

simon fraser
student society

**SFSS BOARD
OF DIRECTORS
SEMESTER
REPORT**



Anuki Karunajeewa
Environment Rep

Sep 2020 - Dec 2020



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Hello! My name is Anuki Karunajeewa and I am the current Faculty of Environment Representative for the 2020/2021 Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS) Board of Directors. I sit on the University and Academic Affairs (UAA) committee, Black, Indigenous and people of colour (BIPOC) committee, External committee, Faculty and At-Large Representative Members (FARM) committee and the Admin Assistant Hiring committee. I am also unofficially part of the Events committee because of current projects I am helping with and leading. From the UAA, BIPOC and External committee there are 2 initiatives I am part of; Mandatory Anti-Racism Education (MARE) working group and the Students Against TMX campaign. These are ongoing initiatives I am working on.

Here is a link to my work reports from September 2020 to December 2020:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1hgFrVIRLbSCOxBjr4A1ezGWZUIG64WH6?usp=sharing>

My goals for my 2020/2021 SFSS board term is to create meaningful positive change regarding climate justice and racial justice on campus, and advocate for marginalized students. I want to do the best I can during the pandemic with online remote work. I would like to complete projects that I am a part of or do work sufficiently enough to pass onto the next board to continue on with.

COMPLETED PROJECTS



SFSS Food Justice event

I wanted to share knowledge about food justice with students, therefore I created an interactive event. I brought the idea to VP student life Jennifer and the events committee and created a working group with student senator Abhishek. We hosted the event in September. My professor from my sociology of food and social thought class was invited to be a speaker of the event. Students enjoyed learning about food justice and doing the trivia afterwards. We also gave out prizes for the winners.

SFSS New Music Mondays and music event

I worked with Jennifer Chou and Ahad Ghani to create music Mondays on our SFSS events Instagram page. It was fun doing this because we engaged with students and received song recommendations from them, while also giving a Spotify gift card giveaway. This also helped bring students awareness of the SFSS and gain followers for the SFSS events page. We also had a trivia night about songs and artists on Kahoot. Everyone enjoyed it and we had 3 winners.

Admin assistant hiring

I joined the admin assistant hiring committee for the employer side. I worked with Lawrence Jones, Nancy Mah, Shelley Durante, Zoya Nari and Melanie Ling in this committee. I enjoyed working with everyone, I learned many skills including interview skills, resume and cover letter writing. I also improved on my communication skills through this committee.

ON-GOING PROJECTS



Mandatory Anti Racism Education working group

Health science rep, Nafoni Modi, and I have started a working group under UAA and BIPOC committee called MARE which stands for Mandatory Anti-Racism Education. We were discussing how there needs to be mandatory anti-racism education implemented within each faculty at SFU and how there is a lack of race-based information and justice around campus. Then, the Education rep Emerly connected with us and introduced us to an education PDP student named Jasmine and all of us together started meeting for this working group. This working group has now grown to include members of the BIPOC committee. We decided to take a step back to do research this semester to be better prepared to implement our ideas in the spring semester.

Save the BESU/EVSCsu common room

The bachelor of environment student union and the environmental science student union reached out to me bringing my attention to a letter that the school of environmental science sent to them without prior notice stating they will be losing their common room space. The common room space was being converted into a lab space. This decision was made without consultation and it gave hardly any time for the unions to find a new space. We wrote a letter addressed to the school of environmental science and faculty of environment and sent it out. The letter:

https://sfss.ca/save-the-besu-and-evscsu-common-room/?fbclid=IwAR2OGc9SU6qzXLU8GjLAydaU24jLmtN8_Jui_qlqiFaX6titqO1g8w-gZnk

I communicated with the faculty liaison and they are working towards solving this issue.

Students against TMX

We released the letter that we wrote and shared our social media campaign on instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/studentsagainstmx/> and <https://www.facebook.com/StudentsAgainstTMX> and we also released our campaign on the sfss website <https://sfss.ca/studentsagainstmx/>. Through NewMode we can allow students to send emails and sign on which can be seen on the website.

PAIN POINTS



Balancing a heavier course load online with sfss was difficult. I took 4 courses this semester. I ended up withdrawing from one since I felt it was too much and I am close to

graduating so I wanted to take it easier this semester. I think I was struggling with creating a healthy schedule and sticking to it but I started to take better care of myself.

RECOMMENDATIONS



I recommend typing all notes during meetings in the work reports. This way work reports are not done last minute and are not rushed; this creates less stress too. I also recommend using Notion to create schedules, organize work and tasks. There are some templates from youtubers online. I use this for my classes and work. Create smaller goals and to do lists, once completing these take breaks and give yourself a reward.

Downloading the google app calendar and discord app on my phone helped me with work. I also recommend turning on notifications for these as well so nothing is missed. It is also important to set time blocks to study. I think scheduling and laying out everything visually helped me with school and the SFSS work.