

SFSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS SEMESTER REPORT



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hello! My name is Mehtaab Gill and I am the Business Faculty Representative for the Simon Fraser Student society 2020-21 Board term. The semester report will offer a recap of the completed projects throughout the semester as well as look at ongoing and upcoming projects. I will also discuss the pain points and recommendations that I came across throughout the semester.

During this semester, I continued to serve as the Surrey Campus Committee Chair, a member of the Finance and Administrative Services Committee, and the Nominating Committee. The committees worked on various goals and objectives throughout the semester. The Surrey Campus Committee welcomed many new faces as well as previous members. I continued to engage with student clubs and organization both internal and external to the Simon Fraser Student Society.

This semester brought many new opportunities and challenges as many of us looked to the new year.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Beedie Club Engagement Meetings

Throughout the semester, I met with several Beedie clubs to learn about opportunities to work together with the SFSS as well as to learn how the SFSS can support the club. We discussed options for marketing, funding, and networking. From these meetings, SFSS was able to support multiple events including SFU's first branding competition hosted by the Student Marketing Association. I look forward to more supportive efforts in the Spring.

COVID-19 Student Survey Project

I worked with students from the business faculty to sponsor the project of a storybook which would cover the experiences of students through COVID-19. This presented a unique opportunity to work on something very relevant and informative for students. The storybook covered real-life experiences' students faced throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The stories were heard and with the community. Working with the students, the project was edited and revised throughout the semester. The final storybook was shared with the students and it was a successful project.

Surrey Campus Committee

Last semester we were not able to meet due to delayed application process and several challenges. However, this semester we welcomed many new members who were selected through the Nominating Committee process. The committee met throughout the semester to discuss opportunities for potential event partnerships with Surrey based clubs. With conversation between staff and committee members, we aimed to reach out to clubs to share the opportunity to work together. I am looking forward to working with several student clubs through various event partnerships.

Conversations with the Associate Dean

The Fall Semester presented a unique opportunity to sit down with Dr. Peter Tingling (over Zoom). The Associate Dean of the undergraduate programs at Beedie discussed various topics including the change to the online learning environment as well as ways for students to make the most of their degrees. The conversations throughout the semester will hopefully continue in Spring as there is a lot of opportunities for the faculty and SFSS to work together.

ON-GOING PROJECTS

Surrey Campus Committee Collaboration

Our goal for the Spring semester is to carry out event collaborations with Surrey-based clubs. The members are currently working to establish relationships and connections withing student clubs based in Surrey and introduce the support of the committee. Throughout the semester, we have discussed the guidelines and process to student organizations partnerships. The events will hopefully allow for the committee to be exposed to more students and create awareness as well as engage students.

Surrey Campus Space

With an increasing number of students taking classes on the Surrey campus, SFSS needs a bigger presence on campus. With the assistance of SFU staff, there is preliminary conversation of potential space renovations or additions. I look forward to working on this in the Spring.

Club Portal

The goSFSS club portal page can be improved with additional features as well as a fresh look. This is a project I hope to take on in the Spring and implement a new system that will support both clubs and the society,

PAIN POINTS

After completing 8 months of the 12-month board term, there have been many ups and downs. The main pain points from the Fall semester have been related to work-load balance and mental breaks. Along with school, a part-time job challenged me to be self-disciplined and follow up on meetings, tasks, as well as assignments. There were readings every week for meeting notes and videos that may have been missed due to work/school. Therefore, it was important to follow-up on them to learn what was missed during the meeting. At the start of the semester, I was able to create a plan that would support my learning and growth within the student society.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to manage multiple meetings for committees, projects and the board, scheduling using Google Calendar proved to help again this semester. Staying organized helped make it less confusing and allowed me to stay on top of deadlines. I will recommend lessening the course load if students opt to take on a part time job because there should be consistent breaks to allow for time away. The Fall semester can be one of the busiest in terms of new student engagement and club events. Therefore, committing to events only that you can schedule in is important. Overall, this semester did not have as much learning of systems and structure as compared to the Summer semester therefore it was easier to adjust to.