



Student Union of NSCAD
D250, 5163 Duke Street
Halifax, NS B3J 3J6

October 16, 2020

Council Meeting Minutes

Present: Jacey, Ada (proxy), Sophia, Matilda, Oliver, Keel, Sam, Raquel, Olivia

Absent: Jean, Ivan, Ada, Elyssa, Laura

Regrets:

Chair: Matilda

Secretary: Kris

Call to order 4:35PM

Signatures:

President

Resource Coordinator

Reports

Kris Reppas, He/Him // President // president@sunscad.org

- Did some emailing to find where and how students could pay to graduate. Students can submit their application to the Office of Students Experience and call with a credit card to pay the \$50 fee.
- Received multiple emails with concerns over the mini semester being proposed. I've emailed back each student and have arranged a meeting with Ann Barbara and the Dean to get more information. A poll will be going out to students soon so we can inform students and get a consensus on how they are feeling about the proposal.
- Attended the Consent Culture workshop as part of SKILLS. Looking forward to working with Sam and see if this is a campaign we would like to run this year.
- Met with Ann Barbara and James Rae to discuss the Smudging Policy. We will continue to finalize a proposal and it should be ready to submit to the fire Marshall by Nov 15th.

Jacey Byrne, They/Them // VP Equity and Finance // equity@sunscad.org

- Launched the animation club discord with Elyssa, really great start! Working diligently on the full nscad discord, should be launched soon!
- Foodbank on Thursday only as Monday was thanksgiving
- Met with Sophia about some international student concerns and Free Coffee
- Met with the peer mentors and DeRico Symonds, discussed plans for future peer mentor events as well as briefly discussing further anti-o and mental health training for faculty

Olivia Fay, All Pronouns // VP Internal // internal@sunscad.org

None at this time.

Sam Shaffelburg, She/Her // VP External // external@sunscad.org

None at this time.

Raquel Silva, She/Her // VP Academic // academic@sunscad.org

- Foodbank inventory and helping Jacey with deliveries
- Working on creating a student google form talking about current student problems we are having.

Elyssa Ballard, She/Her // Member at Large // memberatlarge@sunscad.org

- I've been working on getting the discord servers with Jacey. We just launched the server for the Animation club and we have had a pretty good response and a pretty good number of people have joined the server. We also sent out our interest survey for the general NSCAD server, and so far, we have gotten around 60 responses from students

which seems like a good number to get a good idea of what students want. I also added someone new to the mod team last night but I think if we are looking at potentially 60 people in the server we will probably be in need of more mods, as on the survey many students mentioned the importance of good moderation in what will likely be a large server. I'm also continuing to work on the Halloween screening event with the animation club, we should have a poll for movie options out shortly.

Kayleigh Isenor, She/Her // Drawing Rep // drawingrep@sunscad.org

None at this time.

Jayne-Lynn Gloade, [pronouns] // Ceramics Rep // ceramicsrep@sunscad.org

None at this time.

Keely Hopkins, She/Her // Transfer Student Rep // transferstudentrep@sunscad.org

None at this time.

Oliver Oldfield, He/they // 2SLGBTQIA Rep // 2slgbtqiarep@sunscad.org

- I have been in contact with Jacey about being added to the Discord and helping with moderation, as well as
- drafting an email about the importance of making a conscious effort to respect student's pronouns, especially in a virtual classroom setting.

Laura Lima Nishida, She/Her // Film Rep // filmrep@sunscad.org

None at this time.

Ada Denil, She/Her // Port Campus Rep // portcampusrep@sunscad.org

- Spoke with technicians at Port to find out potential plans
- Advertised access to the metal/wood shops

Sophia Fortuna, She/Her // International Student Rep // internationalrep@sunscad.org

- Received an email inquiring why FAFSA (a loan that US student receive from their government) is not accepted at NSCAD. Essentially, the student told me this makes paying tuition tricky, as "we usually have to pay out of pocket or with loans from private issuers with crazy expensive interest". So, I've sent email to Leanne Dowe to see if she can provide a little more information/context. If I don't hear back soon, I will send an email to Christina Warren and Student Finance.
- Meeting with a peer support mentor and Ivan (racialized rep) to discuss the possibility of creating a safe space for BIPOC and international students. We will be discussing limitations and bouncing ideas around how to maintain and create a virtual safe space. No concrete ideas as of right now.
- Creating an International Student Guidebook. Essentially an online (PDF) guidebook for new international students that will include topics like: The weather i.e. how to dress for

winter, av. Temps for the seasons, hurricane/tropical storm info, local cafes/art stores, places to explore in the city, a “get to know SUNSCAD”, etc. Will be completing a “table of contents” page to give a better idea of what the guidebook would contain to share with SUNSCAD.

Ivan Flores, He/Him // Racialized Student Rep // racializedrep@sunscad.org

None at this time.

General Discussion

Land Acknowledgment

To start, we'd like to acknowledge that we are currently in K'jipuktuk, Mi'kma'ki, the unceded and unsurrendered land of the Mi'kmaq People. SUNSCAD operates in the K'jipuktuk territory addressed by Peace and Friendship treaties of 1725. This treaty only covered fishing, hunting, trading and general relations of peace but never surrendered any land rights to the Crown. As a result, we'd like to acknowledge our privilege of being on this land when so many others were and still continued to be unable to be on their own land. SUNSCAD recognizes that as a public educational institution, NSCAD is not exempt from systemic forms of oppression. By acknowledging systemic oppression, individuals can locate their positions and begin to challenge and deconstruct it. SUNSCAD strives to implement this framework of anti-oppression in all the work we do, making NSCAD a more equitable and accessible place for everyone.

Approve Agenda

Sam motions to approve the agenda. Jacey seconds. Motion passes.

Check Ins

- Kris - good, busy working on school assignments
- Jacey - good, mostly caught up in work
- Sam - good, starting another job so a little overwhelmed
- Raquel - good, also starting a second job
- Sophia - good, excited about upcoming plans for international students
- Oliver - good, a little overwhelmed but doing okay
- Keely - good, was able to pick up supplies for campus

Mini Semester Information/Poll

There were questions from the students about student visas, leases, tuition and double course load. There's also a concern if it falls through, when would the semester start?

Anti-O Training for Faculty

This would be for full time faculty only. They have had one in their service day but nothing since. Derico Symonds is taking charge of this.

Student Concern

Jacey and Ivan will be meeting with a student on October 23rd.

Update on Discord

There's lots of interest, nearly 70 responses were received from students with 20+ being interested in the animation Discord and few being interested in moderating.

Information Pamphlet for International Students

This would include information for students coming to Halifax about places to explore, what the weather is like, SUNSCAD etc. This could be made for all new students but a focus on international students is preferred.

Winter Semester

Registration should start on November 1st and it will be delivered online.

Adjournment

Raquel motions to adjourn. Jacey seconds.

Meeting adjourns at 5:29pm.