**15th Meeting of the 50th SRC**

**Date: Sunday April 7th 2024**

**Location: ONLINE (Zoom)**

1. **Call to Order**

Elizabeth Namit, the Chair of the SRC called the meeting to order on Sunday April 7th 2024, at 12:00pm.

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 | Stevie DeMerchant |  |  |  |
| Vice President Administration | Ahmik Burneo |  |  |  |
| Vice President Education | Emily Boucher |  |  |  |
| Vice President Student Life | Isabella Baralt |  |  |  |
| Indigenous Representative | Tanner J Augustine |  |  |  |
| International Student Representative | Ana Lucía Pavón |  |  |  |
| At Large Representatives (2) | Lauren Hayes |  |  |  |
| Off campus Representatives (2) | Emma Craib |  |  |  |
| Sexuality & Gender Diversity Representative | - |  |  |  |
| First Year Representative | Aiden Steeves |  |  |  |
| Harrington Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Vanier Representative | Fae Swinamer |  |  |  |
| Holy Cross Representative | - |  |  |  |
| Social Inclusion Representative | Colby Beers |  |  |  |
| Grad Class President | Lindsay Graham |  |  |  |

Quorum has NOT been met 5/11.

1. **Review of the Minutes.**

**[4.1.] BIRT** the Board approve the minutes of the 14th Meeting of the 50th SRC as presented.

**Moved by:**

**Seconded by:**

**Motion [CARRIES/ FAILS]**

1. **Review of Agenda**

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

**Moved by:**

**Seconded by:**

**Motion [CARRIES/ FAILS]**

1. **Unfinished Business.**

No unfinished business available.

1. **Executive Reports.**

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

* 1. **President report – Stevie DeMerchant**
* Thank you for everybody that joined us today we really appreciate it.
* Senate on Reconciliation, during these meetings we commonly have the Wabanaki center, Indigenous Rep provide updates on what has been going on campus, along with discussions on smudging protocol and updates to the Wabanaki center. If some of you didn’t know the Wabanaki center got some new paint and we are waiting on some new furniture and appliances for in the kitchen, there are some new updates to come to the Wabanaki center.
* Sat with the president’s advisory committee on the budget. During this meeting we had a presentation given to us by senior admin that was talking about the institutions financial status and what they hope to see next year
* I was able to meet with the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee, this was prior to CASA’s AGM. We pretty much provided updates as chairs and talked about the upcoming conference.
* Touched base with CASA ED this was after CASA’s conference, we pretty much debriefed the conference.
* Sat on the NBSA Board meeting and during this session we discussed possible campaigns the AGM that is coming at the end of this month, hearing updates from chair and ED. Provided updates on the ED hiring and from what I heard it went good
* I had a meeting with our chair to discuss the remainder of the semester of SRC along with discussing their transition to president.
* Sat with the special merits award committee, this group went through nominations and applications for a number of awards that are given during spring convocation, and we were able to pick who is going to be the winners of those. I am really excited to see that all play out during graduation.
* During the week of March 19th- 23rd I had the honor of finishing the year with our awesome CASA delegation in Edmonton. We began the week with board of directors’ presentation, showing what they’ve done through the year and their wins. We also moved to a day of consultation of CASA’s strategic plans and EDI’s strategic plans and OP consultation. We had a nice gala dinner where we handed out some awards to our board of directors, some like joking awards. We were at U of A, it is a beautiful campus.
* Received some emergency bursary applications and I have been able to address those.
* It has just been a lot of tying things up, beginning transition and finishing up the year.
  1. **Vice President Administration report – Ahmik Burneo**

March 11-15

* The governance committee has officially accepted the ratification application of the English Society.
* Budget Update for February was requested. I will be giving the report in a bit.
* I received an inquiry from Dr. Narine, chair of Political Science Department regarding the political partisan clubs. He’s essentially wondering for political activist clubs as he wants to instate a chapter of Students for Peace in Palestine. And he was wondering whether this would be eligible for ratification status with the union, meaning allowed to access funds from the Union. I responded that based on our policies and considering the information you provided, it appears that “Students for Peace in Palestine” may be eligible for both recognition and ratification by the Students’ Union. I also highlighted that based on our Clubs and Societies policies, Part III, S5., “A Club or Society shall not have any partisan affiliation or involve themselves with any political organizations.” This means that if at any point the club becomes partisan or supports any political organization, it may lose status with the union immediately.
* I requested the Director of Communications to make some updates to the website
* I talked with Clara Santacruz and she is encouraging those interested to schedule a one-on-one chat with her throughout the next month to chat about personal leadership goals and aspirations. She wants to help set plans for the future.

March 18-22

* Since last week I’ve had some conversations with the CRO to organize the STUSU By-Spring Elections for the position of VP Administration.
* As student trustee of the Campus Trust, the last meeting is on April 4th, but due to school-related conference, I’ll be flying to New York, and won’t be available for that meeting, but the General Manager as Trustee will be present.
* The Pre-Law Society has sent its final draft of the amended constitution which is currently under review by the Governance Committee and ready for vote.
* I received an inquiry from the president of the Economic Society about the procedure of amending their constitution. After the conversation, they submitted a draft amended constitution for the review of the Governance Committee.
* I received a funding application from the Mental Health Society, which was reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee.
* I had the weekly SEC with the team.

March 25-28

* Over the weekend of March 23 and 24, I met with two students who were interested in running for VP Administration.
* The Governance Committee approved the draft amended constitution of the Economic Society.
* The Governance Committee also approved the draft amended constitution of the Pre Law-Society.
* The Activities Coordinator submitted for the approval of the Executives a proposal to include three new awards for the Annual General Meeting (AGM). These were the Student Union Faculty Appreciation Award, the Indigenous Student Leadership Award, and the Outstanding Student-led Organization Initiative of the Year. All three were approved.
* A communication to our employees was sent to confirm whether they are returning or graduating. That means that the opening of the STUSU employment positions will begin soon.
* The Executives along with the CRO coordinated the By-Spring Elections and on March 28th, we hosted the Candidates Q&A as she was uncontested.

April 1-5

* The Finance Committee approved two funding applications, one of $500 to STUISA and one of $80 for the Philosophy Society.
* I have received some communications from students about their interest in reactivating the Political Science Society.
* A student reached out regarding a problem they’ve been encountering with their bus pass. I shared with them the customer service email of Hotspot and we hope the issue gets solved.
* A student reached out expressing their interest in starting a new club and they were inquiring about the entire process.
* The St. Thomas University African Caribbean Students Community has requested the creation of a new email. Such request has been sent to the IT department.
  1. **Vice President Education report – Emily Boucher**
* Last Monday, biweekly executive meeting for the NBSA (discussed hiring committee, AGM planning, some budget awareness material)
* I worked on a presentation to be presented to professor to be presented for the learning and teaching senate committee, on students’ workload in a post covid era. Looking forward to presenting that and getting some feedback on it.
* A general NBSA board meeting – working on a food insecurity awareness campaign. Just have been focusing on raising awareness and getting the word out about food insecurity for students.
* Attended CASA’s AGM in Edmonton it was a really great event to close off the year.
* Attended senate – pretty standard meeting, just chatted and had regular updates.
* Also had Pizza and Policy and the Planet – really great event, had some great conversations regarding sustainability and the recent decision of the carbon tax rebate.
* Working on a presentation for the advisory committee on dean’s list and how we can make ours more inclusive.

**7.4. Vice President Student Life report – Isabella Baralt**

* Started with orders for STUSU sweaters, I delivered some there are couple that had a spelling a mistake but they should be done by tomorrow so I will go pick those up.
* With Emily we booked and organized spaces for pizza and policy and the planet
* Picked up the March community food smart bags for the students.
* Organized a forum with Neil Squire that delivers and sells and teaches accessible information for students. Unfortunately, it hard to be cancelled because they were no longer able to come but everything was organized and ready to go.
* Meeting with four students to support them with emergency bursary applications. Explaining how it is and what the rules are.
* Replied to many emails regarding the multicultural fair and brought the STUSU speakers for the STUISA food fest
* Conversations with the Chair of learning teaching development committee on campus and accessibility services on campus.
* We processed four emergency bursary applications.
* We started organizing for the AGM awards
* Working with Corey and other administrators for the eclipse event. I also met of Alison the chair of communications at STU to discuss promotion for the event.
* Designed with the director of communications the props for the eclipse photo booth.
* We started organizing the AGM’s, they will hopefully be on April 12th.
* Submitted community food smart orders for April, we have a partnership with Enactus to buy more bags and support more students on campus.
* We have been trying to book a space for the AGM’s
* Working with help desk coordinator to organize a plan for the help desk for the future.
* Attended candidates Q and A for the VP Admin

1. **Employee Updates.**

No employee report available.

1. **Representative Reports.**

No Representative Reports

1. **New Business.** 
   1. **Budget Update February – VP Administration**

* Technically this one is for February, I don’t have the one for March yet so the numbers may have changed a bit so compared to previous months we haven’t done any audit so the audit is completed. We have some money left in the negative same with equipment list we used little funds from here, similar with equipment repair. The biggest changes are essentially in the activities budget line, February was a month where different students applied for academic assistance.
* We received an academic assistance application so that is something I will be managing this week. Along with the finance committee so perhaps we will be closing this up
* Emergency bursary’s is from February, a lot may of happened in March so the number might change as well. It says 3600, however throughout the process different funding has been approved, based on my current excel spreadsheet that I have we have around 2200 dollars on clubs and societies funding. Those are the biggest changes essentially in the budget for February.

1. **Questions, Announcements & Notices**
   1. **VP Student Life - AGM**

* The executive team made the decision to add a couple extra prizes, we added student faculty appreciation award (awarded to a faculty that has made many contributions to STU community), Student leadership award and Outstanding student led organisation for the year we added those three for the academic year and on-going.

1. **Adjournment.**

**[12.1.] BIRT** the meeting of the SRC adjourned at [TIME].

**Moved by:**

**Seconded by:**

**Motion [CARRIES/FAILS]**

**Submission:**

The minutes were respectfully submitted to the Vice-President of Administration on Wednesday April 10th at 10:45am

**Alyssa Ivany**

Recording Secretary

STUSU Student Representative Council