**19th Meeting of the 49th SRC**

**Date: April 2, 2023**

**Location: Virtual via Zoom**

1. **Call to Order**

Ahmik Burneo, the Chair of the SRC called the meeting to order on April 2nd, at 3:05pm.

1. **Land Acknowledgement**

St. Thomas University Students’ Union recognizes and respectfully acknowledges that it carries out its work on the traditional unceded territories of the Wolastoqiyik, and Mi’kmaq peoples. This territory is covered by the “Treaties of Peace and Friendship” which these nations first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with the surrender of territories, but in fact recognized Mi’kmaq and Wolastoqiyik titles and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations. STUSU members and staff pay respect to the elders, past and present, and descendants of this land.

1. **Roll call**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Position | Name | Present | Regrets | Absent |
| President | Alex Nguyen |  |  |  |
| Vice President Administration | Minahil Fatima |  |  |  |
| Vice President Education | Julia Evans |  |  |  |
| Vice President Student Life | Anahi Alvarez |  |  |  |
| Indigenous Representative | Stevie DeMerchant |  |  |  |
| International Student Representative | Khanh Hoang |  | · |  |
| At Large Representatives (2) | Lauren Hayes  Chloe York |  |  |  |
| Off campus Representatives | - |  |  |  |
| Sexuality & Gender Diversity Representative | - |  |  |  |
| First Year Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Harrington Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Vanier Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Holy Cross Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Social Inclusion Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Grad Class President | Madison LeBlanc |  | · |  |

Quorum has been met with 5/8 members.

1. **Review of the Minutes.**

**[4.1.] BIRT** the Board approve the minutes of the 18th Meeting of the SRC as presented.

**Moved by:** VP Admin

**Seconded by:** VP Student Life

**Motion:** Carries

1. **Review of Agenda**

**[5.1] BIRT** the Board adopt the agenda as presented.

**Moved by:** VP Admin

**Seconded by:** At-Large Representative

**Motion:** Carries

1. **Unfinished Business.**

No unfinished business.

1. **Executive Reports.**

*Executives provided verbal report followed by a written one.*

**7.1. President report - Alex Nguyen**

Meetings

MLA Monday @UNB SUB

* I attended the final meeting of MLA Monday series with Julia to discuss topics such as accessibility, affordability and sustainability.

CASA AGM Conference: March 21 – March 25

* Julia, Stevie and I attended the final CASA conference of the year. The AGM was hosted in Halifax at the St. Mary’s campus.
* During the conference, we passed the policies, and budget for next year in terms of membership fees.

Presidential Advisory Committee on the Budget (CONFIDENIAL)

* I attended the PACB meeting in preparation for the Budget Town Hall

Weekly meeting w/ Grad Class President

* I had my weekly meeting w Maddy for a check in.

SEC Meeting

* The team met to discuss on a couple of agenda item that will be presented to the SRC.
* We also finalized some key details for the Strategic Plan

Mayor’s Post-secondary Relations Committee

* I attended the final meeting of my term as we discussed the upcoming plan to develop affordable housing for students within Fredericton.

NBSA Bi-Weekly Executive meeting

* I attended the meeting with NBSA ED Sydona and Chair Rohin to finalize some details for the upcoming NBSA AGM and Transition conferences.

Miscellaneous

* PACB Budget Town Hall

**7.2. Vice President Administration report - Minahil Fatima**

**Meetings**

* I had my weekly SEC meeting with my fellow executives.
* The Finance Committee met to discuss some funding applications.
* I did not have my office hour due to a personal commitment.
* Alex, Tina and I met with Ahmik to plan and review next year's operational budget.
* I met with Ahmik to get him up to speed on his role as VP Admin for next year.

**Clubs & Societies**

* I received a few funding applications and coordinated the funds transfer through Tina.

Campus Trust:

* A few students reached out to me to ask some coverage-related questions.
* I contacted Paul and Owen from PBAS to schedule a Campus Trust review meeting in April with Alex, Stevie and Ahmik.

**Administrative**

* I worked with Alex on starting the hiring process for next year's employees. Applications are now open so if you know anyone who you think would like to work with the STUSU, be sure to let them know!
* I worked on getting the March Budget Update ready with Tina.
* I processed the Help Desk Manager's resignation.
* Lastly, the execs and I worked on reviewing everything that Alex will be resenting under New Business.

**7.3. Vice President Education report - Julia Evans**

* I also attended CASA’s AGM last week in Halifax, which was a great success. I also attended the meeting for academic accommodations, which the Advisory Committee. We are looking at how to improve the accessibility services offered for next year. I am looking forward to the work that the committee is doing in consulting with students and faculty. We also had our final MLA Monday with David Coon, and I hope that that is an event that we can continue next year. Also, the stickers for the Value of Liberal Arts Campaign have arrived. I had the opportunity to do an interview with CTV Atlantic to reflect the student position on the government’s budget. I also talked a lot about housing since the government's strategic plan for housing in launching in June. Thank you to everyone who is advocating in NBSA’s advocacy this year, and let’s keep up the great work in the future.

**President:** I made some updates to the STUSU website with regard to sustainability. I added a bunch of resources online, as well as a petition which is calling for STU to divestment in fossil fuels.

**7.4. Vice President Student Life report - Anahi Alvarez**

**Meetings:**

**Activities Coordinator**

* I had a meeting with Estefania to talk about the AGM and the logistics of the event

**Meeting with SEC**

* Weekly Sec meeting with my fellow executives

**Contacting**

* I stayed in contact with the Mental Health Society and the Psychology society for the past two weeks, so that they had an opportunity for planning an event for wellness week

**Projects and Initiatives**

* I hosted and attended wellness week; the event had a great turnout.
* Started to plan the logistics for the AGM that is happening April 14th at 5:00pm
* The International Office also reached out to me to help them with the nomination process for the student leadership award
* I had my office hours at the Help Desk on Thursday at 1:00pm

**Miscellaneous**

* I received questions about the food smart program and emails of students to become new members of the community food smart program and received emergency bursaries applications

**President:** Props to Estefania and Anahi who are helping to host the AGM, and good work to all those involved. This is also setting a really great foundation for next year’s activities. I encourage everyone to attend, and it will be the last time that all of us will be together this semester. As well, please submit your AGM award nominations online.

1. **Employee Updates.**

No employee report available.

1. **Representative Reports.** 
   1. **Indigenous Representative report**

* This week I focused on students’ work, so the Student’s Reconciliation Committee did not meet this week. But we did have a nice end-of-the-year lunch on Wednesday. On Friday, I also had a meeting with the Senate Committee of Reconciliation.
  1. **At-large Representative report**
* We had the opportunity to promote Wellness Week. Thank you so much to Anahi. Part of the sustainability and environmental awareness committee. As well, we also shared information about the divest STU petition.

1. **New Business.** 
   1. Budget update February – Vice president Administration

*Presented Budget update for the month of February*

**VP Student Life:** Were you able to talk to Tina about the STU agenda in the budget line?

**VP Admin:** She has not gotten back yet to me about that. Would you like me to send an email?

**VP Student Life:** That is okay, I can send it.

* 1. By-laws amendments – President

**President:** First, we are proposing to cut down the number of off-campus representatives to be from four to two. Now that all three residences have been moved to on-campus, we are suggesting cutting down. This year, we only have one house committee that was formed. This is a step for the cohort to be more concentrated, rather than having any redundancy in terms of off-campus representatives. Another by-law amendment that we are proposing is in the VP of Education’s job description and the naming of a certain committee. This is aligned with the previous approval from SRC of the approval of the combination of the external affairs and academic university affairs committees in order to combine them to form one committee named the “Advocacy Committee”. I am seeking a unanimous consent from the board at this time, considering that it is a by-law amendment.

BIRT the SRC approve the By-laws amendments as presented on:

* Chapter 1, Article 1, Section 4(ii): Who shall be elected by members of the Students’ Union living off-campus: Two (2) Off-Campus Representatives
* Chapter 4, section 3(d): (d) be the Chair of the ADVOCACY COMMITTEE and the Sustainability and Environmental Awareness Committee;

**Moved by:** President

**Seconded by:** VP Admin

**Motion:** Carries

* 1. Committee Operations Policy amendments – President

**President:** This amendment is being made in accordance with the changes with the combination of the external affairs and the university academic affairs committee. I will let the VP Education speak on this more.

**VP Education:** We merged the external affairs and the academic affairs committees as well as one advocacy committee, just to ensure that the purview of the new committee is clear. Some of the changes that were made were made to encompass both internal and external advocacy, in order to engage with all stakeholders. Another big point is some of the people who are mandated to be part of the committee have changed. Since we had fewer committees now, then we require more participation in this new committee. We also have some things around engagement strategies. As well, having one committee will have more engagement and participation from students. Hopefully, these changes will make things much more straightforward.

**President:** In terms of memberships, we did include all representatives of these committees which is quite large. We want every voice to be involved in advocacy.

Indigenous Representative, does this wording work for you?

**Indigenous Representative:** I am happy that this change is occurring, and the wording looks great to me.

BIRT the SRC approve the OP6. Committee Operations Policy amendments in Appendix I to add Advocacy Committee description (document attached).

**Moved by:** President

**Seconded by:** VP Education

**Motion:** Carries

* 1. Clubs & Societies Policy amendments – President

**President:** Over the year, there has been some confusion over the section that no club or society shall be approved for more than 20% out of the funding line. The funding line fluctuates over the year, so it is not always the same. In order to ensure that all clubs or societies receive equitable access to funding, we are suggesting capping the amount to $500 each fiscal year. We also have two subsections so that we are ensuring that the funding is being used for what is requested in order to prevent misuse. Also, we have another change that will make the process for ratification easier. Normally, we ask for three documents for the Societies Ratification Application, and it has now been condensed into one document. The new Ratification Form has all the same information, it will just be under one and will make the process simpler.

**Union Chair:** Are all these changes under part 2?

**President:** It is under part 2 and part 3.

**Union Chair:** I know that this amendment to the OP7 Clubs and Societies policy to limit clubs and societies up to $500, which is based on the budget. Based on the budget that you are making, only up to 9 clubs and societies would have access to the funding. Are you taking into consideration all the other clubs and societies that are on campus?

**President:** This would be for the clubs and societies that are ratified. Only the ratified one have access to the funding. If the clubs are ratified societies require above that amount, there are ways we could still provide that support through collaboration with STUSU. It is not limited to 9 clubs but only to the clubs and societies ratified.

**President:** For clarification, since we are approving this policy and a month away from the end of the school year, it would be best to approve it for the next fiscal year, which is June 1st.

BIRT the SRC approve the OP7. Clubs & Societies Policy amendments in Part II and Part III, as presented.

**Moved by:** President

**Seconded by:**

**Motion:** Carries

* 1. Strategic Plan 2023-2025 – President

*Presented the Strategic Plan 2023-2025*

**President:** As we have already had discussions around the document. I also received no emails about questions or feedback, so I am presenting the strategic document as is. As you may recall from the previous meetings, we had some questions around the EDI. We decided that EDI is involved in all parts of our action-driven advocacy.

BIRT the SRC approve the Strategic Plan as presented.

**Moved by:** President

**Seconded by:** VP Education

**Motion:** Carries

1. **Questions, Announcements & Notices**

**VP Student Life:** Just a reminder, the AGM will be held on April 14 at 5pm. If you want to be a part of the AGM’s committee, please reach out to Estefania. Nominations will be closing on April 7 for awards, so please submit your nominations.

**President:** Stevie will be in Ottawa at that time, but we will figure out a solution so that Stevie can attend virtually. Again, please submit your nominations by April 7. Also, there is a STUSU survey that is going around, with a deadline for next week. STUSU is also in the hiring process, which is open until April 10th. Lastly, next week is our final SRC meeting, so please attend since we will have to pass our final budget.

**VP Admin:** We are having our own STUSU budget townhall tomorrow at 6pm so please attend.

1. **Adjournment.**

**[12.1.] BIRT** the meeting of the SRC adjourned at 3:55pm.

**Moved by:** VP Admin

**Seconded by:** At-Large Representative

**Motion:** Carries

**Submission:**

The minutes were respectfully submitted to the Vice-President of Administration on April 4th, 2023.

**Grace Steeves**

Recording Secretary

STUSU Student Representative Council