

# Summer 2016 Semester Board Report

## Intro

Coming into this board as the only independent candidate meant that I had to come into this job knowing very little of how things worked and the plans that previous boards have put into motion. I feel that the transition has been rocky at best in terms of getting used to how the board functions as a whole, however all the work with students and the DSUs have been pretty much the same. The purpose of this report is to report what the things I did over the summer semester to the membership.

## Orientation

Here I got my first formal introduction to how the board and the SFSS is structured as well as meeting all the staff that the board works side by side with. There were also lots of attempts at team building over the course of the two day orientation session. The most important part of orientation was learning about the strategic plan that the previous boards have poured many hours of work into that will hopefully help the SFSS function better and facilitate board members spending more time engaging and reaching out to students.

## Outreach/Engagement/Liaison/DSU Work

During the summer semester I spent a lot of my time with the SSSS helping them transition into a new exec team as well as MESS who needed to hold a by-election for their vacant president position. My office hours in Surrey were usually spent helping SOSY students as well as follow up on progress of each of their individual frosh events. I also held an executive position in the SSSS in which I managed day to day operations in the office as well as facilitate meetings between new execs and the DSU outreach office. I also met with some members of the faculty at

a big FAS group luncheon where we introduced ourselves and gave a state of affairs of each group as well as their goals for the year.

For engagement, I went to a few events over the summer such as; SFSS Summer Pub Night, and Residence Move In. Since it was the summer semester, there weren't as many opportunities or events to go out and engage with students.

## Committees/Groups/Projects

Due to scheduling conflicts of meetings and my academics, I was not able to be a part of any of the standing committees of the board. However, to mitigate that I was able to join a few ad-hoc ones such as; website redesign, SFU App, Granting and evaluation reform. I had a spot on the AGM planning committee but did not meet as I was no longer needed do to it being mostly operational. In terms of the projects, I spent a lot of time trying to get FROSH chairs for my DSUs, getting an organizing committee for the FAS Formal and getting a group started called the Motherboard which consists of executive members of the SSSS, CSSS, MESS and ESSS. Each of the frosh events were successful, the motherboard meeting went well, discussing overall state of affairs and getting some cross faculty communication established. One unexpected outcome was the lack of engagement for the FAS Formal committee which had to be put on hold. FASSU was a project I wanted to continue on from my predecessors but after a discussion at the motherboard meeting, that will be put on ice during my term. Another big project I was involved in was working with the CSSS to organize a video gaming event that is held bi-annually called C-LAN. My main involvement was to be an admin and social media coordinator for the event.

## Summary/Future

For the summer, much of my time was spent at the DSU level since my time conflicted with the majority of the board level work. A lot of the projects that I started or worked on mainly continued on from the previous year before like tradition and annual events. I think that starting the Motherboard was a good idea to test executive members' ability to collaborate and if it goes well the argument for a FSU would be stronger. For the future, I would like to see the FAS Formal transition to an event that the faculty has more involvement in so that it will always have the resources to be run each year as well as split the work from the appsci rep to spearhead it all. In addition, keeping the Motherboard will be important as some students still want an FSU and using it as a test metric would be good data. The transition to being a board member has been trying most of the time, but being able to help out the DSUs in a bigger capacity has been a plus during my last 4 months of board.