

# Council Package

August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Prepared by Aidan McMann, Deputy Chair of Council

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Agenda  
Students' Union Representative Council  
August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020, 3:00 PM  
Online Zoom Call

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Mi'kmaq Acknowledgment
4. Opening Remarks of the Chair
5. Approval of the Agenda
6. Approval of the minutes of the July 5<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting
7. Constituency Reports
8. Business Arising
9. Executive Reports:
  - President – Sarah Elliott
  - Vice President Academic – Siobhan Lacey
  - Vice President Finance and Operations – Patrick Wallace
  - Vice President Activities and Events – Kielan Pilgrim
  - Vice President Residence Affairs – Jack Irvin
  - Vice President External Affairs – Bradley Van Dam
10. Faculty Representative's Report
11. Students' Union General Manager Report
12. Committee Reports
13. Special Reports to Council
  - Presentation by Sarah Elliott on CASA priority themes
14. Old Business
15. New Business
  - Motion to ratify Amy Lewis for House President of Plessis 2020-2021
  - Motion to ratify Belgica Daniela Fiallos Leon for Off Campus Leader 2020-2021
  - Motion to ratify Payton MacMillan for House Vice-President of Plessis 2020-2021
16. Closing remarks of the Chair
17. Adjournment

Council Minutes – July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
Prepared By: Deputy Chair – Aidan McMann

Students' Union Representative Council Meeting

July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020, 3:00PM

Online Zoom Call

**Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 3:03PM.

**Roll Call**

Board of Governors Student Representative – Nick Murray

Board of Governors Student Representative - Kamy Carrington

Students of African Descent Representative – Henderson Cartwright

Arts Student Representative – Alexander Clow

Education Student Representative – Michael Adetola

International Student Representative – Dhruv Patel

Science Student Representative - Daniel Winters

Business Student Representative – Johanna Gates

Graduate Student Representative – Lauren Viana

President - Sarah Elliott

Vice President Academic – Siobhan Lacey

Vice President Finance and Operations - Patrick Wallace

Vice-President, Activities & Events - Kielan Pilgrim

Vice President External Affairs - Bradley Van Dam

Vice President Residence Affairs – Jack Irvin

Students' Union General Manager – Sean Ryan

**Absent with Regrets**

Equity Student Representative – Jasonique Moss

**Absent**

Faculty Advisor – Corrine Cash

## Opening Remarks of the Chair

“I would like to respectfully acknowledge that STFX is located on the traditional and unseeded land of the Mi’kmaq people. Thank you everyone for coming on this great Sunday for council.”

## Approval of the Agenda

Lauren: I motion to approve the agenda.

Johanna: I second.

Siobhan: I move so that the motion to approve the 2020-2021 budget is presented is after the two agenda items regarding the endowment fund.

Alex: Second.

### **Discussion**

*None.*

Meredith: Moved and seconded. Is that amendment friendly? Yes, so the agenda is so amended. Are there any further amendments people want to make?

Siobhan: I move so that the wording of the agenda item reads motion to approve the 2020-2021 budget as amended.

Mike: Second.

Meredith: Moved and seconded. Is that amendment friendly? Yes, so the agenda is so amended. Are there any further amendments people want to make? Seeing none, would someone like to call the question?

Lauren: I call the question.

Nick: I second.

Meredith: Is anyone oppose to calling the question? Seeing none we can vote to approve the agenda. Would anyone like to vote no? Would anyone like to abstain?

*Motion passes 12-0-0.*

## Approval of the Minutes of The May 31<sup>st</sup> Council Meeting.

Alex: I move to approve the Minutes of the May 31<sup>st</sup> council meeting.

Lauren: Second

### **Discussion**

None.

Alex: I move to call the question.

Lauren: I second.

Meredith: It has been moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the May 31<sup>st</sup> council meeting. Is anyone opposed? Seeing none. We can vote to approve the minutes of the May 31<sup>st</sup> council meeting. Would anyone like to vote no? Would anyone like to abstain?

*Motion passes 12-0-0.*

## Constituency Reports

### Board of Governors Student Representative – Nick Murray

- Attended advancement and external relations committee meeting.
- Attended 3 BOG meeting
  - Discussion focused on reopening of STFX.
- Meets weekly with Governance review committee
  - Hosted Townhall to Council
- Attended budget and finance committee meeting

### Board of Governors Student Representative – Kamy Carrington

- Helped with press release for BLM movement with Sarah, Jasonique and Henderson.
- Attended 3 BOG meeting
  - Discussion focused on reopening of STFX.

### Students of African Descent Representative – Henderson Cartwright

- Helped with press release for BLM movement with Sarah, Jasonique and Kamy.
- Attended black society meetings.
- Attended BLM protest.

### Arts Student Representative – Alexander Clow

- Consultation with senate.
- Attended special senate meeting.
  - To approve plan to return to campus.
- Meets weekly with Governance review committee
  - Hosted Townhall to Council
- Attended Minikin training.

### Education Student Representative – Michael Adetola

- Has received concerns from constituents about return to school. Ex: Small classrooms for education students (Xavier hall).

### Questions

Alex: I do not know if you have seen but Xavier hall will be where people will be isolating. Has there been any communication with faculty since the education students use the building a lot?

Michael: So far, we have not heard anything from the university about the use of the space. Everything has been organized so that we will have at least one class online and the rest in person. As far as the education faculty's communication with their students, it has been sort of lack luster to put it firmly. We are very eager to hear new news as it has been 2 weeks since the decision in terms of questions you asked.

Siobhan: The university has not confirmed where those students are going, whether it is Xavier hall or not. So, I would not worry about it too much until that document is released.

### International Student Representative – Dhruv Patel

- Sat on hiring panel for returning officer.
- Talking to international office about the situation of international students who are stuck back home or in Antigonish.
- Met with international student society regarding the celebration of international students' week. (Possibly second week of January)

### Science Student Representative - Daniel Winters

- Committees are slow as of right now.

### Business Student Representative – Johanna Gates

- Reaching out to students about the return to class, excitement is the consensus.
- Met with budget and finance committee.
  - Council initiative requests.

### Graduate Student Representative – Lauren Viana

- Organization review committee has been meeting once a week pretty frequently about the student satisfaction survey. Going over how to present the data and their STRAT plan.
- Quality of life committee has been meeting frequently.
- Grad students hold a mixed opinion about return to class and the fully online computer science program.



## Executive Reports

### **President – Sarah Elliott**

- Conference with members of Students Union and members of Students services.
  - More student's turnout than staff turnout!
  - 20 pages of notes and initiatives for the return to campus to provide the best environment for students.
- Helped with working group to create consent modules for incoming students to provide a baseline understanding on consent before the students arrive on campus.
  - Went to Halifax to record voice for consent modules.
- We just put out the LGBTQIA+ survey to students at the end of pride month asking them about their experiences on campus, what issues they see, their concerns and how they believe the campus can improve and simply being apart of the LGBTQIA+ community. To eventually put it in the 2020-2021 strategic plan.
  - More surveys to come all summer long to solidify the strategic plan moving forward.
- Consulting Kamy, JC, Henderson to discuss how to improve awareness and spread the BLM message.

### Questions

Lauren: If/ when and how will you guys be distributing the notes that were taken. Will it be available to the public? A lot of people are worried about the lack of transparency between the university and the students.

Sarah: We have all the information we are just working on condensing it down and working into a more concise document. That will be circulated to everyone who was at the conference, but if you want to connect off screen, I did not think of putting it out there to the greater population of students. That is a fantastic idea to share with the greater community.

Alex: You talked about the rebranding in the U, could you talk about what motivated that?

Sarah: I discussed the rebranding of NIMBUS and how we along with STFX can create a more known brand in NIMBUS and be more recognisable.

Henderson: Who will be involved when the surveys come back, and the programming is beginning to run?

Sarah: The initials surveys were created by Clayton and I with the office of the GDSA to try and make the survey as correct as possible and to asking the right questions to receive the best feedback. After we get the survey results, the results are going to be with the organisational review committee and then were going to do more consultation and focus groups to the more specific groups we are trying to reach. More focus groups will be implemented to eventually reach an accepted good product with the input of the groups we are reaching.

## **Vice-President Academic – Siobhan Lacey**

- Attended special senate meeting.
  - Decision to endorse the universities decision for the back to campus plan.
- Sarah, Elizabeth (Yeo) and I worked on the conference with members of Students Union and members of Students services.
- Looking at a lot of academic programming. Assuming there will be a 2 week self isolation period when students return, programming will be important to maintain the students well being and encourage them to get ahead in their academics during that period.
- Sitting on quality of life committee doing a literary review with Tiffany McLennan and Lauren, looking at what other universities are doing and how they are aligning their schedules.
- Collecting student concerns and how they can be addressed.

### **Questions**

Lauren: How will the cultural competency course be offered if it is. Could you expand on it?

Siobhan: As a result of the BLM movement many students have been advocating for a course specifically focused on cultural awareness. Looking at the possibility of creating a course and the possibilities it could have.

Michael: Do you have prospects for teaching these classes.

Siobhan: No.

Michael: Ok, is this going to be a covert education for African nova scotia learning or black people in general?

Siobhan: Ultimately it depends on the content that is available. I would not be able to specifically answer that as of right now. I think their general inquiry was kind of an all encompassing thing which I would not really be able to answer if that is practical or not, but the general inquiry is figuring out how to incorporate probably a variety of demographics.

Alex: Can you comment on how classes were chosen to be online or not? Was it by department? Can you comment?

Siobhan: The courses going online have not been determined just yet, that task force is still meeting. It is still in the discussion phases but eventually it will be brought up to senate. In the meantime, nothing is confirmed.

Alex: Has there been any consideration to have classes in person and online, so for example a compromised student or international students who cannot attend in person classes. Will there be something in place to assure all students can carry out their full course load?

Siobhan: Yes, that is something is being discussed. The task force is working on a way that the students would have more accommodations available.

Kamy: For international students specifically what accommodations were you guys looking at? A lot of them would not be able to return to campus but wish to carry out their studies.

Siobhan: The ones that have been approved by senate are the ones I will speak on now, but so far to international students or even students who will not be able to make it back to campus. We are offering a a-synchronised version of learning which essential outlines that students are not going to have be concerned with time and having a structured class time. It will work as most online courses do with content that you have to get through with a certain date. As well as offering office hours outside of the typical 9-5 so the academic supports can cater to more international students with the time difference they may have.

Kamy: For the a-synchronised learning is that only for the 25% of courses offered online or for all courses?

Siobhan: If classes are in person students will have to make those, but faculty should have to post and record their online lectures outside of class times on Moodle.

Alex: You said you guys were looking at a-synchronised course. Just having been in the last senate meeting I know that senate approved synchronise online courses, so is that a move away from that decision and that will come up in the next senate meeting.

Siobhan: No, they approved both.

### **Vice-President Finance and Operations – Patrick Wallace**

- PSP has started volunteer process.
- Outreach
  - Bailey Wasdal- Came forward about the possibility of a breakfast program within the school.
- Charity called meal share reached out to tell that there is a restaurant in town wants to donate to the school. Each time a meal is sold a portion of the funds will go to the food bank specifically.

### **Questions**

Lauren: About the PSP, a lot of people seemingly do not know about the program, with the hiring of volunteers have you seen program growth? And what are you guys going to do to advertise it?

Patrick: Yes, we have seen program growth, we received 30 applications to the volunteer positions. It was only a pilot year so that could be a reason for not many people knowing about it. Addy has been spearheading the project and has worked with Matt to get a lot of promotion out there either online or in person.

### **Vice-President Activities & Events – Kielan Pilgrim**

- Students communication action team (SCAT)
  - New
  - Representation from each department on campus
    - Athletics, recreation, theU, academics.
- Orientation
  - Making emphasis on the safety of the students ensuring FUN along the way.
- STFX GO new app, does not include all reputation on campus, lots of work to do on it.

### **Vice President Residence Affairs – Jack Irving**

- Starting to plan residence training week with student leaders.
  - Developing online training and hoping for in person training as well.
- Receiving feedback from surveys to gauge the feel of return to class.
- Planning X and U mixers within the houses to meet their student leaders and peers.
- Looking over return to campus and community guidelines hoping to get some feedback on that.
- More hiring to do (2-week timeline)
  - 2 sub execs lost.
- Meeting with NIMBUS and how to promote them.

### **Vice President External Affairs – Bradley Van Dam**

- Committee work with external counterparts.
- Meeting with student union execs across the Maritimes.
- Reached out to local MPs and officials.

### **Questions**

Lauren: Could you elaborate on the reduction of the student fees in response to COVID?

Brad: That conversation was brought forward by execs from CBU during the S and S meeting. They reduced their student fees mainly as a response to that they are online, and they will not need to be delivering O-week packages.

## **General managers' Report**

### **Students' Union General Manager – Sean Ryan**

- Xav meeting, they updated the new editor and chief to update the board on what their priorities moving forward are going to be, governance being a big one.
- Working through office move.
- Negotiations with Pharmasave about new contract
- Budget redrafting

- Sponsorship for o-week
- Meetings with Jack on keep it social.
- AMICUS online conference.
  - Supports full time staff of student unions across Canada
- Running public speaking workshops.
- Ordering PPE and getting a judgment on costs for upcoming year.

## Committee Reports

### **Equity Advisor Committee**

- Had 3 meetings
  - How to move forward
- NIMBUS and Peer support programs require more workers who are able to speak different languages to cater to the international students.
- Great candidates for job openings.

## Special Reports to Council

### **Anamika Saxena – Council Initiatives Fund Presentation**

#### Questions

Alex: With people having to self isolate would there be an opportunity to have a request and delivery service from the website? So, a student from their home can order food and not have to leave. We could pay people to deliver for DriveU because they will not be operating in September.

Anamika: Yes, it is a possibility, we will work on that and how the food process can be improved to get food to the students. We need to train our volunteers as well, it will be possible, but we are just waiting for approval to begin the start up phase.

Sarah: In the presentation you outlined what you would do with the 3000 dollars that you are asking, but then it says there is a cost of maintaining after 5 years for maintaining the website. I was just wondering what the cost would be after 5 years.

Anamika: The five year cost would be updating our servers every five years exactly. I will be there at STFX to improve the servers and updating our website whether that is maintenance or for big changes.

Sarah: I saw that you had different phases of this project. Are you still in the development phases or have you moved on to the programming phase?

Anamika: I am right now in the information gathering phase. How the software developments work is that once we finalize our requirements and gathering, we will continue with our design and development phase. We wish to have all the information we need in the development phase now, so we do not have to go back and in turn spend more money. So, everyone can be on the same page moving forward together.

Sarah: Is your Wallace family internship grant for this project or another?

Anamika: Yes, the grant will go to the same project and will not interfere.

Dhruv: Is it possible to include the services of Sodexo and the bloom field café to order in advance to pick it up for an instant service.

Anamika: I do not know about Sodexo, but it depends on the executive answers and how they respond.

Patrick: If this does get funded, Laura small who is the student food resource center coordinator is perfectly ready to take on this task and she likes the idea and is ready to back it. There is logistical background stuff that will have to happen such as Anamika's coding for the website will be done mostly by her. Inputting the data will be done by the volunteers and a mixed job to organize and train those volunteers properly. It will be a lot of work and Laura is ready to get started. In term of feasibility of the we are ready to take it on. It will be quite a load of work, but it is ready to happen.

Lauren: It sounds like it is the responsibility for the person who brings the food to update what they donated is that true or is it the responsibility of the volunteer at the center?

Anamika: The volunteers will handle the inventory of food coming in. They will be trained for it.

Lauren: Have there been any other grants or funding that you have applied for the project?

Anamika: No, this is the only project for theU.

Nick: *Yields time to Gallery.*

Gallery (Tiffany M.): I just wanted to hop in quick to comment on my appreciation and admiration for Anamika's project. I wanted to comment on people's previous questions in relation to Sodexo. It would probably not be in part with this project because Sodexo is not from theU and theU does not have control over what they do. It would be the responsibility of the volunteers to be doing the input of all the products coming in, but Anamika's task will be ensuring that Laura as coordinator, understand how to use the program. The last thing is that the 5 year charge, is that it is amazing that Anamika is giving 5 years of free service to this project. The fact she is willing to do this for free is an unprecedented deal, the numbers she could be asking are huge. This is really a steal; it will be the cheapest and best time to do this.

Johanna: When budget and finance met we thought this was a great opportunity, and so that everyone is aware a lot of what budget and finance wanted were the costs of the 3000 dollars, which she explained, and the website to be used, which she provided. More questions such as how it will continue, how easy it will be to access and will there be student interest. There was a lot of consultation from the budget and finance committee and I think most of those questions and concerns were answered so great job.

### **Adam Star and Max Gauthier – Council Initiatives Fund Presentation**

#### Questions

Nick: Approximately how many students will you guys be taking on this year and for those students will there be requirements to get on board or is it more open to anyone.

Max: We are looking to collect plastic from students, so that is first involvement. We are going to have different bins around campus, and we have discussed it with staff already. In terms of how many we are not sure yet, it depends on what September will look like. One main priority is getting people to help with the sorting, so we will probably need 1 or 2 people for that. We are also looking at hiring engineers for

the product designs because that is not where our expertise lies. So, we know we will have to depend on other people for that.

Adam: We are also looking at starting a repurposing society and this will be anything and everything we do the repurposing society going to reinforcing that and helping with student engagement once we begin to host the repurposing workshops. Hopefully, we can get volunteers or be used as research projects, with other faculties around the school. Truly I believe once we get our feet on the ground the engagement opportunities are endless.

Sarah: How is this going to work when you are not on campus?

Adam: We are going to operating the business at STFX, I am getting a business degree, so I will be a student again. Both of us are living in Antigonish so we will be around.

Sarah: I know you have been looking for space on campus and have had conversations with Bob Hayle. I was wondering if you can not get space on campus in the fall, how will this impact this project?

Max: With COVID we have been doing extensive planning, if we can not get space on campus there are some commercial properties in Antigonish we could explore, but we have pretty much gotten the green light from Bob to have space.

Adam: Obviously, a plan B must be created, but as of right now we have been told there will be available space for us, where the space will specifically be is undecided. If we can not be on campus are goal will be to be as close to campus as possible so we can have the student engagement.

Sarah: What will happen to the revenue that is made from selling these products? Where will the money be going to? Back to you folks or to the cooperation.

Max: We asked students what would incentivise students to bring plastic to us and the main response was that some of the funds would be going back to support a STFX foundation, so that's for sure something we are looking into and we think it's a great idea. Of course, being the business owners, a portion would be going to our own salaries and living. We plan on devoting as much money as we can to STFX and the community.

Sarah: How are we going to proceed with this as safely as possible, so nobody loses fingers working with the equipment?

Adam: We have talked with insurance brokers and the training that will be provided. Therefore, we will be safely insured. Who ever will be operating these machines will be fully trained and fully insured to ensure that accidents can be reduced. So, if accidents do happen, we can be prepared in all ways.

Siobhan: Outside of the 1500 dollars what do you envision the partnership and communication between you guys, the students and theU.

Adam: We have established our brand and we do want our brand to be associated with STFX and possibly the bookstore. In terms of communication we know theU has a lot of reach in the community for the students, so we are most likely looking for theU to be a primary partner if possible.

Siobhan: I was wondering if you envisioned an exec from theU for example overseeing this or someone on your team who can be a point of contact?

Max: I think having someone in theU would be great, if we can make that happen that would be great. As it stands now, we do not have an internal member for that position.

Michael: In terms of being prepared to provide masks at the start of the semester with everything going on. What is going to separate you guys with Walmart and big industries to sell your goods, are you mostly relying on trying to be ECO friendly and being a STFX brand.

Max: The value that we bring is you can almost tell a story with your plastic, so you give us a bottle and we can create a mask with no virgin plastic being consumed. Everything is recycled plastic and in terms of point of difference we believe that we are saving our environment, collaborating with students and staff, and are doing our work on campus at an educational level. So, if our consumers value that then we are far ahead from companies like Walmart.

Adam: Students are involved and therefore will hopefully feel like they have a stake in what is going on and support us going forward.

Dhruv: Did you guys have a chance to discuss with faculty or Nicholson Tower to create a service learning for students?

Max: Great suggestion, in my 3<sup>rd</sup> year I worked for the department as a student leader. So, we have already spoken them about it. It is up to the prof to allow students to get involved. So, it is out of our hands but something we have brought up.

Alex: I know you guys are using presses and molds right now, but is there opportunity to move to 3D printing at some point?

Adam: Yes, one of our most successful ideas will be 3D granulates from the machines.

Alex: How are you looking to grow your company? Is it based on product producing model or will it move towards having a product side and an intellectual side where you could be building and selling machines?

Max: The beauty of this project is that there are many long term options such as patenting with an IP lawyer. Its quite difficult and expensive so that is something for down the line. Potentially down the line creating a package and providing that for universities so they can carry out the same programs elsewhere.

Alex: How difficult is it to design and make molds, because you guys will be needing those.

Adam: Take it as a blessing it a curse but me and max are not engineers so we will need to be hiring people to carry that out. We will be on the marketing and managing side of things like admin work. In terms of difficulty level, it would be as hard as the education needed for the engineers to carry through with the tasks. We have great connections within the engineer's community and our builder is quite cutting edge, so I believe the creation will not be as big as a hurdle as anticipated.

Sarah: Talking about masks I see the face shields which is a great alternative to face masks, is it possible to have the clear plastic for the full shield not just the strap?

Max: It is difficult to say. We must really experiment with it, but our objective is not to buy virgin plastic. If it comes down to it, we will revisit our plans.



Alex: You mention UBC is doing something similar can you comment on that?

Max: UBC started their initiative a couple years ago, but they are research focused. They made I very approachable as any student with engineering expertise can walk in and try and design a product. They have not gone through any product selling or making.

Henderson: What makes your machines different from the openly sourced plants out there?

Adam: It was a strategy opportunity not our number 1 goal. In terms what we have compared to other it comes down to the community outreach which is planned and the way we are using all recycled plastic to create the products. One of our overarching goals is to make improvements to the machines in anyway we can and improve the functionalities. We believe there is a lot of opportunities to product test.

Alex: If you guys can accumulate enough capital to buy 3D printing machine how many of the machines you currently use will become redundant?

Adam: The beauty of 3D printing is that you can make products. We are service oriented as well as product oriented. What our machines do is repurpose plastic, that provide granulates for the 3D printing. 3D printing makes the fabrication of products easier but the machines we have no create the granulates that would be used.

Alex: So, all the machines you have would be continuing to provide usefulness alongside the 3D printer?

Max: Yes, exactly.

## **Presentation of the Amended 2020-2021 Budget Amended for COVID-19**

### Questions

Alex: It looks like there is a decrease in health and dental premiums, if people start getting sick is it accounted in the budget, for example if people need rugs as we are a health care provider.

Patrick: We just take the money in and give it to the health care providers. They are professionals and know how to deal with that. It is less because we expect less students on campus and less international students on campus. We do not touch the money that comes in so we do not have to worry about that.

Alex: DriveU is planning to be closed in the fall but is it a possibility to use driveU employees and resources for distributing food to students in isolation?

Patrick: It is a possibility. I have not met with them, so I do not know how they feel about the possibility, it may be more work than it is worth. Some food banks leave parcels outside for students to collect which may be an option moving forward. If students are in large need than the driveU/ delivery option would be considered, but we do not have the money to pay for the gas and other resources needed.

Lauren: Is the PPE for members of the student Union or everyone?

Patrick: Yes, the PPE is for everyone.

Sean: Yes, there will be more PPE for the employees and volunteers of theU. It will be a mix of both for students who use our resources and our own people.

## New Business

### **Motion to allocate funds from the council initiative funds to the food distribution application project**

Siobhan: I move to allocate funds from the council initiative funds to the food distribution application project.

Alex: Second.

#### **Discussion on the motion:**

Sarah: The student food resource centre is one of the most valuable resources the student union offers. With facing these unprecedented times, we are going to need to find a way to make this more accessible and more available for the most students as possible. Not only is Anamika's idea and her vision brilliant, but the fact that this is going to be so low cost for the student's union and we have the infrastructure to do this I think this is an amazing initiative that could 1. Put StFX on the map for being the first person in Atlantic Canada with such an idea, but more importantly it would bring so many resources to so many students and help with some of the problems we see with the center today.

Lauren: I would like to agree with Sarah to allocate the funds for the project. It really is a steal that Anamika is willing to basically do this and be involved in the uptake for free. Based on how much this would cost us now compared to hiring an external body to complete the task it only makes sense to fund the project.

Henderson: I think its an amazing initiative. Were going to be in quarantine for weeks with people not being able to leave their space for food. So, I think this is a perfect time. And it is amazing she is offering up their services for free, it is very amazing, thank you.

Alex: I totally agree with everyone that has spoken before and I am on board with approving this motion, but I did have a student reach out with concerns. So, I will voice that to be totally transparent and represent my constituents. The concerns were that it is bad precedent to do this because using the initiatives fund to essentially be adding to a student Union service.

Siobhan: From the student's union side of the matter if Patrick and Laura are confident on these things outside the logistical parts. Then we are good to go ahead with it.

Johanna: Alex, I believe that was a concern we had the whole budget listed out, the budget and finance committee discussed, where the money is going, but in her presentation it clearly shows the costs are for developing the program and expenses not for the labor of the work. Can I amend the motion to allocate money right now?

Meredith: Yes.

Johanna: I move to amend the motion to instead say to allocate 3000 dollars to the food application distribution project.

Alex: Second.

### **Discussion on Amendment**

*None.*

Meredith: Would someone like to call the question for voting on the amendment?

Sarah: I call the question.

Alex: Second.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? Would anyone like to abstain? The motion to amend the main motion to say allocate 3000\$ from the council initiatives fund to the application distribution project.

*Motion passes 11-0-0*

### **Discussion on Main Motion as Amended**

*None.*

Lauren: I move to call the question.

Nick: I second.

Meredith: Would anyone like to vote no? Would anyone like to abstain?

*Motion passes 11-0-0*

### **Motion to allocate funds from the council initiative funds to the Drastic Scholastic Thermoplastic project**

Alex: I move Motion to allocate funds from the council initiative funds to the Drastic Scholastic Thermoplastic project.

Lauren: I second.

### **Discussion**

Siobhan: I think there's cool opportunities here, I sit on the service learning liaison committee, so if Max you want to put something together to put it forward on that. I think this is really cool and I would love to see it on our campus.

Michael: I wanted to say that I think it's great that both presentations are for the students, they are very short of singular gain. Hopefully the second is past and these projects can inspire more students to create projects such as these.

Alex: I wanted to celebrate that we are having these discussions, in both cases these initiatives are getting ahead of the curve. This project is very good for our community, as Adam and Max said it will be giving employment opportunities for students and the opportunity for 2 STFX

students to start their professional careers. It is obviously good for the environment and for everyone to build our community going forward.

Alex: I move to amend the motion to instead say allocate 1500\$ from the council initiative funds to the Drastic Scholastic Thermoplastic project.

Henderson: Second.

### **Discussion on Amendment**

*None.*

Alex: I move to call the question.

Siobhan: I second.

Meredith: Would anyone like to vote no? Would anyone like to abstain?

*Motion passes 11-0-0*

### **Discussion on Main Motion as Amended**

*None.*

Lauren: I move to call the question.

Nick: I second.

Meredith: Would anyone like to vote no? Would anyone like to abstain?

*Motion passes 11-0-0*

### **Motion to Ratify Naomi Stobart as Returning Officer for the 2020-2021 Academic school year**

Siobhan: I motion to Ratify Naomi Stobart as Returning Officer for the 2020-2021 academic school year.

Dhruv: Second.

### **Discussion on the motion:**

Dhruv: We had a couple of candidates, but Naomi had great interpersonal skills, had great experience with the Student union and showed great leadership qualities.

Meredith: Would someone like to call the question?

Alex: I call the question.

Dhruv: Second.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? Being none, it has been moved and seconded to ratify Naomi Stobart as Returning Officer for 2020-2021. Would anyone like to vote no to the motion? Would anyone like to abstain on the motion?

*Motion passes 12-0-0*

**Motion to Ratify Allie Sullivan as Society Coordinator for the 2020-2021 Academic school year**

Daniel: I move ratify Allie Sullivan as society Coordinator for the 2020-2021 academic school year.

Alex: Second.

**Discussion on the motion:**

Lauren: Allie showed the initiative to get started during the summer and some great ideas to keep the society moving in the right direction. She is definitely the right fit for the job and I'm excited to see her get started.

Alex: Can you elaborate on some of the ideas she had?

She had great prospective on the COVID pandemic and how to move forward with contingency plans if things will be online or in person.

Nick: I move to call the question.

Alex: I second.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? Being none, it has been moved and seconded to move ratify Allie Sullivan as society Coordinator for the 2020-2021 academic school year. Would anyone like to vote no to the motion? Would anyone like to abstain on the motion?

*Motion passes 12-0-0*

**Motion to Ratify Madison Mulronev as Chillis House President 2020-2021**

Lauren: I move to ratify Madison Mulronev as Chillis House President 2020-2021.

Alex: I second

**Discussion on the motion:**

Alex: *Yields time to Jack.*

Jack: We were in a weird scenario when the house president of Chillis stepped down. Madison is the vice president of Chillis, and she put forward a letter of recommendation, recommending herself for the position. She has a lot of great ideas for the upcoming year and I think she will be

a great fit for the position. She sent in a letter that if she got the position and be ratified that she would step down as vice president.

Alex: Are you looking for a new vice president?

Jack: Yes, application is out and will close Monday.

Alex: I move to call the question.

Dhruv: I second.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? Being none, it has been moved and seconded to ratify Madison Mulroneu as Chillis House President 2020-2021. Would anyone like to vote no to the motion? Would anyone like to abstain on the motion?

*Motion passes 12-0-0*

### **Motion to Ratify Jenna James as MacNeil House President 2020-2021**

Nick: I move to ratify Jenna James as MacNeil House President 2020-2021.

Henderson: I second

### **Discussion on the motion:**

Sarah: *Yields time to Jack.*

Jack: We were in a weird scenario when the house president of MacNeil stepped down. Jenna is the vice president of MacNeil and she put forward a letter of recommendation, recommending herself for the position. We have been in contact for the past few weeks, she has great ideas and is enthusiastic about the role. She sent in a letter that if she got the position and be ratified that she would step down as vice president.

Lauren: I move to call the question.

Johanna: I second.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? Being none, it has been moved and seconded to ratify Jenna James as MacNeil House President 2020-2021. Would anyone like to vote no to the motion? Would anyone like to abstain on the motion?

*Motion passes 12-0-0*

### **Motion to Ratify Darren Darcy as Senior off campus leader 2020-2021**

Lauren: I motion to ratify Darren Darcy as Senior off campus leader 2020-2021.

Daniel: Second.

**Discussion on the motion:**

Sarah: *Yields time to Jack.*

Jack: Darren for the interview had great social skills. Had great experience of organizing events. She really wants to make off campus more spirited and livelier.

Lauren: I call the question.

Alex: Second.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? Being none, it has been moved and seconded to ratify Darren Darcy as Senior off campus leader 2020-2021. Would anyone like to vote no to the motion? Would anyone like to abstain on the motion?

*Motion passes 12-0-0*

**Motion to Ratify Abigail Leblanc as MacIsaac co-President 2020-2021**

Siobhan: I move to ratify Abigail Leblanc as MacIsaac co-President 2020-2021.

Alex: Second.

**Discussion on the motion:**

Siobhan: *Yields time to Jack.*

Jack: Abigail was very organized, very enthusiastic and had a great understanding of the role. She also loves MacIsaac and would love to have personal relationships with people in the building.

Alex: You said one of the SUCLs is a first year?

Jack: Yes, one of them is.

Alex: What is the reason?

Jack: In MacIsaac we had trouble getting applicants as there are only 10 returners to the building and a couple great first years applied, and Abigail had a great understanding of the job so we are confident in her abilities.

Michael: I also sat on that hiring panel and we had great applicants so the ones that were chosen, I can ensure that they are up to task.

Siobhan: Was a unanimous decision for the panel.

Johanna: Are both honorariums for the co-presidents the same?

Jack: Yes.

Kamy: I call the question.

Alex: Second.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? Being none, it has been moved and seconded to ratify Abigail Leblanc as MacIsaac co-President 2020-2021. Would anyone like to vote no to the motion? Would anyone like to abstain on the motion?

*Motion passes 12-0-0*

**Motion to ratify Jenna Riel as MacIsaac Hall co-president 2020-2021.**

Sarah: I motion to ratify Jenna Riel as MacIsaac Hall co-president 2020-2021.

Johanna: I second.

**Discussion on the motion:**

Sarah: *Yields time to Jack.*

Jack: She had a lot of experience in high school. She is very enthusiastic about the role and has proven to be knowledgeable on the role.

Alex: Can you elaborate on the experience se had in high school?

Jack: She was involved in her highs school's student council and various community projects. Helped a lot with the school.

Meredith: Would someone like to call the question?

Lauren: I call the question.

Alex: Second.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? Being none, it has been moved and seconded to ratify Jenna Riel as MacIsaac Hall co-president 2020-2021. Would anyone like to vote no to the motion? Would anyone like to abstain on the motion?

*Motion passes 12-0-0*

**Motion to Withdraw 5000\$ from the Student Union Endowment Fund to Continue the Work on the Governance Review Project**

Sarah: I move to Withdraw 5000\$ from the Student Union Endowment Fund to Continue the Work on the Governance Review Project.

Alex: Second.

**Discussion on the motion:**

Sarah: This was at request of the governance review committee to finish their overview and reworking of the governance documents (Bylaws and Policy). They are using the money to



consult professionals for the documentations. We have the 21,000\$ in this fund to use, but if anyone has specific questions please ask Paddy.

Lauren: So, all 5000\$ is going to consultation with governance specialists?

Sarah: Yes.

Alex: As a member of the committee should we not use this money it will be put back in the fund.

Nick: It is no easy task, but the governance support with Minikin has been amazing and very helpful, as a unit we are moving forward much easier as a result.

Meredith: Would someone like to call the question?

Lauren: I call the Question.

Dhruv: I second.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? Would anyone like to abstain on the motion? We can move to vote to Withdraw 5000\$ from the Student Union Endowment Fund to Continue the Work on the Governance Review Project. Would anyone like to vote no? Would anyone like to abstain?

*Motion passes 12-0-0*

**Motion to Withdraw 5000\$ from the Student Union Endowment Fund for PPE Items that are Required for the Return to Campus Plan.**

Sarah: I move to Withdraw 5000\$ from the Student Union Endowment Fund for PPE Items that are Required for the Return to Campus Plan.

Lauren: I second.

**Discussion on the motion:**

Sarah: We will be using this money for PPE equipment which include face shields, masks, gloves, hand sanitizer... etc., this will be used to help all our students, staff to be able to access student union services and stay safe on campus.

Lauren: So, this part of the 10,000\$ of the PPE student Union cost?

Sarah: Yes.

Alex: If we will be providing the PPE for students and so much of what we do is centered around the student union building. If a store like Pharmasave is open that we aren't directly affiliated with are we going to provide them with PPE ?

Sean: The Pharmasave will need to have a plan for opening, so they would be responsible for providing that safety equipment for people coming in the store. That would not be on us, but if they asked for our help we could consider.

Meredith: Would someone like to call the question?

Alex: Moves to call the question.

Johanna: I second.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? We can now vote to Withdraw 5000\$ from the Student Union Endowment Fund for PPE Items that are Required for the Return to Campus Plan. Would anyone like to vote no? Seeing none. Would anyone like to abstain from voting?

*Motion passes 12-0-0*

### **Motion to Approve 2020-2021 Budget as Amended**

Siobhan: I move to Approve 2020-2021 Budget as Amended.

Dhruv: I second.

#### **Discussion on the motion:**

*None.*

Meredith: Would someone like to call the question?

Alex: I call the question.

Johanna: I second.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? We can move to vote to Approve 2020-2021 Budget as Amended. Would anyone like to vote no? Seeing none. Would anyone like to abstain from voting?

*Motion passes 12-0-0*

### **Closing Remarks**

*“Thank you all for coming. And thank you for your patience with the whole ordeal of the peer support program. I hope everyone has a good Sunday and I look forward to seeing you guys at our next council meeting”*

### **Adjournment**

Sarah: Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Michael: I so move.

Nick: I second.

Meredith: Would anyone like to vote no to the motion? Would anyone like to abstain on the motion?

*Motion passes 12-0-0.*

*Meeting adjourned at 6:08PM.*

## Constituency Reports

### Board of Governors Representative

Nick Murray

August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020

#### Business relating to position:

Since my previous Constituency Report, I have not attended any meetings of the Board of Governors, nor have I met with either of my two committees. This past month I have been in communication with the other student representatives on the Board, as well a good few number students over email and social media, about the public situation regarding the waiver and the formation of the MOU. There are no doubt many mixed feelings among the students who I talked to. Many felt confused by all the information that came out so frequently, while others expressed personal concerns regarding campus reopening. With that being said, many of the concerns I heard from students are addressed in the MOU, namely in terms of holding both parties accountable as well as having easier access to online courses from other Maple League Institutions. It is my hope that the Memorandum will help as many students as possible find an ideal path forward for this upcoming academic year!

#### Other Business:

This past month within the Students' Union, I attended two Special Council Meetings; one on July 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss the MOU and its progress publicly with students, and a second one on August 2<sup>nd</sup> to have it approved. In addition to Council Meetings, on July 22<sup>nd</sup> I attended Advocacy Training with Tiffany MacLennan. It was certainly a very informative session that I feel helped me reach out to my fellow students over the summer so far. It turns out that reaching out to students is VERY important these days! Overall, communication is the #1 thing I've been focusing on these past few weeks. In order for students to make informed decisions about their university life, we need to help ensure that they have access to all necessary information!

In terms of Union committees, it's been another productive month for Governance Review! Back on July 15<sup>th</sup>, we held a few Town Hall presentations with students about the updated By-Laws. The turnout could've been a tad better, but we're always looking to hear more from students in the future! We've also been continuing to meet weekly to write up a bunch of the new policy documents. Overall, I think we're making really great progress!

All the best,

Nick

**Kamy Roberge Carrington**

August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020

#### Constituency Report #3

Since the last council meeting, most of my work has surrounded the MOU and the waiver that was emailed to students. I have attended two special council meetings and meetings with Sarah Elliot, the president of the Union, and Nick Murray, the board of governor's representative to discuss student concerns and take further measures. The memorandum of understanding between the University and the students Union has officially been signed.

I have also completed a survey for students of African descent that will be distributed through email. The results of this survey will be used to complete the upcoming strategic plan. Through the process, I consulted black society.

I have met with Marc Rodrigue and Shana Hopkins of the alumni association and alumni office concerning networking opportunities for graduating students. The discussion we had was very productive and I look forward to discussing further in the future.

**Equity Representative**

**Jasonique Moss**

**August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

I have already started looking into how the toxic masculinity training can be carried out this year. I hope to continue working with the McKenna leadership and the equity committee in accomplishing this goal. Additionally I have started brainstorming ways in which cultural competency training will take place this year and as soon as I get back to campus it is my goal to start working with the BLACC society in reaching out to the university to hire a Person of color to fill the roll of a mental health representative.

**Student of African Descent Representative**

**Henderson Cartwright**

**August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

There have been a lot of planning this month as the SADR. First is the planning of a Cultural Coffeehouse Collab between the Diversity Engagement Center, X-Pride and the Office of Internationalization. All the plans have since been finalized and ready to be announced soon! Next was a meeting about the International Health Plan with Sean Ryan, Dhruv and a couple folks from Gallivan. We all came to some solid conclusions about the future of the health plan as well as planning an MSI Virtual Info Session for international students who plan to sign up for MSI. There were multiple meetings between me, the Student of African Descent Advisors and BLACC Society where we all discussed our own plans for the upcoming year and future collaboration events that we can put on for our students.

The issue of the student waiver came up and a special council was called where many of our concerns about the waiver and the upcoming school year were brought up as well as a discussion about the MOU. There was also an informal and a special council meeting about the MOU which was updated with the feedback gained from the initial special council which was good. There was also Advocacy Training which was offered by Tiffany MacLennan which I found very helpful.

The Equity Committee have met a few times over the past month. The new Students at Large were all introduced to the Committee and to each other and I am pleased with the diversity of the folks who were chosen. We immediately started making plans for the year and began working on things like social media pages and some history blurbs for incoming and returning students.

**Arts Representative**  
**Alex Clow**  
**August 6th, 2020**

Since the last regular council meeting, I have done a variety of things within my role as Arts Student Representative. I have continued working as a member of the Governance Review Committee as we move forward with policy writing. I have spoken with members of my constituency both over the phone, over text, over email and over social media regarding returning to campus in the fall. These concerns are not uniform and I am happy to elaborate for any who are interested.

Otherwise my efforts as Arts Rep have been focused on better understanding how students feel and where potential problems might arise in the months to come. Once again, should there be any interest I am happy to elaborate as best I can. I have spent some time thinking and speak to others about how we as an organization can increase not only the quantity and quality of our communication with students but also our engagement with students.

**Education Representative**  
**Michael Adetola**  
**August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

Business relating to position:

Education students are gradually returning to campus before the mandatory August 28<sup>th</sup> arrival for out-of-province students. Despite various attempts to reach out to the constituency regarding questions or concerns relating to the waiver or MOU, there has been little feedback. With this, I am assuming that many constituents are feeling comfortable with the aforementioned documents and that they are confident that they will succeed academically, socially and otherwise during this term.

Other business:

Still awaiting communication regarding Campus Affairs and Emergency Grant committees.

**Graduate Student Representative**  
**Lauren Viana**  
**August 6, 2020**

Graduate Student Representative Business:

**Organizational Review Committee:** The organizational review committee had a “Power Day” on July 9, where we went through and picked out problematic themes from Student Satisfaction Survey. We are currently going the themes and brainstorming potential solutions. I was invited by Sean Ryan to attend the weekly marketing check in meeting held on August 4. At this meeting we brainstormed effective and achievable communication strategies to better engage the student body, and these thoughts will be brought back to the org review committee. I am also collaborating with the Office of Internationalization to create focus group questions to better meet the needs of our international student constituency. Results from these focus groups will be key to creating an equitable strategic plan.

**Quality of Life Committee:** A subcommittee featuring Elizabeth Yeo, Tiffany McLennan, Siobhan Lacey, and myself are in the process of creating a literature review discussing the state of current student services, and how these can be improved. We have identified important themes and research questions on this topic and will be diving into the literature soon.

**Special Council Meetings:** Two special council meetings were called about the COVID waiver and M.O.U. agreement between StFX and the Students' Union. The M.O.U. was approved by council at the second meeting.

Other business:

I collected a list of graduate student specific questions about the COVID waiver and reopening protocols from my constituency, and send them to the Office of Graduate Studies. Dr. Richard Isnor and other members of the Graduate Studies Office as well as the StFX admin team were able to answer all of the questions in a timely manner and I relayed those answers to my peers. However, a noticeable number of my constituency have not received an e-signature request email yet. I have been working with a member of IT Services who will hopefully get to the bottom of this issue.

I've also sent an evaluation survey out to my peers which covers (1) how I am doing as the graduate student representative and how can I improve, (2) current evaluation of grad student life at StFX, and (3) what implementations would raise the grad student quality of life. I plan on using the results from this survey to better focus my advocacy efforts.

**International Students Representative**

**Dhruv D. Patel**

**August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

This past month has been quite productive. I had a great opportunity to collaborate with the Stfx ADSA to create a cultural coffee house collab that we are planning to do in middle of August. It was a great experience. I am really thankful to Summer Joy-Upshaw for taking initiative. Also, I learnt the International Students Barometer(Survey where Stfx ranked 1<sup>st</sup>) with Larissa Strong-The office of Internationalization. On July 24th, couple of my constituents reached out to me and Jack Irving(VP-Residential Affairs) for solving their difficulties regarding residence. Jack Irving has played a vital role in solving it. Apart from this, Tiffany's leadership trainings have helped me a lot in my personal growth as well as provided a better insight for effective counselling. It has been a great month for Equity Advisory Committee (Thanks to everyone on the committee).

Other business: I was privileged to do a podcast with my ex-employer(EEC Study Abroad, India) to share my experience at Stfx. The IGTV on Instagram has more than 5000 views so far.

Constituents: As usual, my constituents keep reaching out to us ( The office of Internationalization, Xinternationals society, International Rep) with their concerns/suggestions. For instance, Obada Almethab from New Glasgow was in dilemma whether to continue studying in next semester or not. We facilitated him to take correct decision that best suits his situation. Furthermore, this might be hilarious but Alvado Sanchez from Spain contacted me to confirm whether his flower plant is still watered regularly or not.

**Science Representative**

**Daniel Winters**

**August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

Hello everyone! The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was passed last Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, and was sent out by the university by email on August 4<sup>th</sup>. I have been dealing with various emails with concerns for this upcoming year. Not much else to report on. If anyone needs anything or have any questions, feel free to reach out to me at [x2017uza@stfx.ca](mailto:x2017uza@stfx.ca). Hope everyone is well,

Daniel

**Constituency report**

**Johanna Gates- Business Representative**

**August 6, 2020**

Since my last report I have continued to try and hear business students concerns and questions, and this includes giving out my Instagram and email as widely as possible, as well as reading posts on the STFX Student Strike Facebook page in regard to the school reopening in September. I have also attended council and the town meetings concerning the MOU and other concerns. I look forward to continuing the conversation with business students, and starting classes in September!



## Executive Reports

**Executive Report:** Siobhan Lacey, *Vice President Academic*

**Date:** August 5, 2020

**Reporting Period:** July 6<sup>th</sup> – August 4<sup>th</sup>

### Internal (to portfolio)

**Nimbus:** In July I had several meetings with the Nimbus team to organize and prepare for the upcoming semester. In these meetings we discussed marketing and promotion, how to incorporate Nimbus into Academic Orientation, and discussed how we can help to transition Nimbus learners onto the online platform. I am very excited to be able to help offer this service to StFX Students, and am eager to keep working with the Nimbus team and the Student Success Centre leading up to this academic year.

**Academic Orientation:** During July I spent a significant amount of time planning Academic Orientation for the upcoming school year. I spent time identifying programming that exists on our campus that can help students to succeed academically, and have been compiling this programming into one package to deliver to incoming students during their orientation period. The majority of the programming comes out of the Health and Counselling and Student Success Centres, and is focused on time management, mental wellness during schooling, and academic planning and prioritization. Additionally, I have been working with members of the Student Orientation Committee and the Deans to help facilitate conversation between faculty and students during academic orientation. I am also developing a framework for upper year students in a program to be able to provide a degree of mentorship to incoming students entering into the same program.

**Open Education Resources (OERs):** This month I spent time looking into Open Education Resource implementation for our campus. I had a meeting with the Students Union Executive from PEI, as they just rolled out a pilot OER program at the end of last year. Additionally, I spent time looking into the Maple League and the Council of Atlantic University Libraries (CAUL) ability to administer OERs as a collective. I plan on spending more time looking into the implementation of OERs this month.

**Waiver and MOU:** A great deal of this month was spent advocating to the administration and collecting feedback from students in regards to the University's waiver, and the joint MOU created by the university and the Students' Union. Most of my time this month was spent dealing with administrators, communicating information to students, listening to student concerns, and preparing for the special council related to these concerns. There was a special council meeting in July dedicated to outlining to council the extensive work the Executive Team has been doing as a result of this waiver, as well as to gain feedback from

councilors regarding the content of the MOU. Later in August council passed the MOU and the Students' Union was able to sign.

**Academic Advocacy:** I have been doing a considerable amount of academic advocacy this month. There is content in the MOU specifically dedicated to academic accommodations, I am continuing to meet with Dr. Wamsley to discuss academic concerns, and in the upcoming week will be having a meeting with the Deans to continue the conversation. This month I also had a meeting with Jessica Riddell – the Executive Director of the Maple League – to discuss the MOU signed between the four Maple League institutions, and what this means for students looking to take more online courses in the fall.

**Safe Partying Module:** During this report period Jack and I also had the opportunity to work with the university and external stakeholders on a Safe Partying Module for students. This group is dedicated to creating packaged programming for students dedicated to how to have safe social gatherings during COVID, and how to stay safe as a student attending an off campus event. This group has only met once so far but I am eager to continue to develop this program with my colleagues involved.

### **External (to portfolio)**

**Hiring Panel:** On August 3<sup>rd</sup> I sat on a hiring panel for the Vice President of Plessis! It was fun, I will never get tired of SUCL hiring panels 😊

**FUME:** This reporting period the Executive Team had another FUME to discuss Orientation programming. This was an opportunity to reassess what we could do for orientation that is within COVID safety protocols, and is still fun and informative for incoming students. Kielan has done a fantastic job of adapting to the current climate, and I am fully confident that our incoming students are still going to have a fantastic orientation!

**Media Training:** On July 10<sup>th</sup>, the Executive Team received media Training from Clancy, the Executive Director of Students Nova Scotia. This was very helpful, and focused on how to communicate to media, and best represent the Students' Union and our students in the press.

**Maritime Student Leader Congress:** The MSLC is a conference that is held every year during the Summer. This year, due to COVID, the conference was held online. On July 15<sup>th</sup>, I had the MSLC conference with colleagues who share a similar portfolio to me. I had the opportunity to spend the day with other VP Academics from maritime institutions, and discuss common objectives and concerns. We received training on academic advocacy, and also had the opportunity to discuss individual initiatives, and identify ways in which we can work together in the future. On the 17<sup>th</sup>, the entering of the MSLC had a day conference. During this day we received training on crisis management as well as dealing with media during times of stress.

## **Committees:**

**Student Orientation Committee** (July 7<sup>th</sup>, July 21<sup>st</sup>, August 4<sup>th</sup>): during these meetings we discussed orientation planning, how to best communicate our events to students, and how to navigate orientation within our current climate. We also broke into working groups, and have been preparing quite a lot of content within those groups and reporting back to SOC. I am on the Quarantine Programming and Academic Programming working groups, both of which will be very helpful with academic orientation.

**Quality of Life** (July 9<sup>th</sup>, July 27<sup>th</sup>): This reporting period Quality of Life met twice. We mainly discussed how to best use this committee to support students when they return, and also spent time identifying the direction in which we want the committee to go. I also sit on the working group for this committee, which is currently dedicated to conducting a literature review.

**Sexualized Violence Prevention Committee** (July 17<sup>th</sup>): This meeting served as a quick check in for the SVPC, and we briefly discussed the application for student at large.

**Senate Steering Committee** (July 28<sup>th</sup>): During this meeting we discussed the following:

- Academic regulations
- Student Code of Conduct – Waiver Implications
- Senate governance
- Orientation for new senators
- Potential schedule and venue for Senate meetings
- Reporting expectations
- Planning and priorities for 2020-2021

## **Sub-Executive**

NA

## **Outreach**

As I mentioned earlier in this report, the majority of the outreach I did this month was communicating to students in regards to the waiver and the MOU. We were really looking for feedback in regards to the MOU, so the Exec Team did quite of lot of outreach to get feedback. We also sat on the university townhall panels in an attempt to further our outreach.

**Executive Report: Patrick Wallace, Vice President of Finance and Operations**

**Date: August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Reporting Period: July 3<sup>rd</sup> – August 5<sup>th</sup>**

## **Internal (to portfolio):**

- ❖ **SFRC:** Hours are now Wednesdays 3PM-7PM and Friday 11AM-3PM.
  - **Website:** Anamika is currently working on the first draft of the website.
  - **Breakfast Program:** Starting a business proposal to incorporate a breakfast program on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Bloomfield.
  - **Garden:** Tiff, Ty and Tomatoes are doing great. New enemy: Beatles, but don't worries, Karen Broussard's son is helping.
- ❖ **Budget:** Nothing to report
- ❖ **Annual Giving's:** Nothing to report.
- ❖ **PSP:** All the volunteers are hired for the year. Hannah and Addy are working on a return to campus plan.

## **External (to portfolio):**

- ❖ **Sponsorship:** In the weeds of landing sponsorships.
- ❖ **Nimbus:** Sat in on a marketing meeting. Moving lots online
- ❖ **Gallivan:** Met with representatives of Gallivan to discuss some of the ideas and issues around the international plan
- ❖ **MSGC:** Had a great time in the sessions held by SNS and NBSA. Met new VP Finances and reconnected with some old ones.
- ❖ **Inn:** Discussions ongoing about choosing a delivery system.
- ❖ **Father Kehoe:** The Hired Exec all agreed that we should try and golf together. We shot 6 over collectively. Had a fun time and discovered that we do still sponsor hole 16.

## **Committees:**

- ❖ **Emergency Grant:** Did not meet
- ❖ **Budget and Finance:** Did not meet
- ❖ **Health and Dental:** Did not meet
- ❖ **University Budget:** Did not meet
- ❖ **JOHSC:** Did not meet
- ❖ **GXI:**

## **Sub-Executive:**

- ❖ **Senior Driver:** Has been briefed on the changes made to Drive U this year. We decided to meet with the whole team of drivers to give a quick overview, and explain the changes made to the service.

- ❖ **SFRC Coordinator:** Laura has sat in on numerous meetings with me and multiple students. She is doing a lot in the summer months to help the Centre/
- ❖ **HAC:** Nothing new to report.
- ❖ **Program Coordinators:** Updated in PSP.

## **Outreach:**

**Nothing to report for July.**

**Executive Report: Kielan Pilgrim, Vice-President, Activities & Events**

**Date: Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Reporting Period: Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, to Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

**Internal (to portfolio):**

Kits, SOC, ERC, INN, Societies, COCA, FUME, community outdoor partnership meeting, council meetings

This month was busy, and culminated to a point that requires a new direction being taken for Orientation. In terms of events, there are several projects underway that will result in consistent program for a variety students during orientation. In my “committees” section I will break down the roles of each of the different SOC sub-committees, as this is where the bulk of the work for Orientation planning is occurring. Similarly, I will go more in depth on any societies related topics in my Society Coordinator Sub-Executive write-up, and dive more into the INN in my Strat Plan Committee section.

The ordering process for kits is well underway, with those items set to mostly arrive by the end of August. We are still waiting to approve some orders, as we are waiting to see if there are any more items we could have given to us from sponsors. Nice having this area done.

We held another FUME to brainstorm more orientation ideas, as we are learning day in and day out that there are new considerations that always come up, and we needed to have a FUME to get ideas that may not be based on previous years’ events. Things are going to look a lot different, as the programming is going to be more smaller scale, residence focused events. Quarantine cup is going to be a TIME.

I had the chance to sit in a meeting with several members of the Students’ division of the university. We were joined by Andrew Foran, who is a facilitator of the Outdoor Ed programs at StFX, in the Education department. We were discussing something that was brought to my office’s attention at the end of the year, regarding introducing students to the activities available to them in the county, such as Paddle Antigonish or the facilities available at Keppoch Mountain! Looking forward to seeing how this goes!

Council met a couple of times to discuss the waiver, the MOU, and the U’s steps moving forward. I have been helping with that however I can.

**External (to portfolio):**

I had the chance to participate in several days of the Maritime Student Leader Congress along with my colleagues on the Executive. This was super beneficial, as in a world without any precedent that is too solid to base event planning on it is nice to have the chance to hear what other folks at other universities were considering. It is looking like it is going to be a year of collaboration with those folks.

On the COCA front, I successfully ran for the East Region Director position. I am excited to be more involved with this organization, as I think that membership to a collective like this will be essential for running an engaging year.

Finally, I participated in the University's townhalls that were held during the final week of August. I was happy to have the chance to answer a question regarding programming during the beginning of this year. I hope that we continue to make efforts to keep students engaged and informed.

### **Committees:**

#### **Student Orientation Committee (SOC):**

SOC is now divided into several sub-committees, with the main meetings being reserved for updates on the work of the other committees. The Academic sub-committee has been planning events pertaining to transitioning students to being comfortable with both university in general and the mixed-delivery method that the university is rolling out. The Orientation sub-committee has a more general focus, and includes events that are more geared towards just having fun within the parameters set out by Public Health and the university. (e.g. virtual concert, other events that allow first-years to interact with their community from a distance). The Arrival group is focusing heavily on the move-in days and how to make that whole process run smoothly. Finally, the Isolation sub-committee is focusing on programming for specifically the two weeks of isolation for students in residence, and ideally will have students interacting remotely with folks who have arrived from out of bubble and those who have yet to arrive.

#### **Golden-X INN Strategic Planning Committee:**

A lot came up the past couple of weeks that delayed the work of this committee, but we are looking to move forward with different focus groups to collect a variety of viewpoints on the INN and how it could improve moving forward.

#### **Strategic Communications Action Team:**

Lots of discussion surrounding the StFX Go app that is being developed. Most feedback has (still) been centred around how the app is lacking in certain areas concerning leading students to other departments around campus. The meeting frequency for this group went down, so I have nothing too new to report here.

#### **Equity Committee:**

There was a lot that came up the past couple of weeks that made it so I was unable to attend the previous committee meetings. However, I am happy to report that work is being done for a blurb describing the context of the indigenous land that StFX finds itself on, as well as a piece about Africville and how it has impacted the story of Nova Scotia. This will be found early on in the booklet that students are to receive upon arrival!

#### **Event Review Committee:**

The ERC met somewhat informally to discuss how this process is going to look different this year, and ERC training is going to occur later than it has. We are anticipating a flurry of ERC forms soon, so the frequency of ERC meetings is sure to increase shortly.

### **Sub-Executive:**

#### **O-Crew:**

Shinerama has kicked off fully, and it is exciting to see as big of a part of previous Orientations still being around. We are still learning about how things like move-in are going to work, and are waiting to find out how involved the crew can be on days where they historically have been crucial participants. We are committed to providing students with the same amount of energy upon arrival to campus, and need to configure how this is going to look in this new framework of a COVID orientation. We also ordered Shinerama masks with some donated money from the Campus Store, which will then be sold with proceeds going to Shinerama. More to come.

#### **Society Coordinator:**

I have been working actively with the Society Coordinator, as we realized the importance of having a strong structure for societies to operate under in a year that will largely be remote. A Facebook group has been made for any society executives to join. To join the group, we have to be provided with their society, their role, and their email address, so that we can have the best version of a society database moving forward. We are also looking into the creation of a set of society hub social media pages, to try to keep students informed about the activities of all societies throughout the year. This is to increase student awareness of society events that in previous years may not have received as much attention from folks who are not the most active participants in those societies. I am super excited to see where this leads!

### **Outreach:**

Alongside my position's contemporary at Acadia, we are exploring the possibility of E-Sports programming as inter-residential programming (like house cups) and then having the winning residence of each campus play against the winner of the other campus. We are waiting to have this idea a bit better developed before bringing it back to an interested sponsor, so stay tuned.



## **Executive Report: Jack Irvin, Vice President Residence Affairs**

**Date: August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Reporting Period: July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 – August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Internal (to portfolio):** This past month has been a busy and long one! A lot more discussion has taken place surrounding Training Week for the SUCLs. There is a lot of planning that is going into arrival dates for the SUCLs and figuring out some in-person training that can be done with the SUCLs safely. Any in person training will also have to be livestreamed to those that will need to self-isolate! We have continued to meet about Keep it Social and how they can be integrated into any events this year. This continued into conversation with a group about creating a Safe Social Gathering Program for students living Off-Campus and in Residence which will be heavily looked into for the coming weeks. The Annual Maritime Student Congress took place this month. The congress brings together all the student executives from the Maritimes and gave us the opportunity to speak with others in a similar position about the work we have been doing thus far. It was great to brainstorm and bounce ideas off of each other for what can be done in residence and other events that could be done throughout the year. Since these connections have been made, I can continue to reach out to these student executives to compare ideas that we are looking to put into place. Hiring is continuing to take place as a few students had to resign due to personal reasons. Now it is just MacKinnon left for hiring and I hope to have them done in the coming week! Kielan Pilgrim and I have been looking further into a “Quarantine Cup” that can be integrated into the month of September which could give students lots to do during self-isolation and after they have completed it!

**External (to portfolio):** External to my portfolio, the executive team was able to complete some incredible Media Training thanks to Clancy McDaniel. It prepared us to be able to handle any media interviews and how to be professional. This month has been mostly crazy as the team has worked very hard to create an MOU with the University concerning students return to campus this fall and the waiver that was put out by the University. The MOU received a lot of feedback from a Special Council meeting as well as a few town halls that were co-hosted by the University Executive Team and Students’ Union Executive team. I was lucky to be a part of a showing of the new McKenna Centre Micro Grants they are student led projects that will help students feel more connected to the community throughout self-isolation. All of the projects sound incredible and we can’t wait to see them in action.

### **Committees:**

*Remote Learning Task Force:* The Task Force didn’t meet this month, but the Academic Integrity working group I am in met up. We are putting forward a recommendation to

*Wellness Working Group:* The Wellness Group is looking into different types of programming across campus that can be used to benefit students. Different areas are being looked at such as; recreation, health and wellness and residence specific programming. A master calendar was created so all of the departments can input their individual programming. This will provide better communication across departments so everyone can know when specific programming is happening on what days.

*Student Orientation Committee:* The Student Orientation Committee is continuing to develop programming and events for Orientation Week. We have split off into separate working groups looking specifically at programming during the self-isolation period and the period after self-isolation. We continue to meet bi-weekly with updates from the working groups and to see what needs to be done for the return of students. The countdown is on and we are very excited to produce a different, but fun Orientation Week!

*House Hockey Committee:* The House Hockey Committee had its first meeting this past month. We talked about a new format for the Tournaments, feedback received from students and new innovative ways to really solidify the House Hockey tournaments into the St.FX culture. The next meeting will be happening mid-August where we will be solidifying dates for House Hockey.

*Quality of Life Committee:* This committee met this past month. We made a wellness survey that could be used for when students return to campus to ensure they are healthy and well. We talked about the Community Guideline and to see if any changes needed to be made.

**Sub-Executive:** All of the SUCLs have been taking part in the X and U Mixers over this past month. These are a great initiative to introduce incoming students to their peers they will be living with for the upcoming year. They also get the chance to meet all the student leaders in the building and get the opportunity to learn about campus life and important resources offered. The SUCLs finished O-Week House Shirt designs that are being ordered this week. They are continuing to work hard and prepare for the return of students and have Training Week to look forward to at the start of September!

**Outreach:** This past month, a lot of outreach took place surrounding the waiver and the MOU. There was a special council and two town halls that gave the opportunity for students, community members and faculty to voice concerns and give their opinion on certain matters. I continued to reach out to students and listen to what they had to say. As we are getting into August I will continue to promote my Virtual Office Hours where I hope more students will come to with any concerns or questions for the upcoming year!

## **Executive Report: Bradley Van Dam, Vice-President External Affairs**

**Date: Wednesday August 5, 2020**

### Internal:

- I. Attended CASA Poli Start Conference.
- II. Had a meeting with Antigonish Mayor Laurie Boucher.
  - A. Topics of conversation included, collaboration, mutual accountability, proactive thinking, mask wearing, and the year ahead.
- III. In conversations with the department of Labour and Advanced Education.
  - A. Round table with Minister Labi Kousoulis, Deputy Minister, Associate Deputy Minister, and Various Directors.
- IV. Met with NDP MLA Kendra Coombes, advanced education opposition critic.
  - A. Topics of discussion included: Indigenous student issues, Covid-19, student housing, food insecurity, affordability, and tuition increases.

### External:

- I. Continued work with executive team to develop return to campus plans.
- II. Worked extensively with executive and university administration to develop a Memorandum of Understanding.
- III. Attended special council regarding MoU and Wavier.
- IV. Participated in Town Halls hosted by University and SU.
- V. Participated in Media training facilitated by SNS Executive Director.
- VI. Worked with team to re-design orientation week for students to ensure maximum safety.

### Committees:

#### Ad-hoc Covid-19 Committee (SNS).

- I. Weekly open form discussions with student associations from SNS with the addition of Cape Breton University and the University of Prince Edward Island.
- II. Canceled plans for best practice manual, instead will develop advocacy guide for times of crisis.

#### Policy Committee (SNS).

- I. Assigned policies for review and re-write.
- II. Continued work surrounding policy updates.

Governance Committee (SNS).

- I. Assigned working groups.
- II. Chose documents for internal review.
- III. Reviewed internal policy on misconduct.

Organizational Review Committee.

- I. "Power Day" conference.
- II. Designed goals and assigned working groups.
- III. Currently developing surveys for first generation post-secondary students and Indigenous students.

Federal Policy Committee (CASA).

- I. Worked extensively during CASA Poli Strat Conference.
- II. Developed Work Plan for the Fall term.
- III. Finalized policy plan for review and writing.
- IV. Tasked with policy development regarding affordability, and pre-post-secondary outreach and intervention.

Sub-Executive:

- I. Nothing to report.

Outreach:

- I. Talked with students regarding return to campus plans and covid-19.
  - A. Many students expressed excitement for the fall return.

## **Appendix A – Plessis HP Letter**

July 28<sup>th</sup> 2020

Meredith Cudmore-Keating  
Chair of Council  
StFX Students' Union  
5555 Union Place  
Antigonish, Nova Scotia

Dear Meredith,

Due to the recent vacancy in the House President of Plessis position, I am writing to express my interest in being ratified as House President of Plessis.

Should council choose to ratify me as House President of Plessis. I would submit my resignation as Vice-President so that I could properly fulfil the responsibilities of House President.

Thank you,

Amy Lewis

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## **Appendix B – Missing Reports**

Sarah Elliott – President