

Council Meeting Minutes
Nov. 28^h 2015

Roll Call Present: Meghan MacDonald, Taylor Chase, Cassia Tremblay, Katie Dodsworth, Isaac Turner, . Danny Pink, , Nick Carpenter, Hillary Elliott, Hannah Stordy, Troy Mrazek, Bridget Burgess, Alex Carney, Emily Gale, Kundle Idris, Ryan Finn, Shelby MacLennan, Anne Sirois, Mikaela Henderson, Janet Tait, Delaney Walting, Carl Miller, Mike Masserey, Sean Ryan, Dr. Khouray

Absent With Regrets: Alex Phillipoff, David Rankin

Absent:

Review of Last Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes from last meeting.

Motion seconded.

Unanimously approved.

Business Arising:

Nothing new.

Constituency Reports

Business:

X-Ring business banquet on Thursday, awards given for women in business

Doing constituency hours in Schwartz

Science:

Done constituency hours in BBC and Physical Sciences Building

Working on mingling event with constituents

Arts:

Met with students with the Breaking the Silence campaign

Grad:

Looking into getting a lounge area for grad students in the PCSI building

International:

Had Christmas Gala and it was a huge success

Upper Campus:

Upcoming events that everyone is really excited about

Bathrobe ceremony in O'Riley

And visors in O'Reagan

Excited about starting new traditions

Governors and Apartment Style:

Working with HP and VP

80\$ for Movember
Christmas Carol teamed up
Tryouts for Governors and Apartment style for off campus hockey team

Off Campus:

Hosted community kitchen with a great turnout
Had some office hours in the community as well
Talked to a lot of frosh
Donated food to the food bank which they collected from community kitchen

First Year:

Working on finding convenient place for hours

Executive Reports

Troy:

University budget tuition adjustments in the upcoming months, motion at board of governors on Monday with a recommendation moving forward
This will be officially approved toward the end of February
Noise by-law amendment was postponed until February, they will revise the changes and explore the legality of it all
X-Ring arrangements very busy
Meetings with HR president about staff joining student union
Pharmacy update: finally received a contract from pharماسave, renovations looking to take place during exams and holiday break
Residence changes → meetings still occurring
Consultation agreement brought to board of governors last week, further conversation is occurring there and looking forward to progress in the future

Hannah:

Senate: met on Nov. 16 and will meet again Dec. 2 → new nursing curriculum was passed, currently working on getting access to senate minutes for students, larger talks about governance of senate, really trying to rethink its function, purpose and size
Trans Day of Remembrance was Nov. 20th → talked with Trans students who have been having issues on campus
Bringing in the Bystander: on the weekend sessions were provided to hundreds of student athletes, more presentations and training sessions for facilitators
Dec. 6th Violence Against Women Day moved to Dec. 4th due to exams

Alex Carney:

Involved in pharmacy process as well
University budget and finance committee happened last week
Attended a conference for the last 9 days with Sean Ryan in Las Vegas

Hillary:

Movember campaign has raised over 6,000\$
Survey about convenient store on campus has been really successful

Polar Bear dip from 2-4pm tomorrow (Nov. 29th)

Bridgett:

Attended special faculty meeting where a motion was passed to form a committee to raise money to sponsor Syrian refugee families in the community

Attended noise by-law meeting in town hall with others

Hockey house cup dates have been released working with ERCS

Res changes meeting on Monday

A lot of students have been really upset with residence assignments

Met with directors of student life and brought the issues forward about how sexual violence protocols have not been as successful

Elephant in the Room campaign launched → elephant in a room signifies a safe place to talk about mental illness without stigma

Questions:

First Year → are there going to be any second years who will be put back in the Quad-Mac?

Bridget → we won't know until Monday after the meeting

Emily:

Troy and Emily travelled to Halifax for CASA's conference; it was really productive and helpful

Decided on advocacy priorities for upcoming year

Met with Andrew Beckett and MP Sean Fraser → meetings went really well

Also involved in STFX for SAFE

Winters farmer market was a success → a lot of students have requested having them more regularly but there are a lot of constraints to this but all good feedback so far

Dr. Houray:

PPP is an on-going document, about 20% has been done so far and the goal is to have 60% by May

STFX for SAFE thanks the Student Union on behalf of the committee

Thermometer will be going up which shows how much has been raised for SAFE

Sexual awareness strategy latest event was SLUT → pretty well a full house on opening night, encourages people to attend because of how important of an issue it is

Committee Reports

By-Law and Policy: discussed terms of reference for review committee

Looking to advise policy manual

Organizational Review Committee:

Had second meeting → going to review full time staff, council, executive and sub-executive

Campus Affairs:

Met on Thursday → discussed how well the RA relations have been in most residences and the energy challenge that Mackinnon hall won

General consensus that there is low participation for events likely due to high work loads
Issues with some of the house councils on campus
O'Reagan and O'Riley upcoming events trying start traditions

Special Report to Council:

CASA and Students Nova Scotia

Students Nova Scotia:

After conference this past week both representatives saw an opportunity as connecting organizations and a way to travel the province to talk to students

Presented to various other university councils, met with newly elected MP Sean Fraser as well as other representatives

Who are we?

An advocacy organization that represents approximately 20,000 students from all levels of educations

What do we do?

Represent Nova Scotia students by researching the challenges they face, finding solutions to those challenges, creating space for solutions to happen

We do this through...

We communicate with students, advocate to the provincial government, creating positive, working relationships with provincial partners, policy position papers and campaigns

→ Two upcoming papers on access for students & health services

→ Campaign mend the gap (looks at gender gap in student government) & more than yes (deals with sexualized violence and informed consent)

Our Values:

Accessibility

Affordability

Quality

Student Voice

Some of our results...

Many successes but can't discuss all at once

- Not always tuition related
- Success around minimum wage

Priorities for 2015-2016

- Government relations and advocacy
- Diverse representation in student leadership
- Inclusion of colleges
- Bilateral agreements and outcome measures
- Better engagement of students
- Internal policies

Ways to Get Involved

- Research
- Write policy
- Committee work
- Speaking/Hosting Events with StudentsNS

Event possibly in February that will include the Minster that will include a discussion about politics

Questions:

Isaac: what do you think is the most challenging part of your role?

Nick: making the connections you need to make change

CASA (Canadian Alliance of Student Association):

What is CASA?

CASA is celebrating its 20 year anniversary

A collective of student union and association that represents and defends member interests to federal government

A registered not-for-profit that consisting of 23 student unions and associations representing over 256,000 students

A democratic, member driven organization the promotes affordable, accessible, innovative post-secondary education

Why Focus Federally?

Over \$20 billion in Federal Support for PSE as well as several other reasons

CASA's Partner and the Federal PSE Landscape

CASA works with various stakeholders to help advance our members' priorities

CASA Advocacy:

Member Priorities + Research = Advocacy = Results for Students

Achieving Results Through Advocacy: What We do

- Media Engagement
- Local Outreach
- Partnerships
- Consultations
- Campaigns
- Meetings

How You Benefit from CASA Membership:

- Influence decision making in Ottawa
- Effective organization that gets results
- Networking, contact and connections
- National campaigns
- Staff of five including two policy researchers

Federal Election:

Get Out the Vote was a huge success

Discussion about recent Canadian Federal Election

Post Election:

- Several positive outcomes and symbols so far
- Previous Prime Minister Stephan Harper seemed to be surprise by outcomes by took a lot of courage to hold him seat afterward
- Ottawa insiders were really sad about Tom Mulcair and his party's seat loss this election
- Prime Minister has been gone for the past few weeks to travel internationally

Advocacy Moving Forward:

- Pre-budget strategy
- Transitions for Ministers
- Stakeholder relations and non-government focus
- Spreading our narrative re: GOTV

- Advocacy Week 2016 which will be in February
No Questions.

Old Business:
Nothing

New Business:
Nothing

Motion to Adjourn council
Motion seconded.
Motion unanimously approved.
Council adjourned.