

Executive Report

Prepared for: UNBSU Council 2019/2020

August 16th, 2019



UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK
STUDENT UNION

President - Craig Fernandez

Halfway through August – that’s wild! I’m going to be seeing lots of your smiling faces around campus over the next few weeks and I’m so excited about that. Please feel free to stop by the Student Union offices (under the radio station in the SUB) if you’re around, I know we’d all be more than happy to chat! Here’s a look at the last two weeks of my life:

Board of Governors Retreat

Along with running for the UNBSU President position, I ran for and was elected to a seat on UNB’s Board of Governors for this coming year. The Board of Governors is made up of faculty, administration, alumni, local politicians, businesspeople, and a number of other stakeholders who have a vested interest in the success of UNB. This body makes all of the “business” decisions for the university, deciding how money is allocated, which projects the university will be taking on, making infrastructural decisions, etc... It is **VERY** important to have quality student representation on the Board, and I’m happy to be joined by your VP Finance & Operations, Sam, who is sitting on the Board in the interim until the by-election in the fall, and Bri Forbes who is the UNB Saint John student representative.

Last week, the Board met for a two-day retreat at UNBSJ. We got to meet one another, discuss plans, and hear some of the new UNB President, Paul Mazerolle’s, plans for this coming year. It was a really inspiring and impactful two days and I was so glad to be able to attend. I will be updating Council on Board Meetings regularly once they begin in October, so if you have any questions about what the Board of Governors is or how it works, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me.

NBSA Policy & Planning Conference

I went straight from the Board of Governors’ Retreat to the NBSA’s Policy & Planning conference, which took place last weekend. This is our most work-intensive conference, where New Brunswick Student Union Executives meet to hammer out the details of what we will be asking from the provincial government over the coming year. We thought it would be best to go somewhere free of distraction for this conference, so we all stayed in a big, old house on a potato farm in Grand Falls, New Brunswick, without Wi-Fi. It was fun to see this beautiful area of the province and to disconnect in order to focus more intensely on our work. A lot of great planning came out of this conference with regard to my two research areas, Student Financial Aid and Cultural Competency, and in light of this the NBSA will be sharing

an exciting new project with you all soon enough! Please stay tuned to our social media for more info.

Fredericton Pride

Mick has really been killing it with all of the initiatives he planned for Fredericton Pride. On Wednesday, I got to learn lots about makeup and gender expression from some incredible local drag queens at the Gender Expression Makeup Workshop. On Thursday, I got to flip (and eat) some burgers and learn about New Brunswick's Queer History at the "Community in the Kitchen" Potluck. Then today, I got to hear diverse perspectives on the intersectionality of queerness and mental health at Intersectional Identities panel discussion. I love how Mick really took an educational and grassroots approach with all of his event-planning, using the UNBSU platform to highlight the exceptional people that work so hard to make the Fredericton community more accepting and welcoming. Hats off to Mick for all of his hard work and make sure you thank him if you see him around, he truly deserves it!

UNB Sexual Assault Task Force

On Thursday, Mick and I sat in on our first meeting with the UNB Sexual Assault Task Force, looking to make some amendments to UNB's current Sexual Assault Procedures, in order to make the reporting and investigation process as trauma-informed as possible. A number of positive changes were able to be made to this process, which will soon be shared with you all when the document goes live. I know that some of you are passionate about sexual assault survivor support and advocacy, so if any of you have any ideas or opinions on UNB's Sexual Assault Policy or Procedures and would like me to voice those at these meetings, please let me know. The relevant policies and guidelines can be found here, but please note that our recent amendments have not yet been uploaded:

<https://www.unb.ca/fredericton/vp/learn/taskforcesexualassault.html>

Next Steps

We have a lot of exciting things coming up as summer comes to a close! We'll be meeting again with the new President of the university, Paul Mazerolle, to discuss some plans and priorities for the coming year and identifying how we can work together. So far, Dr. Mazerolle has seemed very student-focused and supportive of the UNBSU, so I'm hopeful that this will carry-out in practice throughout the year. As well, a number of loose-ends are being tied-up for Orientation Week, but I'm confident with it being in the capable hands of Madi and Bren. As well, Anthony and Bella have been GRINDING to bring the most amazing concert UNB's ever seen to the SUB. I'm so pumped about this and I can't wait to share more details with you all soon enough.

Until next time, thanks for reading and I'll be touching-base with you in-person soon enough! As always, if there are any questions, comments, or concerns, please hit me with an email at president@unbsu.ca. As well, another shout-out to those who are already working away at Councillor Projects. If you have an idea, have questions, or if

you don't even know what a Councillor Project is, please reach out to myself or Grace at internal@unbsu.ca. We'd love to chat with you and see how we can use our resources and supports to see your UNB vision come to life.

Take care, everybody!

Vice-President Advocacy - Mick Jefferies

Hey everyone! **HAPPY PRIDE WEEK**. I hope you've all been celebrating the inclusion and celebration of the LGBTQ2+ community.

NBSA

This past weekend, myself and Craig spent our time at the NBSA Policy and Planning conference. Here, we finalized our asks for the Provincial Government, and we are preparing our advocacy week in November. We will be presenting the following three asks: better services for international students, more services and programming for indigenous students, and increasing needs-based financial aid. We will also be creating policies and research on affordable housing and cultural competency.

Sexual Violence Prevention Task Force

On Tuesday, August 13th myself and Bella sat on the **Student** Sexual Violence Prevention Task Force in which we discussed different options for campaigns and awareness events for the coming year. We have a great idea for a consent campaign for Orientation!

On Thursday, August 15th I sat on the **University's** Sexual Violence Prevention Task Force to offer a student's voice and perspective to the policies and procedures of reporting a disclosure. I would love to chat further about this if you are interested – please send me an email!

Meeting with David Coon

On Tuesday, August 13th the Executive met with Fredericton South's MLA, David Coon. We discussed our priorities for the year and the work we are currently doing locally, provincially, and federally. Mr. Coon shared with us some opportunities for students to get involved.

Bystander Intervention Facilitation Training

I have received the training and information required to facilitate the bystander intervention training. I am very excited to be able to share the knowledge of this important topic!

Get Out the Vote (GOTV)

We are still looking for volunteers to join our team! We have been solidifying our events throughout the past weeks.

If you want to help the process and join our team, please fill out this form:

<https://forms.gle/DmAzs9dx5JHTF8es5>

ALSO, you can pledge to vote for the upcoming election here. This is a great way to stay informed with all the events we will be planning:

<https://www.getoutthevote.ca/>

Pride

IT'S PRIDE WEEK!!! I am so happy to finally see all of our events come to life. I've spent so much time working with other community partners to offer a diverse set of events. We have the crosswalk painted in front of the SUB and it's looking VIBRANT, WELCOMING, and COLOURFUL. On Wednesday, we held our first pride week event – Gender Expression Workshop. Here, students and community members were able to learn how to use makeup to express their gender or lack thereof. On Thursday, we held a Community Potluck for members of the community to get to know one another and talk about food insecurity. On Friday, we held a panel of intersectional identities within the queer community. Join us on Saturday (Aug. 17th) for a T-Shirt making event for the parade and join us on Sunday to walk in the actual parade. You can let us know if you will be joining us here:

<https://forms.gle/a1CLD7EexrU5wo7v6>

Vice-President Internal - Grace Mangusso

Hello everyone and happy Fredericton **PRIDE!** Our team has been enjoying attending many pride events this week and supporting the wonderful people we have among us doing incredible things to celebrate the LGBTQIA2+ community. Today, we also attended the official re-opening of UNB's beloved Tibbits Hall. Campus is becoming even busier as September gets closer and I can't wait to see all of you and continue sharing these awesome events together soon.

Commencement Redesign

Commencement Planning is well underway and I'm really excited to see this year's newly redesigned ceremony come to life in a few short weeks! Two components of the new ceremony that I'm particularly excited about are:

1. Words of Welcome cards: each new student that attends the Commencement Ceremony will receive a card from a member of the UNB community with words of advice, encouragement, and/or welcome! I would love for you (yes, you!) to stop by my office (SUB 121) or the Welcome Centre and fill one out, it will be extremely meaningful to the incoming student who receives it!

2. Honour Guard: As students walk into the Commencement Ceremony, they will be welcomed by an honour guard comprised of members of UNB clubs and societies. My best attempt to describe an honour guard is a tunnel created by people on each side cheering, clapping, and welcoming people into an event or venue. If you're a member of a club or society, or simply want to take part in welcoming our new friends to UNB, please send me an email and I'll get you set up with all the info you'll need!

Faculty Orientation Presentations

I've been in contact with each of the faculties to schedule a presentation from the UNBSU at each faculty orientation. These presentations will highlight who we are, what we do, and how new students can get involved with the Student Union. These presentations will be given by a member of the Student Union Executive and the appropriate Faculty Councillor (if available). We're excited to meet as many new students as possible!

Academic Concern Directory

The Academic Concern Directory is finally complete and ready to be put on our website! I sent my draft files to Wilfred Langmaid, Student Advocate, and Mark Walma, AVP Student Services, and received positive feedback from both of them. I look forward to revealing the final product of this multi-year initiative to you soon!

Open Educational Resources

Michael Nason from UNB Libraries came to give a presentation on Open Education Resources (OERs) to our entire team earlier this week. We discussed what other institutions and provinces are doing with OERs and how we can begin advocating internally to bring them to UNB. If you have any questions about OERs, I invite you to reach out to myself or another member of our team now that we're all in the know 😊

Academic Programming Coordinator

I recently had a phone meeting with our Academic Programming Coordinator, Emma Toole, to discuss this year's Book Buy & Sell. I just sent Emma her transition report last week, but she's already been working incredibly hard and asking lots of good questions to ensure she has an in-depth understanding of the buy & sell and gets all the logistics figured out well in advance. Make sure to hold onto any of your old books and get some extra \$\$\$ by selling them in this year's buy & sell! If you're interested in volunteering for the fall buy & sell, keep an eye on our social media and feel free to reach out to myself or Emma.

EUS Book Buy and Sell

Throughout the summer, I have been in contact with Shanece Wilson and Caroline Stephen from the Engineering Undergraduate Society. They reached out in hopes of having a book buy & sell at Head Hall with only Engineering textbooks, and sent me a proposal with rationale for this faculty-specific adaptation of the UNBSU's

traditionally campus-wide event. They completed a survey in which nearly 200 engineering students responded with a large majority saying they did not attend the UNBSU's buy & sell and, instead, would be interested in having their own in Head Hall. While the Student Union does not have the resources to support every faculty with their own buy & sell, engineering students often only use engineering textbooks, whereas most students in other programs take a variety of courses in other faculties. For this reason, the majority of UNB students are most benefitted by the general UNBSU buy & sell because they can find everything they need in one place. We've decided to pilot an engineering buy & sell this year and provide support to EUS as they take the lead on this new initiative.

Breaking Stereotypes Consultations

Mick and I have been continuing our consultations and brainstorming for this year's breaking stereotypes campaign. So far, our conversations have been thoughtful and challenging, but motivating nonetheless! As I've said before, if you have any thoughts you'd like to share, or someone you think we should consult, please reach out to us at internal@unbsu.ca or advocacy@unbsu.ca

VP Finance and Operations - Samuel Arseneau

Hello again! It's wild to think this could be the last exec report of the summer. It has all gone by so quickly! With orientation only 15 days away, everything is getting ramped up so we can welcome all of the new students to our university. We are so excited to have everyone back on campus.

Hiring

It feels a bit like hiring season never ends but we are nearing the end of it now. We have one more job opening coming up which is the SafeRide Driver positions. Other than that, all applications have been submitted for the other positions and we are in the process of interviewing and selecting individuals for the closed job postings.

Sponsorship

Sponsorship is going well, I have been facilitating discussions and meetings with different companies who are interested in working with us here at the SU. The main focus has been sponsors for orientation; however, we are also looking further in the future for other events and that part of the process will ramp up much more after orientation is complete.

Clubs and Societies

I have been working a lot with clubs and societies over the last couple of weeks and helping potential new clubs organize themselves for the school year, yearly activations, funding requests, organizing C&S fairs behind the scenes, helping set up club bank accounts and set signing authorities, as well helping interested clubs get a spot at Corn Boil on September 2nd. I can't wait to be able to meet and work with

all of the clubs and societies in person once the year starts. I know that this year will be great for club events and inter-club collaboration. I have also been working on the Primary Event Organizer (PEO) training which will be given in the middle of September.

Vice-President Student Life – Isabella Gallant

Hey Everyone! My last executive report for the summer! If you enjoyed hearing what we have all been up to over the summer, please feel free to look at our council minutes that will be uploaded after our weekly council meetings, where the executives will be giving weekly updates for the rest of the year.

These past few weeks have been going by incredibly fast... but it's all coming together! I may make this report a little shorter, but will sum up what has been happening!

UNBSU Agendas

The agendas have taken over my life since the start of July, but I am pleased to say that they are now off to the printer and are expected to deliver Aug 30th. I really wanted to change things up this year with the agendas and give a lot of helpful advice, as well as get groups on campus to be able to broadcast themselves and how beneficial their service is for students. I inputted some UNB history, Grace's extensive campus resource directory, and even a sweet Domino's STNDT50 ad ;) Please feel free to take an agenda or give one to someone who needs it! Let me know if you want one, or visit the SUB 102 (Welcome Center), where lots can be found.

Kick Off Concert

Anthony and I have secured a headliner, opener x2????????? We definitely have some surprises that we CANNOT wait to share with you NEXT week. Chantelle has been working her butt off to help us with promotional materials and we can't wait to see! A little bit of rebranding is in the works as well! We have met with SUB staff, the fire marshal, and sound and audio equipment workers and things are definitely getting real. We are able to have a 1000-person capacity, and want to absolutely transform the SUB on September 7th. You'll know more SO soon!

Hiring

On my end, I just need to have the new SafeRide Drivers hired, as the Food Coordinator, SafeRide Coordinator, and DrinkSmart Coordinators have all been hired. I've been having active conversations with all of these lovely people and we are all excited to make these services more well-known and overall more utilized by the student population. Big things are coming!

Other than those main focuses, some additional things I have been working on recently include:

- Meeting with a UNB Librarian about Open Educational Resources
- Sitting on UNB's Sexual Violence Prevention Task Force Committee
- Helping UNB Sustainability plan their Sustainability Week in October.
- Meeting with NBCC SU President in regard to SafeRide services
- Meeting with Sula Levesque, Human Rights Officer at UNB
- Prepping for my BlackShirt event: Comedian/Stunt Magician Night, which is on Sept 4th
- Attending UNB/UNBSU/STUSU/NBCC/Fredericton Pride Events!

That's it for me! See you all soon! Email me if you have any inquiries about anything at all: studentlife@unbsu.ca

Vice-President Communications - Chantelle Masterson

Howdy! It's been a busy couple of weeks! Here's what I've been working on:

Pride Week

Mick, VP Advocacy, has done an AMAZING job helping organize UNBSU's four Pride Week events:

1. Gender Expression Makeup Workshop
2. Community in the Kitchen: An LGBTQIA2S+ Potluck / Meet & Greet
3. Intersectional Identities: When Mental Health and Queerness Collide
4. Mark Out Homophobia: T-Shirt Making Event

If you are interested in attending the T-Shirt Making Workshop, please fill out this quick form:

<https://forms.gle/nwAfAJdTdfNo22gp9>

If you are interested in walking in the parade with us, please fill out this quick form:

<https://forms.gle/Evrf66nNefqaeFEn7>

I've been working on the marketing materials for these events, as well as attending and volunteering wherever I can. I have also created a Fredericton Pride Week website page with more information on all of the events, as well as links to text/email/chat support lines and on/off campus supports and resources. The UNBSU is thrilled to be taking part in the celebration of Pride Week, and is dedicated to maintaining an ongoing commitment to the LGBTQIA2+ community.

www.unbsu.ca/fredericton-pride-week

Website

I have also continued working on the committee's page, union blog, clubs and societies blog, campus resource directory, off-campus housing page, academic concern directory, and other general website updates. I'm really excited to say that many of these are either complete or near completion, and I can't wait until they officially launch and we can share them with you!

Other

Design

I have continued to work on marketing and promotional material designs in collaboration with the rest of the UNBSU executive team.

Meetings

The entire executive team met with the Fredericton South MLA, David Coon, to discuss our priorities for the academic year and how we can work together to support and represent UNB students.

Contact

Contact me at communications@unbsu.ca if you have any questions, comments, or concerns!

Director of Campus Events - Anthony Gatto

Hello everyone! The past two weeks have been HUGE in regard to momentum towards the Kickoff Concert.

Talent

Not only do we have our headliner booked and confirmed, but we also have a stellar opener as well who I can't wait to announce. All announcements begin next week so stay tuned! These acts are well worth the wait. Now that talent is confirmed, we're now working out any technical or hospitality needs of the performers. We also have a surprise opening act, who is one of UNB's own!

Production

As mentioned in previous reports, this year's concert will be on the atrium side of the SUB. Reaching out to production company Signature Sound has allowed us to get a better idea of what this immense setup is going to look like. This will be the biggest production UNB has seen at a Kickoff Concert and I can't wait for you all to see it with your own eyes.

Student Experience Team

Six students have been selected for the Student Experience Team and I'm so proud of who we'll have representing our Student Union this year. Each of these students possess such unique qualities and I can't wait to see how each of them utilize their talents. They've all been briefed on their upcoming duties and all of us are so eager to get going with everything this year throws at us.

Orientation Chair and Vice Chair - Brendan Finnerty and Madison Beairsto

With Orientation just around the corner, our work is becoming more focused on execution rather than planning. We're starting to secure our prizes, inflatables, rock walls, merchandise, and more.

A big focus over the last week has been both BlackShirt and RedShirt training. We want to make sure all of our Orientation Leaders are fully equipped and ready to meet our incoming students. We have been meeting with our session leaders and working on the presentations to make sure we're getting all of the information to them that they need.

Shinerama Trivia nights are officially over and our online fundraising is still increasing daily. Our beautiful Shinerama shirts have been ordered and will be here for all of our incoming students to have as they go throughout the city on Shine day.

We have moved into SUB 103 for our storage, and have started filling it with our Orientation Kit merchandise.

Our mail out has been sent, giving the incoming students a look at what they can expect from Orientation Week.