

Nomination for the 2024-2025 Dr. George J. Wanko Award for Outstanding Junior

Award Given for outstanding service and leadership, and for maintaining an excellent record for progressive academic achievement while at Barry

Submitted for Aftab Alam Masjidi on 3/28/2025

Aftab Alam Masjidi has successfully balanced academic excellence with leadership, service, and professional development since his first year at Barry when he set a goal of creating a lasting impact on our community. Academically, Aftab maintains a current 3.97 GPA in Computer Science with specialization in Cyber Security, earning a 4.0 gpa in all but one semester.

As a Student Ambassador, Aftab engages with prospective students to help shape their first impressions of Barry whether it's guiding tours, mentoring incoming students, or assisting the Admissions team. As Founder and President of the Muslim Student Association in his sophomore year, Aftab helped to create a strong, inclusive space for students, advocating for their needs and organizing impactful events that foster cultural and religious understanding. This includes Eid Celebrations, Friday prayer transportation, Ramadan activities, and Islamic educational programs. Recognizing the challenges faced by Afghan refugee children, Aftab founded the Sunday Discovery Program, a mentorship initiative providing academic support and cultural integration assistance. Every Sunday, he works with the children remotely, helping them to improve their language skills, adapt to new educational environments, and ensure they receive the necessary guidance to excel academically while adjusting to life in a new country. In fall '24 Aftab served as Co-Managing Director of FinFit Thursday conducting weekly financial literacy workshops for local high school and primary school students. He also served as Co-Managing Equity Research Analyst of our Student Managed Investment Fund (SMIF) contributing to the managing of a \$1.2M portfolio, conducting financial analysis, and leading research efforts of tech companies. This aligns closely with his Computer Science major —bridging his passion for finance and technology. As part of Barry University's community service initiatives, Aftab contributed over 50+ hours to various projects, including Beach Cleanup, visiting children in hospitals, and volunteering at elder care facilities. As a Barry Stamps Scholar, Aftab has actively participated in the annual Day of Service, served as a mentor and resource to entering Stamps Scholars, and participating in various networking activities with fellow Scholars. Aftab is most worthy of the Dr. George Wanko Award for Outstanding Junior.

Breakthrough @ **Barry**
University

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