

Executive Report

Prepared for: UNBSU Council 2019/2020

June 7th, 2019



**UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK
STUDENT UNION**

President - Craig Fernandez

Hey folks! Lots of exciting things have happened since you last heard from us – I'll try my best to share a snapshot of them in the following paragraphs.

Director of Campus Events

First off, we became a team of 7! Our Director of Campus Events, Anthony Gatto, officially started work on Monday, May 27th, and having him in the office has been a blast. As of late, we've been working together on creating an events budget for the year and planning the Welcome Back concert. Anthony's incredibly talented, has got lots in store, and I have no doubt that UNBSU Campus Events are in great hands.

Strategic Planning

After conducting our strategic planning retreat in May, last week it was time to take a hard look at our ideas and goals for the year and create a schedule and plan. I want to thank everyone that filled out the survey we put out in early May! The team met for HOURS to discuss how to best incorporate your feedback in order to create a UNB student experience that best supports the needs and wants of as many students as possible. I'm pleased to say that we have finished a schedule of events and priorities for the year and are working on compiling this into an accessible and easy-to-understand document. More to follow on this!

Sponsorship

I've been meeting extensively with Bella, Sam, Chantelle, and Anthony to develop a strategy for pursuing sponsorship over the coming year. We met with the university's Advancement office, have consulted heavily with the Orientation team, and are currently finishing the sponsorship package that we will be presenting to potential partners over the summer. We want to take sponsorship as seriously as possible, since we realize that our budget is made up of student dollars. We want to see those dollars stretch as far as possible, and we see supplementing them with external sponsorship as a logical step in doing so.

Meetings

The summer of meetings continues! Over the past two weeks, myself and the team have had some great discussions and have done some very important preliminary planning with on-campus stakeholders. We met with the coordinators of the UNB Co-Curricular Program to discuss how it can be best marketed to students and how all-involved can best benefit from the program. We met with the university's newly installed Piluwitahasuwin to become introduced to her work, to brainstorm potential collaboration projects, and to discuss decolonization of the university. Most recently, we had lunch with some members of the Student Services team to meet one another and share our early plans for the year.

What's Next?

The next two weeks have me on the road quite a bit. As I write this, I'm on my way to Acadia University, where I'll be until Monday, for the Maritime Student Congress – a leadership conference for Student Union executives from all over the Maritimes. I'm really excited to meet with other student leaders, share ideas, and figure out how we can all best support students in this beautiful region of the country. Next Wednesday, I will be traveling to Mount Allison University with Bella, where we'll be attending a day-long conference on Harm Reduction. Bella and I have been asked to sit as panelists at this event to discuss the status of substance use on our campus. Preparations for this event have been coming along nicely and I'll be happy to share an update on it in my next report. I'll be back in the office on Thursday, but will be returning to MTA with Mick on Thursday evening, where we'll be participating in the New Brunswick Student Alliance's (NBSA) Policy and Strategy conference. This is the conference where Student Union executives from across New Brunswick meet to discuss priorities and start planning for the year ahead – more to come on this in the next report as well! Apart from my conference work, I'll be doing as much as I can in the evenings and on the few days, I do spend in the office to stay caught up on all of my aforementioned work surrounding sponsorship, strategic planning, campus events, and orientation.

That's all for now! I hope you're all enjoying you're the warmer weather, taking care of yourselves, living your best lives, and getting excited for the fall – I know I certainly am. Talk to y'all soon!

Vice President Advocacy - Mick Jefferies

Hey folks! I decided that at the beginning of my reports I'll include an interesting fact that will be relating to one of the projects I am involved in! This week: The National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) formally presented its Final Report to government officials. You can watch the live stream of the ceremony here: <https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca/closing-ceremony-multimedia/>. These past two weeks in the office have been very busy, the entire team attended many events together, including four of us graduating! I'll give short and concise bullet points of what I've been doing these last two weeks.

- Our team attended **SOAR** on May 25th to welcome incoming students.
- Our team attended the **Encaenia dinner** on May 29th
- We met with **Student Services** to introduce our team to the admin team and discuss potential collaboration projects.
- I've been in communication with the **MooseHide Campaign** to bring some sort of event to our campus. The MooseHide Campaign is a grassroots movement of Indigenous and Non-indigenous men who are dedicated to standing up against violence against women. I'll be working to be more inclusive of all people – but I believe that this is a fantastic organization to partner with considering the recent National Inquiry Report on the MMIWG of Canada. You can learn more about this organization here: <https://moosehidecampaign.ca>
- I have been working on creating a new **consent campaign** for all students during orientation. I will be reaching out to some of you for some input. If you would like to help with this, please let me know!
- I am currently researching ways to make campus more sustainable. Most recently I have been spending time on reading how other schools created a policy to **ban single-use plastics**.
- Our team sat down with the **Piluwitahasuwin** (Assistant Vice-President Indigenous Engagement), Amanda Reid Rogers on June 5th.
- I've been putting a lot of effort into planning for **Fredericton Pride Week** (August 10th-18th). So far, we have three different activities planned on campus, this is not including the Pride parade or party in Officer Square on the 18th! We will want as many people to come and walk with us as possible, so keep an eye out for further information on these events! For this, we've been working very closely with The 203: Center for Gender and Sexual Diversity.

If anyone has any questions, concerns, or if you can help with any of these projects in any way, please reach out to me...I'd love to have more perspective and voices in these projects!

Vice President Internal - Grace Mangusso

Hi everyone! I hope June has been treating all of you well. I'm thrilled to announce that Council voted unanimously (via the poll in our Facebook group) to transition to digital Councillor Handbooks this year! Additionally, the Councillor Survey is still live so if you haven't filled it out already, I'd love to hear from you!

Committee Membership

As I mentioned in my first executive report, I've been seeking out ways to give more students opportunities to become involved in the activities of the Student Union through membership on committees. I've been working with Chantelle to create a page on the UNBSU website where students can see a complete list of all university-wide and Student Union committees, a brief description of each, and an application form to apply to serve on a committee. I think this will be a great opportunity for students to become involved and make a significant impact within the Student Union and UNB.

Academic Complaint Directory & Student Charter

Following the Senate meeting on May 27th, I had a discussion with a professor from the Law faculty who was very helpful in generating ideas to help students gain autonomy and take control over their education, especially in light of the recent incident with a faculty member on the UNB Saint John campus. One of her suggestions included creating a Student Charter of Rights and Responsibilities, something that many other universities and student unions have previously created, for students to use as an information resource that is relevant and easy to access. I think this would function very well with Ali's initial work on the Academic Complaint Directory, a project that I am continuing to work on following her consultations from last summer and the extensive background work she completed on this project. I'm hoping to finish this project over the coming months and ensure it is active on our website and ready to go for September!

Meetings

Last week, our team took part in a roundtable discussion on the current and concept marketing materials for UNB's Co-Curricular Program. Our feedback and suggestions will help influence a new marketing strategy that will inform and engage more students with the program! We also met with various members of Student Services to become acquainted, share what we're working on, and establish a monthly meeting schedule to promote effective collaboration and communication. In my previous executive report, I

mentioned an upcoming meeting with Lesley Balcom, Dean of Libraries. Unfortunately, our meeting had to be rescheduled so I plan to meet with her later in June, at which point I'll be able to provide further updates on the exam bank, pilot of extended library hours, expanded study space, and Open Educational Resources.

As VP Internal, I am fortunate to sit on the Student Success Committee. We will be having a retreat on June 25th to read through consultation feedback and the student success definition document to begin developing a plan for action moving forward.

Additionally, I am a member of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee which is currently in the process of developing UNB's next 10-year strategic plan. We are entering Phase 2 of the strategic planning process which has summarized the feedback collected during extensive consultations in Phase 1 into specific "white paper topics". I'll be on the writing team for the "Student Experience and Success" white paper and will be sure to update all of you with information about roundtables and town halls where you can voice any feedback or opinions about this topic or any other topics addressed in the draft strategic plan.

Coming up

This weekend, from June 7th-10th, our team will be attending the Maritime Student Congress hosted at Acadia University to connect and collaborate with other student unions and associations in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and PEI. I look forward to meeting fellow Vice-President Internals/Academics to share ideas and brainstorm projects together for the coming year!

As some of you may remember, last year's Executive launched a video series in collaboration with UNB Alumni titled "Where Are They Now?". Although only one video from the series was posted, there are still two more that have been filmed, edited, and are almost ready to go! I've been working with the Alumni office to find an appropriate time to post the remaining two videos throughout the summer and potentially continue the series into the fall semester.

VP Finance and Operations - Samuel Arseneau

Hiring

We have now selected a garden coordinator! They have started working on the community garden and we are all excited to see what improvements they will make to the garden this summer.

Clubs and Societies

I have started the planning process for the two clubs and societies fairs this year, one for the fall semester and one in the winter semester. I am also planning two large scale clubs and societies executive meetings just before each of the C&S fairs. These meetings will allow every on-campus group to send representatives to ask questions, raise concerns, bring forth ideas and suggestions for improvements on procedure, and increase collaboration between groups. A goal of mine this year is to give campus groups a better platform to voice their concerns as well as boosting the collaboration and idea sharing on campus between the amazing clubs and societies we have here at UNB.

Sponsorship

We are finishing up the sponsorship package and are beginning to reach out to different companies to partner with for the upcoming year. We are looking to have more year-long partnerships and establish these before the end of the summer so we can more effectively plan for the events coming to campus this year.

Vice President Student Life - Isabella Gallant

Hi Everybody! I hope all is well with you! The SU Exec has had an eventful two weeks and we are currently at Acadia U for the Maritime Student Congress! Here are some updates:

UNBSU Food

The community garden on campus is thriving (located on 6 Garland Ct) and a volunteer garden coordinator has been hired for the summer, helping so much already! She is interested in holding events and seminars in the future to help raise awareness about food security and gardening and how to properly take care of a garden, willing to help throughout the whole year. You can now order Fresh Food Bags (Due every 1st Thurs of every month) online through UNBSU Food (\$17) or the Welcome Centre (\$15) with pickups at the Welcome Centre every 2nd Thursday of the month. Khaleem Shaik and I are in the beginning stages of seeing how Food Security can be increased for students at UNB through a survey about food insecurity that was posted last year with a lot of great responses. We are looking into programs such as Share a Meal and an on-Campus Food Bank through the Meal Exchange program.

SafeRide

The SafeRide vans are undergoing tire changes, extensive cleaning and will be rebranded by the time students arrive in September with our new SU Logo and the logos of our partners!

Sponsorships

Craig, Sam Chantelle and I are working hard on getting a perfect sponsorship package ready (with orientation included in the pack) to give and meet with employers about potential partnerships. We have many great sponsors that we are yearning for and we are very excited on how this will strongly and directly benefit the future of events and services for students!

Events

Anthony is now in office which is super exciting! Together, him and I have been in close contact with 2-3 different agencies and are in the process of choosing artists for the UNBSU x Campus Events Welcome Back concert! More to follow in the future... but we're all super excited : -)

Other

- We are being kept in the loop about a major project that is to take place at the SUB over the next 4-5 years, and I am specifically interested in bringing ideas on how the SUB can be more accessible, including where our offices are, because they truly are not placed in the most accessible place for people to access, and also not an easy and quick process. I will continue to pose my concerns and I am looking forward to the change.
- Met with UNB Sustainability Officers and they have a lot of great ideas for collaborations on how to make campus more sustainable, recycle friendly, etc. I am looking forward to seeing these positive changes!
- We were fortunate to meet UNB's new Piluwitahasuwin Amanda Reid Rogers and she had lots of great insights on how to increase awareness for indigenous people on campus. It was great meeting with her, she told us many things that I didn't have any idea of – realizing that our efforts to increase this awareness and make certain things known on campus isn't enough.
- We had the opportunity to attend the Encaenia Dinner and Craig gave a wonderful toast to Eddy Campbell through a student's perspective. I'm fortunate that I went, as I got to physically see the many people who care so deeply about UNB and have their own UNB story as admins, donors, senate members, etc. I met the President of the

Alumni Council of the SJ Campus and her and I are going to meet in the future to discuss how to best represent Alumni on campus through events, but also just to share ideas about UNB F and SJ. I also met the Minister of Environment, Jeff Carr and hopefully him and I will meet to discuss how we can both help each other on making Orientation Week as sustainable as possible, as well the whole year.

Vice President Communications - Chantelle Masterson

Howdy! I hope everyone is enjoying their summers so far, the weather is certainly starting to clear up!

Website

The past few weeks I've been busy working closely with my team to add new pages to our website. With Grace (VP Internal) we have created a new executive reports page where we will post our bi-weekly executive reports to the public. This page is LIVE (woo!) and can be found here: <https://www.unbsu.ca/executivereports>. Another initiative I am working on with Grace is creating a committee's page where students can apply to join UNB and UNBSU committees through our website! I am excited for when this page becomes live, which will likely be by the end of the summer. With Sam (VP Finance and Operations), we have been collaborating on ideas for a Clubs and Societies blog, as well as updating the current Clubs & Societies page. As a team, we have continued to discuss restructuring the website for better access to clubs & societies, volunteer & job opportunities, and other student union services and initiatives. I am very passionate about making sure the UNBSU website is accessible and easy to navigate.

Sponsorship package

I have been meeting with other executive members quite frequently to discuss the creation of a sponsorship package and have been heavily involved in developing the design of the materials.

Orientation/Shinerama

The AMAZING Orientation team (Brendan Finnerty [Orientation Chair] and Madison Beirsto [Orientation Vice-Chair]) have been hard at work organizing the first Shinerama Car Wash of the summer which will be THIS SATURDAY (June 8th) at Dana's Collision Center! They have also been busy organizing the first Shine Trivia of the summer which will HOPEFULLY be this coming

Wednesday June 12th. Keep an eye out on our Social Media for more updates about these events!

Director of Campus Events - Anthony Gatto

Hello! Summer is off to a quick start and it's so exciting to see how the rest of the season is going to unfold. Hope you're all getting plenty of sun so far! My first day in the office as Director of Campus Events was Monday, May 27th.

Transition

As the Director of Campus Events role is only beginning its second year through the SU, transition is still a work in progress. Various accounts have been handed over and have been quickly utilized. Documents, contacts, and other resources have also been brought into my possession during the past two weeks.

Kickoff Concert

Planning is already underway for one of the SU's largest events! Isabella Gallant (VP Student Life) and I have been in contact with talent agencies and industry professionals over the past two weeks and have our vision set for what we want to see come out of the concert. In the next two weeks, we expect to have our talent booked for the event (stay tuned, it will be worth the wait) as well as our final decision towards the venue which will host the concert. Other details such as ticket pricing and distribution are also in the works.

Finances

As of this week, we have begun hosting meetings surrounding the discussion of finances and sponsorship. Before financial commitments are made (such as towards the Kickoff Concert) it is crucial to have exact numbers regarding monetary availability. Sponsorship packages are in the works and we have started revamping and redesigning our sponsorship tiers which we will present to businesses and organizations who would potentially be interested in supporting our year-round events.

Outlining and Brainstorming

Dates have been set for the four main Campus Events as well as a tentative timeline for the activities of the summer and academic year. By the end of the month we will have commenced the hiring process for the Student Experience Team who will represent the Campus Events brand this year.

Various ways in which we plan to update/improve events have been pitched and discussed during meetings and will be coming to life soon!

Orientation Chair & Vice-Chair - Brendan Finnerty & Madison Beirsto

Brendan has been on vacation in Europe so stay tuned for an orientation update with the next executive report in two weeks!