

Council Package

October 4th, 2020

Prepared by Aidan McMann, Deputy Chair of Council

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Agenda
Students' Union Representative Council
October 4th, 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 September 13th 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
 - Organizational Review Committee
13. Special Reports to Council
 - Presentation to Council - Golden X Inn Renovations
14. Old Business
15. New Business
 - Motion to ratify the Ad Hoc Golden X Inn Renovations Committee
16. Closing remarks of the Chair
17. Adjournment

Council Minutes – September 13th, 2020
Prepared By: Deputy Chair – William Aidan McMann

Students' Union Representative Council Meeting

September 13th, 2020, 3:00PM

Online Zoom Call

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 3:03 PM.

Roll Call

Board of Governors Student Representative - Kamy Carrington

Equity Student Representative – Jasonique Moss

Education Student Representative – Michael Adetola

Science Student Representative - Daniel Winters

Arts Student Representative – Alexander Clow

Students of African Descent Representative – Henderson Cartwright

Graduate Student Representative – Lauren Viana

President - Sarah Elliott

Vice President Academic – Siobhan Lacey

Vice President Finance and Operations - Patrick Wallace

Vice President External Affairs - Bradley Van Dam

Vice President Residence Affairs – Jack Irvin

Students' Union General Manager – Sean Ryan

Faculty Advisor – Corrine Cash

Absent with Regrets

Board of Governors Student Representative – Nick Murray

Vice-President, Activities & Events - Kielan Pilgrim

Absent

International Student Representative – Dhruv Patel

Business Student Representative – Johanna Gates

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 to this council meeting on this beautiful Sunday.”

Approval of the Agenda

Lauren: I motion to approve the agenda.

Alex: I second.

Meredith: Moved and seconded. Any discussion? Seeing none, would someone like to call the question?

Lauren: I call the question.

Daniel: 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 9-0-0.

Approval of the Minutes of The July 20th Council Meeting.

Alex: I move to approve the minutes of the July 20th council meeting.

Kamy: I second.

Lauren: I move to call the question.

Meredith: Any discussion on the motion? Seeing none, would someone like to call the question?

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 9-0-0

Approval of the Minutes of The August 2nd Council Meeting

Daniel: I move to approve the minutes of the August 2nd council meeting.

Mike: I second.

Meredith: Any discussion on the motion? Seeing none, would someone like to call the question?

Lauren: I move to call the question.

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 9-0-0

Approval of the Minutes of The August 9th Council Meeting

Lauren: I move to approve the minutes of the August 9th council meeting.

Alex: I second.

Meredith: Any discussion on this item? Seeing none, would someone like to call the question?

Daniel: I move to call the question.

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 9-0-0

Constituency Reports

Board of Governors Student Representative – Kamy Carrington

- Will not be on campus this upcoming year.
 - Will create Instagram social media platform to reach out to constituency.
 - Virtual Office hours

Equity Student Representative – Jasonique Moss

- Nothing other than report in council package.

Arts Student Representative – Alexander Clow

- Continued committee work
 - Governance review
- Continued work on Senate
 - Quality of life starting up.
 - Looking into reserving spaces for socially distances events on campus in the evenings (Hangout Spots).

Education Student Representative – Michael Adetola

- All constituents are excited to get started and have the new school experience.

Questions

Lauren: You had something in your report about the program fees. I think that is a common theme with my and Dhruv's constituents. Could you expand on that and maybe give us details of who you were talking to?

Michael: Long story short, there was a conversation between the student executive on the program fees dedicated to the practicum and other activities in the education program that did not get carried forth due to COVID. We were wondering if those fees would carry over to this year. We were talking to the faculty of education about this problem, not much has been done yet, but I confidently say we are talking about it and hope for a solid solution in the future.

Graduate Student Representative – Lauren Viana

- Had a constituent contact her about the Computer Science program and the specific fees that are going to be charged, seeing as though computer science has moved completely online. Is there anyone I can talk to about that or just get more specific information or just point me in the right direction?

Questions

Sarah: This is first time I have heard of this, but maybe we can connect later with Nick and Kamy? I do not know too much about this, this may just be a question for the board.

Lauren: I can send you guys some information after.

Sarah: *Yields time to Dhruv*

Dhruv: Yes, I can explain the fee breakdown better. As international students we used to be required to pay 50% now and 50% later. Last year they increased it to 80% now, to 20% later. I have contacted Andy Haskin and other executive members, but there has not been a lot of responses. The reduction of the initial payment would be very beneficial to helping international students.

Sarah: Yeah, I wanted to call a meeting with Andy and Andrew, but it was very difficult to pull them together during these weeks leading up to the beginning of school. I will for sure bring up this concern Dhruv and the questions of Lauren's constituents when I do meet with them.

Dhruv: Thank you, therefore is started emailing out about 10 days ago because the deadline for payment is on the 15th and many people will struggle to be able to. Maybe a pushing of the deadline would be beneficial and something to brin up in that meeting.

Alex: I pulled up my student account, but I was changed 100%, so this maybe something to as about further in detail.

Kamy: Is the payment still 80%/ 20% Dhruv or is it 100% by the 15th?

Dhruv: It is 80%/ 20%, but I believe a 65% ask is more of a feasible number.

International Student Representative – Dhruv Patel

Siobhan: *Yields time to Dhruv.*

- Grateful of all the help that he has received for MSI.
 - 45 additional joiners to the program.
 - 17 students have applied for MSI
- New Haircut
- Helped/Spoke at a BLM rally.

Science Student Representative - Daniel Winters

- Attended positive space training.
- Excited to get started.

Executive Reports

President – Sarah Elliott

- Very busy with O-week (month) activities.
- Loves the energy and excitement from the newcomers and returns to STFX.

Vice-President Academic – Siobhan Lacey

- Large focus on orientation and academic orientation day.
- Filming safety/tours videos of STFX with Exec team
- Looking to have regular conversations with first years about academic involvement and academic programming throughout the year.

Questions

Sarah: Was academic day today? How was it?

Siobhan: I would hesitate to call it academic day because we were looking to do much more orientation. This was more of a start up to get the students involved in their programs more closely, and it was a success. There are also some more passive programs that students can get involved in if they wish as well. More academic programming will follow throughout the week, we did not want to put too much emphasis on programming as many students are just leaving isolation and most likely need time to prepare. Big turnout woo!

Vice-President Finance and Operations - Patrick Wallace

- Lots of prep for O-week.
- Student food resource center to go back to regular hours on September 14th.

- Drive U is set to start October 5th
- Peer support center to start on September 14th at its regular hours.
- Fulfilling and delivering care packages to students (130 filled).
 - Great outreach for students and marketing the Food Bank.
- Helping other execs fill in gaps.

Vice President Residence Affairs – Jack Irvin

- Preparing for incoming students and SUCL's.
- Ran and organized training week for SUCL's. (30th -9th)
 - Lots of fun.
- Organized programs for students being in isolation.
- Lots of collaboration with food delivery service.
- Helped marketing team film return to campus video.
- Hired 1 SUCL during training week.

Vice President External Affairs – Bradley Van Dam

- Very Busy month.

Question

Michael: I would like to give a huge shoutout to the executive team, it's not hard to see all the hard work they've put in this summer, even with all the COVID problems. Round of applause for you guys because you guys deserve it. You did your jobs and more, just wanted you to know that.

Patrick: Big shoutout to Brad who sat at the Student's Union booth all day, for 12 hours a day selling kits to students and parents. Also keeping them in the loop for the dental and health plan.

Sarah: How many did you sell Brad?

Brad: I think we were on the cusp of 300.

Meredith: Awesome work Brad!

Faculty Advisor Report

Faculty Advisor – Corrine Cash

- We are all getting ready to start classes
- Lots of professors have been in professional development for online courses, how to teach during COVID and learning new protocols.
- Had to pick up individual professors' equipment.

- Creating multi-race/diversity committee at STFX to discuss discriminatory and racism practices.
 - Would be in charge of formulating plan to fight racism.
 - Hopefully when it comes to light we can get some student councilors in and engaging in the committee.
- Encourages students to reach out if they are struggling during the school year to deans, professors or external help.

Questions

Henderson: Could you tell us who all is in this committee and the end goal

Corrine: There is no committee as of right now, I have asked to compile a task force to combat racism. And to do a forensic audit to formulate a plan to end racism on campus. This is just one of my plans I am looking to expand.

General Manager Report

Students' Union General Manager – Sean Ryan

- Big shout to Keilan for all his work on O-week.
- X-inn ready to open on the 15th with PPE and distancing rules.
- Shout to O-crew and Shinerama for the great job they are doing during O-week.
- Ready to present financial audit statement in the coming weeks.

Questions

Daniel: One of my friends opted out of the health plan, when should he be hearing back?

Sean: Yeah, it is a busy time for back outs and it is backed up, but it should be relatively soon. If they received a thank you for opting out email, they will be good.

New Business

Motion to Ratify Sloan Goveas for Vice President of Burke 2020-2021

Daniel: I motion to Ratify Sloan Goveas for Vice President of Burke 2020-2021.

Lauren: Second.

Discussion on the motion:

Siobhan: *Yields time to Jack.*

Jack: We ran into an interesting situation, by day 2 the VP of Burke stepped down, she was moving off-campus. We had an interview, sadly with no councillors. Along with Nick Wells and Siobhan Lacy we conducted the interview, it was our third time interviewing her, but this was her

best showing for sure. She crushed it and she is very close with the HP. She loves Burke and wanted to help Broden, seeing all the hard work she has put in. She had a lot of experience with fundraising and was very in tune with COVID rules and regulations. She was also on the Burke House council the year before and was ready to take on the job.

Siobhan: The deliberation was about 2 minutes long and ended in a unanimous decision.

Meredith: Would someone like to move to call the question?

Daniel: I call the question.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? Being none, it has been moved and seconded to Sloan Goveas for Vice President of Burke 2020-2021. Would anyone like to vote no to the motion? Would anyone like to abstain on the motion?

Motion passes 9-0-0

Closing Remarks

“Thank you all for coming. Heads up there will most likely be a special council meeting regarding the ratification of the societies. Our next regular council meeting will be on October 4th. And a big thank you to the execs, Sean and whoever else helped out during O-Week, thank you and we really appreciate it.

Adjournment

Meredith: Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Siobhan: I so move.

Sarah: I second.

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

Sarah: I call the question.

Meredith: Is anyone opposed? Would anyone like to abstain?

Motion passes 9-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 3:49PM.

Constituency Reports

Board of Governors Representative

Nick Murray

October 4th, 2020

Business relating to position:

Hello everyone! I want to preface this by commenting on how truly amazing these first few weeks back have been. What we are accomplishing together is phenomenal and I am consistently blown away by the hard work of everyone here, you all rock! Getting into business, there have been no major Board meetings to report in these past few weeks. Much of what I have done in this position recently is being in close discussion with my fellow Board Reps, Sarah and Kamy, to address any and all student concerns that have been directed our way. One very pressing issue that we're focusing on currently is that of finances and tuition for primarily international students who may not be able to meet the requirements with interest due to Covid. We're working on setting up meeting times with members of administration and hopefully there will be more to share by Sunday!

This week, I also attended meetings for both of the two Board committees that I sit on. On Monday, the 28th of September I attended a Building and Grounds meeting, and on Thursday, October 1st, I attended an Advancement and External Relations Committee. My goal, wherever and whenever possible during these meetings is to raise my voice in discussion on any area that is important to the student body.

Other Business:

In terms of my work within the Union, the Governance Review Committee has begun meeting weekly in-person. We're currently making some very strong progress regarding the new Policy manual, along with a rough timeline for it. I'm truly excited for everyone to have a look at the great work we've done as a team in the future! My other Union committee, Budget and Finance, has not met since my last report. In addition to committees, this past week I also sat on a hiring panel for new interim Student Advocates. We had some truly phenomenal applicants for the role, and during these ever-evolving times, we need strong advocates now more than ever!

Earlier in the month of September, I took part in Orientation as a member of O-Crew. Incredibly fun time to say the least. No doubt, this orientation week was unlike any other, but I believe the energy everyone brought to the table was unmatched, and we helped make sure the first years had a blast for their first week! This week I have also been helping to promote and hype-up the First-Year election, and encouraging any and all first years to vote. As of writing this, over 30% of the first-year class has voted, which for a student election is pretty remarkable. These past few weeks I have also been continuing to work with the Jack.org Society as secretary. We have some great events and giveaways planned which I can't wait for the campus to check out!

Overall, a truly busy yet exciting few weeks. I can't wait to see where we go from here!

All the best,

Nick

Kamy Roberge Carrington

September 10th, 2020

Constituency Report

Since my last Report, I have been in constant communication with Nick Murray and Sarah Elliott concerning the fees paid my international students and masters students on campus. In our last council meeting, Lauren highlighted that there is masters program that is only offered online yet students are required to pay fees for

services such as a Recreational Facilities Fee. This is a service that they do not utilize because their program is only offered online. Additionally, another concerning issue is that 80% of the fees for international students are due September 15th. Many international students have reached out to the International Student Representative on council because it was impossible for them to pay 80% of their fees starting September 15th, especially in the current situation. The due date has already passed; however, Sarah, Nick and I are meeting with Andrew Beckett Friday October 2nd to see what changes could be done for next year and to discuss the fees paid by master's students.

I have also had a meeting with the Organizational review committee. I look forward to completing the strategic plan.

Equity Representative
Jasonique Moss
October 4th, 2020

The equity committee has met with Mr Robert Upshaw and formulated a plan to help with the creation of the anti-racism modules. Additionally, we have reached out to various Faculty members with the intent of starting a new concept on our social media pages. This would be the featuring of Students' work on topics surrounding systematic racism, equality, and justice. This would be in the format of written pieces. Alongside this, we would like to team up with the ZAV, to ensure maximum coverage to all populations on and around campus.

I am due to meet with the equity Committee consisting of University faculty come this month. Where we will be working on a Harassment and discrimination policy. Lastly, I have reached out to Dr. Mathias Nilges about the idea of a podcast that takes on uncomfortable topics that can be available for current and future students with the goal of not only bringing awareness to, but providing support and resources.

Student of African Descent Representative
Henderson Cartwright
October 4th, 2020

This was another month full of planning and getting settled in as Office Hours have started. The BLACC Society has been planning many events, the first being held tomorrow as a General Meeting but it is hard to plan when we have no advisor but I'm always being told that the powers that be are working on it so we will see. The Society is trying to get things done regardless. I was asked to be a voice actor for the Safer Socializing During COVID-19 Moodle that is being spearheaded by Ashley Shepard. It was a fun experience and being able to add Voice Actor to my list of successful careers is also a plus.

The Equity Committee has met multiple times over the month, the most notable being a meeting with Robert Upshaw who is working on an Anti-Racism Pilot Program for the school. All parties have expressed interest in working together in the future to offer and gain insight and trade any knowledge that we have. The committee has also been working on our Instagram page and if you

are not following yet you should [@stfxequitycommittee](#). The Health Insurance Committee has not met yet but will very soon.

Arts Representative

Alex Clow

October 4th, 2020

Since the last regular council meeting, I have continued my work with the governance review committee. I have also continued my work with Senate committees. I have begun conducting weekly office hours but have yet to have any visitors. I look forward to helping out with the election of a first-year rep (and will have done so by the time council meets). All in all it has been a somewhat relaxed beginning to the academic year.

Education Representative

Michael Adetola

October 4th, 2020

Business relating to position:

Education students are settling in well during their first few weeks of the academic year. Although some have had a few questions/struggles regarding how this year's classes will be conducted, education faculty and education student executives have done a tremendous job of adhering to these concerns and addressing them.

Education students had the opportunity to formally gather and build social relationships between first year students and second year students at the Golden X Inn this past Friday (hosted by the education executive team). The event was deemed to be a huge success and has set the tone for social events to come.

The primary concern of education students is practicum placements for this upcoming second half of the semester, that is, if practicum will be conducted in an online manner, if pre-service teachers be allowed in classrooms, etc. Education faculty has done their best to provide answers to these questions but are limited to the information given out by the province and school districts.

Additionally, there has been some speculation as to when and in which manner students are expected to return to campus for the winter semester. That is, will out-of-province students be required to self-isolate upon re-entry to Nova Scotia, and if so, will accommodations be made in terms of classroom delivery (online/in-person). This is especially a concern due to the practicum framework that we experience, in which practicum concludes on the 22nd of December and classes are scheduled to resume on January 11th. As it stands, this would allow out-of-province students less than a week before travelling back to Nova Scotia to begin their isolation periods.

Other business:

Campus Affairs and Emergency Grant committees are scheduled to meet for the first time within the upcoming week

Graduate Student Representative

Lauren Viana

October 4th, 2020

Graduate Student Representative Business:

Organizational Review Committee: The organizational review committee met for the first time this semester (in person!) on September 29, 2020. We developed a new plan of action in tackling the list of problems generated from the Student Satisfaction Survey. We hope to have a list of action items soon, and will then gather feedback from key stakeholders to form our strategic plan.

Hiring Panel: I sat on a hiring panel for two student advocate positions on September 28th and 29th. We were able to reach a unanimous decision on the best candidates, and I look forward to seeing them succeed!

Other business:

After hearing Dhruv's concerns from last council meeting about the fee payment schedule, I reached out to my constituents. The same concern Dhruv had raised was also being echoed by my constituents. I contact our BoG representatives in hopes of bringing this up with the board. Unfortunately, nothing could be accomplished prior to the September 15 tuition deadline. However, I had a great conversation with Dhruv where we were able to reflect on this process and how we can move forward.

I am now looking into putting together a scholarship sheet containing all the scholarships graduate students are eligible for. I have contacted both the Graduate Studies Office and Financial Aid, who have been very helpful and supportive of this initiative. I am also looking into external scholarships for both international and Canadian students. I hope to have a first draft of the scholarship list done by the end of next week.

I reached out to Matt McGlashan to inquire about adding councillor information to theu.ca. Matt has assured me that this information will be included in the new webpage currently being developed.

Lastly I have started an Instagram account for the grad student rep (@stfxgradrep)! I have had requests from my constituents to share information via social media and figured this was a good first step.

Science Representative

Daniel Winters

October 4th, 2020

Hey hey! I had a great time promoting the 1st year SU councillor position on campus. The next Senate meeting (my first one this year) is occurring on October 7th and my committees are starting up soon. Seems like we are off to a good start in relation to Covid. Hope everyone's well.

Daniel

Constituency report

Johanna Gates- Business Representative

October 4th, 2020

Since my last report students have returned to campus and September has gone great. I have heard from so many students that they are proud of how the university and student's union planned the safe return. Budget and Finance did not meet during this time, however I attended my office hours and tried to encourage business students to reach out to me.

Executive Reports

Executive Report: Sarah Elliott, President

Date: August 7th

Reporting Period: September 9th – October 1st

Internal:

- **Interviews:** Throughout the last two months there have been many media requests to discuss reopening plans, self-isolation, return to campus, activities on campus, etc. This has taken up a fair bit of time, however I am incredibly proud of how well all our students are doing so I do not mind talking about them at all!
- **M.O.U Updates:** The MOU is 9 pages long filled with reopening plans and promises to students. Most of the MOU has been implemented, however there are still some components in the works. Once everything is in place, the document will be rereleased with all the information and where you find it.

External:

- **Welcome Day:** This year we had 2 move-in days (double the fun)! My main job throughout these days were to meet new students and sell X-Fest kits for the events of the week.
- **Inn FUME:** We are able to reopen the Inn this year which is incredibly exciting! We have to follow Nova Scotia Public Health Guidelines, but we can still do some fun and creative events! We had a FUME to plan upcoming events at the Inn, and what exactly the Inn will look like this year.
- **Xaverian Welcome:** We have started planning the Xaverian Welcome! This is an annual tradition that we thought would not be able to happen due to COVID-19. However, we have been planning hard and we think we have found a way to accommodate everyone within the Provincial Guidelines.
- **Meeting with Dr. Wamsley:** Siobhan and I met with Dr. Wamsley to discuss term dates for second semester. We discussed a few options but ultimately we felt as though it would be best to bring it to an open house where everyone can contribute feedback.
- **Take Back the Night:** We have started planning the Take Back The Night! This is an annual tradition that we thought would not be able to happen due to COVID-19. However, we have been planning hard and we think we have found a way to accommodate everyone within the Provincial Guidelines.
- **Epic At Keppoch:** We have begun planning for the Thanksgiving weekend, this includes a day at Keppoch mountain. Jack and I had the amazing opportunity to check out the space, meet the employees and have some insight to what is planned for Thanksgiving weekend!

External (affairs):

- **SNS:**
 - **Membership Committee:** Our committee work plan was approved so our 3 goals we are working on is work on:
 1. Provincial Get Out the Vote

- a. Initial steps on branding
 - 2. Strengthen our relationship with stakeholders
 - a. First quarterly newsletter went out
 - b. Ordered Students' Nova Scotia branded masks
 - c. First ever giveaway was a huge success
 - 3. Strengthen our social media presence
 - a. Currently doing a social media audit of all Students' Nova Scotia data
 - **Policy Committee:** I have currently been working on a policy for student retention. I am looking at many different work-integrated learning programs and how that will help with getting students jobs post-graduation & getting jobs in their field! Looking at putting money directly into students' hands, rather than having limited employer options.
- **CASA:**
 - **E-Plenary:** During the plenary, we had an election for the director of EDIC and a few other committee spots, as well as going over our priority themes for the year based off of members surveys
 - **1. Supporting International students**
 - **2. Truth & Reconciliation**
 - **3. Financial Aid**
 - **Membership Committee:** I am on the Membership Committee with CASA as well this year, a few of our goals this year is prioritizing social media to get a greater reach, integrating College and Grad students, and virtual bonding with the delegation.
 - **I am specifically in charge of creating a video of all CASA delegates explaining what CASA is**
 - **Governance & Internal Review Committee:** I am on the GIRC committee! There are many goals of this committee, but I will specifically be working on the strategic plan.

Committees:

- **X-Ring Committee:** X-Ring eligibility is now out! Also, very busy with honorary X-Ring nominations. We found a discrepancy between the many different grad student programs, and how they receive their X-Ring. The senior class co-presidents and I have decided to team up with the Grad Student Representative and Education Representative to create a focus group to learn more insight to what the best way for Grad/bED students to receive their X-Ring.
- **Organizational Review Committee:** Org Review has been meeting diligently to try to create the Students' Union Strategic Plan 2021-2024. We are doing a number of surveys to try to find deeper issues of inequity and how we can combat them going forward.
- **StFX Respectful Community Module Working Group:** We completed the project! It is now out for students to do! We will shortly begin working on the next phase of the module.
- **Communication Task Force:** has been working hard on a number of different projects, the objective for everyone is to communicate the announcements, COVID-19 updates, and new regulations.
- **StFX and Stakeholders COVID plan:** We have created an ad-hoc committee of all of the stakeholders in the town, to plan and discuss any challenges that come from COVID. This is made up of town representatives, landlords, the RCMP, the students' union, and the administration.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to email me or schedule a meeting!

Sarah Elliott, President & CEO

su_pres@stfx.ca

C: 905-767-0592

Glossary

StudentsNS/SNS: Students Nova Scotia is the STFXSU's Provincial Lobbying Group. It is an alliance of Nova Scotia post-secondary student associations, including StFX, Acadia, Saint Mary's, and NSCC Campuses. The organization gives students in Nova Scotia a united voice, helping set the direction of post-secondary education by researching challenges, identifying solutions, and creating the political space needed for these solutions to happen. For more information: <http://studentsns.ca/> or contact the Executive Director, Clancy McDaniel at director@studentsns.ca

CASA: Canadian Alliance of Student Associations is the STFXSU's Federal Lobbying Group and a national voice for Canada's post-secondary students. Established in 1995, CASA is a non-partisan, not-for-profit student organization composed of student associations from across Canada. For more information: <http://casa-acae.com/>

FUME: Or 'Fired Up Meeting of Exec' is a term we use when an executive meeting is specifically meant to collaborate and idea generate for a specific topic.

Executive Report: Siobhan Lacey, *Vice President Academic*

Date: October 1st

Reporting Period: September 10th – October 1st

Internal (to portfolio)

Safer Socializing Module: This report period I was able to help in organizing the distribution of the Safer Socializing Module. I worked with members of the university as well as Jack to discuss how to engage students, and the sustainability of this content.

Maple League: This reporting period, I served as a panelist on an online session with the Maple League, which was focused on discussing learning and studying methods. It was really fun having the opportunity to speak to something I am so passionate about, and I loved the opportunity to engage with students across the four Maple League institutions.

Library: I have continued to have frequent meetings with the library this reporting period regarding library hours, how to communicate important information to students, and OERs

MOU Meeting: this month we had a meeting with the university administration regarding the Memorandum of Understanding to ensure that each commitment is being met. We are very happy with the university's commitment to the MOU thus far.

Xavarian Welcome: Sarah, Jack, and I had a meeting with the university to discuss the Xavarian Welcome that will take place this year, and identified our individual responsibilities.

OERs: this month I have continued to work on Open Educational Advocacy. We will be having an OER campaign on our campus in the upcoming weeks, and will continue to organize a plan of advocacy for this academic year.

General advocacy: this month I have also spent a lot of time advocating for different student concerns to a variety of administrative bodies. The majority of the concerns that I have been advocating on behalf of have been academic, however, I have also had the opportunity to advocate for in-residence students, as well as more general concerns that impact a student's university career.

External (to portfolio)

Orientation: at the beginning of this reporting period we were in the middle of our orientation week(s). I was able to help Kielan with several of his events, and I am very proud of the team for working so hard during this period.

Committees:

Student Orientation Committee: This committee met very frequently during orientation to discuss the day-to-day programming, and ensure that all involved organizing bodies were prepared and on the same page.

Sexualized Violence Prevention Committee (Sept. 18th): during this meeting we discussed our direction for the year, and had the opportunity to welcome our new students at large.

Committees on Studies – Faculty of Arts (September 21st – September 24th): at both of these meetings we approved course proposals to go forth to Senate to implement for the following academic year. There are some fantastic courses coming, and I am very eager to be able to share them with students!

Senate Steering (September 23rd) – Senate steering met during this period to discuss the upcoming Senate meeting, as well as some academic concerns that are on the horizon! We also organized senate dates for the rest of the academic term, and organized the training for new Senators.

Sub-Executive

NA

Outreach

I had the opportunity to get to know a lot of students this reporting period, as now our students are back on campus! I am very happy to get to see so many returning faces to our campus, and as well excited to meet so many of our wonderful incoming students!

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

Date: Wednesday, October 1st, 2020

Reporting Period: Tuesday, September 8th, to Wednesday, October 1st, 2020

Internal (to portfolio):

This period has taken on a whole new dimension. I hope everyone is all nicely settled in to their new schedules!

This renewal of normalcy has allowed for many a small project be undertaken. Most recently, after a meeting with some university officials, members of the Student Life department, and the Psychology Faculty, we discussed the importance of harms reductive focused initiatives moving forward. Students should not feel like they have someone breathing down their necks, especially if they are doing nothing wrong. This led to us deciding that it would be wise to release a document outlining some steps students could take to have safe, and responsible, gatherings, as well as some knowledge translation of what the Public Health recommendations actually mean in plain language.

I have also spent some time each week creating and hosting trivia alongside the Bar Services Manager, which are looking to be much busier nights at the INN, now that a Trivia Night is essentially a theme night. This has been an area where we want to partner with societies, to have them help us fill the bar, and for us to give them recognition and proceeds (JDCC raised money for the Syrian Antigonish Family Embrace with their Trivia Night).

I have started looking into possibilities for One Month to X-ring and X-Ring programming, which is super exciting! These will definitely look different, but a version of them will be totally feasible!

We had our initial meeting for planning Take Back the Night, which will be taking place on campus towards the end of October, on the football field! This is still very preliminary, however there is work being done for the project, so for that reason we are stoked!

We also have been working on a project designed to get students out to the Keppoch on Thanksgiving weekend. I am to pursue volunteers, and help getting the word out to students about how sick it is out that way. We are hoping to normalize folks getting out to explore the county,

External (to portfolio):

There was a COCA meeting that was mostly housekeeping. I helped Sarah write the statement that the Union released before Orange Shirt Day, and I also forgot to mention in my last report that I had appeared at the scholar's strike!

Committees:

Student Orientation Committee (SOC):

No meetings 😊

Golden-X INN Strategic Planning Committee:

Did not meet as this committee, however we did once sit down as an executive to have a mini-FUME regarding programming at the INN now that we have a better idea of what bar is like.

Strategic Communications Action Team:

This will be the last report with this committee on it. We did not meet again. This section of my report will be laid to rest.

Equity Committee:

This period, we set our recurring meeting time, had a meeting with Robert Upshaw to get caught up on the work the university is doing regarding the development of anti-racism modules, and we workshopped an idea for getting student work dealing with anti-racism or other issues of inequity potentially into the Xaverian, so that more sets of eyes can see what these students are saying! Students helping students!

Event Review Committee:

I sent out a guide for societies to use for the time being, so that we get more thorough Risk Assessment Forms for now, before society training. I was unable to attend the first set of ERC meetings, as they were scheduled for when I was to be in class. We have set a new standing meeting time.

House Hockey Committee:

No meeting this period.

Society Review Committee

Met once for mostly housekeeping, and decided that our ratification train will really get rolling once we have completed the President's training.

Sub-Executive:

O-Crew:

Nothing crazy to report here. O-Crew was unreal for Orientation. We have been asking this group of people to help with the First Year Rep election if they are free to, and will be looking to them for other opportunities that they could take advantage of (e.g. helping at Keppoch).

Society Coordinator:

Ailie has been throwing together the President's Training, which is coming up this Saturday! A lot of her work has been getting everyone's paperwork in order, so that the society review process can be hummed through!

Outreach:

Nothing to report.

Executive Report: Jack Irvin, Vice President Residence Affairs

Date: Thursday, October 1st, 2020

Reporting Period: September 10th-October 1st, 2020

Internal (to portfolio): This past month has consisted of Orientation Week which was busy time! A lot of time was spent checking in with the SUCLs throughout O-Week and putting out small fires as move-in days took place and ensuring that everyone was doing well. A lot of discussion has taken place around conduct in residence and advocating for students concerns that we have heard. More hiring has taken place for positions that needed additional support and more positions that will needed to be filled in the upcoming week. Conversation surrounding the Xaverian Welcome has commenced as we look to plan it in a way that follows the public health guidelines and continues the amazing traditions from past years. As issues have come up in residence, I have spoken with a few representatives from those buildings to figure out how we can best approach the issues and do our best to solve them.

External (to portfolio): External to my portfolio, I helped coordinate some of the Orientation Week events. We did this by ensuring the SUCLs knew their role in these events. I also helped to ensure students were social distancing while at these events and would walk or drive around to ensure this. We worked as a team to help set up some of the events to make sure they would be prepped and ready on time. I partook in a lot of conversation surrounding the Safer Socializing Module as well as the Respectful Communities module. These are very exciting modules with great content that speaks levels on how to socialize during a pandemic and to have strong, safe communities for all. We have worked on a way to promote these to students with social media competitions, and major prizes for students to win by completing these modules. This will hopefully help the community to understand the present public health guidelines and how to safely socialize for the rest of the term as well as how to deal with situations that might arise.

Committees:

Student Orientation Committee: The Student Orientation Committee met numerous times prior to move-in day as well as every other day during the Orientation Weeks. They were brief meetings, but all contained important details to ensure the new events we were putting on would be successful! We might continue to meet throughout the year to be more creative with events as we progress through this strange year.

House Hockey Committee: The House Hockey Committee is going to be meeting October 13th to continue discussion about how the tournaments will be looking this year and beginning planning for coaches' meetings as well as the rest of the tournament. A student at large is going to be picked before the next committee meeting to help plan the tournament and give more student voice.

Quality of Life Committee: Did not meet this last month.

Campus Affairs Committee: I just finished a doodle poll with the students who sit on the Campus Affairs Committee and will be setting the first one up for early next week. I look forward to discussing what we are seeing on campus and what we can do to help further.

Sub-Executive: It has been a busy month for all the amazing Sub-Executives. All of the SUCLs did an incredible job during move-in days for incoming and returning students, being super enthusiastic and welcoming. That enthusiasm continued throughout Orientation Week bringing students to events and absolutely crushing the campus wide Cheer-Off. The student advocates have been doing an incredible job dealing with the numerous cases that have been put on their table. We have just hired two more interim student advocates, and this should help us move through the process of cases much more quickly. The House Council Coordinator Liam Aitken is doing an incredible job of helping in numerous areas this past month. MacNeil and Chillis had no SUCLs for Orientation Week so Liam stepped up and helped out with MacKinnon Hall as an interim House President to ensure all the students had an incredible time. He will now be looking closely at the House Points system for the end of the month and finishing up getting house councils created in the different communities.

Outreach: For outreach I have been speaking to the SUCLs about what they are seeing in residence and on campus. This has been very helpful to understand what is happening in residence buildings during this strange year. It is new for all of us so the more I hear from students and the SUCLs will be very helpful for how we need to approach the rest of the year.

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

Date: Thursday October 1, 2020

Internal:

- I. Attended StFX and Stakeholder Covid-19 Planning Committee meeting.
- II. Attended CASA e-Plenary.
- III. StudentsNS board meeting.
 - A. Special guest presented on fresh food supply to student food resource centre via campus farming initiative.
- IV. Met with Executive Director of StudentNS Clancy McDaniel for a one-on-one update.
- V. Participated in the StFX nasopharyngeal (NP) Covid-19 testing project update and check-in.
- VI. Attended OER student campaign, advocacy and marketing meeting with Atlantic student union leads, and project heads.
- VII. Participated in the 'address next step in health protocol' meeting with university administration, faculty and staff.
- VIII. Met with Mitch Harrison from FlashFood to discuss the possibility of a partnership.
- IX. Meeting with Antigonish Chief Returning Officer to discuss the upcoming municipal election.
- X. Began planning for actives and awareness surrounding the Antigonish municipal election.
- XI. Working with Vice-President Academic to plan an advocacy week for open educational resources. The Executive Director of SNS plans to attend.
- XII. Met and updated the Antigonish Police and License Committee.
- XIII. Graduate Advisory Group (GAG) Committee for CASA 1st meeting.

External:

- I. Participated in the filming of the INN safety video.
- II. Attended an INN fast FUME to brainstorm ideas for Covid friendly INN activities.
- III. Attended the cutting of the green bracelet ceremony.

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. Primary development of the advocacy guide in times of crisis is underway.
- III. Started conversations about the look and delivery of second semester. What will it look like after winter holiday break?

Policy Committee (SNS).

- I. Researching and collecting data to inform SNS's policy position on accessibility to post-secondary education.

- II. Updated policies to be in line with current data and language.

Governance Committee (SNS).

- I. Reworked and updated operation policy, abuse policy, and social media policy.
- II. Moved to approve and present above policies.
- III. Newly approved governance policies will be brought forward to the board for approval at next meeting.

Organizational Review Committee.

- I. Committee regrouped and develop plan to move forward with the review.

Federal Policy Committee (CASA).

- I. Developed and updated policies on affordability, and pre-post-secondary outreach and intervention.
- II. Committee moved and passed policies. Will present to the general board at next meeting for approval.
- III. Recording secretary elections failed to result in a new appointment. Appointment of new members was successful.

Sub-Executive:

- I. Chloe Walker, Research and Policy Associate is settled into office and office hours.
- II. Chloe is currently working on a research project for students with learning and physical disabilities, working within current governmental frameworks and the Tramble Centre.

Outreach:

Nothing to report.

Appendix A – Missing Reports

International Student Representative – Dhruv Patel

Vice President Finance and Operations - Patrick Wallace