

CAPILANO STUDENTS' UNION SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT 2017

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## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear Capilano University students,

Welcome to the 2017 semi-annual general meeting (SAGM)! This year the CSU has had one of the most productive years to date. It's been a lot of hard work but it really is incredible how much we've been able to accomplish in such a short amount of time - and still so much to come!

As students, we know that every minute of the day counts towards getting homework done, working, commuting to and from campus, and a number of other things that contribute to the hectic life of being a student. As such, we would like to sincerely thank you for dedicating some of that time to attending the CSU's SAGM as well as any other events that we have put on throughout the last few months.

We are proud to be the voice on campus that unites and represents all students and are always looking for ways to expand on that! If you have an idea for an event, service, club, or any other adventure we could embark on, please get in touch with us at [www.csu.bc.ca](http://www.csu.bc.ca).

Throughout this report you will find information on committee and collective-specific initiatives that have taken place throughout the year. Please feel free to ask questions about them or contact the director responsible for that area.

We encourage all of our members — that means you — to get involved with the CSU and play an active role in shaping your experience here at Capilano University.

Thank you once again for attending our SAGM!

— your CSU board of directors

## DIRECTOR REPORTS

### PRESIDENT & VICE-PRESIDENT OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS – SACHA FABRY

Did not submit report by deadline.

### VICE-PRESIDENT OF INTERNAL DEVELOPMENT – AMINA EL MANTARI

The Vice-President of Internal development has been working on a variety of projects over the last few months, including the preparation of next year's budget, introduction of new governance structure and policy changes, implementation of the ethical purchasing policy, and finalizing the consultative plan for a new student union building (SUB) on the North Vancouver campus.

*On the budget front:* the finance committee assists the VP internal in preparing the CSU's \$2 million total organizational budget every year. It is also presented at the SAGM and uploaded to the website for members to review.

*SUB Project:* In the last few months we held a series of Townhall consultation sessions with students to brainstorm what is possible for us to create on campus. Student spaces are the key to

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student success. Student life is valued and it should be improved at Capilano University. The CSU is leading the charge forward to be the catalyst for this positive change.

These are very exciting times; the CSU has gained a lot of momentum over the last few years and we want you to participate. Have you considered running in the elections? The last day to submit your nomination package (and thereby have your name included on the ballot), is March 9.

## **VICE-PRESIDENT OF STUDENT LIFE – BEATRIZ MIRALLES**

The student life committee has been working on events that engage the students at Capilano University and create a sense of belonging. The last week of November and first week of December the student life committee planned three events which were Masquerade, DeStress Week, and Ugly Sweater pub night. Masquerade was introduced as a winter ball happening before finals and it took place at the Vancouver Art Gallery. DeStress Week has been an annual event that the student life committee puts together to help students cope with stress. This year the BallPit was introduced and it was very welcome by the Capilano students. Lastly, Ugly sweater, happen after finals and it was well attended.

Returning from Winter break, Thai Full Moon pub night took place and it was a very successful event.

During the months of December and January the student life committee worked on two referendum questions which are clubs & events, and intramurals fees. These referendum questions were passed at the Board of Directors and will be put forward for voting this coming CSU elections.

The 5th annual uncapped rail jam took place on January 26<sup>th</sup> and it was a great success. The cedar courtyard was crowded with students enjoying the free chili, music, and watching the riders. This year all the money raised was donated to the Chill Foundation. The student life committee is very thankful of everyone who volunteered for rail jam and help to make it happen.

The vice- president of student life has been working on new clubs procedure that was completed by the second week of February. On Friday February 24<sup>th</sup> a club luncheon was held where it was introduced to the club leaders.

Lastly, the vice - president of student life launch the street team after waiting for the swag, which arrived the second week of February.

## **VICE-PRESIDENT OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS AND SERVICES – VACANT**

The services committee tackled the volunteer registry program to help engage our members on campus and support our community. While also the committee achieved to build a new service development to empower the members through appreciation events.

## **ACCESSIBILITY JUSTICE COORDINATOR – ALYSA HUPPLER-POLIAK**

The accessibility justice collective coordinator has put a call out to the university student community to find some students who are register with accessibility services to participants in a focus group

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about the services that Accessibility Services Provides. If you are a registered member of accessibility service and would also like to take place in this focus group, please email myself at [access@csu.bc.ca](mailto:access@csu.bc.ca), your participation is extremely valuable to the services that are provided through the university and accessibility services and will ensure that they are able to continue to provide them.

The Accessibility Justice collective coordinator attended campaign school in February to ensure an effective Get Out to Vote Campaign for the upcoming May 9<sup>th</sup> election. They also went to the Northwest Student Leadership Conference in Portland, Oregon, where they attended workshops on Fundraising, Meeting Facilitation, Effective Outreach class and group talks, and How to be an effective Spokesperson. Additionally, they hosted many meetings with their collective over the course of this term and created a planning tool for two events focusing on mental wellness to be in late March focusing on 'Building a Wall between us and the stigma of Mental Health Issues'. The first being a Screening of Student Made Short Documentaries on Mental Health, that will be March 21st 11:30-1 PM in the CSU Members Center, the second a Screening of "That's Just Crazy Talk" on breaking through bipolar and anxiety with a Q and A Session from the director/producer, March 28th 11:30-1 PM, in the CSU Members Center,.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COORDINATOR – OWEN SIGURDSSON**

The environmental justice coordinator, although newly appointed in the month of October, has been active through the means of partnering with Earthworks and starting up the Environmental Justice Collective once more, which was dormant for over half a year. Participating as much as possible and presenting a voice for environmental issues, along with attending numerous student leadership events such as the North Western Student Leadership Conference in Portland, Oregon, the EJC has been able to bring some important issues and tactics to the table.

Working on a sustainable purchasing policy while getting input from the student body has been a big priority, along with the provision of other advice on sustainability to the rest of the board in regards to events, activities, and the newly speculated SUB plan.

### **FIRST NATIONS STUDENTS LIAISON – GERONIMO ALEC**

Did not submit report by deadline.

### **INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS LIAISON – NESRIN BANTAN**

Did not submit report by deadline.

### **QUEER STUDENTS LIAISON – CLARICE SCOP**

The Queer Students Liaison has been working with the Board of Directors, members of the Capilano Queer Collective, the External Relations committee and the University Relations committee to advocate for student voices and organize student events. In November 2016 she organized STI/HIV Testing Day on campus: several nurses from Vancouver Coastal Health offered free, rapid testing for all students. In January 2017 she attended a panel for BC MLAs entitled "Building Community", an experience proven beneficial in the initial planning stage for the Get Out the Vote Campaign. In February 2017 she attended the Northwest Student Leadership Conference in Portland, Oregon, where she attended workshops and panels on campaign planning, event organizing, lobbying, and the creation of safe and non-oppressive spaces, all of which greatly enhanced her skills as a student leader. During the months of January & February she held numerous meetings of the Queer Collective in which she brainstormed, collected, and put together

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detailed & comprehensive plans for Pride Week 2017. She also sits on the Transportation committee for the university, where she has advocated for students around specific issues of parking and public transportation.

## **SOCIAL JUSTICE COORDINATOR – DIVYA NANRY**

Over the past few months, the Social Justice Coordinator has collaborated with other teams to plan and to execute events. Working with students from the Global Stewardship program, we encouraged donations for protectors of the land on Lelu Island and raised awareness about the implications and consequences surrounding pipelines. In partnership with CAPUMA, the Social Justice Collective conducted a drive for Hollyburn Family Services Society to collect gently used professional clothing and raising awareness about homeless youth, particularly on the North Shore. The Social Justice Coordinator has been attending forums, vigils, protests, memorials, as well as of course watching documentaries and reading the news to educate themselves on social justice issues in the community and to share learned information with our members. Feel free to contact [socialjustice@csu.bc.ca](mailto:socialjustice@csu.bc.ca) to find out how you can get involved.

## **WOMEN STUDENTS REPRESENTATIVE – EMILY SOLOMON**

Did not submit report by deadline.

## **FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES REPRESENTATIVES – ASHLEY KENNY AND SARAH ROSE**

The Arts and Sciences Faculty Rep has been continuously active throughout the late fall/early spring semesters. Ashley currently sits on the Physical Environments Committee which works with the University Faculty to discuss what is happening on Campus in our numerous buildings. She also sits on the Joint Steering Committee for the SUB project which has been working hard to provide a better suited future space for students supported and run by the CSU. In January Ashley helped to organize and executed an event as part of the #Adulting workshop series called Life of the Party. This event not only aimed to provide our members with the chance to gain knowledge to better help them navigate through the world but it also promotes an atmosphere of community amongst our membership and the University Faculty.

## **FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES REPRESENTATIVES – AMY CHEN AND MARISSA LESIRE**

The Business and Professional Studies Representatives have continuously been active since the last Special General Meeting in November 2016. The representatives have held meetings with senior faculty members each from the school of Business, Communications and Legal Studies to raise dialogue on faculty activities and concerns pertaining to the Capilano students. Through these meetings, the representatives were able to gain insights that are valuable and parallel to the CSU's strategic plan.

The Representatives were actively engaged in various committees such as Finance, External Relations, Policy, and Student Life. The representatives have provided support to various CSU events such as outreaching students through classroom talks and social media promotions about





De-stress week, monthly Pub Nights, Film Festivals, and the fundraiser event, Rail Jam.

The Representatives have been involved in the Student Union Building (SUB) Town Hall consultation and have gained more student perspectives in their expectations of student spaces. Subsequently, attended the SUB workshop to discuss the expenditures and realities of the projects.

## **FACULTY OF FINE AND APPLIED ARTS REPRESENTATIVES – SOFIA AVELINO AND MEGAN MACAULAY**

This past year, Sofia has had the opportunity to represent the fine and applied arts on student panels for Capilano University outreach events. Avelino has been actively engaged in both the Policy committee and the Services committee this year. She has been engaged with the faculty in promoting CSU events through classroom talks and social media promotion for events such as the SUB town hall consultation and Rail Jam.

2016-2017 was Megan MacAulay's first year working for the CSU, and is the Fine & Applied Arts faculty rep. It has been a busy year, both in school, and also for the CSU. The FAA rep has joined the External and University Relations committees and attended Board meetings and events put on by the CSU, such as Rail Jam, the Students' Union Building consultation, and went to the CSAE meeting with the CSU to see municipal leaders from across BC debate and ask them questions. Within her own faculty, the FAA rep has begun attending Faculty meetings both for the Motion Picture Arts program, but also the School of Motion Picture Arts. It is here that the MacAulay has found the most success in bringing change and helping her faculty evolve to what students want to see. She has been in the process of writing a policy regarding copyright and ownership for the Arts students. In the Spring, the FAA rep unfortunately had to miss more meetings than usual due to school commitments and projects shooting, but has remained involved behind the scenes.

## **FACULTY OF GLOBAL AND COMMUNITY STUDIES REPRESENTATIVES – KYLE LEGROW AND CARMINA TIOSECO**

The last year has been a busy one for LeGrow. LeGrow regularly attended board meetings, student life committee meetings, and university relation committee meetings. LeGrow's focus has been the building of the CSU Pub Night Brand. In October, there was an Oktoberfest, in December there was an Ugly Sweater Party, in December there was a Thai Full Moon Party and the After Jam Pub Night, and in February, there was a stoplight party. The pub nights have begun to build a monthly following, and a strengthened relationship has grown between Narrows Pub and the CSU. There has been six pub nights since September 2016.

In the last month LeGrow has been looking for a student to take over pub nights for 2017-2018 after LeGrow graduates and ends his term.

Carmina has had the opportunity to meet several students, mainly second and third years, from the Global and Community Studies faculty. They have given her insight on what they would like to see from the CSU in terms of their student life events and the overall atmosphere at Capilano, as well as

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some concerns they had about their overall experiences. This advice greatly helped Carmina as she has spent most her time, since the fall annual general meeting, planning and organizing the CSU's fifth Uncapped Rail Jam. This year's Rail Jam took place in the Cedar Courtyard on January 26th, and many students, faculty, and staff were all able to enjoy the event. This event was a great opportunity to create a community among the different faculties and programs. Carmina has also helped with the planning and execution of the masquerade party.

Carmina sits on the external relations and student life committees. Being a tourism management student and having interest in event planning, Carmina mainly focused on the student life aspect of the CSU, however; she has also assisted with the housing campaign as much as possible.

Carmina's focus while working on the CSU is to relay any information, questions and concerns being raised by the Global and Community Studies faculty. She uses the information that she gathers to help the CSU create a safe, fun, and enjoyable environment for all Capilano University students.

## **SENATE AND BOG REPRESENTATIVE – MICHELLE GERVAIS**

The Senate and BoG representative has continued to advocate for student issues and greater student services. In the fall she helped interview and appoint new board members to the CSU in the first ever appointment process. She continued to lobby for student residences with the 'Where's the Housing?' campaign which concluded with the university commitment to focus on student residences by including them in the campus master plan. The Board of Governors is completely on-board with these developments, recognizing that student residences will greatly improve student life.

On the university administration side of things, the Senate/BOG representative gave input on 3 upcoming policies: Student Code of Conduct, Academic Integrity, and Sexual Violence and Misconduct. At the Senate Academic Planning and Program Review committee she advocates for student evaluations of instruction to improve course content. The Senate/BOG rep continues to connect students with opportunities at the university. Recently she recruited two students for the new librarian search committee through the CSU's volunteer registry. In January she joined a working group to create the learning outcomes for the proposed general education programming (Cap Core) that will likely take effect this September. Last month she organized a Q&A session with Cap U president Paul Dangerfield which had good student participation and insightful audience questions about the direction of the university. She also joined a task force to create a student success centre that will provide services to help students succeed in their studies and provide more opportunities for campus and community involvement.

## **SENATE AND BOG REPRESENTATIVE – VACANT**

## **SENATE REPRESENTATIVE – EMILY SOLOMON**

Did not submit report by deadline.

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