

Date: October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Time: 6:30PM

## Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:30PM.

## Roll Call:

### **In Attendance**

Science Student Representative - Daniel Winters

Business Student Representative – Johanna Gates

Students of African Descent Representative – Kamy Roberge

Graduate Student Representative – William Burgess

Equity Student Representative – Jasonique Moss

First Year Representative – Nick Stinson

Board of Governors Student Representative – Tiffany MacLennan

International Student Representative – Sanjidha Ganeshan

Education Student Representative - Todd Boak

President - Cecil VanBuskirk

Vice President Academic - Emma Kuzmyk

Vice President Finance and Operations - Patrick Wallace

Vice President Activities and Events - Natalie Doumkos

Vice President Residence Affairs - Siobhan Lacey

### **Absent with Regrets**

Arts Student Representative - Marc Sgro

### **Absent**

Vice President External Affairs - Sarah Elliott

## Opening Remarks of the Chair

*“Thanks everyone for coming, we’re glad to have you all here! Remember tomorrow is the Federal election, so encourage students to vote and participate.”*

## Approval of Agenda

Nick: Motion to approve the agenda.

Cecil: Second.

*Motion Passes 11-0-0.*

## Approval of Minutes

William: Motion to amend minutes. Todd Boak has his name misspelled, there are abbreviations that need to be given in full, and there are notes in the constituency reports that need to be clarified.

Cecil: Motion to approve minutes as amended.

Todd: Second.

*Motion passes 11-0-0.*

## Constituency Reports

### Science Student Representative:

- Nothing new to report.

### Business Student Representative:

- Have spoken with dean and business professors about having a faculty of Business committee with a student representative, much like the other faculties already have (Arts, Science). The current group that decides which business courses will be offered currently has no students, and we are looking to change this.

### Students of African Descent Representative:

- Dunk tank during homecoming went very well.
- Member of society came forward to report a costume at Walmart that was offensive and racist. We contacted Walmart and the costume has been removed across the country.

### Graduate Student Representative:

- Nothing to add to written report.

#### Equity Student Representative:

- Nothing to report since last meeting.

#### First Year Representative:

- Via poll on “First year Rant and Rave”, discovered 77% of first years who responded on the poll did not know about what STFX was doing to prevent sexual violence. 16% said enough is being done, 6% said not enough was being done.

#### Board of Governors Student Representative Tiffany:

- Looking to set up meeting with Andrew Beckett (Secretary of Board) to discuss what can be released from BOG meetings.
- Fall reading week events went well, especially with a great turnout at “Friendsgiving”.

#### International Student Representative:

- Had organized many events during reading week, where many international students participated and pledged to vote. Lots of international students stayed on campus.

#### Education Student Representative:

- Had first professional development day for education students that went very well.

### Business Arising

*None*

### Executive Reports

#### **President:**

- Believes this reading week has provided students with the opportunity to work on and improve their mental health. Is thankful for and acknowledges the work put in by Tiffany for this important week.
- The final appeal date for X-Rings has passed, and the X-Ring committee met to discuss speakers and eligibility.
- Consultation agreement and Opportunities Taskforce met.
- Official Nimbus launch is coming up very soon.
- Very close to meeting pledge goal for Get Out the Vote (GOTV). There was a meme contest that went very well. The live viewing party of the election will be at the inn.

#### **Vice President Academic:**

- Meetings with Sexualized Violence Prevention Committee. Focused mainly on new policy to be released January 1<sup>st</sup>.

- Decent turnout for student consultation on this policy. There is also a survey and email contact for students to provide feedback, and another forum will be held soon.
- Staying in communication with chairs of different committee.
- Maple league is hosting conference where I will be doing a Ted Talk.
- Helping out with very successful GOTV campaign.

### **Vice President Finance and Operations**

- Looking into getting new computers, and is in contact with IT about which types of computers are allowed. Looking at payment options this upcoming week.

### **Vice President Activities and Events**

- Fall reading week went well for focusing on academics and mental health.
- Starting the planning of X-Ring day and Frost Week, along with Halloween Super-Sub planning.

### **Vice President Residence Affairs**

- House Hockey working group is looking at timelines and doing the groundwork. Coaches have been picked and will be contacted soon.
- Advancing Womens Equity Committee met.
- House councils have been picked and will be attending meetings about the student meal plan. Training will occur very soon.
- Looking at roommate agreements for people who choose not to identify their gender.
- Pledgathon went well, McNeil House won. “Poll Stroll” will happen for voting in federal election.
- Started review for changing the structure of house council in the By-Laws.
- Looking to get special training (Ways of Change, Positive Space) to House leaders, so they can relay that to the students in their building.
- Will start working with societies to allow them into residence buildings to give help to students.

### **Vice President External Affairs**

- Focusing on GOTV. We are 44 pledges away from reaching our goal for tomorrow! Election viewing party and poll stroll tomorrow should be very fun.
- Went to a conference in Toronto during reading week for Mental Health Commission standard that we are trying to implement across Canada.

### **Genral Manager Report**

- “Movember” campaign will be starting soon. We are focusing on getting everyone involved, and will be focusing on the importance of both mental and physical health. There will be a walking event and a polar bear dive.
- Very close to having insurance reviewed.

- Annual General Meeting (AGM) is coming up soon, and we will be discussing the Act of Incorporation. It is very important that we have as many students as possible.

## Faculty Advisor Report

- There are public lectures occurring, and I encourage students to attend these as much as possible.

## Committee Reports

### **Health Insurance Plan Committee**

- Discussed the problem with the health plan for international students about the loss of repatriation when they switch plans from international plan to MSI. This affects about 13-15 international students currently.
- Is working this out with insurance company.

### **Emergency Grants Review Committee**

- Most of the information discussed in meetings are confidential.
- Accepted all requests, about \$1900.

### **Campus Affairs Committee**

- Discussed new structure of house hockey with the house presidents. Also discussed how students usually went over budget, so we clarified that only 10% of house budget can be spent on hockey.
- Considering opening a gallery for this committee.
- Nick Stinson has been elected as co-chair.

### **Governance Review Committee**

- Most work will be presented later during Act of Incorporation presentation.
- Continuing progress on By-laws.

## Special Reports to Council

Formal Presentation of draft Act of Incorporation (AOI) to council given by William Burgess and William Fraser.

- Committee has been meeting since May.
- Hired a lawyer and other governance specialists to review this AOI.
- We decided the AOI was far too specific, so we decided to remove most of the information from the AOI, so it could be outlined in the by-laws, and easier to change in the future.
- Reading through and pointing out the changes that have been made.
- The changes consisted mostly of cuts that had been made, along with the alteration of some outdated language, that is no longer applicable.

- The idea of this new AOI is that it will not have to be changed or amended.

## New Business

Tiffany: Motion to approve guest Chair for the 2019 Annual General Meeting.

Cecil: Second.

Discussed having a guest chair for the AGM, as it is traditional practice for the Union. If we do not find one to appoint, Will Fraser will chair the meeting.

Cecil: Call to question.

*Motion Passes 10-0-1.*

## Closing Remarks

*“Thank you all for coming. Don’t forget to pledge to vote!”*

## Adjournment

Tiffany: Motion to Adjourn the meeting.

Sanjidha: Second.

*Motion Passes 10-0-1.*

Meeting Adjourned at 7:51PM.