

CAPILANO STUDENTS' UNION ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16



Capilano Students' Union

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

SACHA FABRY

VICE-PRESIDENT OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS

The external relations team has been hard at work since June, advocating on behalf of both Capilano students and all students across BC. Our goals have been to create and grow partnerships with external organizations, build and maintain positive government relations, and pursue the creation of on- and off-campus student residences as set out in our issues-based policies.

The CSU and the external relations committee are running an incredibly successful student housing campaign. The CSU actively supports the creation of both on- and off-campus student residence spaces for Capilano and in partnership with the Alliance of BC Students (a provincial lobby group representing over 40,000 students in BC).

Since September, the campaign has seen over 1,000 signatures from Capilano alone. It has received large-scale media coverage, taken us to the lawn of the legislature in Victoria for a demonstration, and gotten us a meeting with the Province of British Columbia's minister of advanced education. We also meet regularly with the university's administration to map out where the residences could be located and when we could see them.

We've launched into phase two of the housing campaign at Capilano, which will see students share stories of housing needs for the chance to win up to \$500 for rent.

In September, the external relations committee hosted elected members from municipal, provincial, and federal governments all at once for our annual government relations luncheon.

While they were here, elected members of government hear stories from the CSU representatives highlighting the importance of transit, affordable education, and, most pressingly, student residences.

The week prior, we hosted Jonathan Wilkinson, member of parliament for North Vancouver, on campus for an environmental forum. That forum gave the opportunity for students to engage in a dialogue on Canada's role in environmental action that was later taken back to the federal government.

Outside of the Alliance of BC Students, the CSU is also a member of the Metro Vancouver Alliance, a participant on the U-Pass advisory committee and potentially pursuing membership in the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations.

The external relations committee has begun plans for a referendum in the spring that will be used for external organization partnerships, potentially including the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, a federal student lobby group representing over 250,000 students across Canada.

In collaboration with 10 other student societies and universities, the CSU is also actively engaged in advocacy work with the U-pass advisory committee to TransLink and government.

AMINA EL MANTARI

VICE-PRESIDENT OF INTERNAL DEVELOPMENT

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I have been working on a variety of projects over the last few months, including the preparation of next year's budget, ethical purchasing policy, crafting policies, and bringing to fruition a consultative plan for a new student union building (SUB) at the North Vancouver campus.

On the budget front, the finance committee assists the vice-president of internal development in preparing the CSU's \$2 million total organizational budget every year. It is also presented at the semi-annual general meeting and uploaded to the website for members to review.

We held a series of consultation sessions with students to brainstorm what is possible for us to create on campus with a student union building. We know that student life is a priority and something that could be improved at Capilano University and the CSU is leading the charge forward to make a positive difference in every student life.

Sustainability is a core value of the CSU and a vision plan of three stages of an ethical purchasing policy has been prepared. This policy demonstrates our strategic commitment to social sustainability.

BEATRIZ MIRALLES

VICE-PRESIDENT OF STUDENT LIFE

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I have been working on a variety of projects in the past five months including the development of a sponsorship package, mental health strategy, club policies, events, and implementation of a CSU street team.

In the mental health strategy front, I have partnered with Capilano University and Healthy Minds Healthy Campuses in order to work in this strategy. I have held several meetings in order to move forward with the strategy with help of the outreach coordinator and the accessibility justice coordinator. This is a very important strategy since mental wellness of the students at Capilano University is a number one priority.

I have developed the first sponsorship package during the summer, with the aim of acquiring monetary and value in kind support for CSU events. I am developing current relations with sponsors.

The student life committee is working hard to bring events that the Capilano students are interested. Welcome Week was a success with Spidey the Illusionist, Ride the Bull, carnival games, after-party at Narrows Pub, and Disorientation. Kyle LeGrow, a committee and board member, has partnered with me in order to be in charge of the CSU Pub Nights. The first pub night at Narrows Pub was held during Welcome Week and it was a total success. This year seems filled with great events, opportunities and growth for the student life department.

JULLIAN KOLSTEE

VICE-PRESIDENT OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS AND SERVICES
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The past five months as vice-president of university relations and services have been challenging and productive. In my role, I have attended the annual Studentcare conference, Leaders Hall, former Capilano president Bulcroft's farewell, the joint student union building committee, convocation ceremonies, the Student Union Development Summit, the opening of the GoodEarth coffee shop, and meetings of the senate and board of governors, to name a few.

One session that I attended very early on stands out for me the most is the early presentation university's new branding and logo options. The First Nations students liaison and I brought forward concerns at the session that resulted in multiple follow-up sessions with our First Nations students liaison and First Nations elders, and that ultimately impacted the university's decision.

I have also held meetings with all of the senior administration, including Capilano University's new president, Paul Dangerfield, and am happy to report that relations between the university and the CSU are strong.

We had a big push for our new service implementation—the CSU volunteer registry. We're very excited about how this service provides training and opportunities for our members, as well as a resource for the campus community from which to draw qualified and eager volunteers.

Our spaces on campus are filled with students and we're excited about the programming that's being offered there. Students picked up cheques for as much as \$700 from used book sales and our handbooks have been flying off the shelves.

COLLECTIVE LIAISON AND COORDINATOR REPORTS

ALYSA HUPPLER-POLIAK

ACCESSIBILITY JUSTICE COORDINATOR
ACCESS@CSU.BC.CA

Creating student engagement with the accessibility justice collective has been a continual challenge over the last four years. Over the past month and a half we have had a consistent collective base of three to four members showing up and will be continuing to work to engage more students for the remainder of the year.

We have some strong engaging initiatives for the remainder of the year, however, as of right now we have constructed a resource portion of the CSU accessibility page on the Capilano Students Union Website. This page consists of on campus and off-campus financial resources that can be applied for by students with accessibility needs and also includes additional support on campus including educational resources and counseling and career services.

CLARICE SCOP

QUEER STUDENTS LIAISON
QUEER@CSU.BC.CA

During my term as queer students liaison, I have been developing the resources and sense of community available to the queer students' community and working to create positive change centered on several queer issues. From an advocacy standpoint, I have focused on the Blood is Blood campaign (an initiative challenging the Canadian blood donation laws regarding men who have sex with men) by conducting research into the issue as well as creating plans/designs for a photo-campaign.

As facilitator of the queer students collective, I have organized social and advocacy events such as participating in the Vancouver Pride Parade and a celebration for Coming Out Day. During the summer and the first few weeks of the fall semester, I used several methods of outreach to gain new members including social media and tabling events such as Explore Capilano Night and the Welcome Week Carnival.

I look forward to continuing this work and am excited to see what the future of the CSU and the queer students collective hold.

DIVYA NANRAY

SOCIAL JUSTICE COORDINATOR
SOCIALJUSTICE@CSU.BC.CA

The social justice collective has, so far, had a presence at university events including Explore Capilano and Welcome Week. At these events, we raised awareness for the collective, built a foundation for a rapport with potential members, explained the CSU and its collectives to new students, and discussed social justice issues with potential/new members.

Keeping up a regular presence on social media has helped facilitate discussion around social issues, raise awareness for the collective, and creates a platform for members to express themselves in a safe, accessible, and supportive means. Our first meeting had a turnout with exciting amounts of passion, ideas, and open minds.

EMILY SOLOMON

WOMEN STUDENTS LIAISON
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During the initial months of the term, I have been doing a lot of groundwork to build the women students collective and the Women's Centre (LB 137). I continually seek membership to attend meetings to discuss campaigns, events, and issues-based policies that have an impact on gender issues on campus and in our immediate community.

A tangible change I have influenced has been to purchase a multi-purpose crib/playpen/change station for parents to use in the Women's Centre. This was done to work towards the larger goal to better support students with dependants at Capilano. I am currently seeking ways to make this service accessible to students of all genders.

Behind the scenes, I have been kept very busy with my work against sexual violence. I have been collaborating with the university on the presidential advisory task force charged with creating policy and implementing an action plan to address sexual violence and rape culture.

I have been doing a lot of reference work and networking, as well as attending conferences, to effectively bring forward the student perspective in this work and to strategize best practices at Capilano. Although the policies and procedures are still initial drafts, I am continuously collecting feedback from students.

FACULTY AND CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

ASHLEY KENNEY

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES REPRESENTATIVE
AS.REP1@CSU.BC.CA

As the arts and sciences faculty representative, I have been committed to ensuring an excellent CSU experience for current and future students. I have been sitting on several different CSU committees since July as well as taken part in many different campaigns and university committees. I sit on the Capilano University senate curriculum committee, where I take part in the planning of new programs and courses (as well as make changes to existing programs and courses), I am a member of the student union building joint steering committee with other members of the CSU as well as some members from the university, and I am also active in the housing campaign.

MARISA LESIRE

FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES REPRESENTATIVE
BPS.REP1@CSU.BC.CA

In the first four months of my term I have sat on both the finance and policy committees and have participated in external events as well. In finance, we went over last year's financial statements (including overall financial positioning and reviewing the audit) as well as reviewed the budget for the year the actuals of the first quarter of the year. In policy, we drafted and discussed potential changes to our governance structure to make the board more well rounded and supported. For external events, I aided with Where's the Housing campaign and am actively involved with the Alliance of BC Students (ABCS) which founded that campaign.

In September, a group of board members and myself (along with other student unions and student associations) went to the Legislature in Victoria to demonstrate the need for on-campus housing. During this event in Victoria I had the opportunity to meet and discuss on-campus housing with various councillors and I also was able to have a meeting with MLA Andrew Wilkinson, in which he showed his support and working with the ABCS and its delegates in the future.

KYLE LEGROW

FACULTY OF GLOBAL AND COMMUNITY STUDIES REPRESENTATIVE
GCS.REP2@CSU.BC.CA

The last six months have been busy since my return from a school trip at the end of May. Upon my return I began to plan for a new series with membership outreach coordinator John Morrison have been working on with the student life committee called CSU Pub Nights. There have been a Welcome Week and Oktoberfest-themed parties so far and the third pub night in November has already been planned.

I have continued to stay active on both the student life committee and the university relations committee, while continuing to attend board meetings. I helped the vice-president of student life with Welcome Week by assisting with organizing the events, getting sponsors, picking up and returning equipment, and emceeing event.

CARMINA TIOSECO

FACULTY OF GLOBAL AND COMMUNITY STUDIES REPRESENTATIVE
GCS.REP1@CSU.BC.CA

I am one of two representatives for the faculty of global and community studies. Since being elected into this role, I have learned all about the CSU and attended meetings for every committee to understand each of their roles.

Over the summer, I put in a lot of focus towards the student life committee, finance committee, and faculty engagement. The student life committee's main focus has been planning and executing the Welcome Week events, mainly the Welcome Week Carnival. I was in charge of recruiting, managing, and delegating the volunteers needed for the events. I conducted health and safety training for the volunteers, as well as training for each position.

The finance committee's main focus during the summer has been reviewing and summarizing the CSU's financial statements. Alongside Marisa LeSire, business and professional studies faculty representative,

I met with the Chris Botrill, dean of the faculty of global and community studies and have been in touch with the Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Student Association (TRECSA) to discuss collaboration on possible events and activities to build a community within the faculty.

SENATE AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

MICHELLE GERVAIS

SENATE AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPRESENTATIVE
SENATE1@CSU.BC.CA

My term with the CSU began again in August, when the university's senate met after the summer break. Since September, most of my energy was devoted to learning how senate and the board of governors function and helping to run a successful housing campaign. One of the biggest issues students face today is housing insecurity and we have heard that Capilano students want affordable on- and off-campus housing. To that end, we have been working with an external advocacy group, the Alliance of BC Students (ABCS) to lobby government and our campuses to build student residences.

Thank you all who signed our petition at wheresthehousing.ca. We have collected over 1,000 signatures (you can still sign online) and caught the attention of media and government. The NDP has incorporated our request to allow universities to take on debt into their platform, the Green Party supports it, and we have been endorsed by various groups including the Union of BC Municipalities.

MISSING REPORTS

- environmental justice coordinator (position vacant)
- faculty of arts and science representative – Sarah Rose (did not submit)
- faculty of education, health and human development representatives (position vacant)
- First Nations students liaison – Geronimo Alec (did not submit)
- international students liaison (position vacant)
- students of colour liaison (position vacant)
- Squamish campus representative (position vacant)
- Sunshine Coast campus representative (position vacant)