Minutes

Student Administrative Council (SAC)

February 10th, 2020

FSU Boardroom

**Present:** Cole Ayerst, Board Chair

Mercy Paula Barishaki, Director

Christine Belanger, Secretary

Aravind Mohan, Director

Keren Nanneti, FSU President

Sai Suhas Reddy Nallapareddy, Director

Katyayini Thakur, Director

Thomas Hutchison-Hounsell, Board of Governors Student Representative

Bonnie Williams (Recording Secretary)

**Observers:** Paul Masse, General Manager

**Regrets:** Karyna Barabash, Director

Kate Seliverstova, Director

This meeting was called to order at 6:56 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda

9.1 It was:

MOVED by Christine Belanger, SECONDED by Katyayini Thakur and CARRIED to approve the Agenda.

Approval of Minutes

9.2 It was:

MOVED by Mercy Paula Barishaki, SECONDED by Katyayini Thakur and CARRIED to approve the Minutes from Meeting #7.

Approval of Minutes

9.3 It was:

MOVED by Christine Belanger, SECONDED by Katyayini Thakur and CARRIED to approve the Minutes from Meeting #8.

Motion re: New Director

9.4 It was:

MOVED by Christine Belanger, SECONDED by Aravind Mohan and CARRIED to approve Sai Suhas Reddy Nallapareddy as a FSU Director for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic year.

A vote was held and the motion was passed.

Action Item Review

Keren followed up with Residence regarding the cleaning protocol for bed bug removal. Keren noted when there is a complaint received regarding bed bugs it is taken care of by the Residence. The students are not required to complete any cleaning themselves. It was explained that there will be a new company that will oversee Residence beginning September 1st, 2020.

Christine did not send the student concerns from the School of Design to Keren or Chelsea as Christine spoke to the student and the issues have been passed along to the Program Coordinator.

Paul reported there were 101 student jobs out of 175 employees within the FSU in the Fall Semester and it is the same percentage for the Winter Semester.

Keren noted the Business and Information Systems Architecture (BIA) Program is an accredited program, however, was unsure if this information was included on the website. It was noted that students are being told in the classrooms that the programs are not accredited which is causing students to be worried about work permits.

Chair’s Report – Cole Ayerst

Cole welcomed Sai to the Board and roundtable introductions were completed.

President’s Report – Keren Nanneti

Keren provided an update on Red Squad Volunteers. Keren noted the second volunteer training was held and an additional 75 students were trained. A question was asked regarding Red Squad Leaders and Keren noted the process for Red Squad Leaders is still being created for those volunteers that have more than 10 hours. Keren stated the Volunteer of the Month for January was chosen and the photo will be shared on FSU Social Media.

Keren noted the InSPIRE Mentorship Event, Meet the Future has been scheduled on March 4ht, 2020 in the Alumni Lounge. This event was planned in conjunction with Career Services to provide students the opportunity to network with employers. Keren noted artwork has been requested for this event and promotion will begin next week.

Keren explained the FSU Election deadline for the President has been extended until Thursday, February 13th, 2020. However, it was noted that the Director Nomination Period and the Coordinator Positions have closed. Keren noted the Chief Returning Officer is aware of the extension and encouraged the Board to promote the election.

Keren stated the Professor Appreciation Event has been scheduled for Thursday, February 13th, 2020. Promotion for the event will occur the days leading up to the event with volunteers handing out flyers and stickers to students. Keren showed a copy of the sticker to the Board.

Keren noted The Nest, formally The Hub, will begin after reading week.

Board of Governors Report – Thomas Hutchison-Hounsell

Thomas attended the Board of Governors Meeting on Thursday, January 23rd, 2020. Thomas noted the College’s 2020-2025 Strategic Goals were endorsed by the Board and these goals will be published in the upcoming weeks. Thomas noted the Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA), an agreement between the Ministry of College and Universities and the College, will be presented at the February Board Meeting for endorsement as well as the results of the annual environmental scan. Thomas noted the 2020-2021 Strategic Plan will be presented at the March Board Meeting. Additionally, Thomas noted various Committees, task forces, and subsidiary reports will be presented along with monitoring reports.

Director Reports

Karyna Barabash – No report at this time.

Mercy Paula Barishaki – Mercy held a Class Representative Meeting on February 4th, 2020. Mercy noted a concern of Class Representatives not receiving email correspondence regarding meetings. Mercy noted a Facebook Group was created to increase communication with Class Representatives as well as attendance at Class Representative Meetings.

Mercy explained a student concern in regards to missing the deadline, within the first 10 days of the semester, for dropping out of a program. It was noted the student tried to reach out to the College within the deadline, however, there was no response received back from the College until after the deadline. It was encouraged for the student to reach out to Rose Padacz, Ombuds, to support the student in the situation.

Christine Belanger – Christine held a Class Representative Meeting on January 28th, 2020. Christine noted several concerns which included the need to have a computer with a printed attached for submissions and floor plans, more information needed on computer programming with programs needing to streamline requirements as students relay on these programs to complete projects and no garbage or recycling bins in classrooms for Interior Design. Christine noted all garbage bins and recycling bins have been returned to the classrooms. Christine noted a concern regarding classes being taught via video call and the students needing better technology to learn as it was not going slow enough for students to learn which resulted in students not knowing how to complete final projects. Christine noted this issue was brought to the Program Coordinator.

Christine noted there is no co-op in the Graphic Design Program and current students would like a co-op term added to benefit future students. It was noted for this suggestion to be presented to Career Services for future students.

Christine stated a new degree elective; Genius Creativity and the Nature of Innovation: a Non-linear Course and stated this elective should be used as a model for future electives. Christine explained students take a quiz at the beginning of the course to determine the student’s individual learning style. When this is determined, this is how the student learns for the remainder of the semester.

Christine noted there is noted enough private space on Campus to complete homework and more key card access points need to be added to exterior doors and outside the building as it is a safety hazard for those students working on projects or are in classes late. Christine noted the suggestion of having more vegetable options and less processed foods, more home cooked meals and a better salad bar in the food outlets.

Christine mentioned a concern regarding wayfinding around the College and the need students to feel more comfortable venturing around the Campus. It was noted that there are maps in every building to show where you currently are in the College, however, it is was noted that there maps are confusing and hard to find. It was explained that there is a plan to increase wayfinding on Campus for students and an consultant has been hired to help with this issue.

Christine stated there is not enough media equipment for the amount of programs that need to use media equipment. This is crucial for some programs as it relies on the equipment to be able for students to complete an assignment. It was explained that there is a 24 hour hold in between renting equipment items from media services which causes difficulties for students to complete multiple projects. It was suggested for projects and assignments be communicated within the program to professors to allow for expectations and deadlines to be realistic with media services and renting equipment.

Christine noted not all schedules are posted outside computer labs and those schedules that are posted are being ripped down which causes confusion and frustration for those students that need to use the labs. Christine noted computer labs are being double booked which is causing issues as well. This lab is located on the second floor of H Building.

**Action Item:** Christine to send Computer Lab location to Paul to follow-up re: double booking of the space.

Christine explained the need for health plan videos to explain the domestic health plan to students. Suggested videos included how to complete a claim, a description of each plan, etc. It was noted the International Health Plan is too complicated and hard to navigate. It was noted that having a Morecare Representative on Campus for students to ask questions is in the works, however, it was noted that in the meantime students need another option rather than always getting directed to the website.

A concern was stated regarding the long wait-times and lines to see the immigration officer in the International Office. It was noted that there are workshops provided for students in regards to immigration however, these spots fill up quickly and there is not enough room in the workshops to meet the demand. A discussion was held regarding International Student growth and the need to enhance the International Office as students currently have a dissatisfaction with the services offered. Additionally, a concern was noted regarding a lack of country representation in the International Office to help students which leads to a lack of understanding and confusion.

Christine noted a concern regarding International Students having to pay extra money, $500.00 that is paid to the College, to receive a referral for accommodations. Christine noted the student did not have the money to get the referral and thus does not have the accommodations needed for the student’s mental health while they are in school.

**Action Item:** Christine to follow-up with student re: referral costs and send details to Paul.

**Action Item:** Paul to follow-up regarding student concern and referral costs for International Students.

Christine stated several concerns regarding the Print Shop which included the Print Shop being expensive, not open late enough for students and the printing option online being difficult to find for students. Christine noted a suggestion of a pre-loaded print card being included in tuition and explained Algonquin College provides 100 pages per semester for printing in every student’s tuition.

Christine mentioned the need for co-op teachers needing to understand the programs that they are overseeing and to ensure approved co-ops are applicable to the work field.

Aravind Mohan – Aravind noted a concern regarding FOL and having proper notifications on FOL when an email is received. It was noted that students can link FOL accounts and personal email accounts to receive notifications. It was explained the IT Department is currently experiencing an issue with linking accounts, however, the department is aware and is working on the issue. Additionally, Aravind mentioned the suggestion of increasing the Student Wellness Centre hours to

Aravind stated a concern regarding International Fees and the additional fees International Students are expected to pay with the student arrives in Canada.

**Action Item**: Keren to follow-up with Aravind re: International Fees.

Aravind will be holding a Class Representative Meeting next week.

Sai Suhas Reddy Nallapareddy – Sai completed Board Training on February 7th, 2020 and thanked the Board for being welcoming. A discussion was held regarding Class Representatives and which academic schools Sai would oversee for the remainder of the academic year. It was suggested that Sai, in conjunction with Aravind, oversee the Donald J. Smith School of Building Technology, School of Applied Sciences and Technology, Norton Wolf School of Aviation Technology and School of Transportation Technology. The Board was in agreeance with the proposed division of representation.

**Action Item**: Bonnie to send out updated Class Representative Document to Cole, Paul and Chelsea.

Katyayini Thakur – Katyayini held a Class Representative Meeting on January 31st, 2020. Katyayini noted several concerns in regards to the Downtown Campus specifically which include washrooms not being cleaned regularly in LDB, issues with heating after 8 pm and guidance counselling sessions being visible through large glass windows making students feel exposed and vulnerable. Katyayini noted labs are only open until 5 pm on Sunday and 11 pm on weekdays which causes issues for students to finish projects and/or study. A discussion was held regarding potential solutions which included downtown students being able to access labs at Oxford Campus after the labs have closed to elevate issues with closing times.

Katyayini noted a concern regarding tips not being pooled in and distributed amongst the students working in the Chef’s Table. Students want to know where the tip money is going, if not to them.

**Action Item**: Katyayini to send tip concern to Keren. Paul to follow-up.

Katyayini noted the booking system to book the motion capture room is complicated and no one seems to know how to use the system. It was suggested to have a step-by-step document created to ensure everyone knows how to utilize the system.

Katyayini mentioned the English Language Excellency Scholarship for Indian Students has been discontinued, however, the award is still available for other nationalities. A discussion was held and it was suggested for Keren to bring this concern forward at the next International Advisory Committee Meeting.

**Action Item**: Keren to bring forward the concern regarding the English Language Excellency Scholarship for Indian Students being discontinued at the International Advisory Committee Meeting.

Katyayini noted students would like to know the outcome of the Professor Surveys (SFS Surveys) that are completed throughout the semester. It was noted that the Associate Deans receive the results and are to share it with the faculty. However, there seems to be professors that receive feedback and professors that do not receive anything at all.

**Action Item**: Keren to follow-up re: SFS Survey Result Process.

Katyayini noted a few concerns with professors making inappropriate comments to students as well as professor’s only reading off slides during lectures, not answering questions, and no emails being sent regarding outside events. It was noted these concerns should be brought forward to the program coordinator and/or associate dean.

Kate Seliverstova – No report at this time.

New Business Items:

1. 2020-2021 Fees – The proposed 2020-2021 Ancillary Fees (Universal and Program Specific Fees) were presented to the Board. It was noted that there was no fee increases for the Universal Fees, except the LTC which increased 2.1% as per the third party contract. It was explained that with Program-Specific Fees, increases do to curriculum changes (ie. new field trip) would apply only to new intake students within that program. It was noted that there were no fee increases in regards to the Domestic or International Health Plans and the same opt-out process for non-mandatory fees that occurred will be the same for the 2020-2021 academic year.
   1. It was:

MOVED by Christine Belanger, SECONDED by Aravind Mohan and CARRIED to approve the 2020-2021 Ancillary Fees, with the increase of 2.1% for the LTC Bus Pass, as presented.

A vote was held and the motion passed.

* 1. It was:

MOVED by Christine Belanger, SECONDED by Aravind Mohan and CARRIED to approve the 2020-2021 Program-Specific Fees, as presented.

A vote was held and the motion passed.

1. Governance Review – It was suggested that a Governance Committee Meeting will be scheduled prior to the next Board Meeting to review potential vendor packages for the upcoming Governance Review. It was noted the overall scope will be presented to the Board, however, the vendor packages will be vetted through the Governance Committee prior to the Board Meeting. It was asked for the scheduled date and time of the Governance Meeting be shared with the Board when the meeting has been scheduled.

9.7 It was:

MOVED by Christine Belanger, SECONDED by Katyayini Thakur and CARRIED to approve holding a Governance Committee Meeting prior to the Board Meeting to review potential vendors for the Governance Review.

A vote was held and the motion passed.

1. Innovation Village Update – An Innovation Village Open House was held last Wednesday for staff and students to view plans and ask questions regarding the concept of Innovation Village as well as the upcoming construction. It was noted that the FSU, wherever possible, is advocating for no disruption of services to decrease the impact of the construction on students. Additionally, the West Mezzanine was removed from current drawings, however, the FSU is advocating to have this space back for students. It was explained that there is a proposal to add three floors to the Student Union Building, on top of the first and second floors, that is being drafted with estimates to be brought to the College Board. It is the plan to have the SUB completed and open by March 2023. It was noted that usual events that are typically held in Forwell Hall will need to be held in alternate spaces to ensure events are still happening for students on Campus. It was noted ‘Innovation Village Update’ will be a standing item on the Board Meeting Agenda going forward.
2. Student Impact Gala – The Student Impact Gala is an event to celebrate student leadership and involvement with the FSU. The annual event will be held on April 2nd, 2020 in the Oasis. It was noted volunteers, clubs, coordinators, directors, etc. are all invited to this formal event with invitations being sent to attendees at a later date. It was noted awards are handed out at the Student Impact Gala and two awards the Board has the opportunity to nominate individuals; Class Representative of the Year and College Staff Member of the Year. It was explained nomination forms will be sent to the Board after this meeting and nomination forms are due on March 4th, 2020. There is a Committee that reviews the nominations and award winners are kept a secret until the night of the Student Impact Gala.

Next Meeting – Monday, March 9th at 7:00 p.m. in SC-2016

Adjournment

9.8 It was:

MOVED by Christine Belanger, SECONDED by Katyayini Thakur and CARRIED to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.