



Annual General Meeting Minutes

Date: April 12, 2025

Present: See attendees list

Chair: Alexina

Secretary: Karina

Alexina gives a land acknowledgement

Alexina calls the meeting to order at 11:31 am

Alexina reviews Robert's Rules of Order

Miranda moves to amend the agenda to add the item: "send money to the GoFundMe of the students who lost their home in the fire on Quinpool," Aaron seconds, majority, amendment passed

11:40 am- Owen leaves, gives proxy to Chelsea

Agenda: Aaron moves to approve the agenda, Miranda seconds, majority. Motion passed

Minutes: N/A

Signatures:

Exec Member

Exec Member

11:43 am- Owen returns

11:43-11:55 am- Recess for food

Reports

Owen

President Report:

Served as:

- Executive, SUNSCAD
- Member, NSCAD Board of Governors
- Member, NSCAD Senate
- Member, NSCAD Faculty Forum
- Provincial Executive, Canadian Federation of Students, Nova Scotia
- Member and National Delegate, Canadian Federation of Students

Meetings:

- Met regularly to advocate for students, and negotiate as SUNSCAD, with the senior administrators of NSCAD. For the first year, met one-on-one with President Shannon. Then, in the last few months, have hosted meetings between the SUNSCAD Executive and NSCAD's Acting President, Dean of Students, and Ombudsperson
- Met with Executives of the student unions of Dalhousie, Kings College, Saint Mary's, Acadia, Mount Saint Vincent, and others
- In addition to at NSCAD, met with the University Presidents of the University of Kings College and Mount Saint Vincent University

As President of SUNSCAD:

- Worked to update and revise the SUNSCAD Bylaws
 - Chaired SUNSCAD Bylaw and Constitution Committee
 - Worked with SUNSCAD's Attorney, and 2 Dal Legal Aid representatives to reduce our bylaws, for efficiency, by 10 pages

As CEO and Staffing Relations Officer of SUNSCAD:

- Restructured SUNSCAD Staff and Contractor positions
 - Added 7 new jobs to SUNSCAD's structure, employing 6 additional NSCAD students and 1 external student

As Spokesperson of SUNSCAD

- Spoke to Local and National Media on Dozens of Occasions
 - Regarding NSCAD, and the interests of the members of SUNSCAD

- Regarding the actions of NSCAD students, including during the encampment at Dalhousie known as “Al Zeitoun University”
- Spoke at multiple press conferences and panels

As a Facilitator at SUNSCAD:

- Oversaw Rewriting of SUNSCAD’s Food Bank Policy
 - Working with 2 additional Dal Legal Aid Representatives to draft this policy

As Organizer at SUNSCAD:

- Assisted in facilitating important internal organizations of SUNSCAD
 - including Pigeon Press’s free coffee program and the SUNSCAD Zine Press
- Organized various sit-ins, teach-ins, and protests at NSCAD university

As Liaison for SUNSCAD:

- Attended 2 National General Meetings of the Canadian Federation of Students
 - in Ottawa (2024) and Toronto (2023)

As Administrator for SUNSCAD:

- Facilitated a lawsuit of NSCAD university, while avoiding a lengthy battle in court
 - defending the sovereignty of our student union against NSCAD’s attempt to threaten withholding SUNSCAD union dues

Chelsea

VP Finance Report:

Student representative attending meetings of

- Board of Governors
- Board of Governors Sub-committees: Budget Advisory, Financial & Physical Resources, Occupational Health & Safety, Honorary Degree Committee
- Attended monthly meetings with Provost, Dean of Students, Ombudsperson, and Executive

Attended SUNSCAD Meetings of

- SUNSCAD Organizing Committee (SOC)
- SOC Outreach Subcommittee
- Bylaw Committee
- Zine Press Committee
- Student Lounge Committee
- Attended meetings with Dal Legal Aid regarding our Bylaws and our Food Bank Policy
- Attended CFS-NS AGM
- Attended weekly Executive meetings and bi-weekly Council meetings
- Acted as Liaison with local social justice groups
- Coordinated with contractors for pay and contracts

- Events planning, including Fall & Winter orientation, etc.
- Advocating for students in meetings of BoG, with admin, and by email
- Worked closely with bookkeepers and accountants to get our books up to date and complete T4s

Jewell

VP Internal Report:

Executive and Council Meetings

- Attended and contributed to weekly Executive meetings and bi-weekly Council meetings throughout the year
- Completed most of assigned weekly tasks and responsibilities, supporting internal workflows and timely follow-ups
- Uploaded meeting minutes to SUNSCAD website for public to ensure transparency

Orientation & Student Engagement

- Coordinated Fall and Winter Orientation, including preparing welcome packages, breakfast and lunch catering, info & service table expo, etc
- Supported events such as Board Game Night, School Dance, Drawing Marathon, Secret Portrait Exchange, and other community meetups that encouraged student involvement

Digital Communications Management

- Managed SUNSCAD's Instagram, Linktree, and website, ensuring information was accessible and up-to-date to students
- Created and published promotional content, including SUNSCAD and Foodbank Open hours, Nomination & Election, Job opportunities, Student Surveys, and Meeting Agendas, etc

Student Support & Office Hours

- Held regular office hours, answering student walk-ins and assisting with day-to-day inquiries
- Provided direct support to international students, helping them navigate NSCAD systems, housing concerns, insurance inquiries and academic integration, etc

NSCAD Design Collectives

- Chaired and facilitated the NSCAD Design Collectives, organizing design workshops and collaborative events that encourage creative exploration and student-led initiatives
- Promoted NSCAD Design programs on Instagram and LinkedIn
- Shared design awards, competitions, internships and commissions to student designers

Committees Involvement

- Served as a member of Hiring Committee, managing the job posting process, organizing applicant resumes, and coordinating interview meetings to ensure smooth and inclusive hiring procedures

- Also sat in Senate Graduate Committee, Student Lounge Committee, SUNSCAD Organizing Committee (SOC), responding to social media promotion needs

Aadil

VP External Report:

- Attended Exec, Council meetings
- Talked to students about GreenShield
- Helped VP Internal with organizing Orientation events

Ziggy

VP Academic Report:

Sat on the following Senate Committees and Subcommittees:

- Senate
- Senate Executive
- Teaching and Learning Committee
- Quality Assurance Committee
- Curriculum Committee
- Research Committee

Sat on the following SUNSCAD committees:

- Council
- SUNSCAD Executive
- Bylaw Committee
- SUNSCAD Organizing Committee (SOC)
- Hiring Committee

Chaired the following SUNSCAD committees:

- Zine Press Committee
- SUNSCAD Organizing Committee Outreach Subcommittee (SOCOSC)

Notable work done as VP Academic:

- At the NSCAD Senate I presented and passed a motion requesting that the Board of
- Governors create a report on the question of how it is planning for the future of NSCAD's
- campus consolidation plan and meeting the 2030 standards of accessibility to assist Senate with short and long-term academic planning; by June 30th, 2025
- As mandated by the SUNSCAD Council, I attended the Nova Scotia Public Bills Committee on March 18th 2025 to speak in opposition to the proposed Bill 12
- Worked on the SUNSCAD General Consensus Survey and collected responses, the findings of which were reported to the SUNSCAD Council
- Conducted 12 hours of interviews with students on their experiences at NSCAD in order to better understand the needs and desires of students so that they may be better represented by the union

Ratifications

Owen moves to adopt the following motion, Miranda seconds:

- Be it resolved that the following results of the 2025/6 SUNSCAD General Election be ratified:
 - President – Ziggy Kirch
 - VP Finance – Clare Birdsall
 - VP Internal – Emma Jolly
 - VP External – Aaron Abogado
 - VP Academic – Clem Oliver
 - Photography Rep – Caspian Reid
 - Transfer Student Rep – Tovah Williams
- Majority, motion passed

Donation to students affected by fire

- Miranda moves that a sum of money be donated to the GoFundMe campaign to support our community members who lost their apartment in the fire on Quinpool
- Adia moves to amend the motion to not use GoFundMe as the platform for donating, Adia rescinds the amendment
- Beah moves to amend the motion that SUNSCAD Council shall reach out to all three students via email asking what they need most in this time, whether it be donations of food, clothing, equipment, or money, Adia seconds, unanimous, amendment passed
- Chelsea moves to amend the motion to say “Aaron Abogado” instead of “SUNSCAD Council,” Julien seconds, majority, amendment passed
- Miranda moves that Aaron Abogado shall reach out to all three students via email asking what they need most in this time, whether it be donations of food, clothing, equipment, or money, majority, motion passed

SUNSCAD Bylaws

- Ziggy moves to adopt the following motion, Aaron seconds:
 - Be it resolved that The Student Union of NSCAD adopts all changes included in the document "SUNSCAD_Bylaws_2025_for_AGM.pdf" as distributed to all students on April 5, 2025; and, be it further resolved that the adoption of these bylaws will not overrule any of the results of the 2025 SUNSCAD General Election due to changes in the names and positions of members of SUNSCAD Council.
- Majority, motion passed

Beah moves to amend the agenda to switch the order of the items: “Union dues” and “Budget,” Caspian seconds, majority, amendment passed

Budget

- Chelsea shares budget, explains budget lines, costs

12:45 pm- Alexina leaves

12:48 pm- Alexina returns

1:24 pm- Chelsea moves to take a 5 minute recess, unanimous, motion passed

1:32 pm- Meeting resumes

- Caspian moves that an in camera session occurs at the end of the meeting
- Alexina holds a vote for the following options for an in camera session:
 - In camera session now: 4 in favor
 - In camera session at end of meeting: 2 in favor
 - Opposed completely: 2 in favor
- Alexina holds a second vote to clarify the opinion of the room:
 - In camera session now: 2 in favor
 - Opposed completely: 4 in favor
- Majority opposed to holding an in camera session, motion failed
- No vote occurred on budget

Union dues

- Clem moves to adopt the following motion, Miranda seconds:
 - Whereas the cost of labor, operations, and materials continues to rise; be it resolved that SUNSCAD's union dues increase by 5% for the year of 2025/6.
- Caspian moves to amend the motion to mandate SUNSCAD to communicate the specifics of the change in union dues to all students within a month of it taking effect
- Owen moves to amend the amendment to say “within two weeks of today’s date,”
Caspian seconds
- Clem moves to adopt the following motion, Miranda seconds:
 - Whereas the cost of labor, operations, and materials continues to rise; be it resolved that SUNSCAD's union dues increase by 5% for the year of 2025/6, and that SUNSCAD is mandated to communicate the specifics of this change to all students within two weeks of today’s date
- Majority, motion passed

Announcements

- Potential issue with student accounts charging student union dues twice at both full time and part time rates
- Barter night in the FAB on April 14th from 6-8 pm
- Check out MFA thesis shows at the Anna!
- Screening of North of North at the Treaty Space Gallery on Tuesday from 3-6 pm

Time and date of next General Meeting

- Attendees agreed to leave the date to be determined

Ziggy moves to adjourn the meeting, Miranda seconds, unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 2:01 pm