# November Constituency Reports

Name: Sydney Pagan
Position: Board of Governors Representative

Since our last council meeting, the entire Board of Governors was in town on Thursday the 26th and Friday the 27th of October. On Thursday, we had a board orientation session, an information session, and a board dinner. Friday consisted of a full board meeting, followed by an invitational X athletics event where board members had the opportunity to see various sporting events going on.

The info session consisted mainly of a discussion on residence, including the new restorative approach to documentation and the living learning spaces that are set to be implemented in MacIsaac Hall next year. Friday’s board meeting focused mainly on academics and finances.

On top of the usual board events, Alex and I had the opportunity to host a Board of Governors Meet & Greet/Networking Gala for students to attend on Thursday after the dinner. The purpose of this event was twofold. We wanted to give students an opportunity to meet the many successful members of the board in order to network and gain insight about their paths after graduating, this was particularly important for fourth year students graduating this year. Furthermore, we wanted to increase the transparency of the board and give students an opportunity to learn more about our university’s governing body. We had 50 students sign up to attend this event, and we received very positive feedback afterwards from both students and board members. We hope this is an event that can become a tradition in the coming years!

The Campus Affairs Committee which I am a part of meet on October 18th. At this meeting, I was voted as Co-Chair of the committee. We have our next meeting on November 1st, where I plan to do outreach and gain some opinions about council’s vote on the Oland Centre referendum.

Name: Pheerawich Chitnelawong

Position: International Student Representative

Since the last council meeting, I have received concerns regarding the post-graduate for international students. So far StFX does not have a person or a source for students to provide information about immigration or job opportunities after graduation especially the legal side for international students. I have discussed this issue with the International advisor, and he has contacted the Immigrant Support Program Coordinator in Antigonish. An information session can potentially be held. Regarding the ratification of International Society, it will not be possible until the executives have their training which is duly in the second semester. However, the events and plans can proceed through the Office of Internationalization which we have discussed this pressing issue. On October 26th, the Antigonish Town Library held Pumpkin carving event where a number of international students and Coady students attended. The crucial upcoming event before the end of the semester is the International banquet which gives an opportunity to bid the outgoing exchange students farewell. It will be held in three weeks. The information about the event will be released as soon as the plan is definite.

Name: Sasha Paul
Position: Equity Representative

Since Last Meeting:

Since the last meeting, I attended the discussion lead by X Pride about fighting homophobia on campus, held in Riley Hall. It was a productive learning session in which several practical, day-to-day solutions to homophobic language and actions were focused on.

I have met consistently with the Aboriginal students’ advisor as well as the Students of African Descent advisor in the last week, to catch up on any new information concerning their offices. I have also been in touch with the Human Rights and Equity advisor about possibly joining a planning committee to do with December 6th, declared by Canada's Parliament as the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. The meeting will be held this Friday.

Lastly, over the weekend I attended a Student Leadership conference, at which one of the Keynote speakers was a Native comedian, who addressed issues surrounding Reconciliation and Decolonization. There could be future plans to bring him to StFX Campus as his speech was greatly honest and covered very necessary points.

Concerns and issues:

A recent concern that has been brought up amongst International students is that of where they are going to be placed over the Christmas break, should they not be travelling anywhere. In past years, these students have been required to leave their rooms and have been put up in the Coady MacNeil building next to MacIsaac Hall. However, last year, the ex-International Student Advisor advocated for them to be placed in Somers Hall instead. Since her resignation, the school has decided to once again return international students into the Coady MacNeil, which is, in fact, a very old, worn building. The students would still be required to pay an extra amount to live there over the break. There are discussions happening around how to communicate to the school that this is unacceptable, as the conditions of the Coady MacNeil are not pleasant for anyone to live in for the two-week period.

Activities and Events:

* Buffy Sainte-Marie, Indigenous musician, activist and Icon hosting a talk, followed by documentary: Friday 3rd of November Schwartz Auditorium

Name: Lucas Middleton
Position: Arts Representative

Since the last Council meeting I have met with a few constituents, the bylaw and policy committee, the Committee on Studies, attended a Town Hall with the minister of employment on workforce and development of labor, attended a Board of Governors networking event, and a talk given by Nate Leipciger put on by the education department. Each of these meetings were productive, and I have been prompted to action by my meetings with constituents.

I was approached by a constituent in the development studies program, expressing a desire for improvement in the program. I noted their concerns, and ideas for improvement, and went looking for further information. Contacting other students in the development studies program, I gathered information on the program from the student’s perspective. Further, I met with Dr. Langdon, the program coordinator for, to get the faculty point of view. Given both the student’s and the faculty’s feedback, the next step is to facilitate an information session where more students can express exactly what they would like to improve, and Dr. Langdon can hear their opinions and implement them.

Further, Dr. Langdon suggested given that many faculties are under review and looking for student feedback, it could be helpful to relay this to students, as very few students approach the chairs of departments to express concerns without prompting.

The Bylaw and Policy committee meeting was productive, leading to changes that will be brought forward to council at the next meeting. The Committee on Studies meeting was also productive, going over material that will be brought to senate in an upcoming meeting.

Name: Sarah Elliott
Position: First Year Representative

What have you been up to since the last council meeting?

Besides trying to meet with as many of my contingency, and picking their brains for ideas and problems, I have been planning my “Party Like It’s 1999” dance. The Inn has been booked, date set, the marketing form has been submitted and waiting to hear back about posters/ePosters, the DJ has been booked, I am now working on going around to town to try to receive donations for prizes (such as gift cards), I have to make a selling schedule, and design tickets. I have gone to events such as the fair-trade sale, and have been encouraging first-years to sign up and attend intramural events. We also had trick or eat which had so much participation, many of which were first-year students going with their respective houses.

What concerns/issues have been repeatedly been addressed in your constituency?

I am still in the early stages, I haven’t really been able to fully reach out to my entire constituency. Most concerns that have been brought up are out of my hands and possibly out of the student union’s hands. Some issues that continuously came up were lack of satisfaction with meal hall, frustration with the showers in residence because of flocculating water pressure, and finally an interest in changing the show playing in meal hall, (it is usually hockey.)

What committees or meetings have you participated in?

I have been attending the budget and finance meetings, we have been discussing the different submission forms for the $5000 grant that St. FX gives out to students for new, innovative ideas to better student life on and off campus. There was a variety of well deserving young adults, and the decision has not yet been made. We have also allocated money to a number of clubs and societies, so they can better their events. We have also been in an email chain if we are unable to meet to decide allocation requests. We are in the works now of deciding when next to meet.

What events/activities are coming up in your constituency?

The closest event that is approaching is the “Party Like It’s 1999” dance, I am really excited to start advertising heavily to all the first-year class, right now I have just been talking to a number of people, getting them hyped and hoping that by word of mouth it will start getting more and more people excited.

Another event that I would be interested in putting on is a few days before x-ring when people are getting really hyped, we put on a time capsule that each frosh has the opportunity to come in, write a letter and drop it in for themselves on x-ring in 3 years. We can rent out a room in the student union building for one day where people can come in whenever they want to write/decorate a letter and drop it into the box so they can have a nice letter from their past.

My final idea that I want to begin implementing around campus is the idea of a suggestion box/envelope to put in all of the first-year residences that I can go around and check once a week to see if people have any complaints or ideas, but do not know/want to approach me. I hope to begin setting up the envelopes next week.

Name: Tanaka Chikwavaire
Position: Student of African Descent Representative

Last Friday 27th October, the students of African descent office and myself hosted our first games night of the year. It was a success and we had a quite a few students come out and just have a chilled Friday night of game, snacks and music. We hope to host another one and get more people to come out. I have also been having conversations with students in my constituency about the Oland center Referendum, and many students have expressed concerns about how this would mean an increase in fees which has already been increasing by a percentage every year. The students who won’t get to see all the changes are very reluctant on this idea because they are going to have to pay for something they won’t use, so the general consensus among my constituency is not very positive pertaining to the referendum. I will continue to get people’s opinions and make sure I vote on behalf of my constituency and not myself.

Name: Melissa Grant
Position: Education Student Representative

Since the last meeting I have helped plan numerous Halloween events for my constituents. We have had Pumpkin Carving (October 24th), a Halloween Social (October 28th), a “Spooky” pancake lunch (October 31st), and Halloween at The Inn (October 31st). On the academic side, we had our NSTU Conference day on October 27th, in which many B.Ed students travelled to Halifax to participate in, and we had a Resource Share (practicum binders, portfolios, resumes, etc.) for the first year students on November 1st.

One issue/concern that was brought to my attention was the need for headshots for the first-year students, so we have arranged a day where a professional photographer will take headshots for a small donation. Another issue that has been brought to my attention is that B.Ed students living in Governors Hall will need to move to a different residence a week before their practicum ends. We are still waiting for details on this, and I will hopefully meet with Rebecca Mesay at some point in the next week or two to see what our options are.

In regard to the committees I have sat on, SRC is still looking at ratifying the Deeper Life Campus Fellowship society, and Sarah Comandante is working closely with the society president to see if we can make it line up with the Students’ Union values.

Lastly, the Education Society has planned a “Family Dinner” that will take place on November 9th. This is our last week of classes before heading off to practicum, so we will also have a day (November 10th) dedicated to the transition from being a student to teaching students.

Cheers,

Mel

Name: Bry Crabbe
Position: Graduate Student Representative

Since the last council meeting I have used the graduate student email server to hear their thoughts concerning the upcoming referendum vote Sunday in order to make a solid decision of behalf of my constituents. There was a graduate student social dinner at the townhouse last week where I was happy to hear and see that graduate students are getting out and involved in the StFX and Antigonish community. I have had no committee meetings as of yet but the university senate will be meeting Monday evening and the committee on graduate studies is scheduled to have our first meeting of the year on 10th of November.

Name: Alex Corrigan
Position: Board of Governor’s Representative

Hello all,

It has been a busy last couple weeks with Budget and Finance Committee meetings and StFX Board of Governors meetings last week. I am very happy to report that the Board of Governors Meet and Greet/Networking Gala was successful indeed and I think that all present had a good time. Board members told me that they were very happy to chat with students and it appeared that there were many substantive discussions around the room. My hope is that this event will be recurring at least yearly and perhaps biyearly.

During the Thursday Board information session, members were extremely complementary of the restorative justice approach, it seems that everyone is on board and I would like to credit everyone, especially our VP Residence Affairs, Rebecca Mesay for making this shift in residence possible.

The Friday meetings revolved mostly around advancement, finance and new student recruitment and retention. There are several programs with room for more students, so there is a desire to fill those spots. I raised a few ideas about how current students can help bring more high caliber students to StFX and work is being done to explore the feasibility of these ideas. Principally, I asked about the feasibility of a program through which students could be trained and paid to call perspective students and provide information about StFX. My view is that everyone would win.

At the time of writing, the Student’s Union Budget and Finance Committee has decided to appoint one student at large to the committee and is meeting prior to this Sunday’s session of Council in order to make recommendations for allocation of the Council Initiatives Fund. Student at large applications have also been reviewed by the co-chairs (VP Finance, William Gatchel and myself) and we expect to have this position filled by this Sunday.

Finally, since last council meeting my office hours have been spent primarily sifting through the bylaws looking for passages relevant to referenda. As you may know, the university has asked council to consider a referendum to create a student levy so that the Oland Centre can be renovated. The idea is that students would fund 18% of the project and that our contribution would result in the almost immediate creation of a better health and wellness centre (so a gym that isn’t tiny). I have been very curious about campaigning rules for referenda and have found that the Referendum Act does not mandate a councilor’s neutrality, but that the Elections Act probably does. I will conduct more outreach with students about their opinion of the project and will have more discussions with the chair of council about interpretation of the bylaws.

Name: Amy Bobyn
Position: Science Student Representative

Since our last council meeting, I have spent much of my time informing students of and discussing the referendum that was presented to us by the university regarding the OC renovations. I have received plenty of very informative and valuable feedback on this project that I look forward to sharing with council on behalf of my constituents. There were a number of varying opinions that I believe are important to acknowledge as we strive to act on the best interests of the students that we represent.

I have spent much of my time recently connecting with the executives of the science societies on campus in order to ensure that I am representing my constituents and am fully aware of the concerns that they may have. A number of the science society presidents were able to meet with me in a very productive discussion and brainstorming session. We touched on concerns that specifically pertain to their programs, as well as those that many science students in general face. We were also able to consider ways in which multiple science departments along with myself might be able to collaborate in reaching out to constituents and provide resources to a diverse range of students. A comment that was brought up repeatedly in these conversations as well as with a number of constituents has been lack of study space on campus, particularly in science buildings such as the PSC, JBB and OC. This is an important concern that I intend on bringing to council in order to consider alternative spaces for students.

During this session, it was decided that in the coming weeks a number of small outreach events will occur in order to contact students in a one-on-one setting. A very simple idea presented was that a questions/comments booth be set up for a day in the SUB. Science students would be given the opportunity to write down any suggestions, comments or concerns they might have regarding their programs on sticky notes or bulletin boards. They will be able to ask questions, discuss ideas and chat with science society executives or myself. Panels targeting particular students were also suggested. These would be directed towards regular issues faced by science students such as declarations, course requirements, masters programs or further education.

Most recently, the Committee on Studies has made a number of changes to the program options that directly impact science students on campus. These include the addition of the following programs to the academic calendar, effective immediately as of Wednesday October 18th following a unanimous vote:

Bachelor of Science Advanced Major with Minor in Science

Bachelor of Science Advanced Major with Minor in Arts

Bachelor of Science Honours with Minor in Science

Although students were previously able to complete the credit requirements necessary to qualify for these programs, they were not officially recognized on any official documentation, such as a transcript or final degree. Should a student decide to pursue one of the above courses of study, or if a student has already acquired the necessary requirements for their major and minor of choice, they will now qualify for the declaration of this on all official university documentation. This will be noted in the online academic calendar as well as the 2018/2019 academic calendar once printed this coming spring. During this time, it was also decided following discussion that

Economics would be a viable minor for science students wishing to pursue this course of study as an Arts minor, though not as a science minor. A new course in the computer science and math department was discussed, and will be revisited following consultation with these faculties and committee members.

I have also sat on the campus affairs committee on November 1st. We discussed a change in policy for counting house points in which rather than accumulating a number of points over the course of the month, a ranking system would be used. The house with the most points over the course of that month would receive 15 points, with the following houses receiving a decreasing amount based on their standing, rather than their total accumulated number of points. This would “level out the playing field” for houses, allowing for more equal competition throughout the year and prevent one house from winning house cup by a large amount of points. This motion was passed, and will begin as of this month, November. We also introduced our new student at large who is sitting on the committee. The house hockey cup rival for Burke was announced, and will be officially released to the student body through the marketing team later this week. A productive discussion about the potential OC referendum was also held, allowing Sydney and I to gain important insight from this group of students.

The second official senate meeting will be held this coming Monday at 7:30pm, with a report on this to come the following council meeting.

I will be meeting with the chair of council this week in order to discuss the year so far, and hopefully receive important and valuable feedback from her.

Name: Emma Crilly
Position: Business Student Representative

Over the past few weeks I have sent out the acceptance offers to the student who applied to be a part of the advisory board. I am very excited to see this wonderful team come together in the near future to discuss the goings on of the Schwartz School of Business. In addition, I put a poll on Facebook regarding the Referendum vote such that I could get a good understanding of the stance of business students. In addition, an email was also sent out to ensure all constituency was reached. I have been unfortunately very under the weather for the past three week which has been a big hindrance in getting my work completed. This Monday I will join senate to discuss the academics going on here on campus. I’m very excited to be feeling better and moving forward with my work as the Business Student Representative.

Name: Kashya Young
Position: Aboriginal Student Representative

What **committees**or **meetings** have you participated in?

I have not yet sat on any committees yet but I have had a few meetings lately. I have met with the Xaverian Weekly about the printed version of the Indigenous Issue. Overall, the Indigenous issue had great feedback from my constituency and myself. Very pleased with the turn out.

AGM meeting.

Meeting with Jess- I had a meeting with Jess to chat about how things are going, and I was happy to report that so far things have been going good. There have been a few bumps in the road of course but nothing I haven’t been able to handle.

Doreen Bernard had reached out to Terena and I about having a meeting before her time ends here. We are hoping to do something next week as her time on campus as Coady Chair in Social Justice ends Nov 10.

Terena will also let me know when the next CABSS meeting is, as we both have heard anything from them yet.

What have you been doing since the last meeting?

**Thursday, October 19:**Lunch and Learn from 11-2. This was a great turn out, lots of Indigenous students came out to eat and talk about the Indigenous issue that is coming out soon. We also had a photographer join us to take our pictures for the cover. Joanna Black, who works at the women’s resource center as a bystander intervention coordinator, also joined us to talk about her new by-stander training program that she is working on right now. I was very happy with this event, I was the host because Terena is away at a conference.

**Friday, October 20:** Ruby Poulette (First year Mi’kmaq student) and Barron White-bird (president of the Aboriginal society), joined Natalie and Sam’s class: Community change of 22 participants’. At 1:30-4:30 we did a smudging ceremony and then took a walk down to the water. I was asked to do this as I did it last year, but brought some Indigenous students with me because it is important for them to take part in these kinds of activities. Barron did the walk down to the water and offered tobacco, while praying for the water. We all took part in a circle and spoke about what smudging was and why it is an important ceremony in our culture.

**Wednesday, October 24:** AGM meeting. I was only able to attend for an hour because I had class but I was happy to be there. Although I did my best to spread the word about the meeting, unfortunately no L’nu students made it to the meeting. Hopefully there will be a better turn out next time. It was good to get a better understanding of what exactly the AGM meeting is about. It was a great learning experience for me.

**Wednesday, November 1:**The Spirit of Annie Mae film was shown in my Anthropology 112. Class. This film is about Anna Marie Pictou-Aquash who was a Mi’kmaq woman warrior. Annie Mae spent her much of her life engaged in political activism, joining the American Indian Movement (AIM) in her early years. Annie Mae was killed execution-style in South Dakota in 1975. The case went unsolved for years. In 1977, Leonard Peltier was convicted of first degree murder. In 2004 Arlo Looking Cloud was convicted of the murder of Annie Mae and is now serving a life sentence in prison. In 2007, John Graham was also sentenced to life in prison for the murder of Annie Mae Pictou- Aquash. The 3 men thought Annie Mae was an informant working for the FBI.  This was a heavy film to watch but very educational and I was glad to have had the opportunity to watch it during class, with Hubba, Annie Mae’s older sister in join us for this. I recommend this film to everyone because it is a true story and shows the real struggles that Indigenous women face.

What activities/events are coming up in your constituency?

**Friday, November 3:** Talking Circle with Buffy Saint Marie at Desmond Hall from 3:00-4:30pm. 6:00 SCH auditorium, talk by Buffy followed by a documentary showing. All are welcome!

The November calendar/agenda has not yet been printed but once it is I will send the upcoming events! Sorry about the delay but I will get them posted as soon as I know.

Name: Sydney Pagan
Position: Board of Governors Representative

Since our last council meeting, Board of Governors activity has been relatively quiet. The Board is working to promote “Giving Tuesday” at StFX, taking place on Tuesday, November 28th. This initiative was presented with the aim of raising funds from alumni and supporters to support student financial aid through scholarships and bursaries. Our next Board meeting will be a special conference call taking place on December 6th, therefore I will have more Board updates at our first council meeting in second semester.

With much discussion about the Oland Centre referendum taking place since our last council meeting, I have been taking every opportunity to gain feedback from students about the proposed referendum. The feedback I have received about support for the referendum and if the students would vote “yes” or “no” have been very mixed. A concern that has come up repeatedly has been that, while most students use the facility and see value in renovating it, the amount of “ask” from the university is considered quite high for many students. Therefore, I think the university will have to market extensively to convey what the fee would go towards in order to provide more clarify to students. However, even those who have expressed their uncertainty about the referendum have stated that they think it is important that the referendum is passed through council and students get to vote for themselves on whether or not to support the project. Based on this feedback, I am pleased with the approved motion to go through with the referendum in January.

Name: Pheerawich Chitnelawong

Position: International Student Representative

Regarding the winter accommodation for international students, I, Vice president of residence affairs, International advisor, and another international student had a meeting with Bob Hale expressing concerns for the residence issue. The result is that international students will be able to stay in Somers and Powers Hall during the winter break with a fee. Also, for the past fortnight the Office of Internationalization has had winter clothing left from earlier years available for international students in need. The event that took place in since the last council meeting is the International banquet. The turnout is greater than expected. The Deans of each department also attended the event. An upcoming event is the International Student Pathways to Immigration session which takes place on November 27. The session aims for the graduates, and is about job opportunities and obtaining citizenship in Canada.

Name: Sasha Paul
Position: Equity Representative

**Since last meeting**

Since the last meeting, I have met with all of the advisors of my constituencies. There was positive discussion with the Students of African Descent advisor about starting up a Black Students’ society, which I think is important in order for this constituency to remain in touch with one another and be offered peer and advisor support for their needs. I also touched base with the Human Rights and Equity advisor, who has now been informed that she will unfortunately be placed in Mackinnon Hall for the rest of the year. In that respect, we discussed ways in which she could make herself more reachable and known within the community, and we will likely print out some posters indicating her name, position and location in order to improve her accessibility to the students. She is also making arrangements to travel to Humper College in Ontario, to find out more about how they have built up their equity office and hopefully bring back some of the knowledge and tools learned on how to improve and jump start our own Human rights and Equity position here at StFX. We briefly discussed organising a meeting together with the entire Equity advisory committee to do some goal setting for the upcoming semester and years to follow. This is likely to happen in January.

Apart from this, I have met with the Equity advisory committee and we have made plans surrounding the direction which we plan to go as a committee. I also attended the X-talks discussion about Health, which gave some interesting perspectives around the topic.

**Issues and Concerns Arising**

In the November 9th issue of the Xaverian weekly, an Opinions article was published titled “What is racism? Defining before Assigning”, which highlighted the supposed dangers of using the term ‘racist’, willy nilly. The article was quite under-researched and was based on little to no facts, but has still managed to isolate particular marginalised groups on campus. There has therefore been some discussion around what actions shall be taken to remedy the effects that this article has had , and to hold the Xaverian accountable for the pieces which it allows to be printed.  The Human Rights and Equity advisor has suggested that perhaps there should be Cultural competency training held for the Xaverian and its team, which seems to be a viable first step in the right direction.

Apart from this issue, the International students have now been placed in Somers Hall for the Christmas break instead of the Coady Macneil.

Sasha Paul

su\_equity@stfx.ca

Name: Lucas Middleton
Position: Arts Representative

Not too much brand new happening with arts students, but old business is well on its way to being resolved.

The Development Studies department is in the middle of planning an information session with students so that they can more directly discuss the improvements they want to see within the program. My involvement at this point is fairly minimal, though I may still be used as a source of outreach depending on how they do independently.

This week I met with Dr. Wamsley to discuss the peer-editing workshops I am trying to implement. He liked the idea and recommended I talk to Mark Leeming next, the coordinator for the Student Success Centre. I have contacted him and am now just waiting for a response. Hopefully the program can be in place for paper season in second semester.

I sat on senate 2 weeks ago, where enrolment was discussed (among other things). Because of the significant and sustained decline in enrolment to the BA program I have begun outreach to administration about anything I can do to help increase the number of students in the arts faculty.

The academic priorities and planning committee met last week, going over several changes to administration of partnerships with other universities and the creation of our timetables. There is one more meeting scheduled this semester in which we endeavor to finalize these changes.

Name: Sarah Elliott
Position: First Year Representative

**What have you been up to since the last council meeting?**

I have been planning for my “Party Like It’s 1999” dance, unfortunately it has to be rescheduled to the beginning of next semester, however I am very optimistic it will be more of a success with the more time I have to plan. Also, I learned a lot about more of the logistics of student union which was beneficial. Also, last Saturday I had the opportunity to go to Halifax for a presentation and discussion on social welfare issues in Canada and the stigmas surrounding them. A few first-years from each residence attended the trip and it was an inspirational day that was incredibly important, the hope is that the girls that went will bring back the information and raise social awareness on the stigma of social welfare.

**What concerns/issues have been repeatedly being addressed in your constituency?**

Most concerns that have been brought up are out of my hands and possibly out of the student union’s hands. Some issues that continuously came up were lack of satisfaction with meal hall, frustration with the showers in residence because of flocculating water pressure, and finally an interest in changing the show playing in meal hall, (it is usually hockey.) My hopes for next semester is to put my suggestion envelopes in each residence so I can hear more of a variety of issues, complaints, and ideas.

**What committees or meetings have you participated in?**

I have been attending the budget and finance meetings, we have decided part of the $5000 grant that St. FX gives out to students for new, innovative ideas to better student life on and off campus, however there is still about $1500 to give out. We have been allocating money to a number of clubs and societies, so they can better their events. We have done most of our votes over the email change, I believe all the current allocation request forms so there has not been a need for needing in the last couple weeks.

**What events/activities are coming up in your constituency?**

The “Party Like It’s 1999” dance will hopefully be first week back and hopefully during frost week, I am really excited to start advertising heavily to all the first-year class, right now I have just been talking to a number of people, getting them hyped and hoping that by word of mouth it will start getting more and more people excited.

Another event that I would be interested in putting on is a few days before x-ring when people are getting really hyped, we put on a time capsule that each frosh has the opportunity to come in, write a letter and drop it in for themselves on x-ring in 3 years. We can rent out a room in the student union building for one day where people can come in whenever they want to write/decorate a letter and drop it into the box so they can have a nice letter from their past. I did not know when x-ring was so I ended up waiting too long to do it during x-ring, so hopefully I can do a similar idea for a new years resolution kind of thing.

My final idea that I want to begin implementing around campus is the idea of a suggestion box/envelope to put in all of the first year residences that I can go around and check once a week to see if people have any complaints or ideas, but do not know/want to approach me. I hope to begin setting up the envelopes next week.

Name: Tanaka Chikwavaire
Position: Student of African Descent Representative

**Committees**

I sat on the first Equity Advisory Committee meeting. To pick the Chair and Vice Chair and to decide when to close the student at large applications.

**Interactions and Events**

Not much has happened in my constituency since the last meeting. I met with Kelsey and Sasha sometime last week discussing the article that was released in the Xaverian about ‘what is racism’. We were all very uncomfortable about the content of it and Kelsey mentioned how a couple of other students in my constituency had approached her expressing their shock and disbelief. It is of huge concern to me that such an article is allowed to be published and we are looking into finding out more about how the Xaverian Weekly operates. We also discussed the importance of forming a society to represent students in my constituency and hope to encourage and empower students to spearhead that initiative and get a society in place by January of next year.

Name: Melissa Grant
Position: Education Student Representative

Our term has officially ended and my constituents have moved onto their practicum placement! Since the last meeting I have helped out at the welcome table for Building Bridges, and I took pictures at our "Family Dinner" night and posted them to the B.Ed facebook page.

As for the concern I mentioned at the last meeting, I connected with those constituents and found out that their problems have been solved and that they will be allowed to stay in residence for the entirety of their placement.

In regard to the committees I have sat on, SRC has ratified the Deeper Life Campus Fellowship Society. There was also a meeting on November 17th that I was unable to attend due to my practicum. I will be kept up to date via email, and will continue to send my votes in with this method.

Seeing as my constituents are scattered across the province, I will not be organizing any events until the new year.

Name: Bry Crabbe
Position: Graduate Student Representative

Since the last council meeting a majority of my interaction with constituents has focused on x ring events including the actually ceremony and how to purchase super sub ticket, and of course what a super sub is. Other then that talks with Richard Isnor have occurred in the hope of a graduate seminar series to take off next semester as a academic meeting time weekly or bi weekly for on campus full time graduate students to become exposed to aspects of research abstract to their own.

Name: Alex Corrigan
Position: Board of Governor’s Representative

Hi all,

My sincere apologies for missing this session of council. Rachel LeBlanc and I have been invited to speak at an Alumni Association event in Toronto this weekend and couldn’t make it back in time for council. I have therefore chosen to proxy my vote to fellow Board of Governors Representative Sydney Pagan.

It has been a quite two weeks at the board level but a busy one for council. Since our last meeting, I have further researched policies relating to referenda and was proud to sign off on the motion that Arts Representative Lucas Middleton so dutifully presented to council this past Sunday. During this special session of council, I contributed to debate about the referendum and voted according to my constituents’ responses to the survey published about the Oland Centre Renewal. Since a majority of student survey respondents indicated that they saw value in a new workout gym and would prefer a smaller fee over a longer period, I voted to pose the question of fee creation to students through a referendum.

Since last session of council, I have also met with Dr. Kevin Wamsley to discuss ideas for students to help drive recruitment. I believe that the meeting was productive and am hopeful that current students might have the chance to earn money by calling prospective students. Nothing is finalized but ideas are being exchanged.

The Budget and Finance Committee has been greatly improved by the presence of our two students at large whose contributions are already being felt and appreciated. We have reviewed society allocations for several outstanding events and it is always with great joy that we are able to allocate funds for such productive student initiatives.

Many thanks for reading,

Alex

Name: Amy Bobyn
Position: Science Student Representative

In the past several weeks, much of my time has been devoted to collecting information from constituents regarding the upcoming referendum. I have contacted constituents in many ways, contacting science society presidents in order to spread the word, using email, word of mouth and chatting with individuals. Based on the results of last Sunday’s special council meeting, I am satisfied that the desires of my constituents have been accomplished as many felt that it was pertinent for this issue to go to referendum.

On Monday November 6th, I attended the second regular senate meeting. After a number of reports, the dean of science moved to approve that a BSc with advanced major in science, a BSc with advanced major in Arts a BSc Honours with minor in science be added to possible program options for science students, which was approved. The motion that Mathematical statistics be added to the required courses for a concentration in actuarial science, and that a joint advanced major in Psychology and Biology be removed from offerings was also passed. Due to recent changes in the music department, a motion involving the addition and removal of a large number of course offerings were passed, along with a motion to remove the Diploma in Jazz Studies from the academic calendar. Due to time constraints, it was decided that the open forum on student life would be rescheduled to the February senate meeting.

On Wednesday Nov. 8th, I was invited to attend a dinner welcoming guest speaker Jeff Dahn to the campus, along with student and faculty representatives from the engineering, physics, chemistry and geology department. Following this dinner, we were given the opportunity to chat with Dr. Dahn before he gave a fantastic presentation on renewable energy sources and the potential of the lithium ion battery.

On Tuesday the 14th, I attended the first Academic Priorities and Planning meeting. Council representatives were unfortunately were not circulated meeting material, however this was amended and we will be receiving this material in the future. January enrolment was discussed—there are currently 69 students enrolled to begin in the winter term, 30 of which are of the BSc accelerated program. A certificate for indigenous studies was proposed, however due to a lack of consensus on what a “certificate” consists of and its requirements, this will be re-addressed upon further discussion. The timetable for 2018/2019 was also discussed, and it was decided that it would be made using the timetable software only, as opposed to the software and manual method previously used.

The committee on studies Science meeting was cancelled for November 15th, and will be rescheduled for later this December.

Name: Emma Crilly
Position: Business Student Representative

Last Sunday, I joined council to vote on the Oland Center Referendum. There I voted yes to the motion as that was the overall consensus of my constituency. As not previously mentioned at the last council I had attended Senate and there we had some very meaningful discussions regarding the Academic Calendar and the possibility of a Fall reading week. Throughout the week I have been discussing with faculty the direction of Schwartz and how our business program will change throughout the coming years. Those discussions are still in the work, and has given myself and the Advisory Board lots of exciting things to consider. Things are starting to settle down in terms of meeting as we gear up for finals. Finally, I will not be able to attend the next senate meeting due to an exam, but am very excited to read the agenda and meeting minutes to follow.

Name: Kashya Young
Position: Aboriginal Student Representative

What committees or meetings have you participated in?

Meeting with Terena Francis about setting up an Aboriginal student committee that will focus on Aboriginal student experience here at StFX.

Terena informed me that the joint advisory committee is in the process of hiring an Elder in residence, they are aiming for the end January or beginning of February.

Committee on reconciliation was cancelled because too many people could not make it.

Terena and I, spoke briefly about where and when would be a good place to host the powwow this year.  We are thinking March, there was no space during Mi’kmaq History Month.

What have you been doing since the last meeting?

November 8-  Cerulean Blue play with my Anthropology 112 class.

November 9- Jasmine LaBillois, a StFX alumni came down from her community, Eel River Bar to supply to L’nu students with Tia’m. There was so much that some non-indigenous students got some as well, so we were both really happy with that.

November 10- Cerulean Blue play again. Jasmine wanted to see the play so I went again with her. The play the second time around was very educational but also interesting to see the difference in cast’s performance.

November 13-  Hosted a traditional dinner at my house for students, a few showed up. We discussed having a talking circle sometime next semester.

November 16- Lunch and Learn-11-1, I arrived late, however Terena mentioned the sessions

went really well.  The topic was Gladeau Reports and looking for writers.  Brief History on Mi’kmaw communities. Jeannine Deveau Scholarship Dinner.

I’ve been tutoring some L’nu students during this busy time. I have been trying my hardest to support L’nu students culturally and educationally.

What activities/events are coming up in your constituency?

X-Project is still looking for volunteers.

November 25- Arts Health Antigonish & Heritage Association of Antigonish Present: Dance for Life- 7:00pm Immaculata Auditorium. Opening ceremony: a re-commitment to peace and friendship nation-to-nation, followed by a multicultural dance performance

November 26- 2:00pm Immaculata Auditorium, Art & Activism Workshop with Liliona Quarmyne Songor, our life! Atsiakpo, our death! A resistance dance-drama.

Aboriginal society Christmas party. Yet to set a date.