

Minutes for the 1<sup>st</sup> Interim Meeting of the  
2016-2017 ASU Students' Representative Council

Thursday April 7, 2016 at 5:00pm in the Bev. Forum

ATTENDANCE

*PRESENT*

*ABSENT*

***Chairperson's Office***

Soleil Chahine, Chairperson  
Fallis Thompson, Deputy Chairperson

***Executive Board***

Samantha Sproule, President  
Brianna Jarvin, VP Academic  
Samantha Nielsen, VP Communications  
Andrew Grant, VP Finance  
Ted Higa, VP Programming

***Councillors***

Julie Bernier, Councillor  
Sean Porter, Councillor  
Katie Bunker, Councillor  
Jessica Elliot, Councillor  
Samantha Nixon, Councillor  
Noal Balint, Councillor  
Jenny Mattinson, Councillor

***Equity Officer***

Christine Moreau, Equity Officer

***Senators***

Lucas Coxhead, Science Senator  
Emma Hughes, Arts Senator  
Senewa Sena, Professional Studies Senator  
Amanda Loder, Graduate Studies Senator

***Board of Governors Representative***

Molly Murphy, BoG Representative

***Non-Voting Representatives***

Susan Mesheau, Administration  
Anna Kiefte, Faculty Representative  
Gwen Phillips, Board of Governors

## I. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

**Moved by:** Samantha Sproule, President  
**Seconded by:** Brianna Jarvin, VP Academic

“Off campus ambassador” presentation took place prior to “Website Documents” in Discussion Period.

**Call to question**

**Motion Carries**

## II. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

**Moved by:** Samantha Nielsen, VP Communications  
**Seconded by:** Brianna Jarvin, VP Academic

**Call to question**

**Motion Carries**

## III. ROUND TABLE CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION

### a) International Women’s Day Outcomes

#### a. Moved by: Christine Moreau, Equity Officer

- March 8<sup>th</sup> was International Women’s Day
- Several action items that the group collaborated and came up with during on-campus events that took place on March 8<sup>th</sup>
- Students, faculty, and staff were invited to university club to discuss women’s issues on campus
- Addresses social media and how it relates to women well as gender parody
- A substantial number of people were at the event
- Lots of gender representation
- Want hiring process for President and other university administrators to have equal numbers of male and female applicants and looking at gender parody on BOG itself, something we need to bring forward as SRC

## IV. QUESTION PERIOD

Open.

Sam S. asks the chair to remind people how to vote and a general idea of how Robert’s rules works

Madam Chair answers with how to vote and what an abstention is

Anna adds that when voting a motion is put forward, then discussion takes place prior to voting

Christine adds that all motions brought forward must have a 2/3 majority to pass

## V. DISCUSSION PERIOD

### a) Off-Campus Ambassador

a. **Moved by:** Ted Higa, VP Programming

Ted begins by explaining that as the current VP Communications, it is his job to work with the town on improving and strengthening current relations. He introduces Drew and Blair who will do a presentation about how to link the town and the university. They are looking to restructure the executive positions to effectively allocate resources. Drew has brought forward an idea on how we can improve our relationship and also make the executive roles the most effective in building these relationships. Ted sponsors Drew to speak and do the presentation.

Drew makes a presentation on his ideas and how an off-campus ambassador could help strengthen the relationships between the ASU and the Town of Wolfville.

Ted notes that there is an issue between the Town and the students and that this is an option to deal with this.

Sam Nielsen is behind the position and thinks it is a good way to being improving the relationship. Likes the hired position route through community development and adding constitutional duties with the ASU. An election could mean that not the right person is selected for the job.

Christine notes that Dalhousie University has a program called community assistance and we could get some ideas from them as they have had their program for a few years. She wonders where the money is going to come from.

Noal also asks where the money is going to come from.

Sam Nielsen states that there is the option to take from the TA budget in Community Development but she is also unsure about funding. She states that the ASU does not have the funds to hire this position.

Noal says that the university owns some houses so maybe they could subsidize some housing for this position.

Sam S. states that the town used to have student ambassador position and has money for it if they need it.

Christine asks why the Community Development department gets to choose their students for their position.

Drew states that core values taught in that degree program go hand in hand with this position and there is the possibility to get a course credit for it.

Emma says that politics also has a stream about community politics and maybe they could be interested in taking part in this project.

Ted states that this is why the presentation was brought to council. We want to make sure that we make the best out of the position.

Molly also agrees that this position aligns with values of CODE but that we should be careful to restrict just to CODE students as there are other programs that align with this job well.

Brianna notes that Kinesiology and CODE work together a lot so maybe the KINE department would be interested in having this as a credit option as well.

Drew states that having it as a credit course in KINE could be harder to pass due to restrictions in the department.

Noal asks that as a credit, people would put more effort into it and would it be an elective option. Drew states that in CODE they have a different schedule than other students in the 4<sup>th</sup> year students due to core term and scheduling.

Sam Nielsen thinks a hired position would be the best option because making it an elective could restrict who can apply and elections don't always have the best people run. She would like to see a hired position with a hiring committee. It could include discussion between Drew, the ASU, CODE, and the town.

Drew is also presenting to CODE at the faculty meeting and is sending the feedback to Ted. Susan asks how do you see this person in the position liaising with groups and personnel staff on campus whose areas touches to these initiatives?

Drew answers by saying that that would be the role of the ASU VP communications.

Ted says that he sees the ambassador sitting in on certain committee meetings and making it a constitutional duty to sit on the committees. He hopes to see this position expanded to sit on town and university committees.

Susan states that this is a great opportunity to leverage this position and make it more effective.

**b) Website Documents**

**a. Moved by: Samantha Nielsen, VP Communications**

Sam Nielsen provides an overview of how in the next year, many people will be putting through documents. To increase transparency, documents will be posted on the website to make it easier for students to read them. She hopes to turn them into infographics, make them more formal, and have them reader-friendly. As you pass in documents, she asks to make sure they are prepared to be seen by the public.

Christine notes that this is a great idea, and that it will go well with Soleil's goals which is to have templates for certain documents and can try to make them reader friendly. This is a specific type of promotion, and she is not sure how many students who click on this.

Molly agrees with Christine. A lot of people don't seek out info but by providing it is shows that we want people to know about what we are doing as a council. She is interested in knowing more about the infographics.

Sam Nielsen wants to promote program by making infographics and posters that are specific to the platform and the audience. She already has things prepared for website to put online.

Molly states that this can be an intimidating process for people who don't know how to do it and who don't have experience with these processes. She hopes that councillors are encouraged to seek help for this.

Christine asks where on the website will it go.

Ted states that the website is currently being tidied up with new software that was purchased last year.

Sam Nielsen wants something on the front page about SRC as the ASU is circled around what we discuss here. She hopes to make SRC a focal point.

Christine has an idea that in the template of the documents, the top corner should say our meeting times in hope that more students will attend our meetings.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

Motion carries to have Madam Chair step down and Fallis Thompson steps in as Chair.

- a) **Be it resolved** that the SRC accept Soleil Chahine's goals as Chairperson of the SRC for the 2016-2017 year.
  - a. **Moved by:** Soleil Chahine, Chairperson

Laid out five main goals of document and included action items for how to achieve them.

1. Meetings: audience friendly and increase attendance, advertise meetings, create posters with meeting times, logistics of live streaming the meetings on the FB page, laminated guide to Robert's rules
2. Increase SRC presence and information about SRC: talking to EIC of Ath about having an SRC column with bullet points about meetings to generate interest, utilize bulletin board downstairs in SUB
3. Efficiency: official SRC templates, ties in with Sam N. goals
4. Consistency: all decisions made are looked over, look at review board and honourarium structure, in touch with MASU and Bishops, improving HR, revising handbook
5. Supporting council: lead on SRC clothing, conducting training sessions, programming workshops, Robert's rules guide for council members, SRC get together

- b. **Seconded by:** Christine Moreau, Equity Officer

Christine states these have great benefits. She is very passionate about getting word out about meetings as all students are part of the ASU and they should be involved.

Anna asks is anyone has done something for grapevine.

Sam Nielsen says that the executive writes two per term. There is one written over the summer and then one in the fall about town relations. In the winter they will talk about Cheaton cup and a closing article from the ASU as the year ends.

Anna says that it might be a good thing for the ambassador to do an article about relevant topics.

Sam Nielsen says that if the position is opened up, the executive would like to work with them to do this.

Soleil says that she is also in contact with HR profs at Acadia to get advisement on making an HR guide book. She also says that if you are interested in helping out this summer to please reach out.

### Call to question

### Motion carries

Christine moves to have Soleil step back in as Chairperson and Sam Nixon seconds. Motion carries.

- b) **Be it resolved** that the SRC accept Luke Coxhead's goals as Science Senator for the 2016-2017 year.
- a. **Moved by:** Luke Coxhead, Science Senator
- Promotion of research: at least one research fair, possibly one in each semester. Opportunity for students to look for summer work. Working with research and grad studies office
  - Work with TIE to minimize exam conflicts: many courses between departments that often conflict and students are unable to take them. Want to know what students feel are the biggest conflicts in terms of courses and would like to try and move the courses
  - Work with student society presidents: make the science faculty closer. Want to represent all departments equally.
- b. **Seconded by:** Samantha Sproule, President

Sam S. says that she looks forward to working together next year. She agrees that there is a lack of communication with senator positions and likes the idea of talking between societies to collaborate on events.

Christine asks if there are there departments that don't have societies.

Luke is not aware if there are any that don't have societies.

Gwen thinks that Luke is hitting key points in science faculty.

### **Call to question**

### **Motion carries**

- c) **Be it resolved** that the SRC accept Emma Hughes' goals as Arts Senator for the 2016-2017 year.
- a. **Moved by:** Emma Hughes
- Students: bridge communication gap between students and senator. Make herself more available to communicate issues
  - Faculty: spoken with Carlie about working on minor streams. Spoke with Dr. Cohen and Dr. Whitehall that includes streams about research methods and indigenous students and to bridge gap between faculty and students
  - Collective: strong mediums of all communication, email and in person. Strengthen relationship with members of council
- b. **Seconded by:** Brianna Jarvin, VP Academic

Brianna feels that Emma has created tangible goals and thinks it is great that she is bridging gap. She thinks it is great that she is maintaining close contact with Carlie to ensure a smooth transition.

Jessica thinks that it is great that ESST is being involved in the Arts department.

Christine would like to see some sort of focus on research in the Arts. She suggests a get together with research students where they present their research to one another.

Emma states that she didn't have an opportunity to add research, but Jeff Whitehall is working on a program for students over the summer who want to do research. He applied to program and only 8 Art students were accepted so there needs to be work done on equitable allocation of funds.

Christine would like to see this move forward.

### Call to question

### Motion carries

- d) **Be it resolved** that the SRC accept Senewa Sena's goals as Professional Studies Senator for the 2016-2017 year.
- a. **Moved by:** Senewa Sena, Professional Studies Senator
- Open communication between departments in professional studies: social media, emails, letter for all departments in a newsletter style
  - Facilitate a faculty get together: look at what each faculty is doing
  - Lobby for more consideration with the exam schedule and to bring in a mid-term exam conflict: look at ways to look at how to spread out to mid-terms
  - Connect all faculties through the societies and to raise the goals for each department
- b. **Seconded by:** Emma Hughes, Arts Senator

Emma states that there is a large gap in recognition in professional studies and would like to even playing field.

Brianna likes bridging the gap between Senate and students but worried about the budget in terms of holding an event. She says that they could possibly collaborate on the wine and cheese.

Emma says that instead of doing faculty wide event, approach each school to have a meet and greet event that is more student run.

Sam S. says that there is a lack of communication with students and that Senewa could work on communicating with students about students. She asks how she is going to get the info for the newsletter.

Senewa hopes to get info from professors and students to integrate it.

Noal asks if Ryan Densmore fixed the exam conflict issues.

Brianna states that Ryan addressed exam conflicts but that Senewa is looking at midterm conflicts.

Sam S. states that midterms can be harder because they are cross-faculty as people take many courses.

### Call to question

### Motion carries

- e) **Be it resolved** that the SRC accept Molly Murphy's goals as Board of Governor's Representative for the 2016-2017 year.
- a. **Moved by:** Molly Murphy, Board of Governor's Representative
- Weekly public office hours: in office hours don't seem to get utilized and prefers public office hours. Vague duties so it allows her to be flexible in what she emphasizes

- Looking to be more of a student rep than more of a BOG rep to remain consistently involved. Wants to know the student perspective and education their perspective
- Develop a clear and concise document that outlines the responsibility of the ASU and the Admin. Where students go with their concerns

b. **Seconded by:** Sam Nielsen, VP Communications

Sam states that Molly will go above and beyond the constitution to fulfill this role and she likes the idea of building on the role of a student representative.

Christine brings up the issue of gender parody represented in BoG and hopes that Molly will take this to BoG.

### Call to question

### Motion carries

f) **Be it resolved** that the SRC accept Ted Higa's summer goals as VP Programming for the 2016-2017 year.

a. **Moved by:** Ted Higa, VP Programming

- Welcome Week: throwback theme as we celebrate 50 years. Has worked with house councils, RAs, and welcome Week leaders and wants to engage a strong relationship and hold them accountable to high standards. Lots of training for house councils
- Programming: have teams taking on one large program and event as opposed to everyone doing everything
- Fund raising: work with VPF to work with local businesses to fund raise programming events to make them raise more money and to make them inclusive
- Town relations: keep positive relationship with town
- IOs: path to have a bigger umbrella that they all fall under to move towards all one collective goal to promote the ASU

b. **Seconded by:** Samantha Sproule, President

Sam S. says that Ted has a great connection with Acadia students so Welcome Week will be very well planned.

Christine asks if Ted has spoken to Residence Life about the House Council executives coming to campus early.

Ted has states that Residence Life knows and the dates have been confirmed.

Christine asks that the headliner concert is not a country concert. She also adds that internal organization should be looking at how to get the coordinators educated about the ASU and how they can be involved as there is a large misunderstanding. She suggests getting the IO's to promote the ASU in other ways so that they can indirectly see the benefits.

### Call to question

### Motion carries

g) **Be it resolved** that the SRC accept Samantha Nielson's summer goals as VP Communications for the 2016-2017 year.

a. **Moved by:** Samantha Nielsen, VP Communications

- General communications: incoming student outreach to promote Welcome Week and the ASU. Utilizing social media and tidying up the website. Introduce the incoming students to the exec as well as the SRC. Tell them what our goals are
- Town: promote the events we are hosting with town such as multiple meet your neighbours BBQ. Interaction with town of Wolfville on social media pages to show that we are neighbours. Better strategy of off campus students, we need more interest
- Preparation for the school year: better understood structure of the all student email. Underrated the systems that she will be working for next year. Make promotions less ad based, would like to get a camera.
- Handbook: ensure that graphic designer knows how to properly use the software
- Clubs: ensure good transitions between club presidents

b. **Seconded by:** Ted Higa, VP Programming

Ted hopes to see lots of restructuring in the social media aspect so that it is more creative and allows for two-way communication between the ASU and students. He looks forward to the social media plans.

Christine sees the biggest struggle being the Welcome Week packs and feels that they need to start dealing with them now. It has evolved from previous years but it needs to be looked at now. She suggests considering that students aren't looking for an all access pass and that they want certain events. She also suggests the idea of a travelling block party with a few sponsors that will change streets over the year.

Sam Nielsen says that she likes idea of block party. Her job is to maintain the relationship between town and ASU but the entire team wants to be involved in this role. This did include o-packs and they want them to be promoted as a necessity.

Sam Nixon states that there are a lot of ideas from student-life summit and she also recommends getting feedback from House Councils and RAs as they have direct contact with the incoming students. She also likes the idea of getting a camera to have consistency among communications and to have photos from all of the events to help promote the ASU and Acadia.

Sam Nielsen hopes that taking a picture of someone and using it as a promotion piece will make it more relatable.

Christine is excited about tweets with Wolfville. She doesn't think that students want to buy the o-packs and doesn't like stressing it to them that they need to buy it. Students wanted to see exactly where their money for these are going and that is why the free programming was more popular than the alcohol friendly programming. She brings up the idea of having a fee for alternative programming or more money needs to be put into the events to make them bigger.

Ted asks if Christine thinks that the bracelet should give access to all programming.

Christine agrees that more money needs to be put into alternative programming and we could include them with the bracelets.

Jessica Boone (past VP Programming) is sponsored to speak on some of these ideas. She agrees that alcohol related events were not well attended.

Sam Nielsen states that o-pack and welcome week discussions are already happening.

### Call to question

### Motion carries

- h) **Be it resolved** that the SRC accept Andrew Grant's summer goals as VP Finance for the 2016-2017 year.
- a. **Moved by:** Andrew Grant, VP Finance
- Sponsors: seeing how to improve sponsorship and try to renew them or modify sponsorships. Like to contact future sponsors to update brochures and advertisement for new and returning
  - RFP for auditor: get familiar with the process and stay up to date with it
  - Axe design: work with architect and ensure that funding goes smoothly and on the right path and contribute to financials
  - Welcome Week: new incoming students and that we sell enough o-packs to ensure it is successful
- b. **Seconded by:** Samantha Sproule, President

Sam S. states that Andrew has lots of financial experience and lots of sales experience which goes hand in hand with his job.

Christine hopes to see more partnerships with local businesses and student discounts.

Andrew states that he has met with Matt Gendron (past VP Finance) and is passing along contact info for businesses so he can look into it doing this.

### Call to question

### Motion carries

- i) **Be it resolved** that the SRC accept Brianna Jarvin's summer goals as VP Academic for the 2016-2017 year.
- a. **Moved by:** Brianna Jarvin, VP Academic
- Conduct appeal process: help students with their academic appeals and a plan of action for each student
  - Organizing senate committees: what senators want to do and where they would like to sit. What was done in the past
  - Academic calendar: error and update suggestions on index and policies, continue list on what needs to be done or what is no longer relevant
  - Connect VPA as a resource: this position is not as known to them, emails to every faculty and Wong Centre and an article in the Ath at the beginning of each semester and reach out to Academic clubs
  - Plan GOTV for municipal election: October 15<sup>th</sup> and similar plan as federal campaign, address student apathy and ensure that they are informed voters and host a debate, meet with candidates with reader friendly document with platforms

b. **Seconded by:** Samantha Sproule, President

Sam states that she is excited for another GOTV campaign on campus for the election and that it is a good idea to consult with Senators on their committees and to get feedback from Academic Clubs. She is excited to work with Brianna in terms of external advocacy.

#### Call to question

#### Motion carries

- j) **Be it resolved** that the SRC accept Samantha Sproule's summer goals as President for the 2016-2017 year.
- a. **Moved by:** Samantha Sproule, President
- Support the executive projects: want to be a resource and to change things and be collaborative and transparent. The decisions made are in the best interest of students
  - Review constitution: address current and future environment, make it more reader friendly, change things that haven't worked in the past to improve
  - Develop strategies to communicate needs with Residence Life: have a residence working group that has no one from residence life and how to address needs of students. RA hiring is an example
  - Represent the union at external meetings: lobby to government about student issues and will be attending with Brianna

b. **Seconded by:** Brianna Jarvin, VP Academic

Brianna says that Sam is working hard to ensure a smooth transition and is dedicated to transparency.

Christine states that, in terms of constitutional review, the equity officer position needs reworking and she would like to work on that with Sam.

#### Call to question

#### Motion carries

- k) **Be it resolved** that the SRC accept Samantha Nielsen's course overload request.
- a. **Moved by:** Samantha Nielsen, VP Communications
- Switched program and has taken 6 courses per term this year and will need to take 5 per term next year. Has a high GPA and feels comfortable doing this extra coursework

b. **Seconded by:** Brianna Jarvin, VP Academic

Brianna feels that Sam is more than qualified to balance commitments and has always put the ASU first.

Emma also states that Sam is a great student and there will be no issue.

Christine is concerned about two courses over the summer and saw first-hand how intensive it can be and how stressful it can be. She recommends focusing on getting online work at the beginning of the summer because July and August are busy.

Sam Nielsen has considered this and thinks that these concerns show passion of the members of council. She wants to do her best work and wants to be dedicated to the job when Welcome Week comes around. She feels that summer can be a good time to get the workload out of the way for the school year.

Christine understands Sam's point and thinks that she is taking on the responsibility where the summer months are a vital time to get work done. She feels that there is a lot of important work that can be done in the summer as opposed to the school year.

Sam Nielsen states that she did take on job knowing the responsibilities and feels comfortable taking the two courses.

Jenny says that if Sam is proposing that she can do it, then she can.

Emma says that this is a matter of opportunity, so she should be able to have it.

Sam S. appreciate everyone's opinions, but she worries that when summer courses aren't done they can continue on to the year which could become an issue.

Sam Nielsen says that she is excited to take this on and feels she will have time to do it.

#### **Call to question**

#### **Motion carries**

- l) **Be it resolved** that the SRC accept Andrew Grant's course overload request.
  - a. **Moved by:** Andrew Grant, VP Finance
    - Needs 10 more credits to graduate and looking to take 2 online classes in the summer
    - Will only have to balance 4 classes during the semester
    - Two elective in the summer so it will not be as demanding to take
  - b. **Seconded by:** Samantha Nielsen, VP Communication

Sam Nielsen feels that Andrew should have the opportunity to do it.

Christine says that she has the same concerns as before and to be aware of how crazy welcome week gets and make sure that the items are being completed beforehand. She notes that she likes the idea of online courses better than in class.

Sam S. says that she is looking to have an end date for online courses that her team takes.

#### **Call to question**

#### **Motion carries**

- m) **Be it resolved** that the SRC accept Brianna Jarvin's course overload request.
  - a. **Moved by:** Brianna Jarvin, VP Academic
    - Two online classes in the summer and would like to have a reduced course load in one semester
    - Has taken a full course and has volunteered and has a high GPA and feels capable to do this
    - Two courses are elective and ASU is the priority

- Likes the end date idea for accountability purposes

b. **Seconded by:** Samantha Nielson, VP Communications

Sam Nielsen notes that she will make sure that her goals and responsibilities are met.

**Call to question**

**Motion carries**

n) **Be it resolved** that Brianna Jarvin Emma Hughes, and Christine Moreau sit on the 2016 Interim Review Board.

a. **Moved by:** Samantha Sproule, President

b. **Seconded by:** Molly Murphy, BOG Representative

Nominees: Luke Coxhead, Brianna Jarvin (executive), Ted Higa (executive), Emma Hughes, Sean Porter, Christine Moreau

Christine moves to secret ballot and Sam S. seconds. The motion carries.

**Call to question**

**Motion carries**

**VII. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Closed.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by: Ted Higa, VP Programming**