
FACULTY OF ENVIRONMENT REPRESENTATIVE 2020

2020 EXIT REPORT

By: Julian Loutisk

YEAR AT A GLANCE

This year has overall been a success, the board of directors worked incredibly hard to best represent all students. We hosted a large scale event, many monthly events and increased engagement. The role of the Faculty of Environment representative is to best represent the faculty at the board table, while also representing the membership as a whole. There were plenty of challenges faced this year as a board that was quickly divided by a president who could not lead. I could not imagine how much more could have been achieved with a leader.

The role of Faculty of Environment representative is difficult as the faculty overall has a low engagement. There is a need for more consistent events and diverse events as they are crucial to increasing engagement. I have worked closely with the GSU and they are the most committed DSU at SFU to better their department. Chris and Marina are incredibly driven individuals who work tirelessly for their department. Through the creation of "Sprout" there was a new a faculty planning committee supported by the Dean's office.



COMMITTEES

This year I sat on two committees, first being the Federal, Provincial and Municipal Lobbying committee. This committee accomplished successful lobbying for needs based grants. This aided with the immense financial strain of being a student in British-Columbia. I also attended the Fair Trade Conference where we learned methods to making the SFSS a more sustainable student society. We further were able to learn about how we could better our Fair Trade Certification at SFU, there is a need to push SFU to a higher Fair Trade Certification.

Another Committee I sat on was the Events Committee. This committee produced 2-3 events per month, all were incredibly successful. We were engaging with students in many different ways and heard plenty of feedback that our engagement was being received positively. The events committee hosted a range of different events in hopes to engage many different student interests. I am most proud of the work the team put in consistently as students were always provided with different kinds of events.



RE-USE FOR GOOD

Representing the SFSS on the Re-Use for Good task force was an incredible experience. Working with many stakeholders at SFU to ensure that student needs were represented as SFU made the drastic change to the reduction of most single use plastics on campus. This committee successfully implemented re-usable containers at SFU and eliminated single use straws and cutlery. I am incredibly proud to have been representing the SFSS on this project.



FACULTY AND STAFF

SFU to reduce single-use plastics and products

August 13, 2019

<https://www.sfu.ca/sfunews/stories/2019/08/sfu-to-reduce-single-use-plastics-and-products.html>



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Implement Board policies to protect board members from bullying.
 - a. A member of this years board was a cause for my personal extended stress leave as their direct actions caused me to go to hospital. They yelled at me in front of other students and swore at me. When confronted on the issue they again yelled at me and would not listen. Under current policy board members do not face any repercussions as there are no means other than a lengthy and stressful impeachment process. After being exposed to this workplace bullying from another board memberI implore the incoming board implement policies regarding workplace standards and work to protect the health of future board members.
- 2.Reduce the numbers of Board members from 16 to 6, and re-organize council to fulfill and represent the loss of Faculty Representation.

I wish the incoming progressive slate the best of luck in being board members. Working as team successfully in getting themselves elected demonstrated their ability of team work and finding grey areas.

