EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE — 2022-2023 #61
March 27, 2023
10:08 AM

ATTENDANCE

Abner Monteiro  President
Gurleen Kaur  Vice President (Academic)
Christian Fotang  Vice President (External)
Julia Villoso  Vice President (Operations and Finance)
Joannie Fogue  Vice President (Student Life)
Marc Dumouchel  General Manager
Juliana du Pree  Director of Marketing and Communications
Jonathan Olfert  Director of Research and Advocacy
Ari Campbell  External Relations Specialist

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

FOGUE/VILLOSO MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.
4/0/0 CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

FOGUE/MONTEIRO MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from March 13 and 16, 2023 as presented.
3/0/1 CARRIED, VILLOSO abstaining due to absence

REPORTS

PRESIDENT

- Finishing Bylaw drafts for approval by Students' Council.
- Working on land acknowledgement plaques.
- Planning transition retreat and working to transition successor.
- Attended CASA's AGM in Halifax.

**VICE PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)**
- Met with Janice Causgrove Dunn, Vice Provost (Programs), to discuss embedded certificate situation, including questions received from faculty and students. There is much confusion about what required courses mean in various contexts. Janice agreed to come to COFA and explain the framework in more detail.
- Working to improve student services and communications between stakeholders, e.g. ensuring links are all in one place more consistently.
- Experiential learning meetings are continuing. Received feedback related to a draft student checklist.
- Began transition meetings with successor.
- Attended Canadian Business Leader Award dinner.

**VICE PRESIDENT (EXTERNAL)**
- Attended CASA's AGM.

**VICE PRESIDENT (OPERATIONS AND FINANCE)**
- Ongoing budget meetings.
- Ongoing transition meetings with successor.
- Helped organize and run the tuition protest at the Board of Governors.

**VICE PRESIDENT (STUDENT LIFE)**
- Helped organize and run the tuition protest at the Board of Governors and tuition advocacy at GFC.
- Final meeting of Student Mental Health Network.
- SGBV Advisory Council meeting.

**GENERAL MANAGER**
- Finishing audit responses and budget this week.
- Starting meetings about orientation and grants.

**DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY**
- Attended part of CASA's AGM.
- Nothing major to report.

**EXTERNAL RELATIONS SPECIALIST**
- Helped organize and run the tuition protest at the Board of Governors.
- Working on Get Out The Vote efforts.
STUDENTS' COUNCIL

- The Executives discussed the last Council meeting, including elections follow-up, and they anticipate the CRO's final report.

ACTION ITEMS

NO ITEMS

DISCUSSION PERIOD

Retreat Sessions
- The Executives worked to plan content for the Executive transition retreat. An upcoming session will finalize the schedule.

Protest Follow-Up
- Food was largely eaten/ran out. Everyone who lined up got some form of food, however. Signage clearly stated ‘while supplies last.'
- The protest was not successful but did create secondary wins, details to be announced. The University has committed to provide major new support to the Campus Food Bank. The University is also starting a working group around student financial aid, including reevaluating their thresholds for a moderate standard of living and making student financial aid more transparently available.
- The Executives discussed survey possibilities around difficulties accessing needs-based bursaries and other student financial aid.
- Students were very angry after the BoG decision, including ripping up signs. A garbage can at VVC caught fire but the Executives are confident it had nothing to do with the protest, and that matches conversations with Andrew Sharman. The Speaker, Christian Zukowski, was very clear and loud with all around that the fire had nothing to do with the protest. The police informed Ari that it was just a cigarette that did not get put out.

Student Boycott/Strike
- The Executives have been told that this may likely come to Students' Council for discussion. A Reddit poll has ~190 respondents saying they would support a student strike, and a similar number saying they would not. This question has the potential to be very divisive for students, especially because of the timing, this close to exams. The story could easily become the conflict among students.
- A student strike would need to be a democratic process, not imposed top-down by the Executives, Council, et cetera.
• Attendance at our protest was ~250-300.
• There would be significant consequences for students who participated in a general student strike: staying out of class would have impacts for grades, completion, and student financial aid eligibility. There could also be major implications for international students in a cohort model. Participating would be linked to privilege, as would initiating a strike when those calling it would not necessarily be those most impacted.
• At this point in the semester, everyone’s tuition has already been paid and withdrawal deadlines have passed, so a strike has relatively little potential leverage.
• The complexities and impacts of a strike would need to be thoroughly discussed, and students would deserve thorough opportunities to participate in those discussions.

CASA AGM 2024
• The UASU has put in a successful bid to host next year’s CASA AGM. The Executives discussed possible components, events, and locations.

CLOSED SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:12 AM