



President's Caucus



Wednesday July 15th
6 PM



Agenda

Assembly

1. **Motion #1** – Approval of the Agenda of the meeting of July 15th, 2020
2. **Motion #2** – Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of June 17th, 2020
3. President's Report: Jared den Otter
4. Rector's Report
5. Student Senate Caucus Chair Report
6. Student Trustee Report
7. Board of Directors Chair Report
8. Question Period
9. Business Arising from the Minutes
10. New Business
 - a. Accountability to QTBIPOC Students
11. Discussion Period
 - a. EDII efforts on Campus
 - b. Faculty Society Training Policy
12. Adjournment



The President of the Alma Mater Society

Report to Assembly

Jared den Otter

July 15th, 2020

president@ams.queensu.ca



Hello Everyone,

I hope everyone has been staying healthy and safe during these past few weeks since we last all got to meet! It's been a very busy month for the team, and I can't wait to hear more about what each of you have been up to as well!

Campus Operations Group (COG) | There has been some movement within the Library planning, as well as Residence Planning Working Group, and we have submitted a request for AMS Office Access to COG. For the Library, there is a new pilot program to see if we can slowly begin introducing smaller amounts of students to access study space within Stauffer. Hopefully this can be applied to Undergraduate students in the Fall term, depending on how the pilot goes with the Graduate students.

For Residence, the total number of individuals who had applied this year were 4,300. They were then sent an invitation to receive an explanation as to how to navigate the needs process and what residence would entail this year. From here, 1,900 students filled out the priority listing, and the university is currently still going through these applications. Some individuals gained immediate entry (Nursing, Indigenous students) while others wait to hear for their spot. The maximum number of students who can fit into residence this year is 2,300 (for the Fall term, at least). The University has consulted with the Deans and decided to fill the remaining spots within residence that the needs-based applicants did not fill (~400 spots), which will be determined by lottery.

Remember to reach out to me if you are looking to re-open any spaces. I am a resource for you and can provide insight on how to navigate COG, as well as the Student Services and Operations (SSO) sub-group!

AMS Budgeting for the Year | Everyone has been jumping into budgeting during the month of July to be presented to Jordan and the rest of the Board of Directors near the end of the month!



Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, & Indigeneity (EDII) on Campus | With the creation of the @stolenbysmith Instagram account, as well as the @erasedbyfeas Instagram account, there are platforms being provided to QTBIPOC students on our campus. The AMS is working to create a document of actionable items to accomplish, both internally within the AMS and externally on campus. This document will be released on the 24th of July. The change that is needed within the AMS is long overdue and we will not continue to brush off the responsibility of representing and advocating for all undergraduate students on this campus. We should all be prepared to talk about what each of the faculties have planned for EDII work and supporting QTBIPOC students within our schools and programs! Let me know if you would like to run any ideas or thoughts by myself or any member of the AMS team.

Director Update | The Directors have been hard at work since the beginning of May. They've been busy working away on the Orientation Handbook; posting on our media accounts and writing statements to communicate to our student body what the AMS is doing this Summer; analyzing outdated policy and making proper adjustments to these documents; working on securing sponsorship for Orientation 2020; and responding to a lot of IT requests!

Have an amazing rest of July and start to the last month of Summer! Looking forward to seeing you all on Zoom!

Best,

Jared den Otter
President



Vice-President (Operations) & CEO

Report to Assembly

Alexandra Samoyloff

July 15th, 2020

vpops@ams.queensu.ca



Dear President's Caucus,

I hope you've all been keeping well this past month. Thank you all for the hard work you've all been putting in. Thank you for using your platforms to raise the voices of students across Queen's. Here are some relevant updates:

Goal Plans and Budgeting for AMS Services | All Goal Plans and relevant capital expenditures were approved at June Board of Directors. Our services will be moving forward with their plans and have accounted for their Goal Plans in regard to budgeting. As July wraps up, the services will be submitting their final Budgets for Board approval July 26th. This has been a challenging process and as we've learnt more from the University and the Government we've had to adapt quickly. A lot of our operations will look different, which is both exciting and challenging.

AMS EDII Action Plan | Over the past few weeks the AMS executive, alongside with our 12-month staff, have been working on action items that the AMS can take to move towards being an anti-racist institution. We've had a lot of powerful conversations with our team and have seen the tireless labour being put in by our students, not only this summer but over the past few years. We have listened to these dialogues from our students and we are working these conversations into our action plan. There is a deep and problematic history within the AMS, and we hope that these action items can help us begin the process of rebuilding.

Updates to the Services | First, the **Peer Support Centre** remains open with their PSC x CARED program. We've seen great engagement and the logistics of operating the PSC through an online model have not caused any issues thus far. Moving into the fall term, the PSC will most likely operate online in a similar format until it is safe to resume in person sessions. **Common Ground Coffee House** is open Monday to Friday, and they been seeing great success, matching similar numbers to last summer. If you're in Kingston and looking for your morning coffee, lunch, or interested in making Cogro bagels at home, grab your mask and please stop on by!

Finally, we regretfully are moving slowly on the progress of reopening our other services. With the Phase 3 announcement on the 13th I am hopeful that we will be able to



make more progress in reopening, but of course this will be dependent on the University's plans and guidelines. Regardless, we are planning for all our services opening at varying capacities by September.

Bus-It | Over the last two weeks I have been in several conversations with the City, University admin, and the SGPS regarding providing students in the 2020-21 school year an alternative to the Bus-It program. Due to timelines from the City regarding Council meetings and Government funding the conversation regarding possible options has changed since my last update. At this time, we are looking at working with the City to advocate for an affordable plan provided by Kingston Transit to both SLC and Queen's students as opposed to an Opt-In program just at Queen's. Please note we cannot offer the same deal as our previous pricing was worked out within a contract (one that include 20,000+ students) and our conversations now are centered around *advocating* for affordable transit instead of cutting a deal. Finally, due to the logistics of student cards being mailed out to incoming students within the next month or so (a timeline that conflicts with Kingston Transit being able to secure final numbers), our process and plans have changed in order to prioritize the safety of our staff as we will not be able to have students come into our offices to pick up a sticker for their ID. I cannot speak to what system we will proceed with at this time, but please know we are looking at solutions. Rest assured, we are making sure there is an affordable option for those returning to Kingston in the fall who will need to use Transit. For your own reference, the bus currently remains free but will most likely be charging a fare in September.

Thank you for reading through my report, I appreciate your time and dedication to President's Caucus. If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything further, please feel free to send me an email or set up a Zoom call. I hope everyone has a wonderful August and I look forward to reading your reports.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexandra Samoyloff (She/Her/Hers)
Vice President (Operations)

Ne Queen's University e'tho no'we nikanónhsote tsi no'we ne Haudenasaunee tánon
Anishinaabek tehatihsnónhsahere ne óhontsa
Gimaakwe Gchi-gkinoomaagegamig atemagad Naadowe miinwaa Anishinaabe aking.



Vice-President (University Affairs)

Report to Assembly

Alexia Henriques

July 15th, 2020

vpua@ams.queensu.ca



Dear Faculty Society Presidents,

Hello everyone! I cannot believe we're already halfway through July. I hope you are all enjoying your summer breaks and the warm weather we've been experiencing (at least in Southern Ontario!) and are feeling like you are getting a hang of your roles and portfolios.

Goal Planning and Budgeting

The past month has been focused on receiving and reviewing the goal plans and budgets for the Commissions. Although we are in a challenging and unique time, I am excited to eventually share these goal plans and budgets with you all. I am so proud of the hard work, optimism, and creativity shown by each of my directs and look forward to working with them to finalize these documents and share them with you all in September at assembly! In the meantime, do not hesitate to reach out to myself via email if you have any specific questions that are pertinent. As the summer comes to an end, you will hopefully begin to see some of the proposed initiatives and goals from each of the Commissions begin to roll out and be implemented!

OUSA Policy Papers & Advocacy Priorities

Matthew and I were able to attend the annual OUSA Strategy Conference, where we finalized and prepared for the coming year alongside the other member institution's board members. Some notable decisions that were made include the decision on OUSA's annual advocacy priorities as well as finalized dates for OUSA Fall General Assembly, as well as the 6 policy papers that will be written this year. At a high level, OUSA will be focusing on four key priorities for the upcoming year. These include student financial aid, quality of education, racial equity, and student mental health. I will be more than happy to share more specific goals and points for those who are interested. The AMS will be authoring two papers this year – A Comprehensive Access Strategy in the Fall, and Student Health and Wellness in the Winter. Additionally, four other papers will be written throughout the year including Environmental Sustainability (new!), Indigenous Students, Housing, Transit, & Community Development, and Racial & Religious Equity (new!). If you or any of your constituents



are interested in contributing your thoughts or being included in consultations (especially for the two paper's authored by the AMS), please reach out to myself or Matt!

QTBIPOC Student Support & Action Plan

I would like to recognize the labour and commitment from the students running all the various Instagram accounts that are being used as a safe space to amplify QTBIPOC student voices. These stories and experiences are not surprising and are not new to our campus, this is simply a new way we are hearing them. The AMS will do everything in our power to protect and amplify these voices and these students. As a result of this call to action, the AMS has begun working on an extensive and expansive action plan in the form of an EDII platform. We are looking to not only support the initiatives, projects, and advocacy you folk hope to do this year, but also receive feedback on some of the internal AMS projects in the works. Please reach out to me via email if you or any members of your team would be interested in providing feedback.

Orientation and Transition

Mitch and his team have been hard at work prepping for Orientation. Event forms should be coming up shortly, as well as Fee & Slogan forms. Mitch, Charlotte, and I have been sitting on various groups to discuss the first-year transition experience and they are also prepping for the upcoming SOARB meeting. I would like to thank each of you and your Orientation teams for being so patient and adaptable throughout this process. We are working on creating a plan moving forward to further engrain EDII practices within Orientation planning and implementation for years to come. If you have any questions or concerns, I ask that you send an email to myself or Mitch and we will do our best to set up a meeting to discuss.

Take it easy everyone & enjoy the rest of the month. As always, here to meet with you any time if you have any questions or if I can support you and your team in anyway.

Best,

Alexia Henriques



Commission of External Affairs
Report to Assembly
Matthew Mellon
July 15th, 2020
cea@ams.queensu.ca



Dear Members of President's Caucus,

I am happy to share with you all what I have been up to since President's Caucus last convened. It has been a busy month, with some items from my goal plan getting underway. As well, with OUSA Strategic Conference having passed, we are excited to get started on provincial advocacy and policy renewal for the year. Since my last report was written, I have spent time researching and crafting my budget for the year, as well as the AMS' OUSA budget. With these out of the way, I am excited to continue diving deeper into some of my goals for the year. Other Commissioners, Executives, and I have been working towards revising the AMS' advocacy stances as outlined in Policy Manual 3. Through multiple brainstorming sessions, we are hoping to produce a framework for such stances (on issues ranging from academics, to student engagement, to equity for marginalized communities) that can be brought forth to other students for consultation, before passing at Assembly. As well, I have been doing research into various programs to enhance and elevate student involvement in course feedback, which I am hoping to collaborate on with the Centre for Teaching and Learning. First, I have been looking into existing unconscious bias courses offered by other institutions that are specific for addressing implicit associations that affect students' abilities to give meaningful and objective course feedback. As well, I have been looking into student consultation programs, which allow paid and trained students to work directly with instructors to work towards course improvements. As previously mentioned, OUSA Strategic Conference took place in late June, where Steering Committee came together to decide on broad advocacy priorities and to plan the upcoming policy paper renewal cycle. I spent multiple days researching OUSA's policy library selecting policy recommendations that were well-suited to priorities at Queen's. We found that Steering Committee was quite receptive to such suggestions, where our priorities were set on student financial aid, quality of education (encompassing technology, pedagogy, and experiential learning), racial equity (encompassing post-secondary accessibility, law enforcement, and mental health support), and student mental health. As well, out of the six policy papers up for renewal this year, we are excited to have Queen's represented on the authorship teams



for the Comprehensive Access Strategy and Student Health and Wellness policy papers. We will soon be planning rigorous consultation efforts with Queen's students and administrators for August and September to craft the basis of each new policy paper. I am looking forward to continuing to update you all as I continue to develop some of my goals for the year and on other news and activities within the Commission. If you have any questions, concerns, or just want to chat about some advocacy-related ideas, my email, cea@ams.queensu.ca, is always open!

Regards,

Matthew Mellon



Campus Affairs Commission

Report to Assembly

Charlotte Galvani

July 15th, 2020

cac@ams.queensu.ca



Hello Presidents!

I hope you are all doing well!

This past month has flown by with different projects and the continuation of important conversations. To begin, in the past month I was able to finish a draft for the proposal of a Sustainability Commissioner on our campus. This draft is now being reviewed by the Executive and will then be sent to a couple of different stakeholders before finalizing the proposal. This draft was compiled after many different consultation meetings, reviewing past documents, and analyzing the gaps within the AMS in relation to Sustainability. I am very excited to see the outcome of this proposal and these conversations.

Conversations surrounding GBV on our campus continue in meetings with different groups as well as with the Sexual Assault Centre Kingston. The SACK is an incredible partner and we are excited to see where this relationship will lead us. These conversations have shown that we are on the same page and both working towards the same goal of making their services more accessible to Queen's students. The current gap on our campus has not stopped growing, and we are hoping that we will have started to close it by the end of our term.

I have additionally been doing work reviewing our event sanctioning process in the current environment developed by COVID. The AMS is not sanctioning any events for the time being and we will be developing different guides for planning and holding events for the end of August. This review process is also taking into account the new Alcohol Policy to ensure that it is properly reflected in event sanctioning. I am happy to chat more about this process if anyone would like any clarification!

Some other ongoing projects I have surround the redevelopment of Policy Manual 3 which is being reviewed by a group on Senior Management; the administration of a survey on student engagement & recognition (please share it to folks on your teams!); and finishing the first draft of my Commission's budget.



Finally, the conversations that have been sparked by the Instagram account @stolenbysmith and subsequently @erasedbyfeas are long overdue, and I would like to thank Kelly Weiling Zou for her labour in creating this necessary space for QTBIPOC students to detail their experiences. The AMS has pledged to publish an action plan for both internal and external changes on July 24th. These changes are necessary and overdue. We must do better moving forward, and I hope that as student leaders we are all committed in doing so.

All the best,

Charlotte Galvani (she/her/hers)



Clubs Commission

Report to Assembly

Olivia Stanton

July 15th, 2020

clubs@ams.queensu.ca



Hello Presidents' Caucus,

I hope everyone is well and enjoying their summer. The past month has been quite busy as the Clubs Commission gets ready for the Fall term and I have been working through how to best support clubs this year.

Both Summer Re-ratification and the Summer Clubs Experience Grant have now closed. We received about half the number of grants this summer as usual, however I believe once the Fall term starts and more clubs are active, the number of clubs planning alternative and online events will continue to increase.

Another project that is ongoing is the Clubs Support Project with the Student Experience Office (SEO). We are currently working on online resource modules to help clubs plan and host online events and are also in the midst of organizing an online version of Tricolour Open House that will take place in early September. I also ran a survey this past month to see what online supports and modules would be most useful to clubs this year and will be using these results to guide the online modules created with the SEO.

I have also been working on a project with the Rector's Office aimed at creating a resource guide and voluntary policy for clubs and student groups on campus. It will include guidelines for club hiring and transition, conflict resolution resources, and mental health resources as well as many other topics. We are currently in the consultation stage of this project with campus stakeholders as well as with clubs themselves.

One other project I am working on is the updated Clubs Manual. I have started to edit and update the information in the 2017-2018 manual and am planning the layout for the new manual this year. The updated Clubs Manual is part of a larger goal to increase visibility and accessibility of club resources for clubs on the AMS website.

This month I have also been working to complete the Clubs Commission Budget for the 2020-2021 year and have also completed the Clubs Commission Goal Plan for this year. Creating these plans has been very exciting and I can't wait to work on all of these projects throughout the year.



That's all from me this month. I'm excited to continue working on these projects for the rest of summer and into the Fall term.

All the best,

Olivia Stanton (she/her/hers)

Commissioner of Clubs 2020-2021





Commission of Social Issues

Report to Assembly

Angela Sahi

July 15th, 2020

Sic@ams.queensu.ca



Hello Presidents!

I hope you are all keeping well! These past two weeks have moved quickly, and I have been working on various projects. I am excited to share my progress with you!

Equity Open House

I have been working alongside Commissioner of Clubs and the Student Experience Office to offer support for equity seeking student groups and prepare online programming for Orientation Week. We will be facilitating an online 'open house' specifically for equity seeking student groups in hopes of connecting them with interested incoming students. I will be consulting with student groups directly to ensure the event meets their needs. This event will be an important addition to O-Week programming, as many incoming students will face limited opportunities to find community due to online landscape.

Community Care

In collaboration with Queen's Black Academic Society and African & Caribbean Student Association, we will be hosting an online community care session for self-identified Black students. This event will serve as an opportunity for students to check in with each other and explore ways of healing. Furthermore, this session will address specific concerns facing self-identified Black students at Queen's and consider student activism & burnout. This event will be taking place on July 29th.

Sexual Violence Support Group Alongside the Campus Affairs Commissioner and Vice President of University Affairs, we will be submitting a proposal to absorb Queen's Sexual Assault Centre Kingston (QSACK) as a committee within the commission. This committee will address gaps in peer-based support for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and will work to offer diverse programming.

Best,

Angela Sahi (she/her)



Office of the AMS Secretariat
Report to Assembly
Caroline Hart
July 15th, 2020
Secretariat@ams.queensu.ca



Hi everyone,

I hope you are all doing well and enjoying the weather we have been having. I have been working on various project and I'm excited to shared them with you.

Policy Manual 3

Policy Manual 3 revamp is in full swing. We have put together a working group that has been hard at work find new topics for this policy manual to touch on and focusing on stances around current events, this manual focuses on reviewing all AMS stances. We will be hold consultations later on down the line to hear from our peers about their input on the project.

Senior Management Policy Review

I have been helping a number of our senior management members with their own policy reviews. It has been great to see them question the policies that are in place current with th4e hopes of improving them to reflect the AMS properly. With this, I have gotten to learn more about each member of our team as well as more about their portfolio.

I hope everyone's summer is going well.

Best,
Caroline Hart (She/Her)
Secretary of internal affairs 2020-2021



ASUS President
Report to Assembly
David Niddam-Dent
July 15th, 2020
president@asus.queensu.ca

Hello everyone,

Hope you're well! I keep on expecting all the craziness to slow down, and it just refuses to.... Hope you guys are doing well. Here are my updates!

O Week

O Week is chugging along, as usual. Anika and her team are doing an amazing job. We're currently having some difficulty with the online platform for our O-Week.... There have been a few red flags in the contract, and we've been in contact with a number of people at the University for advice. Currently deciding whether we want to negotiate ourselves or look into a lawyer – my guess is that decision will be made by the time you read this.

Otherwise, just finishing up our handbook, our event forms and fee and slogan forms went in last week, and we are getting excited!

On a related note, we've been in touch with the folks in Residence about whether we can get Artsci/O week merch into Arts and Science students' rooms who move in, hopefully cutting down on mailing or shipping costs. Haven't gotten an answer yet but will keep you updated if that's something any other Faculties want to explore.

Camps

ASUS Camps is doing amazing! We have seen registration increase quite a bit (to the point we're getting to capacity), the kids are loving it, and parents are re-signing their kids up.... lots of fun 😊.

EDII

We've been in a lot of contact with our faculty around this. They're very receptive, but also lots of barriers and bureaucracy to get around. They have an EDII implementation committee to deal with this stuff, but of course it doesn't have much power. We're hoping to reinforce and partially influence its recommendations, so we're pushing for a couple initiatives. The first is introducing 3.0 units of an EDII-related course as mandatory in the ArtSci curriculum (trying to get students this content without making them take a specific anti-o course, which we've seen that research shows to be



ineffective). The second is trying to work in wellness and support resources to every course's syllabus. The third is a town hall where senior members of the administration can answer somewhat filtered questions from students about steps that have been taken and will continue to be taken in the Faculty. By this President's Caucus we will have decided whether we will be moving forward with petitions to get some public pressure behind these advocacy initiatives.

We also released our action plan last week (it's on our Facebook and website), which includes a number of internal initiatives that we're really excited to be working on. We're expecting an ArtSci equivalent of the Commerce and FEAS pages to come up soon but haven't seen it yet.

Council + Planning

Our Council has now finished up Version 2 of their Strategic Plans for the year and are moving towards budgeting. We're having them put some thought into both winter scenarios (although maybe there's more than 2, which could get very messy).

Pre-Week/Return to Campus

August is rapidly approaching, and we're starting to have some conversations about what collaboration with our team will be like before and after school starts. Nothing much to report but would be interested in what other people are considering here if they typically have any kind of Pre-Week.

Academics

We've connected DSCs with Departments and are hoping for program and course specific communications to get to students over the next month. That should hopefully include some more information at course selection time, to make up for the fact that courses will be so different this fall. It's pretty decentralized, though, so not much more to report.

I think that's it! Happy to answer any questions, looking forward to talking with you all.

Cheers,

David



EngSoc VP student affairs

Report to Assembly

Alex Koch-Fitsialos

July 15th, 2020

vpsa@engsoc.queensu.ca

Hi everyone!

Similar to other student societies, the Engineering Society has been hard at work mainly prioritizing the Black Lives Matter movement as well as the stories shared on Instagram through @stolenbysmith and @erasedbyfeas.

EngSoc Action Plan

Although EngSoc has previously released a short-term action plan about a month ago, we have planned to release an updated, detailed plan so that our students are kept up to date on current developments. Currently, our goal is to be more proactive when it comes to supporting our students – we have been thinking of new EDI initiatives that will support engineering students and foster a more inclusive environment within engineering. As of now, we have raised money for Black organizations in collaboration with ESSCO (Engineering Student Societies' Council of Ontario) and other Ontario engineering societies through our BLM patches. We've sold out of patches at the moment, but we have contacted our collaborators to access our own supply of patches that can be sold directly through Queen's EngSoc. We have also been looking into creating an NSBE (National Society of Black Engineers) Chapter within EngSoc. Recently, we have talked to a few students interested in leading the group with assistance from EngSoc – very exciting! Other important initiatives that we'll be implementing include revamping our anti-oppression training with the help of QBAS, incorporating Diversity and Anti-Racism talks within our Speaker Series initiative, and policy updates (specifically regarding the ability for EngSoc to donate to important causes in the future). Although this final initiative is currently a work in progress, we have thought about creating an EDI Paper within EngSoc that would be specifically centered around EDI topics. Because this initiative is in the preliminary stages, more work will be done in terms of logistics and specifications for the paper.

ErasedByFEAS



As many of you are aware, a similar page to @stolenbysmith was created called @erasedbyfeas, specifically sharing stories of microaggressions, discrimination and systemic racism within engineering. EngSoc fully supports this initiative (as well as Kelly and the @stolenbysmith initiative), and we have come out with a statement to show our support. We will continue to show our support for the stories shared and the platform as well as learn from these experiences in order to change toxic culture within engineering.

EngSoc Orientation Week

Our FREC Committee (FC) is continuing to plan for an online Orientation Week. There are not too many updates within O-Week except for FC deciding on our orientation payment platform – they have decided on Bounce as their platform.

That's about it! Thanks everyone!

Cheers,

Alex Koch-Fitsialos

Vice-President (Student Affairs), 2020-2021



Commerce Society President

Report to Assembly

Seby Monsalve

July 15th, 2020

president@comsoc.queensu.ca

EDII Course of Action

On July 7th, ComSoc released an Equity Diversity and Inclusion Course of Action. We have initiated 9 working streams to plan and implement our short-term goals and begin our medium-term goals, powered by the labor of 46 students. Below are the working streams:

1. Training, development, and enablement
2. Hiring reports, transparency and accessibility
3. Executive mandate alignment
4. Improving incoming student social mobility
5. Equity framework and toolkit creation
6. Advancing reconciliation with Indigenous peoples
7. Accessibility to ComSoc resources and student advocacy
8. Revitalization of Human Resources Policy
9. Increase suite if advocacy executives

Students are independently mobilizing, and ComSoc has seen a substantial increase in the utility of the Student Venture Fund. ComSoc is continually engaging in collaborative discussions with University administration.

SOAR

ComSoc hosted two student panels to answer questions about ComSoc resources and opportunities and facilitated discussion with incoming students about @stolenbysmith. Connected with about 120 incoming students to date, and we have two more sessions left in the month.

Operations

Our ComSoc rebrand is near completion, we are finalizing the trademark process and will be rolling out our new branding on July 26th, 2020. The rebranding includes a new website, ComSoc app, new logo, color scheme, and roll out of the Smith Commerce Society.



PHEKSA President

Report to Assembly

Ethan Cooney

July 15th, 2020

president@pheksa.queensu.ca

Hi everyone,

Would be looking to do more work towards the current talks surrounding race and inequality and get some wheels in motion for committees to begin forming possibly before school starts to be able to carry momentum from these current movements into the school year. Looking at effective ways to implement a wider spread of training for pheksa members and looking to allow all years of KIN to opt-in to this training.

Ethan Cooney



Nursing Science Society President

Report to Assembly

Alex Troani

July 15th, 2020

president@nss.queensu.ca

NSS Report

- COVID - AST students in clinical at KGH and PCH – all is well
- Pinning ceremony – Year 4 class council putting the finishing touches for the upcoming virtual pinning ceremony
- QNRC – the Queen’s Nursing Research Club can now be found at queensnss.com – We have already recorded 1 podcast with a special guest and will be recording a second one this week. We are also planning for virtual events in the fall. The club has garnered significant interest amongst undergraduate nursing students and has the support of the nursing faculty
- We have begun planning virtual events in the fall for the NSS, including a virtual coffeehouse. We have also continued to evaluate how we can deliver services such as study buddies virtually
- Orientation week planning continues, not much to update

Best,

Alex



CESA President
Report to Assembly
Julia Bukala
July 15th, 2020
president@cesa.queensu.ca

Hello everyone,

I do not have much to update everyone about CESA.

Some highlights:

- Our O-Week Exec is working on their website and packages for the incoming students. As well, the team has decided to cut the
- The Equity Affairs Commissioner has been working on creating bursaries for our CESA fee. So far, she has managed to collect almost \$1500.
- Our O-Week Exec has decided to have an orientation fee of \$15 to cover the costs of zoom and tams.

Best,

Julia Bukala — CESA President



COMPSA President

Report to Assembly

Danielle Edward

July 15th, 2020

president@compsa.queensu.ca

In light of the @stolenbySmith happenings, COMPSA has made a statement as well as a commitment to our proposed short- and long-term actions to combat racism and increase transparency and equity. We have created an anonymous submission platform for Computing students to bring light to injustices experienced that allows COMPSA to work towards preventing further issues we may not have known about. We are continuously working to better our policy as well as create new and effective ways of mitigating discrimination in any form.

Our O-week team is moving along smoothly. Meeting with directors on COMPSA to formalize their plans for the upcoming year as well as figuring out ways to maximize engagement while hosting remote activities/events.

Best,

Danielle



Chair of the Board of Directors
Report to AMS President's Caucus
Jordan Nensi
July 15th, 2020
board.chair@ams.queensu.ca
(416) 707-4635



Members of President Caucus,

Since we last met, the Board completed its June meeting. At this meeting, the Board approved goal plans for every Office and Service, in addition to a handful of capital expenditure requests. While the nature of the upcoming year is exceptionally uncertain, the plans put forward emphasize adaptability, fiscal prudence, the continuation of core operations and the necessary safety protocols to keep our colleagues and community safe. The Board is confident in the plans for the upcoming year, and in the ability of the respective teams to execute on those plans.

On July 26th, the Board will be meeting again to review and approve budgets for every Office and Service. Additionally, at this meeting, the Board will approve the work plans for the Board's major committees (Finance & Risk, Personnel, Governance).

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions, concerns or comments.

Thanks,

Jordan



Undergraduate Student Trustee
Report to Assembly
Shoshannah Bennett-Dwara
July 13, 2020
trustee@ams.queensu.ca



Dear Assembly,

I hope you all have been well since we last gathered and are taking extra time to practice self-care during these incredibly stressful times! The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be in September; however, we have been partaking in monthly update meetings with Board members, most recently on July 7th, 2020. Below I have provided a brief summary of topics that were discussed at Board meetings as well as some updates surrounding other initiatives I have been a part of.

Principal Opening Remarks

Item: Stolen by Smith

At the July update meeting there was a large amount of discourse surrounding the Stolen by Smith account and was coined a rapidly evolving situation due to the large following it has garnered within the past few weeks. Principal Deane has expressed his interest in meeting with Kelly Weiling Zou, the owner of the account as well as the administrative representatives from Smith School of Business. After various comments from other Board members, it seems as though some are concerned about the reputation of Queen's University.

Item: Sir John A. McDonald Renaming

The Board briefly discussed the opportunity to rename the Sir John A. McDonald law building, mentioning that it has been looked into and will remain a topic at the scheduled September meeting.

Public Health Update



Item: Remote Winter Term

David Walker spoke on the possibility of a remote winter term and assured members that although we need to move strategically and gently, we will be moving progressively towards more in-person engagements. While one solution will not fit all, we will be able to have more people on campus and re-engagement will be encouraged.

Item: Off-Campus Housing

Members briefly discussed students, including first-year students, who are deciding to move back to Kingston despite the fall term remaining remote and the health crises this may pose to a previously low number of COVID-19 diagnoses in Kingston.

Academic Planning

Item: Undergraduate and Graduate Engagement

At the undergraduate level, all planning is remote with the exception of the Nursing program. At the graduate level, the faculties of Medicine and Rehabilitation will have in-person classes whereas other programs such as Law will have a hybrid delivery.

Item: Accommodations and Accessibility

a) Remote Delivery

Professors have been provided with the tools to enable them to successfully transform their classes to an online platform and IT services has been working on enhanced software for remote delivery. There have also been conversations surrounding possible physical library access, however this is dependent on provincial regulations.

b) Accommodations and Funding

Bursaries and additional funding will be provided at the same level as in previous years, regardless of whether applicants are remote or on campus. Further, a later drop date for courses will also be available.

c) International Students



Mark Green states that he is looking into increased support for International Students, both academically and through Student Wellness Services.

Other Business

Student Code of Conduct Amendments

Anti-Black Racism Initiatives

International Student Support

Board of Student Governors

If you have any questions regarding the information presented, please kindly email me at trustee@ams.queensu.ca as I would love to hear any comments or opinions you have!

Respectfully,

Shoshannah Bennett-Dwara



Student Senate Caucus Chair

Report to Assembly

Eric Flowers

July 15th, 2020

sscc@ams.queensu.ca

I hope everyone is doing well and staying safe. Since we last met, the Senate received a summer update on the academic plans for the fall. Since the update was not a formal senate meeting, minutes were not taken and are therefore not publicly available. Given this, I would be happy to take any questions at the meeting or by email about any content of the update not mentioned in my report.

The university's plan for the Fall has not much changed over the course of the last month. Up to 2300 residence spaces have been approved for the Fall and space in addition to this number has been allocated for students in residence who test positive for the virus. The residence contract for students will be updated to ensure students are following public health guidelines. Lecture halls, as previously indicated, will be used only for specific programs of study requiring them; each hall only functions at about 10% capacity.

Enrollment numbers have been quite positive given the circumstances. Queen's has the highest student increase in Ontario over last year's numbers although these numbers will likely decrease as students make their final decisions. The international student numbers met their targets but decreased over last year's numbers. The Engineering society is seeing the largest effect from the decrease in international student enrollment.

I encourage all faculty presidents to continue to work with their Deans and faculties to ensure suitable accommodations are made for students this Fall as they transition to their full course loads online. I am aware that the University and faculties are working on ways to approach these concerns and I encourage you all to continue to engage in these conversations.

Keep well,

Eric Flowers



Rector
Report to Assembly
Sam Hiemstra
July 15th, 2020
rector@queensu.ca



OFFICE OF THE RECTOR
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY AT KINGSTON

Rector's Report July 2020

Fellow student leaders,

I hope everyone is staying safe and keeping well – a statement too often added to emails but increasingly vague and meaningless. By nature of our respective positions we often take-on stressful situations and are often left to navigate our mental health on our own. I open this report to acknowledge the additional burdens we find ourselves in, and to remind you to connect your passions in your work but also in your life. Make sure you are keeping yourself grounded and on a strong path to maintaining good mental health practices.

The updates I have provided below are often interconnected and overlapping, to which I would like to apologize. I imagine I speak for many of us when I express a fire of passion for social justice colliding with institutional barriers. This is a process, albeit a slow one, and I am looking forward to continuing to fight for what our students deserve at all levels of my work.

Anti-Racism: Next Steps

Tackling injustices in our institutions is a difficult but essential part of our jobs as student leaders. In response to a global pandemic, Queen's has worked tirelessly to reimagine how we educate, support, and represent our students. In a social justice pandemic, our University has shown its commitment to timely response and a general interest in action. This imbalance is blatantly obvious and concerning, but also one that is actively being talked about at the highest levels. This brings an interesting opportunity to have a greater say in what we expect of our school – one I hope you will all join me in being vocal on.

I have personally reached out to both Kelly Zou and Meena Waseem to commend them on their continued efforts to dismantle toxic cultures within our campus structures. I have additionally offered to meet with them and will hopefully be doing so in the future. While it is easy to see our school as mute on these issues, I also want to note the tremendous leadership we have taken in many of these areas. We have an opportunity



to be a leader in these conversations across post-secondary institutions in Ontario. I truly see this as a provincial wake-up call to racist cultures in academia, corporations, and student leadership.

Alcohol Policy Updates

The final alcohol policy has been released and feedback is currently being accepted. You can find the policy [here](#), and I encourage you to email any feedback directly to myself or to [Lindsay Winger](#) who I Co-Chair with. I would also be happy to arrange Zoom meetings. In understanding our unique transition period, I have asked that there be an open forum provided for student leaders to gain a better understanding of the changes made last year. Any knowledge gaps that have been brought on by a difficult transition should not prevent our thoughts from being properly being articulated or researched. More to come on this.

I understand that this may not be a top priority to the group right now, but discussions of alcohol will increasingly become the norm within student and administration circles as we move into the Fall. Concerns have been raised by members of the Kingston community, City of Kingston, and student leaders on preventative measures to party culture in the student district. These concerns are largely valid and will hopefully be met with useful conversations of abuse prevention and alternative formats of education tools and resources.

Student Human Resource Committee

We have finished the initial mandate section of our project and have a completed [Mandate Letter](#) to send to stakeholders. I encourage all members who have yet to do so please read through and remind your teams or executives that they are more than welcome to connect with the Office of the Rector to be involved. This can look like joining the committee or simply joining us for an open meeting. Our work is ramping up and the only way we can ensure the greatest effectiveness is total collaboration.

Stakeholder conversations are ongoing and are providing additional insights to the barriers that are arising during the pandemic. The administration is realizing that now more than ever, the dispersion of information is often best communicated when students have directly helped in the process. In light of this, we had Principal and Vice-Chancellor Patrick Deane join us at our bi-weekly meeting last night to which shared goals were established.

Student Governor Committee



Shoshannah and I have been working on a new group of student leaders who can come together to meet and discuss higher level issues at post-secondary institutions. As a non-advocacy body, we would be purely looking to share resources and information between student's whole share similar positions. We have been offered a space at the OUA Conference in September but are still working to gather information on the student leaders themselves.

In light of current calls for justice within our institutions I am curious to see what can be done on a larger level to analyze our respective policies and jurisdictions. Our job is to help aid in communication between these two bodies and ensure that needs are being met. When we hit walls at individual Universities' the next logical step is to go one over and see what they have to think.

Final Comments

As always, I am more than happy to chat with anyone who has questions or is interested in providing feedback. My email is rector@queensu.ca and my cell is 226-339-0901.

At your service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam Hiemstra". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and "H".

Sam Hiemstra
37th Rector Queen's University