

simon fraser
student society

**SFSS BOARD
OF DIRECTORS
SEMESTER
REPORT**



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



I am the Faculty Representative for Communication, Art and Technology (FCAT). This fall semester, I continued my participation with:

- First Year Engagement Committee (Chair)
- Faculty and At-Large Representatives Members (FARM) Committee
- Events Committee

In terms of workload, the fall semester was better as compared to summers, as I had an improved grasp and sense of my role as a board member. I took three intensive courses during this time while working as a Community Advisor for SFU Residences. Since I was working two jobs, it was challenging to manage time while balancing between jobs and school assignments. But I am lucky to be working with Board Members who served as a support system and were always available for help/advice.

Some of the projects that I worked on during the fall term were SFSS logo rebranding, event lead for Friends Trivia Night and Associate membership for Fraser International College (FIC).

In terms of committees, I have been lucky to sit on the Events Committee as I learned valuable details through the VP Student Life Jennifer Chou. The FYEC was working on a workshop focused towards the first years, but the committee decided to postpone the event to Spring 2021 term.

I am looking forward to Spring 2021 term as I will be working on some interesting initiatives which include;

- SFU Themed Kahoot for first years
- Workshop for first years
- Stock Market workshop

COMPLETED PROJECTS



1. FRIENDS themed Trivia Night

During the Fall Semester I took the responsibility of being an event lead for the trivia night hosted by the Events Committee. I started working on the project by making a kahoot. There was a list of questions that were provided by Jennifer Chou (Chair for the Events Committee). I added the questions into the Kahoot while also adding a picture that matched the theme of the questions. I decided to add pictures to make the Kahoot more interesting and engaging.

The event was marketed on social media, including the SFSS Events page. More than ten people attended the event, and the winners (top three) were provided with gift cards as a reward.

2. Associate membership between FIC & SFSS

Fraser International College (FIC) is a private college located on the Burnaby campus that provides a transition program or a pathway program for international students who are interested in attending SFU or were unable to get into SFU because of their grades or some other academic requirements. Currently, FIC and SFSS have a service agreement. However, the service agreement which cost \$119/semester did not do much for FIC students as they still cannot join DSUs or clubs except for very a few clubs that have *FIC Representative* positions, and they still don't have access towards services provided by the society such as U-Pass, health & dental coverage. Moreover, FIC students still cannot vote in the SFSS elections. Therefore, this agreement did nothing special for FIC students towards making them members of the SFSS.

As mentioned in my semester reports from summer, in order to make FIC students members of the SFSS, we were required to do a bylaw change which will allow the FIC students to become full members of the society and avail all the essential services provided by the society. In the summer semester, I researched about this issue and searched up past policies of the board as well and did not find any policy that stops us from doing so.

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) that took place in Fall semester, included a by-law proposal which creates a class of *associate membership*, paving a way for FIC students to receive SFSS services including U-pass and Health & Dental coverage.

3. Stranger Things murder mystery night

To add to the Halloween aspect, the events committee decided to host this event. The members of the events committee worked on the event while doing multiple trial runs before the event. Initially planned to moderate the events, I was unable to do so due to a last minute emergency. The event however was successfully carried by the rest of the committee members.

ON-GOING PROJECTS



1. SFSS logo rebranding

A working group was assigned which is researching and working on the new SFSS logo. The working group has been further divided into two categories. One group is responsible for searching Peak Articles from the 1960s to the present time period. The purpose is to search up the main events that took place during this time period that were related to the society so that they can be represented on the new logo. Second group of the working group is responsible for the design aspect. The working group also decided that the logo will represent “Student Power” as it’s main theme.

2. Stock Market 101

I presented the idea of a stock market workshop during the Events Committee meeting. The purpose for the workshop is so that students can learn about the stock market and make money while doing so. Initially, I planned to contact some acquaintances to present during the workshop. But the committee decided that we should request industry professionals to do so. Therefore, I am under the process of contacting SFU Beedie Endowment Asset Management (BEAM).

3. FYEC planned events

So far for the FYEC, I have planned two events that are concentrated towards the first years. During the month of February, I am planning to host an SFU themed Kahoot quiz, so that students can learn interesting facts about the University. The winners will be provided with gift cards. Furthermore, during the month of March (or enrollment time period), I am planning to host a panel session where third/fourth year students will sit as panelists and give tips to the first years regarding enrollment and exams.

4. Month in Reviews

Every month, I write monthly reviews of the SFSS Board which are posted to SFSS website and social media channels. I first start by compiling information of the two board meetings and writing down the important motions and discussion items. I then mention the important initiatives taken by the board during the particular month. I conclude the review by providing a summary of the board committees.

5. Monthly FCAT President's Meetings

FCAT based DSUs are very independent and function very well on their own. However, it is also very important for the DSUs to stay connected amongst each other and the SFSS. However, the communication and connection between the DSUs can be challenging as all seven of FCAT DSUs are scattered throughout all three campuses of SFU. Therefore, I continued the initiative of previous FCAT Representatives of holding monthly FCAT meetings.

The meetings do not have a fixed schedule as every month I send a when2meet link and host the meeting according to the availability provided by the Presidents. I start the meetings by giving an overview of the important projects and initiatives that the Board is working on and then the respective Presidents give an overview of their DSUs initiatives for the respective month. Through the meetings, the participants are able to identify the important projects that the society and the DSUs are working on.

PAIN POINTS



1. Time management

Time management has always been a challenge for me. I usually find it challenging to maintain a work life balance. Since I was working two jobs while taking three intensive courses, I would often find myself missing deadlines while feeling overwhelmed. This would further affect my productivity at work and school. I would partially hold myself responsible for poor time management, as there were scenarios where I would engage in procrastination. Therefore, in the Spring term, I am fully committed to avoid procrastination in order to be more effective and efficient.

2. Communication between FCAT DSUs

Since the faculty based DSUs are spread throughout the three campuses, this leads to the ineffective communication between all seven student unions. It would make sense for one to assume that the communication would improve due to online meetings. But most of the time the President's meeting would have low attendance. Overall, I feel connected to almost all the DSUs, however, I still find it challenging to communicate with DSUs at Woodward Campus.

RECOMMENDATIONS



- Since new years, I have developed strategies to improve my time management skills. I am mentally prepared that the Spring Semester would be more challenging as I am carrying an additional workload of co-op job seeking. If I am not able to manage and distribute my time effectively between my responsibilities, I am well aware that I will be affected by productivity and efficiency for each one of my tasks and responsibilities.
- I am also planning to set up the monthly meetings by giving two to three weeks notice to the DSU Presidents. I have noticed that every time a meeting was conducted on short notice has reasonably low attendance.

