



Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Date	Saturday, 23 rd April 2022
Time	3:00PM Atlantic Daylight Time (Canada)
Location 1	5 th Floor of the Saint Mary's University Student Centre Building
Location 2	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84192261458?pwd=eTZuZjhLMFVhazA0amgxeEdZbkoydz09 Meeting ID: 841 9226 1458 Passcode: 044598
Invitees	Joshua Sydney (Board Chair), Alex Wilson (Vice Chair), Joshua Lafond, Brian Tumusiime, Mihika Mihika, Adam Snow, Pearl Buyanzi, Miyah Basden & Abhinav Gaur
Regrets	Abhinav Gaur
Resources	Franklyn Southwell (SMUSA President), Kaylie Dolan (Board Secretary)

1. Call to order

At 3:19 pm, the meeting was called to order by Mr. Sydney, Board Chair.

2. Land Acknowledgement

At 3:19 pm, Mr. Sydney gave a land acknowledgement, recognizing that Saint Mary's University is located on the traditional land of the Mi'kmaq nation.

3. Conflict of Interest Declaration

At 3:19 pm, Mr. Sydney asked the Board if there were any conflict-of-interest declarations to be made. None were presented.

4. Approval and Adoption of Minutes from previous meeting

At 3:20 pm, Mr. Lafond motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes from the 20 March 2022 Board Meeting, seconded by Mr. Snow. Motion carried.

5. President's Report

At 3:20 pm, Mr. Southwell, President of SMUSA, gave the President's Report (see Appendix).

6. Reports of Standing Committees:

a. Elections Committee – Alex Wilson

At 3:33 pm, Mr. Wilson presented the final Elections Committee report, highlighting the successful elections that were held for the 2022-23 Presidency



Saint Mary's University Students' Association and Board candidates. Extra thanks were extended to Mr. Adrian White, SMUSA Vice President of External Relations, for his assistance during the elections process.

b. Societies Committee – Joshua Lafond

At 3:37 pm, Mr. Lafond presented the final Societies Committee report, highlighting the Committee's amendments to levied society policy, year-long (ongoing) investigation into the "cash, culture, and structure" of levied societies, and creation and approval of comprehensive gala policy. A special thanks was extended to the members of the Societies Committee and the Board for a collaborative and productive year.

c. Finance Committee – Brian Tumusiime

At 3:41 pm, Mr. Tumusiime presented the final Finance Committee report, highlighting the Committee's work in finalizing and passing the finance policy, improving oversight around the Association's investments, among other key accomplishments. The members of the Finance Committee were thanked for their tireless efforts.

d. Human Resources and Governance Committee – Adam Snow

At 3:44 pm, Mr. Snow presented the final Human Resources and Governance Committee report, highlighting the work of the Committee on the governance of the Association, in creating and amending policy, and listening to other Committees as work was taken to the Board.

Mr. Snow motioned to (i) approve the Human Resources policy, seconded by Mr. Wilson, and (ii) adopt the Human Resources policy into their documents by 1 May of this academic year, seconded by Mr. Lafond. Both motions were carried. Mr. Snow also motioned to approve the policy that reads "the society coordinator will provide up to date policies to the President of every society in September of every year, or upon ratification", seconded by Mr. Lafond, motion carried.

7. Reports of Ad-Hoc Committee:

a. Steering Committee – Miyah Basden

At 3:50 pm, Ms. Basden presented the final Steering Committee report, highlighting the recent formation of the Ad-Hoc Committee with the objective of creation and completion a five-year strategic plan for the organization to develop progressive initiatives to better serve students. A special thanks was extended to



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those who were involved with the Steering Committee since its inception on 18 November 2021.

Mr. Snow motioned to approve of the five-year strategic plan, seconded by Ms. Basden, motion carried.

8. Any Other Business

At 3:58 pm, Mr. Sydney expressed his gratitude for the Board's efforts this year. Mr. Lafond echoed the words of Mr. Sydney in thanking the Board and the various committees for their work over the past year. Ms. Basden also expressed her appreciation for the Board and its successes.

9. In-Camera Session

At 4:00 pm, Mr. Lafond motioned to move to an in-camera session, Ms. Basden seconded, motion carried.

10. Adjournment

At 4:01 pm, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Lafond, seconded by Mr. Snow, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:01 pm.



President's Report
Franklyn T. Southwell
April 2022

APPENDIX

Internal Affairs

Charter Day Follow-Up:

The 2022 Charter Day celebrations was a huge success! We have received extremely positive feedback from students and University faculty and staff. We have been excited to see many students posting about winning Charter Day Awards on social media. And many students already asking about next year's event.

Academic Integrity week

SMUSA worked with the SMU Senate Academic Integrity Committee and Chair of Senate to Organize an Academic Integrity Week last month. Events that took place included:

- 3 panels
- Copyright card game
- Citation station
- Booths in the student centre & Loyola
- Avoiding academic mistakes workshop
- Family Feud

OER Symposium:

Our VP of Advocacy is working with the SMU Patrick Power Library to organize an Open-Educational Resource Symposium on April 28-29 to educate the public on how students, faculty, staff, and the university would benefit from OER.

Approval of the Pass/no credit manual:



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During this month's Senate meeting, the final draft of the pass/no credit manual was approved. So, in the Fall of 2022, the manual will be available to students permanently. We are proud of the work that was put into this and are happy for students who have more flexibility on how they can determine to receive their grades.

Societies and Events

Hiring Updates:

SMUSA has been involved in hiring processes for a new Black Student Advisor as well as a Vice Provost of Academic and student success. We are always delighted to be an apart of these hiring processes for positions that will directly impact students. I just want to thank the Chair of the BOD and the societies chair for their role as SMUSA reps for two of these positions.

Executive Team Update:

We have been conducting a hiring process with the President-elect for the last few weeks. We have made offers to several individuals and are excited at the candidates we have. So, the next step is transitioning the new team which will be taking place this week.

Budget Updates:

The University Budget Advisory Process for next year has been approved. So, next year students will see an increase in tuition, residence fees, meals, and all other campus fees. We are not happy about it, but the university made it clear that due to global inflation, increase in utilities and labour, the university had no choice. Under the of VP Finance and Administration, SMUSA was very involved in the BAC Process and the committee was open to student feedback. SMUSA appreciates the transparency in the process, but we have no impact on the decisions that are made about the university budget and the critical impacts on students, including residence fees, tuition, and other costs within the University.

E&I Hub Update:



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The E&I Hub Steering Committee has continued to meet throughout the year, and major construction is continuing over the summer. The current expected completion date is now spring 2023. This new space will be positive for students.

2022 Course Delivery/ Digital learning Strategy:

The Fall 2022 Course Delivery method has been established at around 80% in-person classes. It is our understanding that the University administration is persistent in getting classes almost fully back in person. Although, there is a lot of momentum for our push for a hybrid model of learning. In the future, SMU will look to implement a digital learning framework that will facilitate more virtual learning options for the long term. So, our first consultations will take place on Tuesday with Dr. Butler and Todd Williams from EIT, so I invite all board members to attend and help share our post on social media.

External Affairs

Students Nova Scotia:

Our VP of Advocacy and incoming President attended the SNS transitions conference with all the delegates from the partner schools to do a review of the year, and plan for next year as well.