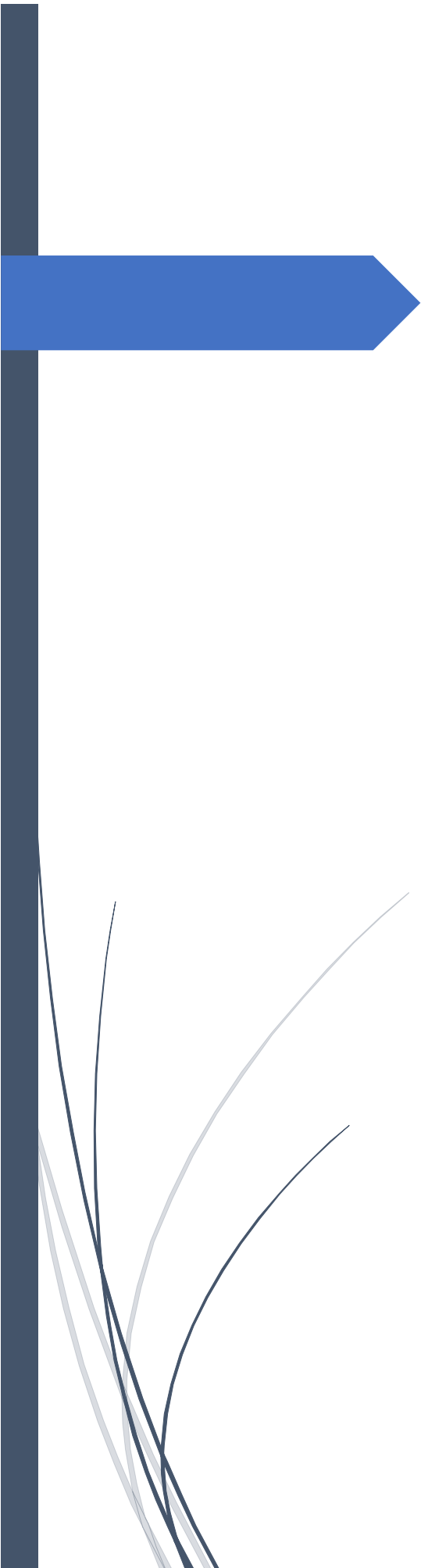


May – August 2019
Julian Loutsik
Faculty of Environment Representative



SFSS Board of Directors Semester Report

- Julian Loutsik
 - Faculty of Environment Representative

Julian Loutsik
Simon Fraser Student Society

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Executive Summary

My name is Julian Loutsik I am currently going into my 3rd year, hopefully graduating with a degree in Global Environmental Systems with certificates in GIS and Urban Studies. I ran for this position after spending most of my free time in the board office last year and hanging out with the previous environment rep Russel Dunsford. Now I am the current Faculty of Environment Representative appointed on the Events Committee and Federal, Provincial and Municipal lobbying committee.

Projects Overview

Currently the projects I have been mainly working on is increasing Faculty of Environment engagement through the creation of a new committee within the faculty. Furthermore, I have been working on Fall Kickoff as Co-Lead of Sales with At-Large Representative Maneet Aujla. Lastly, I am currently sitting on SFU's Single Use Plastics elimination group SUPS this Taskforce is working hard to make SFU one of the first campuses to be completely free of single use plastics.

Reflection

Reflecting on what I have learned from this semester is the process of making things happen is slow, the mobilizing of Board Members and following procedure can slow down the process of ideas and projects coming to fruition. I have noticed that because of this slow process there is often a slow down in momentum and excitement to projects and they begin to fade away. On the flip side knowing the lengthy timeline it requires to make things happen it means planning for events weeks in advance where the energy is low to start the planning as the event date is a month away. Furthermore, I learnt that being in this position as of Board of Director gives each board member a chance to directly impact students and the more committed, we are the more we can provide for our membership. If we have ambition, our position provides us with all necessary resources create events and provide services to all students through our incredible staff and each other support.

Recommendation

My biggest recommendation to next years board members is to introduce yourself to staff and find out which staff can help you and provide answers to your thousands of questions. There are so many resources that are available to all board members understanding each staff members role is crucial to helping yourself to be the best you can be for the students you represent. The one thing I underestimated is the amount of organization required for this role, there are days that you open your email and find 8 tasks that need to be completed all with different timelines and often are unrelated. Making simple lists have infinitely helped me stay on top of work needed to be done.

Self Reflection

From a professional standpoint, I would say I require some more work to be at a higher level of professionalism. I have learnt lots from experienced board members. Having a professionalism workshop or some sort of training to help incoming board members be ready for the year would be greatly beneficial. Especially coming from a faculty like Environment where professionalism is not as high of a priority as the Beedie School of Business.

This First semester has been one filled with learning and creating connection that will help me to be better for the fall semester. I look forward to seeing what this group of 16 board members is able to create for our membership.

Projects in Progress

Sprout (Faculty of Environment Frosh)

Summary

This project came about after reaching out to the Faculty of Environment first year recruitment and engagement director about meeting to see how we can improve engagement within the faculty. Immediately after the meeting we brought in all the DSU's chairs or presidents from the faculty and created an informal committee named Sprout. Through this committee we have created a Frosh event for incoming students and a social for returning students to engage with professors, TA's and graduate students. Currently the event has just under 70 attendees a week before the event which is huge for the Faculty of Environment.

Outcomes

This event will be the first from the Sprout committee that is now motivated to put on more events for the faculty after seeing such a positive response from faculty and students. There will soon be a formal committee with elected members from each DSU to ensure the long-term success of the Sprout committee that is working to create a better sense of community within the faculty. The event is soon to be completed with another two potential events in the fall.

Timeline

The first event is about to be completed, the next one is scheduled for mid October which we will be working hard to create meaningful events for our students to hopefully build the faculty.

Fall Kickoff 2019

Summary

This is set to be one of the largest Kickoff Events in a while, after a 1-year hiatus the Fall Kickoff Concert is back. Fall kickoff is a concert that is open to all students to celebrate and kickoff the fall semester the right way. My current responsibilities for Kickoff are the Co-Sales lead, I am in charge of making sure we sell enough tickets and create a ticket price tier system. Furthermore, I am in charge of ensuring any problems with tickets and entry are taken care of in a timely manner.

Outcomes

To create a positive image of the SFSS with students by throwing a concert to help increase engagement and student life around campus. The event date is set for September 20th and ticket sales have started off slow but are beginning to gain traction.

Timeline

The event is running on September 20th. My responsibilities are to sell as many tickets as possible from now until the event date and help day of event to answer questions and solve any issues with tickets.

SUPS (Re-use for good Initiative)

Summary

This taskforce is combating the single use plastics at all three SFU campuses. This taskforce is filled with many members from different backgrounds and represent different players and shareholders. My current responsibilities are to represent the SFSS on the taskforce to ensure our students voices are heard and being represented at the table. This project is set to reduce the number of single use plastics on campus to the minimal possible. This taskforce is taking on the challenging task of fighting our plastics waste starting with SFU.

Outcomes

To be a more sustainable campus, while putting SFU on the map as a university that is engaged and ready to make change to tackle the challenges we are faced with. While also maintaining the accessibility needs of our students, working closely with the VP student services to ensure our students are represented.

Timeline

The first solid timeline is adding a plastic bottle tax to all plastic water bottles sold at campus vending machines to hopefully shift the movement from single use to re-usable bottles. The next timelines are set far in advance with many moving parts to make our campuses better for the environment and for students.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I am beyond excited to continue pursuing projects that I am passionate about and that are engaging students among many faculties especially my own. Additionally, I am excited to continue my personal growth and work towards making our campuses the best they can be for all students. This first semester has been a large learning curve; however, I feel as if I am ready to tackle the busy fall semester to continue working for our students.