

Freezer Vision 2016-2017

Eugene Yeung

New beginnings often elicit fear and uncertainty, and being a first year student in university is no different. From living with a roommate for the first time to learning the ropes of household chores, the types of challenges that a first year student may encounter are essentially boundless. My experience as a first year was no exception. I struggled to live out my life as a Christian in a secular environment, and was overwhelmed by the amount of assigned readings, papers, and exams. My already weak self discipline was further challenged by the freedoms that came with being a university student. Yet, attending and devoting myself to CCF and Freezer provided me with the perfect breather I needed to take from the different demands and pressures of school and living away from home. While the early days of attending CCF were indeed intimidating ones, going to Freezer presented me with a comfortable environment where I was able to acquaint myself and ultimately build tight-knit relationships with my fellow first years. Together, this community of first years created a year's worth of memories through having meals together, live streaming Blue Jays games during study sessions (no, that wasn't a typo), and of course, sharing about the highs and lows of our everyday lives.

This coming school year, my hope for Freezer is threefold. First, I hope to help cultivate a loving culture within the ministry where love is at the centre of all that is done. For God first loved us, this very love that we are beneficiaries of must form the basis of all relationships. This love allows us to put down our personal desires and place our focus back on God and our brothers and sisters in Christ. Second, I hope to help build relationships that are broad in scope and deep in depth. Relationships that are broad in scope are not confined within CCF or Freezer meetings, but extend beyond these confines. On the other hand, relationships that are deep in depth encourage transparency and vulnerability. Finally, with a close knit community must also come a desire to become vulnerable to your peers. Becoming vulnerable is challenging as it strips away anything that masks one's true self, but in truth, it is only through authentic and transparent sharing that a community can be built through.

Through weekly meetings consisting of activities such as board game nights, joint ministry events, and topic specific discussions, it is my hope that Freezer will continue to be the accepting and supportive community that any newcomer or first year student may be looking for. I'm really looking forward to meeting and getting to know all of you this year!

Charissa Chan

Walking into CCF for the first time, I felt lost in the sea of people and I wondered how I would make friends or fit into this big family. Where would I even begin? Well, Freezer was the starting point for me and I hope that it will be the starting point for the first years and newcomers as well this year! I see Freezer being a joyful and comfortable space that welcomes anyone with open arms. Because it is a smaller group, making friends is a lot easier and less intimidating. My hope is that Freezer will be able to bring out the family feel of CCF, showing the love and care that we have for all our brothers and sisters. I want to achieve all of this through many fun activities, such as playing board games and cooking together, as well as deeper sharing as we progress throughout the year. I also want to incorporate small group prayers to encourage vulnerability in our fellowship as I strongly believe that vulnerability is key to building intimate relationships. To integrate those in Freezer with the rest of CCF, I wish to include programs through the year collaborating with other ministries as well as programs inviting different upper years to come and get to know the people who are new to the fellowship.

In the past year, God has used Freezer and the people in it to shape who I am, to help me find my identity, and to build my character. As I reflect on my own life, I can see how important it is to stay true to who you are as an individual and to stay rooted in your faith with your eyes fixed on Christ Jesus. My hope is that Freezer will foster a community of supportive brothers and sisters who will keep each other accountable and be good examples of Christ for each other. I want to create an inclusive and accepting environment where individuals feel comfortable to explore who they are, express their thoughts, and most importantly, to be themselves. Finally, I would like to see Freezer become a place of growth, that we would challenge each other to walk closer with God and fuel the passion to be salt and light in our campus.