

Summer Semester Report

Introduction:

The summer semester was a transition semester from my previous role on board as at large representative to my position now. Going from a representative to a board executive is a huge shift in responsibility and was a challenging transition. The VP student life portfolio is a portfolio with one of its main focuses being engagement. My summer semester has been focused on a lot of engagement initiatives and planning for the fall semester. Some of my biggest projects I put work into in the summer semester were our welcome back pub night, Fall Kickoff concert, week of welcome and clubs days.

Board Retreat

I was tasked with some of the work around organizing and running some of the events at our board retreat. One of the things I was responsible for was picking the venue. We ended up picking a rental in Squamish as it was large enough and close enough to accommodate our group. I was in charge of creating some of the more engagement and team building centric events of our retreat this included going to Murin Park to take on various team building games for our group.

Events Committee

As Vice President Student Life one of my responsibilities was the events committee portfolio. We have worked on many projects over the summer semester. The planning on events committee that took place included the summer pub night, welcome

back pub night, Fall Kickoff week and clubs day's initiatives. Some of the upcoming projects we have are the Halloween pub night, Remembrance Day event and thanksgiving event. Events committee had met throughout the summer semester also having discussions around the purchase of society speakers and created an events calendar with a lot of the events written down.

Summer Pub Night

Although I was not project lead for this pub night. I did assist with some of the planning, artist management and production set up for the summer pub night. This event went very well with over 200 people in attendance. It was the only time the pub was open for the summer semester. We got a lot of good feedback throughout the night and it was a good way to kick off the semester.

Summer Clubs Days

This was at the beginning of our terms and was the first largest initiative the board took on. Summer is a far quieter semester than fall so there was not as many clubs that were present. We took pictures and ran our SFSS table. I was in charge in coordinating that our table was filled and has scheduled board members at the table at all times. This event went well we also launched a nomination committee around the same time and started taking applications for all our committees. This was a good way to get the word out about the committee vacancies we had.

Fall Kickoff Concert

This is only a snippet of the work that has been completed for the Fall Kickoff concert the rest is going to be written for the next semester report. A lot of my time during the summer semester has been spent on the Fall Kickoff concert. These included things such as meeting with university, liaising between blueprint events and the SFSS, and setting up the logistics of the concert, having meetings with the Fall Kickoff organizing committee and making sure all tasks were done on time. This is going to be the biggest project of my entire year. Currently we are setting the final logistical components for the largest Fall Kickoff concert taken on by the SFSS. Some of the changes made this year to make the concert more efficiently planned and effective are the following. We created a new live tracking ticket system that allowed us to keep up to ticket sales in real time. We implemented a new online ticket system that was a partnership between blueprint and the SFSS. This ticket system has made tickets much more accessible for students and the limited non students that we sold tickets to. Another improvement we made was communication between the university and the SFSS. We held regular meetings and discussed logistics which helped us be on the same page up until now. Our communications have been vastly improved over the course of this concert. Our communications department has done a remarkable job at creating all the content for this concert. It has made us be able to get the word out to students and get them interacting with our branding.

Council

One of my roles as VP Student Life has been the council liaison role at the many council meetings that take place every semester. I have been asked to chair a single meeting and provide context and reports from the board of directors. We were asked by council to deliver reports on what the committees are doing. Council has also discussed issues such as the online course enrollment issue and what to do with council funding throughout the semester. Council is a great portfolio to have as it gives me an understanding of what some of the views are from the students at large that make up our membership.

Board Meetings

Board meeting have been a consistent duty of mine throughout the first semester of my term. This is the single most important duty of a board member. It is essential you attend and be prepared for each and every board meeting. This year we have had to rule on many important decisions. Some of these are but not limited to Build SFU, board elections, appointments to committees and funding decisions. These meeting are going to be essential for the next few semesters to continue to improve the lives and experiences of all members that have instilled their confidence in us to represent them in the best way possible.

Future Projects

Some of my future projects I will be working on over the next few weeks are as follows: The Fall Kickoff Concert is coming up and is still a huge project I am personally

working on. Once that concludes things such as the Halloween pub night, Remembrance Day event, Oktoberfest and holiday type events will be on my radar. Also strategic engagement committee is something that I will also be working on in the coming months. I hope to take on a few more projects that the events committee is interested in pursuing also. I would like to begin work on appreciation week and look at the possibility of having a reiteration of SFU's got talent. I also want to look into the possibility of doing something new and innovative. This can be done with working with all of board to ensure this happens. More work can also be done on the governance side of our portfolio. I am excited to see and give input on the different proposed changes and initiatives to make the society work in a better way.

Conclusion

As I begin my second semester in office I plan to continue learning and serving students in the best way possible. This is going to be accomplished by taking on projects that people care about. This is also going to be done by continuing to talk to our members to get an idea of what they want from the SFSS. A good board member is a board member who fairly and adequately balances the needs of their members with the needs of the organization as a whole. If I can continue doing this in the best way that I can I will be satisfied that work that I can achieve in the Fall and Spring semesters will represent students in the best way possible.