Minutes

Student Administrative Council (SAC)

November 12th, 2020

Via Zoom

**Present:** Kaivalya Dahale, Board Chair

Cole Ayerst, Director

Naznin Akter, Director

Suman Moira D’Sa, Director

Vishal Harikrishnan, Director

Kavya Kazhiparambil Pradeep Kumar, Director

Allan Saji Chakkupurackal, Director

Katyayini Thakur, FSU President

Stacyann Stanley, Director

Paul Masse, General Manager

Bonnie Williams (Recording Secretary)

This meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda

7.1 It was:

MOVED by Stacyann Stanley, SECONDED by Allan Saji Chakkupurackal and CARRIED to approve the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

7.2 It was:

MOVED by Cole Ayerst, SECONDED by Stacyann Stanley and CARRIED to approve the Minutes from Meeting #5.

Approval of Minutes

7.3 It was:

MOVED by Allan Saji Chakkupurackal, SECONDED by Stacyann Stanley and CARRIED to approve the Minutes from Meeting #6.

Amendment to Minutes - Meeting #4

It was noted that there was amendment to the meeting minutes from the Board Meeting held on August 27th, 2020 that were already approved by the Board. It was noted that the amendment pertained to the wording in a Director Report which has been updated accordingly. There were no opposition to the amendment by the Board.

Chair’s Report – Kaivalya Dahale

No report at this time.

President’s Report - Katyayini Thakur

Katyayini noted the FSU Director Bi-Election was successfully concluded on October 9th, 2020 with three new Directors elected to make a complete Board of Directors. Katyayini noted Kate Shelest, Student Life Coordinator, officially resigned from the position and explained this position will not be posted at this time and will be re-visited next year.

Katyayini noted events and activities will continue to follow a hybrid model of delivery and the Koffee with Katy Videos have been expanded to include the Executives which has been branded ‘Koffee with Katy and the Coordinators’. Katyayini noted two editions of Koffee with Katy and the Coordinators, Academic Intergrity and Money Talks, will be filmed this month for students. Katyayini noted the FSU Services Campaign and Video will showcase the FSU Services that are available for students. Additionally, Katyayini and the Executive Team will be participating in the Virtual Open House on November 14th, 2020.

Katyayini provided an update regarding the Online Learning Experience Focus Group Planning and noted the FSU will be formally moving into conversations with the College to discuss these academic focus groups.

Katyayini explained the FSU has had to rationalize some of the FSU’s services and menu options based on supply and demand, especially in Hospitality sector. However, Katyayini noted the FSU will continue to provide food services on Campus because it is very important for the FSU to offer this service to students including those students living in Residence. Katyayini noted there has been 41 layoffs in the Hospitality Department, 22 of which were students, as of November 6th, 2020. It was noted that Pablanos will reopen on Monday in the Oasis to offer another food option to students.

Katyayini noted two volunteering opportunities for students within the FSU which includes the Class Representative Program and the new FSU Social Media Ambassador Position. It was explained both positions are eligible for Co-Curricular Recognition.

Katyayini provided a summary of COVID-19 Financial Aid for Students to the Board. The Student Emergency Fund for Winter 2020, current students (maximum funding - $1,500,000), Summer 2020 Continuing Student Bursary (maximum funding - $2,100,000), International Student Continuing Student Scholarship (Summer Students) - Fall 2020 (maximum funding - $500,000), Domestic Continuing Student Bursary (Summer Students) - Fall 2020 (maximum funding - $500,000) and New Fully-Online International Students COVID-19 Online Technology Award - Fall 2020 (Budget TBD) to be posted at the tenth day of the semester for Winter 2021 and Summer 2021.

Katyayini noted the success of the COVID-19 addendum in the FSU’s contract with the LTC and stated the positive response that has been received from student population. Katyayini explained around 1200 fully online students, who under normal terms of the contract would be ineligible, have already obtained the bus pass.

7.4 It was:

MOVED by Stacyann Stanley, SECONDED by Cole Ayerst and CARRIED to approve the President’s Report.

A vote was held and the motion was passed.

Board of Governors Report - Thomas Hutchison-Hounsell

No report at this time.

Director Reports

Cole Ayerst – Cole held a Class Representative Meeting on Monday, November 2nd, 2020 via Zoom. Cole noted several financial-focused concerns which included the exchange rates of currencies, an increase in tuition for the Winter 2021 semester ($800 increase) and why students are paying facility fees if in an online program. It was noted that there is a lack of information from the College and the FSU. When asked to elaborate on the communication, it was noted that students would like more communication from the College (ie. Start dates, financial aid options, etc.) and for the FSU to re-share and/or echo the information that is being shared by the College.

Cole noted a concern regarding an international student being withheld due to Fanshawe College removing the student from their program. Cole noted it was cleared up, however, Cole encouraged that student to reach out to the FSU President and the Advocacy and Communications Coordinator to outline the experience to avoid this happening again to other students.

Naznin Akter – Naznin held a Class Representative Meeting on October 28th, 2020. Naznin noted several concerns regarding students experiencing difficulty completing assignments and issues with students not being able to attend the in-class portions of the class. It was explained that students are worried about the in-class portion of the class as they are unable to attend them, however, Naznin noted theses students spoke to the Program Coordinator about the concerns.

Suman Moira D’Sa - Suman held a Class Representative Meeting on November 5th, 2020 with Vishal Harikrishnan. Further to Vishal’s report, Suman noted a concern regarding the guidelines for Fanshaweoline submissions and these guidelines being different for every class/program which is causing issues and confusion for students.

Vishal Harikrishnan - Vishal held a Class Representative Meeting on November 5th, 2020 with Suman Moira D’Sa. Vishal noted a concern regarding the lack of condenser mics in the Pre-Media Program. It was explained that there are only two condenser mics and students have experienced issues renting the mics outside of Campus. Additionally, it was noted that students feel that professors are not proficient with using BONGO and experience issues adding students into the class if the student is a few minutes late which has resulted in students missing the entire class. It was encouraged for the students to reach out to the professor and/or the program coordinator with the concerns regarding BONGO.

**Action Item:** Bonnie to send Vishal’s report to Paul and Katyayini.

Kavya Kazhiparambil Pradeep Kumar - Kavya held a Class Representative Meeting, however, Kavya noted that moving forward Class Representative Meetings will be held in conjunction with Stacyann Stanley who oversees the same academic schools. Kavya noted a concern regarding the amount of course work and noted students feel the amount of course work is more now being online than previous when in class. However, Kavya explained the overall experience for online classes was classified as good from the Class Representatives.

Kavya noted an inquiry about the international fee deadline and it was noted there will not be a fee extension, however, the Office of the Register will be as flexible as possible. It was explained that the student needs to show intent to return to Fanshawe and the Office of the Register will reach out to individual students directly, if needed.

Kavya noted several examples of proposed questions for Class Representative Meetings which included; Best and least-best experience of online classes, are in person classes during this time working out great or not so great? How safe do you feel? What do you think can be improved in FSU Services? What are things that you would like to change from your experience at Fanshawe? Do you feel all services in Fanshawe (ie. Bookstore, Library, etc.) are easily accessible? Do online events that the FSU organizes interest ou or have you participated in any events?

Allan Saji Chakkupurackal – Allan held a Class Representative Meeting on November 11th, 2020. Allan noted a concern regarding students experiencing connectivity issues as well as students not being able to connect at assigned time slots for exams on Fanshaweonline due to the time change. It was explained the students have reached out to the professor, however, the response did not address the concern. It was encouraged for the student to reach out the Program Coordinator regarding the concern.

Stacyann Stanley – Stacyann held a Class Representative Meeting and noted a Facebook Group has been created for the Class Representatives. Stacyann noted several concerns which included a lack of communication from the FSU.When asked to elaborate on the communication, it was explained the Class Representatives suggested the advertisement of FSU activities through the various academic schools as well as notifying each academic school as to who the assigned Class Representatives are within the academic school.

Stacyann noted a concern regarding the grading scheme for group work as well as a lack of feedback from a professor for assignments. It was encouraged for the students to reach out to the professor and/or the program coordinator with the concerns regarding the grading scheme and feedback.

A discussion was held regarding communication and it was suggested that a video be filmed to answer student’s questions about financial aid. It was noted that there will be a Money Talks edition of Koffee with Katy and the Coordinators and the form is now open for students to submit finance-related questions.

Stacyann noted several examples of proposed questions for Class Representative Meetings which included; Highlight the challenges students in your Program are facing, Are learning materials accessible? How can Fanshawe enhance your learning experience? Highlight the conflicts within your Program.

New Business:

1. Bylaw Amendments - It was noted that a meeting to discuss the proposed amendments to the Bylaws, as per the recommendations of the Governance Review and from the Board, will be scheduled next week (Thursday, November 19th at 4:00 p.m.) with the Board. It was explained the proposed revisions would need to be approved by the Board and than brought to the Members for approval. If the proposed revisions were approved/supported by the Members, the FSU would move forward with the amended Bylaws. It was noted that the proposed changes will be sent to the Board prior to the meeting to review.

Next Meeting – Thursday, November 19th at 10 a.m. via Zoom.

Adjournment

7.5 It was:

MOVED by Cole Ayerst, SECONDED by Vishal Harikrishnan and CARRIED to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 p.m.