

Minutes for the 2nd Interim Meeting of the
2016-2017 ASU Students' Representative Council

Monday, July 25, 2016 at 5:15 pm in the K.C.I.C Classroom

ATTENDANCE

<i>PRESENT</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
<p>Chairperson's Office Soleil Chahine, Chairperson Fallis Thompson, Deputy Chairperson</p> <p>Executive Board Samantha Sproule, President Brianna Jarvin, VP Academic Samantha Nielsen, VP Communications Andrew Grant, VP Finance Ted Higa, VP Programming</p> <p>Councillors Julie Bernier, Councillor Vacant, Councillor Vacant, Councillor Vacant, Councillor Vacant, Councillor</p> <p>Equity Officer Vacant, Equity Officer</p> <p>Senators Lucas Coxhead, Science Senator Emma Hughes, Arts Senator Vacant, Graduate Studies Senator</p> <p>Board of Governors Representative Molly Murphy, BoG Representative</p>	<p>Sean Porter, Councillor Jessica Elliot, Councillor</p> <p>Senewa Sena, Professional Studies Senator</p> <p>Susan Mesheau, Administration Anna Kiefert, Faculty Representative Gwen Phillips, Board of Governors</p>

Agenda for the 2nd Interim Meeting of the 2016-2017 ASU Students' Representative Council

July 25th, 2016 at 5:15 pm in the K.C. Irving Center Classroom

I. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

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

Call to question.

Motion carries.

II. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Moved by: **Samantha Sproule, President**

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

Call to question.

Motion carries.

III. ROUND TABLE CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION

a) Prevention Innovation Fund Large Grant Update

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

Sam S. sponsors Katie Bunker to speak

- Acadia received a grant in conjunction with the province's sexual violence strategy and Katie was hired by the ASU to work in the Student Resource Centre as a Sexual Health Worker
- Katie has looked at other school's policies surrounding sexual assault as well as awareness campaigns that have taken place to bring awareness to sexualized violence
- This information is currently in an excel file and will be sent off to student services to help develop policy
- She is doing a lot of work to ensure that consent culture is included in Welcome Week. There will be a workshop, Venus Envy event, and scene in arrival and survival
- Katie is also working with different stakeholders in Welcome Week to update them of her plans
- She will be doing a training session for ASU staff
- She hopes to also have a poster campaign and video

b) President Mid-Summer Update

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

- Sam begins by saying that lots of work on relationship building with town, university admin, federal and provincial leaders, as well as other student unions
- Lots of work with wellness and looking to collaborate with Student Resource Centre to ensure that wellness is looked at on campus, one idea is to hire a counselor for more hours to decrease wait time
- Items have been approved through the Wellness Fund that students can be used

- Money has been allocated to establish an Acadia Pride Library. Books are available and now they can be on display
- She has been working with Amanda MacDonald on a coercion study to assess whether or not our services on campus are being well utilized
- She has been working closely with StudentsNS and CASA, on CASA policy committee

c) **VP Programming Mid-Summer Update**

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

- Large project this summer has been Welcome Week
- Has been in contact with Internal Organization Coordinators. For example, Pride has a poster campaign ready for the beginning of the school year
- Has been building relationships with House Council executives and there are 39 executives confirmed for ice breaker week
- Seminary has ordered their House Flag
- Had meetings with house council executives with the exception of Tower prior to the summer break to go over their summer goals
- Have finalized the 9 headliner events for Welcome Week and has been working with Andrew Grant, VP Finance on the All Axcess packs
- Back burner project with Andrew is the intramural hockey league

d) **VP Communications Mid-Summer Update**

a. **Moved by: Sam Nielson, VP Communications**

- Working a lot with Welcome Week and has been promoting website on social media
- Working with a graphic designer for the Welcome Week logo for the student shirts as well as a 50th year logo for the ASU
- Wants to connect students and alumni for the 50th birthday of the ASU
- Is working with clubs and club presidents to ease their transition
- Finalizing handbook that is due Thursday so that it is ready for September
- Attended COCA (Canadian Organization of Campus Activities) with Ted Higa to get ideas on programming and communication to be ready for the upcoming year

e) **VP Academic Mid-Summer Update**

a. **Moved by: Brianna Jarvin, VP Academic**

- Has had many meetings with stakeholders from administration and has sat in a Senate meeting as well as a Senate executive meeting
- Major project in May was assistance with dismissal appeals and sitting on that committee. Through this process she saw that there is no official process outlined for students who want to appeal different issues on campus
- Has gone through Academic Calendar to look for discrepancies
- Attended Leader Lab with the rest of the executive to meet other exec teams that are members of SNS (StudentsNS)
- Worked with SNS to hire new executive director
- Attended the CASA (Canadian Alliance of Student Associations) foundations conference and is a non-voting member for NAT (National Advocacy Team) and is attending another conference on Policy on Wednesday
- Submitting a bid to have CASA AGM (Annual General Meeting) at Acadia in March
- Planning an engagement strategy for the Municipal Election

f) **VP Finance Mid-Summer Update**

a. **Moved by: Andrew Grant, VP Finance**

- Reaching out to new and old sponsors for the ASU (Acadia Students' Union)
- Have lost some smaller sponsors and one large one but has attracted new sponsors
- Hoping to reach sponsorship goal by the end of August
- Decided to increase the price of the O-Packs (now All Axecess Packs) to make them higher quality, there are now \$125 and this will increase the revenue
- Working on customs jerseys for all students participating in intramurals to increase Cajun's sales and revenues
- Has purchased some items purchased through the capital budget request and looking into restructure of convenience store. Looking into making it into a pharmacy but will need to wait for new VP Finance to finalize this
- Audit of the ASU was completed in the summer and it is looking like we had a small surplus last year

g) **Formal Election Plan**

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

- Presenting on behalf of Jessica Fahey
- Nominations open on the first day of classes (September 7th, 2016)
- Dates and the supporting documents can be found online
- Having debate on a Wednesday is to get people to do to the debate before trivia (September 21st)
- Want incentives for people to attend the debate
- Election dates are September 26th and 27th
- Creation of a video to encourage students to run in the election

IV. QUESTION PERIOD

Open.

Sam S. sponsors Christine to speak.

Christine tells Ted that during Stand Up and Cheer, Seminary house allowed the students to create the dance themselves and they ended up winning. She says that it may be something that he encourages house councils to do. She then states that she is slightly concerned that the price of the o-packs may discourage people to sell them but she does like that the quality of the o-pack is increasing. She says to be clear on what is in them because this was not done last year.

Sam N. states that 30 o-packs have already been sold and that the contents are listed on the website. They have also made sure that students who purchase the o-packs receive a better deal for the events by buying the o-packs.

Christine notes that there was a sponsor item in her o-pack that was really useful. She then switches to the Union Market and states that they should have a deal or coupon in the o-pack to bring people into the store.

Andrew says that Pepsi is doing some loyalty contests again in the store this year to hopefully bring in some more students. He then states that the o-pack sales were low last year but so was enrollment.

V. DISCUSSION PERIOD

a) Core Area Neighbourhood

a. Moved by: Samantha Sproule, President

Sam sponsors Christine to speak.

Christine saw a survey about the Wolfville Core Area and she feels that this is a discussion that we need to ensure that students are a part of. Her largest concern is that they are targeting buildings that rent out multiple rooms because the town seems to feel that that is a large issue when it comes to noise. She feels that they may try to target large groups of friends living in one building. She feels that this was strategically done in the summer. She wants to ensure that the SRC (Student Representative Council) represents the student voice in this process.

Brianna asks if Christine is attending the discussion taking place later that week.

Christine says that she is attending.

b) Municipal Election

a. Moved by: Brianna Jarvin, VP Academic

Brianna begins by reiterating that we are having a Municipal Election in the fall. She says that if you are on the list of electors that you can call to update your information. She is hoping to encourage students to run in the election and that August will be nomination period. She has three goals for this election:

1. Have a student run in the election
2. Host a debate on campus
3. Get students engaged in this event

She feels that the timing of the election may have students overlook it. She then notes that if you have specific questions to ask her separately. The town has hired a third year business student to see how students can be engaged in the election. She notes a few hurdles.

1. Students need to register to vote before election day
2. October 11th and 15th are not ideal days to have students to vote
3. Trying to get the debate on campus

She was asked to submit questions for a Kings County debate on youth, so the ASU will submit two questions. She will be doing a poster campaign to try to get students engaged.

c) Welcome Week Volunteers

a. Moved by: Ted Higa, VP Programming

Ted begins by stating that in the past the ASU crew has existed to help with Welcome Week. He is looking for feedback on who we can reach out to volunteer with Welcome Week.

Sam S. sponsors Christine to speak.

Christine suggests reaching out to old RAs (Resident Assistants) and old House Council members as they are usually people who want to be involved.

Molly asks if a Facebook group has been made.

Ted hopes to see a core group of five people and then build the volunteer base similar to how SMILE is run to ensure that there are always dedicated volunteers.

Molly encourages Ted to use Facebook as a main communication base.

Sam S. sponsors Christine to speak

Christine suggests asking Residence Life for an email list of returning students who are moving back to campus. She also notes that this may not be able to be done.

Sam S. suggests trying to post in old house council and residence group.

d) Constitutional Review

a. Moved by: Sam Sproule, President

Sam S. has noticed various gaps and risks in the constitution. One example is that councillors find it difficult to engage with students during their office hours. She is thinking of having councillors with specific roles and groups of people to talk to. However, people who could do more than one position will have to choose one to run for. She then notes that the VP Communications position doesn't make sense for one person to have so many skill sets. This also makes branding inconsistent. There is also a large risk with having clubs and IOs that can host various off campus activities that the ASU could be liable for. She then notes that the VP Academic position is academics and external affairs and these roles don't always relate. Even if the duties didn't change, the name should. There are currently three executives dealing with Government Relations which will affect consistency. Across the country, the communications position is becoming hired, and they are looking at this as an option. They are also looking at putting events and promotions into the same role. If they are not able to hire a full time position, there is also the option of having more VPs that are hired to ensure skill set.

Sam S. then moves on to summer courses. She notes the difficulty that a lot of students come into these executive roles with 10 courses left to take. She hopes to have items approved by Christmas in order to be enacted in the next election.

Christine notes that there are a number of concerns that fall into safety in terms of club events. She thinks that these events should be vetted by the ASU. In terms of hiring VP positions, she states that the power of electing these positions will be taken away from the students. She says that another option is to promote the role of these positions. She notes that hiring committees can often struggle with representing their students. In terms of summer courses, she notes that if you choose to run for the positions you should know that you may not be able to take as many courses during the summer and academic year.

Sam N. notes that it can be difficult to have an official process for clubs as they are in charge of and collect their own funds. Their goal with the hired positions is to ensure that the VPs (Vice Presidents) feel prepared with their job. They are also looking at options that hired positions are not voting members on council. She also notes that she does not want elections to be a popularity contest.

Christine does not disagree with these ideas as she does agree that the election process is flawed but that is how democracy works. However, she does not feel that the ability to vote for a position should be taken away, she thinks that the positions should be better promoted so that the right people are running for the positions.

Julie suggests adding another step in the voting process by screening the candidates that are considered qualified for the position.

Christine notes that when we put a hired position in place, we are limiting students who may want to be involved in that position.

Molly states there needs to be more discussion about this. She compares these ideas to the job of VP Finance to ensure that we have the right person for the job. She agrees with the idea of a screening process as skill set is very important in positions.

Sam N. comments that St. FX (St. Francis Xavier University) has 4 hired VPs which is chosen by the elected officials.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Be it resolved** that Brianna Jarvin, Luke Coxhead, and Julie Bernier sit on the By-Election Appeals Committee.
 - a. **Moved by: Sam Sproule, President**
 - b. **Seconded by: Sam Nielsen, VP Communications**

Sam S. provides an overview of the committee as noted in the constitution.

Nominations: Luke Coxhead, Brianna Jarvin (executive), Julie Bernier
Soleil asks for nominations three times.

Call to question.

Motion carries.

VII. NOTICE OF MOTION

Closed.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Brianna Jarvin, VP Academic