2025
Volunteer | Breakthrough Science Society, Aware India Trust, Blue Cross of India
Taught science at a community learning center for a year, taught life skills in Tamil Nadu tribal residential schools, and supported animal shelter work.

EDUCATION

Sep 2025 – Present
M.Sc. Environmental Science | University of Eastern Finland, Kuopio

Aug 2021 – Apr 2024
B.Sc. Advanced Zoology and Biotechnology | Guru Nanak College, Chennai, India
CGPA 8.96 / 10

AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES

2023 – 2024
Awards
- Best Outgoing Student Award and Academic Proficiency Gold Medal, Guru Nanak College (2024)
- State-level finalist (4th place), Youth Parliament Debate, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, India (2023)
- 1st prize, Paper Presentation on sustainability, Stella Maris College (2023)

2021 – 2023
Certificates
En-ROADS climate simulator (Climate Interactive); Nature-based Solutions for Disaster and Climate Resilience (UNEP); Driving Business towards the SDGs (Erasmus University Rotterdam); Model Thinking (University of Michigan); Environment and Development (IIT Guwahati).

LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

Languages: English (fluent), Tamil (native), Finnish (elementary, learning).
Skills: student advocacy, strategic planning, meeting techniques, event management, team leadership, science communication, climate advocacy.