

# Gasser Abousaif

**High school:** Central Dauphin East High School **Hometown:** Alexandria, Egypt

**Majors:** B.S. Business Administration (2020), M.S. Technology & Innovation

**Activities:** Phi Delta Theta, National Society of Leadership and Success, Student Business Association, Global Marauders, Graduate Assistant

**Internships:** Office of International Programs and Services: Marketing and Public Relations Intern, Video Production Internship: Chester, PA **Post-grad plans:** Start my OPT experience post-graduation in the filmmaking/video production field. I hope to pursue my passion in visual media after graduation and to create impactful work



"Gasser has come into the M.S. in Technology and Innovation and has used every opportunity made available in the program for his professional growth. He has shared with me in several conversations how beneficial and enriching he has found graduate studies to be, especially in this program where we were able to customize his program of study to address his specific needs. His experiences in the classroom, in the informal events sponsored by the program, through internships, through meeting peers from across a variety of backgrounds, and a whole host of other opportunities have taught him how to think differently. I have no doubt that throughout his life Gasser will look back on his graduate school experiences and will think fondly as to how those experiences influenced how he thinks critically, problem solves, applies creativity, analyzes situations, and makes decisions."

#### Why Millersville?

I chose Millersville because it has a unique combination of affordability and high-quality programs taught by experts in their respective industries. On top of a vibrant and safe campus, Millersville enjoys a medium-sized student body that allows for individualized attention with instructors. This creates a closer relationship between students and professors that allows them to succeed and thrive in the classroom and beyond. Finally, Millersville is one of the most inclusive universities in Pennsylvania that holds diversity as one of its cornerstone values. People from all backgrounds and walks of life are welcomed with open arms to Millersville and given the tools they need to thrive and succeed in the institution. – Dr. Scott A. Warner Professor & Graduate Program Coordinator Master of Science in Technology & Innovation

Are you where you thought you'd be when you first came to campus?

I am beyond where I thought I would be when I first came to campus for the first time in 2017. The friends I made, the experiences I went through, and the skills and knowledge I gained throughout these years have been nothing short of remarkable. I have made lifelong connections and gained wider perspectives that are instrumental to my growth in my career and life. I definitely gained way more than just two degrees from Millersville.

#### Who helped you get to where you are now?

So many people it's impossible to count all of them. Off the top of my head, my parents and brother who have been supporting me from day one and helped me through every step of the way in my academic career. Second, the staff at the Office of International Programs and Services who have helped me with my immigration processes and provided me with the opportunity to work with their office and obtain my Master's degree in the process. Third, Dr. Scott Warner of the Applied Engineering Department for his help throughout my program and for making sure it was a fruitful time in my life. Finally, Professor James Machado and Dr. David DiRusso who have supported me and advised me every step of the way in my academic career.

## Peak experience?

My peak experiences are 1) helping to found my fraternity in undergrad and building it into a chapter, and 2) meeting the international students as the International Services Graduate Assistant and forging strong friendships with them.

## What surprised you?

What surprised me is the lengths that Millersville's faculty and staff go to to help their students and ensure they are well served. From answering questions to making special accommodations, they always go above and beyond for their students' wellbeing, and that is something that I am surprised and pleased by.

Which one(s) of the EPPIIC values of Millersville do you most identify with? Or which of the values do you think best describes your time here at Millersville?

The two EPPIIC values most identify with are exploration and compassion. Exploration fuels my endless curiosity and desires to learn as much as I can in my lifetime to grow as a person and become much wiser. Compassion is the cornerstone of my life to always extend a helping hand and a warm welcome to everyone who may cross my path, regardless of what their background is.

## What will you miss the most?

I will miss the incredible people that I had the pleasure of working with and meeting during my time in Millersville. They challenged me to improve every day and widened my perspective to make me a better student and an even better human being. They are truly the part that I will miss the most in Millersville.

# Advice for the Class of 2026?

My main piece of advice is to be curious and open to any and all experiences you may come across in Millersville. Forge as many relationships and connections as you can through classes, events, clubs, and organizations. The people you meet and the experiences you have are going to give you some of your most treasured memories from your time in undergrad. Take advantage of this time in your life and, above all else, remember to have fun.

Millersville University My EPPICC Journey Office of International Programs & Services 2022 - 2023



