
POSITION President ▾
REPRESENTATIVE Rai Ali ▾
DATE Jun 26, 2024

1. GENERAL UPDATES

1.1. CASA

I am working on joining the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) as an observer. This month, I had a meeting with the Member Relations Officer at CASA, where we discussed the benefits of joining and some of the costs associated with joining as observers. Joining CASA will allow OTSU to participate in federal student advocacy and attend CASA's conferences, providing valuable insights into student issues at the national level. I am seeking the board's approval to move forward with joining CASA as observers. This is an important step to enhance our advocacy efforts and align with other student associations.

1.2. Ex-Officio Seat at the Academic Council

Last month, I reported pursuing an ex-officio seat at Ontario Tech University's Academic Council to ensure student representation. This month, I met with Steven Murphy to discuss this further. He indicated it might be brought up in their next meeting, and we expect feedback next month. This continued dialogue is a positive step towards securing our seat and ensuring student representation in university governance.

1.3. OTSU Print Shop

Last month, I proposed establishing the OTSU Print Shop to provide custom merchandise for clubs, societies, and students. Since then, I have refined the plan, emphasizing the significant benefits such as cost savings, revenue generation, and potential future growth. We have identified the Epson SureColor F1070 DTG/DTF Hybrid Printer as the ideal equipment for its versatility, compact design, and cost-efficiency. With detailed cost-profit analysis, the print shop promises a substantial profit margin, enhancing our services and financial sustainability. I am seeking the board's approval to move forward with this project, which aligns with our mission to support and enrich the student experience at Ontario Tech University.

1.4. Centralized Catering

I am working to achieve a centralized catering service to benefit our clubs and societies. By creating a buying group, OTSU can negotiate discounts with various food vendors, ensuring cost-effective options for club events. This initiative not only alleviates the burden on clubs to obtain green checks and food handlers certificates but also streamlines the approval process, making event planning more efficient. Ultimately, this approach supports the OTSU's mission to enhance student life by providing better resources and fostering a more collaborative campus environment.

2. COMMITTEE UPDATES

2.1. Human Resources (HR) Committee

Hired for the position of Board Director in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities.

2.2. Election Committee

Reviewed the CRO's recommendations for revising our Election Policy and Procedure.

POSITION	VP Student Life ▾
REPRESENTATIVE	Areej Fatima ▾
DATE	Jun 26, 2024

1. GENERAL UPDATES

1.1. Convocation

In June, I had the honor of attending four convocation ceremonies as the President's delegate while he was away for an OUSA conference. It was a privilege to represent OTSU at these important events and ensure our presence was felt. The ceremonies provided a valuable opportunity to network with alumni representatives and members of the Board of Governors, strengthening our relationships and showcasing OTSU's commitment to student success and community engagement.

1.2. Gallivan Conference

I attended the Gallivan Conference for four days, which was highly beneficial. Gallivan is our health and dental insurance provider, and the conference allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of the plans they offer and the services our students currently receive. Additionally, it was an excellent platform to connect with other student leaders from across Canada. Learning about the initiatives and strategies employed by other student unions and associations provided valuable insights that can be applied to improve our own organization.

1.3. Clubs and Societies Policy Updates

This month, I worked closely with our staff to brainstorm and finalize changes to our current policies for clubs and societies. We plan to adjust the ratification process, capping club ratifications at 50-55. Clubs will receive base funding based on their ratification level, categorized from Level 1 to Level 3. Additionally, we are considering introducing a grant funding option available to clubs during the winter semester. These changes aim to enhance the organization, compliance, and effectiveness of our clubs and societies, ensuring they receive adequate support and resources to thrive.

2. COMMITTEE UPDATES

None to comment on.

POSITION	VP Student Affairs ▾
REPRESENTATIVE	Zainab Hussain ▾
DATE	Jun 26, 2024

1. GENERAL UPDATES

1.1. Academic Appeals

Actively working on making our academic appeals page effective at guiding students. I had a meeting with Krysta to understand what the service entails so the page can appropriately reflect that. We discussed the items we need to omit from the academic appeals page as they may be redundant or misleading. Various components of information we need to add (the appeals page only talks about one kind appeal). The policy changes made in May and what components should be reflected on our website

1.2. Indigenous People Day

I hosted the first micro event for the summer on Friday 21st to commemorate Indigenous people day. This event's aim was to spread awareness and create an opportunity for students to engage and learn something new about the indigenous community. Students were able to make a pledge and also learn something new by answering trivia questions.

1.3. Food Insecurity

Matty and I visited Durham College's food bank and had a meeting with an onsite social worker that works at the food bank to look at the possibility of starting our own. We also had a meeting with OT sustainability regarding this initiative.

1.4. Website changes

I made and proposed a comprehensive list of website suggestions some of which included: Emails of VP/contact info to be included alongside the booking a meeting. Addition of committee information alongside the introduction to roles and responsibilities of executives and consistent information throughout the website. Committees to get their own tab which includes the list of all the committees and what they do. Communication and marketing team was in accord to the suggested changes.

2. COMMITTEE UPDATES

2.1. Student Success Committee

The student success committee meeting for the month of June got canceled. During the May meeting we had discussed the projects they were working on.

2.2. Sexual Violence Committee

The sexual violence committee was also cancelled for this month.

POSITION	VP Downtown ▾
REPRESENTATIVE	Matifadza Chidovi ▾
DATE	Jun 26, 2024

1. GENERAL UPDATES

1.1. Downtown Social Media

I conducted research to identify the specific information downtown students need more access to, focusing on local events, transportation, housing, and academic resources. I also explored strategies to capture their attention, including interactive digital platforms, multimedia content, and peer recommendations.

1.2. Establishing a town and gown

I reached out to the city and the student associations at Trent and Durham to gauge their interest in the project. This outreach resulted in setting up preliminary meetings with the Trent student association. These initial discussions will help in understanding their perspectives and gaining support for the project.

1.3. Community engagement

I met with downtown stakeholders to discuss and identify opportunities for student engagement. These meetings helped establish potential activities and resources that could be made available to students. Additionally, we explored collaborative initiatives to enhance the overall student experience in the downtown area.

2. COMMITTEE UPDATES

2.1. May Faculty Council Meeting

Last meeting of the 2023-2024 school year. Addressed end of year affairs including some achievements in the faculty.

2.2. Downtown Campus Advisory Committee

Had a meeting with the DCAC. I presented my goals for the year to the committee to get input from downtown students and also to gain perspective on whether I was missing anything. Also sent out a questionnaire to the committee to that same effort.