

AGENDA – 3rd UNBSU Council Meeting

UNB Student Union 2019/20

October 6, 2019; 7:00pm in SUB 103

Regrets: Camryn Smith, Srijain Shrestha, Emma Huestis, Nadia Wysote

Not present: Luc Bouvier



1. Call to Order

1.1 Roll Call

Chair Gill performs roll call.

Chair Gill calls the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Vice President Internal, Grace Mangusso, requests to add “Approval of Council Chair Hiring” and “Approval of Position Statement in Regards to Fossil Free UNB” in Substantive Business.

Mover: Jefferies

Seconder: Fernandez

Vote passes unanimously.

3. Chair’s Remarks

Council Chair, Gill, makes her remarks by saying “I am going to type your names, for a speakers list during discussions, so that you can see it on the board behind us. If you want to speak, please lift your placard up so that I can see it.”

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

Mover: Brimicombe

Seconder: Wilson

Vote passes unanimously.

5. Substantive Business

5.1 Sam Arseneau: Approval of Council Chair Hiring

Vice President Finance & Operations, Sam Arseneau, informs that the application period for any part-time position under the UNB Student Union is open for a minimum of one week, and this position was open for three weeks. Applications were then reviewed by the hiring committee, consisting of himself, Grace Mangusso, Craig Fernandez, and Molly Pittman. Interviews were conducted, followed by a committee meeting to discuss the candidates. The committee decided to offer the position to Gyan Gills.

Motion to approve hiring process of Council Chair.

Mover: Mangusso

Seconder: Brimicombe

Vote passes unanimously.

5.2 Gyan Gill: Nominations for Associate Appeals Officers

Council Chair, Gyan Gill, presents that this position is for the Appeals Board, of which she is the Chief Appeals Officer. Gill presents two nominees, whom she feels would best fit the position: Robynn Macdonald and Maggie Rondot. Gill displays their resumes and highlights their relevant work experience. They are both members of UNB Law and are available for the times required for the position.

Motion to approve the Associate Appeals Officers.

Mover: Lutes

Seconder: McMillan

Vote passes unanimously.

5.3 Eric Zundel: Second Reading of By-law Amendments

LGBTQ Councillor, Eric Zundel, introduces that Policy Committee has met twice since the last meeting. They have looked through the readings for a second time as well as the legal standing for the UNB Student Union, which is a non-profit organization. The committee concluded that Council does not fully operate as a Board of Governors so there is no reason for an age restriction regarding membership. There has also been some disagreement on members of Council, regarding whether this is a position they want to look into, so this is a time for discussion before the third and final reading.

Wilson: "To clarify, we are discussing whether or not we want a first-year representative?"

Zundel: “Yes because we know this process was fairly rushed, by virtue of meeting the by-laws. I think it is valuable to have that discussion.”

Wilson: “I do believe that we need the point of view of a first-year student but I feel like first-years may be confused about who they go to. I do not know if we can make it more clear whether or not engineering students come to me or go to them.”

Mangusso: “I understand where you are coming from and where that concern lies and we definitely do not want students to be more confused than they may already be about the Student Union. At the end of the day, we are lacking representation on Council and, for that reason, it is important. If engineering students are not sure whether to officially go to you or the first-year councillor, at the end of the day, it is better that there is more people available for them to speak their beliefs to or have their voice be heard through, in Council. Perhaps, for a first-year student, seeing the name “First-Year Councillor” may resonate more with them and I think the goal is to give them an opportunity to find avenues to get to the Student Union and have their voices heard.”

Fernandez: “If there are some concerns around people being confused about the position or why it exists, perhaps it would be in our best interest to launch a comprehensive social media campaign. Something outlining why we are doing this, how it exists, and what will be involved for this councillor. With that, we could include things that you could go to this person about.”

Thibodeau: “As residence representative, the majority of first-years do live in residence so would that overlap with my position?”

Mangusso: “As residence representative, your job is to represent students living in residence, not first-year students in residence. While they do make up a large majority of the population, the interest that you represent is not based on their identity as first-year students. A first year representative would represent first-year students in their identity as a first-year. Obviously some of that would overlap at times, but I think that collaboration is key and, in a lot of your roles, you will see overlapping collaboration, which is a good thing.”

Fazio: “I understand the confusion because when I was the Computer Science Councillor, I would get confused about what was in the realm of my responsibilities. That being said, I do not think there would be any harm in having both. It is the same as if you were in a faculty department and you had an accessibility issue. There is no harm in having all three people involved in the conversation, so why not include the first-year representative as well as the faculty representative to both support the individual. It is a venue for more support.”

Brimicombe: “As we are putting in this new position, some ideas have been brought up to me as well about having more councillor positions that are not represented. For example, a sustainability representative because that is such an important thing that we are striving for here as a Student Union and not having that representation on Council is a problem as well.”

Jefferies: “Speaking to who to go for, it is giving more opportunities to feel more comfortable with whoever. For example, we have our faculty representative and we also have a women’s councillor, so it is giving folks more opportunities to speak to whoever they are more comfortable with. As engineering representative, you might be speaking about all engineers but a first-year student might want to talk about things that cover everything, not just in the realm of engineering, but in the first-year experience as a whole. Also, I believe on top of the social media campaign, it would be great to have a town hall so that students can ask questions that we can respond directly. A social media campaign will be great for awareness but it might not get their questions answered.”

Zundel: “On the idea of a sustainability councillor, just noting that the positions that are on Council are representative positions, where sustainability is not a population that can be represented. It would be more of a hired position rather than an elected one because there is not necessarily a constituent body to represent.”

McMillan: “Something that would be really cool, not just for first-year representative but for everything that we do as a Student Union, is a “Who Are We?”. I also have a question about their role and if they would have to do a councillor project like we have to do councillor projects.”

Mangusso: “They would have the same responsibilities as any other councillor, subjected to their constituency.”

McMillan: “Also, accessibility and inclusion are both representatives on council which would be the same thing as sustainability.”

S Mackenzie: “With what Grace had said about having the same amount of responsibility, they would be given less time, as they would be elected during the by-election, to perform a project. It does take some time to get those projects started, with a lot of people to talk to and a lot of hurdles. Would we be able to allow them some leniency or extra time?”

Mangusso: “I completely agree and it is something that we want to look at because all the councillors who are currently vacant right now will have the same restrictions. Also for a first-year councillor, we want it to be someone who is currently in their first-year so they would always be elected in the by-election. The position as it stands would offer a little bit of leniency, same as for any of your councillor projects, because if someone does something really big in first semester, they do not need to do something equally as big second semester. It is what you think would be most beneficial to your constituency.”

Lutes: “To Emily McMillan’s point on accessibility and inclusion representatives, I would like to point out that those are a little bit different in that the accessibility representative still has a constituency based on people who have accessibility issues on campus. The inclusion representatives are this weird category where they are like councillors at large, which is the model for a lot of other Student Unions, where their intention is to represent the interest of underrepresented groups on campus. I do not necessarily know if it is warranted to add another representative who fills that role, in terms of sustainability. I obviously support sustainability initiatives but I do not know if including another councillor is the best way to do it.”

Evans: “To add to Chris’s point, Emily and I have been looking at sustainability projects for this year, in terms of inclusion.”

Gallant: “With sustainability, a major part of UNBSU Food is sustainability and they also work with the UNB Vegan and Vegetarian Society and others like that. I feel like it is not necessary to be adding a bunch of different councillor projects, or councillors in general.”

Fernandez: “I want to mention that if someone is really passionate about adding a councillor position, you can go about doing so the same way that Grace did in the first meeting. You would add it to the agenda, have a discussion about it, and we would vote on it. Or if you have a number of positions or a question about the council structure as it is, adding that to the agenda could be effective. Talking about what positions exist, why they exist, and where the gaps are so that we can talk about filling those. I would encourage anyone who is really passionate to do that, and add it to the next meeting’s agenda. As well, I think that I am in the same boat as some other people, in that perhaps a sustainability councillor could be really useful in shedding light on some issues that we are working on, but perhaps we will be transitioning the UNBSU Food team to have more of a sustainability focus, or developing a new team focused on sustainability and having their mandate be more project-based rather than council-based, which could be more effective. It is also an option, if you would like to see your executive work on it, to vote on hiring a sustainability team and a sustainability coordinator, or transitioning the UNBSU Food team’s mandate to be a bit more about sustainability than just food security. But if someone is passionate about the sustainability councillor position, please feel free to put that forward in a motion.”

Fazio: “Regarding the first-year representative, I think it is fantastic that we are all looking at it from the perspective of our constituents and how it could potentially be confusing, but I also think there is value that the first-year representative would be sitting on Council and using that first-year perspective when making decisions.”

Wilson: “When we make those social media campaigns, we should remind students that even if they are not in their first year of being a student, but transferring, that they can also run for this position. First-year representative sounds like it would only be for people in their first year of university so we would need to let them know that it is not just that.”

Fernandez: “I agree and I also really like Emily’s point about getting the word out about all of your positions. People often wonder if their constituency understands how it works so our team has been discussing doing a project like that so I will put it on the agenda for our executive meeting tomorrow and perhaps we can come to the next council meeting with some ideas.”

E MacKenzie: “If the first-year can only run in the by-election, we would only have one chance of filling that position. Would there be another opportunity to run if we did not fill the position of first-year representative, or would we just not have one?”

Fernandez: “There was a position, in my first year of Council, that went unfilled in the general election and the by-election. Nominations were extended for that position after the regular amount of time and a pretty intensive campaign was launched by the executive, to rally somebody, and they ended up getting three people running. A similar process would follow, in that if it went unfilled, we would wait until the nomination is closed and we would open it again and really put the pressure on for somebody to run.”

Arseneau: “I have a concern that transfer students can also run for the position. If someone is transferring to UNB Fredericton and going into their fourth year, they are not going to have the same concerns and viewpoint as someone who is going into their first year of university. What are we looking for out of a first-year representative?”

Evans: “Grace, you had mentioned that you had talked to different universities that had first-year representatives. I was wondering if you spoke to those first-year representatives and got their view on if they found it stressful or had enough time to do a councillor project.”

Mangusso: “I did not talk to the first-year representatives directly, but in talking to my equivalence who had overseen their Council on their respective campuses, the general feedback that I got was that they were able to complete their duties. There has been some concern about first-year students being able to fulfill this position, but I think we should not be discrediting their abilities. Not to say that that is what is happening, but it would be our responsibility, and specifically my responsibility to make sure the support, needed by this individual to fulfill their role, would be provided. They should feel supported and

guided along the way and if we see a big difference in their abilities to complete their requirements then that is something we can look at. Having that position is a good thing and we know what their needs may be so we can account and prepare for that.”

Brimicombe: “To respond to Sam, on what you would consider a first-year student, as a proctor in residence, they tell us to avoid the word “first-year” because it looks like a lot of things, not just someone who directly came out of high school. It also looks like a transfer student from another school or an international student that is here for their first time. They are thrown together so I do think that having those older students who might be a little more mature than your typical first-year would represent each other really well.”

Arseneau: “My concern is based on the language we are using. If I transferred to UNB Saint John, I could technically run for the first-year position but I would not accurately represent the concerns of people who are new to university, while I was going into my fifth year there.”

McMillan: “I would just like to make a quick personal note. I was on council when I was eighteen and I was fine. First-years can run for any position in the by-election, not just this one. For me, I do not think I had a councillor project the first semester so we agreed that I would do a larger project second semester. It was fine and I was confused just like every new councillor is confused, so just make them feel welcome and give them a proper transition.”

Jefferies: “I agree with Sam that we should make it clear on who exactly this position is open to, but I feel like who are we to decide? We should leave it up to the student body to decide who they want to vote for in this position. We only represent our perspectives right now even though we try our best to represent everyone’s perspectives. We are all here because we got voted by the student population, so we should leave it up to the student population to decide.”

Fazio: “Regarding the first-year representative and the concern for the councillor project, a good option may be to make it optional to have a councillor project in the first term. That way they are not penalized for not necessarily being prepared yet, but they are still able to have a project if they want to. As well, I had an idea of maybe calling it “New Student Representative” instead, but Mick has brought up

an interested point that has changed my mind. We might want to ask the student body what they think would be the best name.”

Fernandez: “Perhaps the Policy Committee can define this position, which could be helpful and we can be consistent with any messaging. If it is going to be any student new to UNB, whether they be transfer or international student, or whatever, that should be clearly defined. I think the name is perhaps a bit less relevant because names are subject to change and they serve the same purpose. We are trusting students to vote, so democratically, the body of students will hopefully vote for who they think will best represent them. If they feel best represented by a student who has just transferred here this semester, then they have decided that.”

Arseneau: “I agree with what Craig said but I do believe that the naming is a big component. To me, first-year student means first-year at university. If it is new and incoming students, new to campus, that is great but I think that needs to be established because I do not think that someone transferring here in their fourth year can accurately represent students in their first year at university.”

Brimicombe: “Students can also be considered in their first-year if they went to another school and then took a gap year, because they did not think it was right for them, and then decided to come back. They would have still gone to university but be in their first-year here. There is a lot of grey area and I think that should be something that we do not decide. Let the first-years decide what a first-year is to them. I do not think that there should be a restriction on who is allowed to apply. We also do not have access to knowing if they have been to school previously before coming here.”

Arseneau: “That is why I think it should be named differently from first-year student, like new or incoming student so that it takes away that grey area.”

Penney: “I want to comment in favor of transitioning towards a new or incoming student. No matter what this student’s background is, they are still coming with a fresh set of eyes to the UNB Fredericton campus. If they are more mature and have experiences that could be an asset to that position, that would just benefit Council further.”

Wilson: “I do think that, even in their fourth year, they could provide a new perspective because in engineering specifically, we have a lot of students coming from UNBSJ and PEI who I often hear say that they have the same problems as first-years. Also, as much as I would love the student body to decide who they want to represent, we need to clarify for who has voting rights on e-services so we should make a decision on what we are going to do.”

Lutes: “One thing we have to keep in mind is the technical aspect of it. Voting is done through e-services and, from what I understand, they have a database of every student with different variables about faculties and stuff like that. I can see them being able to capture students who are in their first-year of university, I do not know if they would be able to capture somebody who transfers here in their fourth year. We have to keep in mind what is possible.”

Jefferies: “The CRO and DCRO can write people in. If they can prove that they are a transfer student, that can be an easy fix because the CRO and DCRO can allow people to vote that way.”

Lutes: “The people would have to go to the CRO and DCRO to tell them to add their name to the list?”

Jefferies: “We could make it clear in the messaging if they feel like they are a first-year student. I also think this is a discussion that we need to bring up anyway because the LGBTQ and women’s representatives are decided by anyone. Anyone can vote for them even if they are not a part of that constituency so that could be a future discussion that we need to bring up as well.”

E MacKenzie: “I was a transfer student so I was technically a second-year student but I think that the problems you have, no matter what age you are, are pretty comparable. It is a new campus, so figuring things out and getting to know the system is different. I do not know if restricting it to incoming high school students is necessary. Also, I was labelled as a transfer student so I think to university does have that information of who is a first-year and who is a transfer.”

Fazio: “Are we currently responsible for defining this position? My perspective on this conversation is that we need to put more work into figuring out what we want out of this position and I do not know if

that is something that Council needs to continue with or if we can determine that on its respective committee.”

Mangusso: “The purpose of this conversation is that it is the second reading of the by-law. Next week would be the third and final reading. As well, we are having a wonderful conversation about this position but I think if somebody identifies as being a first-year student or a new student, they should be able to run. Mick brings a great suggestion of making it open to students who identify within that constituency to be able to vote for their representative. At the end of the day, we are putting it in the students hands to vote for the person who they think represents them best. We should look at the position in its existence and what that means and then we can look at the logistical pieces. I think we are having a really comprehensive discussion which will set us up well.”

Motion to add five minutes of discussion.

Mover: Fernandez

Secunder: Lutes

Vote passes unanimously.

Fernandez: “I am considering getting the Internal Committee to define this position and having them relay that definition to Policy Committee, who can incorporate that into the third by-law reading. In regards to technical concerns, ITS is currently working on a new voting software. Our current software was developed in 2002 so ITS is hoping to have the new one ready to go for the general election in the winter. I also believe that they do have access to who is a transfer student or on the campus for the first time, because that information is needed for orientation because all those people are invited to attend orientation week.”

Lutes: “To keep things on time for the by-election, Internal Committee would need to meet before the next Policy Committee meeting, which is scheduled for next Tuesday.”

Zundel: “It is worth noting that we have a two week period because next weekend in Thanksgiving so we should be able to finagle that somehow.”

Fazio: “I think it is valuable to have this perspective represented so I would really like to see us try as hard as we can to get the technicalities right in our wording but I really more so find value in the existence of the position.”

Motion for Internal Committee to define the position.

Mover: Zundel

Secunder: Brimicombe

Vote passes unanimously.

Motion that the second reading of by-laws be approved and have Policy Committee incorporate the comments of the Internal Committee into the third reading.

Mover: Zundel

Secunder: Lutes

Vote passes unanimously.

5.4 Grace Mangusso: Approval of Position Statement in Regards to Fossil Free UNB

Vice President Internal, Grace Mangusso, reminds Council that Fossil Free UNB is encouraging the university to divest from fossil fuels. They are looking to have a support letter from the Student Union to reinforce their requests. Advocacy Committee has looked into the details and come up with a brief position statement.

Jefferies: “Advocacy Committee determined that the organization is non-partisan. They are supported by RAVEN, which is supported by both the previous Government of Fredericton and the current government, as well as initiatives put on through UNB Administration, with the signing of ten full-time faculty employees in support. We also mentioned other concerns in the meeting, such as student fees. We came to the conclusion for the statement that we will provide for them for the board of investors: The UNBSU supports the non-partisan efforts of Fossil Free UNB with the contingency that it will not increase student fees.”

E MacKenzie: “How are we supporting them? Is it financially or through social media?”

Mangusso: “The main purpose of the position statement is so that when they continue their advocacy work with UNB Administration and the Board of Governors, they can say that they have the Student Union’s support on this issue. That is the statement of how we will provide support. There is no commitment in terms of finances or your time in doing anything, but more so they can say that we are supporting them, or if they want to use our logo on things, which they will run by us beforehand.”

Fernandez: “This is a point of transparency for everybody – I sit as a secondary delegate on the universities Investments Committee, since I am a member of the Board of Governors. If this goes to a vote, I will be abstaining, not because I do not think it is important, but because I do not want my vote here to compromise the conversation at the Investments committee. I think that a student’s voice at that committee is really important, since students do not often have a chance to speak at a committee like that. I am the secondary delegate, so if the primary is there, they will do the voting. That is Brianna Forbes, who is the representative from Saint John, and Brianna and I work quite closely together as the students on the board typically vote together. I will be abstaining from any voting because I would hate for someone from the board to look at these minutes and think that my vote was delegitimized in any way.”

Lutes: “I have a slight change in wording to suggest. In its current form, it looks as though it is putting the onus on Fossil Free UNB to not increase student fees, where that is outside the scope of what they are able to do. I would suggest a change in which the Student Union does not support an increase in student fees. That shows that the union has the position that we do not want student fees to increase and it does not put the onus on anybody who does not have the power to change that.”

Fazio: “I wanted to add some context information because I did some digging. Something that I did not find clear when they did their presentation was that the RAVEN initiative is a project. I was assuming it was an organization, but they define it as an activist research project. It is basically UNB collaborating with individuals to run activist projects, so we are not supporting an organization, we are supporting a project. Also, Fossil Free UNB is a sub-group working under the NB Environmental Network, so they receive funding and support from that group, but the NBEN explicitly states that they are non-partisan.”

Jefferies: “I will read the revised statement: The UNBSU supports the non-partisan efforts of Fossil Free UNB with the caveat that the union does not support the increase of student fees.”

Motion to approve the Fossil Free UNB Position Statement.

Mover: Jefferies

Seconder: Evans

Vote passes unanimously with Fernandez abstaining from vote.

5.5 Eric Zundel: Position Statement Updates

LGBTQ Councillor, Eric Zundel, presents that the Policy Committee has been reviewing the expired position statements on the UNBSU website. There are a number of position statements that the committee is looking for approval to remove. These include the Ancillary Fee position, the Expanding Tuition Access Bursary position, the Orientation position, and the Support for Residence Students position. Policy Committee is looking to refer the other position statements to various committees for updates. These include the Campus Accessibility position, the Experiential Learning position, the Gender Neutral Washrooms position, the Job Action position, the Mental Health position, the Open Education Resources position, the Tuition position, the Inclement Weather position, and the Board of Governor Transparency position.

Motion to repeal the Ancillary Fee, Expanding Tuition Access Bursary, Orientation, and Support for Residence Students position statements.

Mover: Zundel

Seconder: Lutes

Vote passes unanimously.

Motion to refer all position statements to be updated to Advocacy Committee and Internal Committee Chairs.

Mover: Fernandez

Seconder: Jefferies

Vote passes unanimously.

5.6 Chris Lutes: Removal of Law Building Name

Law Councillor, Chris Lutes, presents that the law building is named after George Duncan Ludlow, who has significant connections to slavery, residential schools, and has no connections to UNB. This issue was put to a vote in the Law Student Society at the annual general meeting and the vote was unanimously in favor of the name change. This issue is eventually going to the Board of Governors or the Student Senate. Lutes is asking for support from the Student Union Council and to refer the matter to Policy Committee for a position statement.

S Mackenzie: “Based on what you have said, we can probably all agree that we have the same position on this. We do not want the university to be represented with a connection to a racist background, especially when speaking of residential schools. We are trying to work towards reconciliation and I feel like this would be a great step in that direction.”

Evans: “Does the society or administration have any ideas of what you would like to rename it?”

Lutes: “That is a little more complicated. The LSS motion is specifically advocating for the removal of his name, not necessarily putting up a different person’s name. The naming policy of the university basically creates a process where you have to look for a philanthropic donor to put their name on the building. It looks as though, based on the Law Administration’s strategic plan, that they are looking for a philanthropic donor because they want more money for the faculty.”

Fazio: “I just think it is awesome! I think that right now, a lot of us are opening up with what is happening with reconciliation and we are taking responsibility for things. If UNB is making a commitment to reconciliation, why would we not do something like this? Also, talk with the NWC.”

Motion for the Student Union to support the removal of the name George Duncan Ludlow from the law building at UNB.

Mover: Lutes

Secunder: Fernandez

Vote passes unanimously.

Motion to refer this matter to Policy Committee to write a position statement.

Mover: Lutes

Seconder: Brimicombe

Vote passes unanimously.

5.7 Chris Lutes: Student Parking

Law Councillor, Chris Lutes, presents that parking has been an ongoing issue and this year it was revealed that, for the 2400 spots that are reserved for students on campus, 5000 passes were sold. In the winter, parking is going to get worse because snow removal decreases the total number of available spaces, in addition to inadequate paving or complete lack of paving in half of the student parking lot, the Aitken parking lot, and the entirety of the Beaverbrook parking lot. The Student Union has power to advocate for this issue, and Lutes is open to suggestions on how this can be done, with a tentative suggestion of striking an ad hoc committee to meet every two weeks to deal with this issue specifically.

S Mackenzie: “I have had a lot of students come to me, trying to play the devil’s advocate in saying that a lot of students are unaware that the LBR parking is student parking as well. They have gone there in the middle of the day and have never had an issue, and I am aware that not everybody may have that same luxury. A lot of the times, students say that they have parked illegally and received a ticket because there was no parking close. Again, I realize that there is a large oversell of parking passes versus actual parking spots but it is one of those things that I think we need to point out to students where parking is. There are a lot of students that are not aware that they can park at LBR and walk up to school.”

Fernandez: “There was an article with Global and I did take an interview on that, and spoke to the complaints that we have received as an executive. I want to acknowledge that we had not discussed this at Council before I went to the meeting and had a discussion with them. Part of the reason is that often, when media contacts you, you have a couple of hours to respond or they are more than free to say you were not available to respond. I think with this issue in particular, I thought that students are talking about this and they were expecting the Student Union to have a statement, so I provided a statement.

Afterwards, I had wishes that this issue had been brought to Council and we had generated a position on it beforehand. I have been thinking about how I, as president, and the executive will approach media in the

future. I want to open it up to discussion but not shy away from the bigger issue that Chris has mentioned. At Mount Allison, they do not speak to media at all and then they write a position statement with Council's help, which is one option. I was working off what I was given from last year's executive, who said to take the interview if you can, or else the media will probably paint you in a negative light. I apologize to anyone who felt that their views were not captured in what I had to say. In the future, I will definitely look at a more collaborative approach to get Council's views out to the media as well."

Wilson: "Particularly this year, there is a lot of construction on campus. A lot of the student parking spots are being taken by construction workers, in particular, the general parking lot behind DKT and also by the physics building."

Fazio: "I think that something we need to emphasize is to make sure we have correct data when we go to fight for things. We cannot say that there is no parking if places like the LBR rink have available parking. That being said, I do still think that there is an issue with parking on campus. Even if it is not necessarily that there is available parking, because if there is available parking at the LBR rink, we cannot make that statement. That being said, parking lots that are in decrepit conditions are not acceptable, and that is something that we should be fighting for. Something that we could also emphasize is accessibility for people who cannot park at the LBR rink and reasonably get to class. I want to encourage caution and make sure that we do our due diligence when we attack this problem."

Jefferies: "I agree and I am also going to be sharing another perspective, not saying that I am against advocating the parking situation, I totally agree that this is something we need to discuss. I agree there is a large over-sale and I do not agree with people paying for parking and getting more and more parking tickets. However, I think one of the issues that people are complaining about is convenient parking. I think that these statements are being made with a privileged background and I do not believe that parking covers every single student. As Vice President Advocacy, I feel uncomfortable advocating this if it will increase student fees. I also understand that residents need parking and I understand that there are commuters coming from outside of Oromocto, but parking does not cover every single student and I agree that we still need to represent the entire student population. I just wanted to give the perspective that this

is a privileged conversation that we are having and we need to consider that. I believe that we should create a survey because we currently do not know if the problem is convenient parking or no parking what so ever. We do not go downtown five minutes before an appointment and expect to get parking. We go twenty five minutes early, we park, and we make our way to where we need to go. I believe this conversation itself is privileged and I believe that as a Student Union we have more things that we have to discuss and tackle, like implementing TRC, and implementing other things like removing the Ludlow name. I disagree that we should take a lot of our resources to do this but I do believe that something needs to be done.”

Evans: “I am curious about how the Student Union would go about solving a situation like this. Would we add another parking lot, or how extensive is this? If it is just convenient parking then how do we fix that?”

Lutes: “The way I envisioned it is the two tiers of advocacy. The first tier would be advocating for the parking spaces that we currently have to be effectively utilized. Focusing on things like making sure the snow removal is adequate to maintain the same number of spaces in the summer and winter, and getting rid of that pile of bricks that is in the middle of the student parking lot. Smaller things like that are more in the scope of our ability. A bigger picture is looking at getting more spaces added if possible. I know that the Community Planning Act requires that a certain number of parking spaces be created for any building that exists in New Brunswick. I know that the UNB Administration has been advocating for getting the minimum possible number of spaces added for that, so maybe that is something to look into. On Mick’s point as well, I would like to say that you do not have to be privileged to have access to a vehicle. It is an issue that affects a significant number of students on campus from all different backgrounds and I think that we are enough people with enough will power, desire, and ability to change things. If something is within the scope of our ability to change them, we should at least try.”

McMillan: “I was talking with one of my professors and they said the same thing as Mick. We have a relatively small campus so we do not have to walk too much. I talked about accessibility but we do not have a problem with that because we have accessible parking spaces. I also talked about the hill and how

hard it is, but we cannot change landscaping. I think that a good thing we can do is focus on things that we can fix. Also, I really liked what Mick was saying about how we do not expect to go downtown and find convenient parking. Maybe we can do a “tips and tricks” on how to make parking easier for students on campus. We can make a list of all the available places that students can park, because I did not even know that we could park at that rink, and things about how early to come to your classes. Working with things that we have rather than trying to go up and beyond not fixing anything.”

Brimicombe: “I completely agree with what Mick had said, that it is a privileged issue. Coming from someone who does not drive at all, this is an unbiased perspective. With the problem of students getting illegal tickets for parking, I feel like that should be something that is withheld across all people that are parking illegally, including construction workers who are taking student spots. Though we cannot, as a Student Union, get them to build a parking lot overnight, we can try and get the administration to uphold these rules across the board, instead of just students.”

E Mackenzie: “I do not know what the difference is between this year and previous years but I have definitely noticed a change because I drive to school, as I live pretty far away where walking is not always an option. I have classes at 8:30am every day and if I do not get to the school by 8:05am or 8:10am, the BMO is filled up. Last year, you could find parking. I do not mind walking to my classes but it is frustrating to be driving around if you come a half hour before class and are unable to find a parking spot. I do not know what the issue is between this year and last year, because they always over sell, so maybe we should look into why it is different this year. It is something that a lot of students are struggling with so I think that doing something, within our ability, is important.”

Archibald: “At STU and Dalhousie, they have bus passes. We do not have a good or sustainable transportation system, so students are almost forced to drive here if they live far away. I know it is very expensive to get a bus pass on our cards, but it may be something to look into.”

Arseneau: “I do understand that driving is a privilege, but it is also our job, as Council and a Student Union, to advocate on behalf of the students and the students are upset about this and they have been for years. I do not think that this is something that we can brush under the rug and say is privileged; we need

to address it. This has been going on since the 90s and now it is coming to a boiling point so this is something we need to address now. The administration has admitted that it has been on their radar, they just have not come up with any concrete plans. I think the long-term advocacy effort that we could do is to find out what the main issue is: convenient parking or lack of parking in general. A survey first, then advocate that to administration for a long term plan on how they intend to fix it. To address the “how to” guide for how to park on campus, they over double sold the parking anyway with 2400 spots and 5000 parking passes. Even if everyone comes to campus at 7am, there is still not nearly enough parking for everyone. That could work for a little bit but once everyone starts doing that, it is going to be the same issue. This is a much larger issue than that and it needs to be approached differently.”

Thibodeau: “Is there a conversation being held about why they are selling so many passes if they do not have the spots? How do we pick and choose who deserves a parking pass and who does not? I think there needs to be an approach of why is this happening and how can we deal with it.”

Bennett: “There is parking pamphlets available somewhere so maybe it would be important to redistribute those pamphlets and make sure people are aware of parking. To add to Chris’s point of needing a minimum number of spots per building, do we know if they added spots when they put in the new Kinesiology building?”

Lutes: “I don’t know, I cannot see where they would be if they did.”

Bennett: “It is important to make sure there are parking spots available even if it is not convenient. Having enough parking spots is a priority.”

Arseneau: “Also in terms of the parking spots per building, they are adding an extension right now on the biomedical building and they took out a parking lot to do that.”

S Mackenzie: “I want to touch on what Brandon said, sustainability-wise, about having a bus pass. STU does it without an issue, partly because they have the off-campus residence which is soon going to be gone anyways. As students, it does not look great when we are pushing for a mass march for sustainability but the next minute we are arguing about parking because we cannot bring our car by ourselves because we may have stopped at Tim Hortons, waited in line, decided to come to class at 8:30

and then cannot get to class. Why not get up early and take the bus, save yourself some time and get a bus pass. I understand they are expensive but in the long run, they are no worse than gas. To my knowledge, we do get student prices for bus passes.”

Fazio: “It is really important for us to consider sustainability when we are making decisions but I do not think it is within the role of the Student Union to impose sustainability on our students. We can always promote sustainability but I do not think we should be saying that we are not going to support quite a large outcry for parking because it is not sustainable. I do not see why we cannot support both things. We can add other sustainable options into our campaign. I agree with what Emily had said and I feel that it would be valuable to make a PSA because we have quite a relevant voice, within the student body. I have had a resounding amount of students say that they did not know that they could park at the LBR rink. When you buy a parking pass you get a map, but the students do not know that so I do not think it is completely their fault that we have this issue. As a Student Union, we can help these individuals, at least for right now, to make people aware that parking is potentially available. That being said, I also agree with Sam that there is a much larger issue. I think we should start with education and what we can do to make it better right now, and then look at the long-term as well.”

Jefferies: “The last time we tried to get a bus pass was in October 2012, so situations have changed. I think it is a good idea to put it on a survey and that is why I think it is a really good option to have a survey. We can talk about what we think the actual issues are from what we can experience ourselves, but I think the best thing for us to do is create a survey so that we can see what the students want.”

Wilson: “For the past two years, they have been trying to work with the bus company and build an opt out system. The bus company has not been very receptive to working with the Student Union and they have not been willing to change their routes to be more directed to students.”

Jefferies: “The Mayor’s Committee is working on changing the bus routes and the bus pass, and they are also looking into getting wifi on buses, so they are looking at completely changing the bus process. I believe that Craig sits on the Mayor’s Committee and I sat on it this summer as well and that was the main conversation they were having. It will not be in effect this year because that kind of infrastructure

change will require a lot. I believe in a survey asking what the actual issues are because I am not sure if it is convenient parking or just a lot of loud people making noises about parking and then more people getting on board because they love to hate something. The executive is still tossed up on what the issue is so it is really great to hear all of your opinions and I think that, at the end of the day, we can all agree that we will represent and respect whatever Council decides as a whole. We all have our own unique perspectives, but at the end of the day, with all of our perspectives together, we can go ahead as a united front. I also believe that it is great to not speak negatively about the decisions of Council. Definitely speak your opinion but whatever we decide to do, I think it is best to be a united front and I love the idea of creating an ad hoc committee and creating a survey from there. Again, just not sure if it is a couple loud people making loud noises or if it is an actual issue.”

Fernandez: “With the bus issue, so that everyone is aware, it was voted on last year, as to whether we would approve bus passes for all students. It was voted against for the reason that Shanece brought up. It would increase student fees by about \$50 each, which would bring fees to about \$170 per year from \$120, which I believe is the cheapest in the country by a significant amount. That is a good thing for us, it is good that we can operate, as successfully as we do, with low fees. As well, the routes are not optimized and they are not efficient for students. If it gets to the point where the bus system in Fredericton is great for students, I think it would be a really good idea to put it to a vote. With that being said, if people are passionate about it, it would be a perfect thing to put on a referendum in either the by-election or the general election. Looking back to parking, I think that because there is so much confusion and unknowns right now, an ad hoc committee is warranted. I think we know that even if it is a privileged issue and confusing in that regard, students talk about it and they expect us to do something. An ad hoc committee could be struck and some things that I have been thinking of would be reviewing legislation to see if the university has been avoiding legislation, because that is a bad thing. Collecting student feedback – making a survey is quite easy and making and distributing a survey could be a task for that committee. Developing some sort of PSA could be helpful, saying that we are working to fix this but in the

meantime, here are some short term solutions. Coming back to Council in a two week time frame with some tangible proposals so that we do not have to have this long conversation again.”

Evans: “I was curious as to why they are allowed to sell 5000 passes when we only have 2400 spots. I also personally had a lot of friends last year who lived in residence and they would park their cars and they would stay in the same spot for two or three weeks. I personally say that if you were to reduce that, maybe for next year, tell the students living in residence that if they are bringing their car, they need to buy their parking passes fast because they would only have a limited number. Sometimes I think it is unnecessary, and more of a privilege for students who live in residence and have a car as well.”

Lutes: “My suspicion is that they did not cap the number of passes that they sold so the 5000 is the total number of people who bought passes. I really do not think that this is an issue that just a few loud people are blowing out of proportion. This is something that I have been hearing about all three years I have been here and it has gotten worse so I do think this is something that should be advocated for.”

Thibodeau: “How do we dictate who deserves to park and who does not? There are so many reasons and I do not know how we could choose who deserves a space and who does not, even based on who lives in residence.”

Motion to form an ad hoc committee chaired by Chris Lutes to address the student parking issue, specifically focusing on education and awareness of current parking locations on campus, a survey of student opinion on the issue, advocacy for maximum utilization of current parking spaces in the short-term, advocate for an increase in the total number of spaces in the long-term, and review for pertinent legislation issue.

Mover: Lutes

Secunder: Arseneau

Vote passes unanimously.

5.8 Sam Arseneau: Ratification of Clubs

UNB French Club – reviewed at last meeting, the issue was in the finance section, as they had a month that was unaccounted for in the fiscal year. That has been fixed in the updated constitution.

Motion for the ratification of the UNB French Club.

Mover: Arseneau

Seconder: Brimicombe

Vote passes unanimously.

Beneath the Lab Coat – reviewed at last meeting, the issue was that the membership fees were unclear. The updated constitution states that executives may not prescribe annual membership fees.

Motion for the ratification of Beneath the Lab Coat

Mover: Arseneau

Seconder: Jefferies

Vote passes unanimously.

UNB International Swim Program – reviewed at last meeting, the issue was there was no mention of training received by members. The updated constitution states that instructors shall be trained by executive officers, outlined by the Lifesaving Society of New Brunswick.

Motion for the ratification of the UNB International Swim Program.

Mover: Arseneau

Seconder: Lutes

Vote passes unanimously.

UNB/STU Caribbean Student Society – one issue with the constitution is that any person registered may be a member of the society, provided that they meet any additional requirements by the board.

Lutes: “I do not think that is a normal provision, from the constitutions I have seen. It is probably fine but it does raise some questions so I think it makes sense to refer it back to them.”

Motion that the UNB/STU Caribbean Student Society constitution is sent back for review.,

Mover: Arseneau

Seconder: S Mackenzie

Vote passes unanimously.

UNB Cares –reviewed at last meeting, the issue was they had one month unaccounted for in their fiscal year. This has been fixed in the updated constitution.

Motion for ratification of UNB Cares.

Mover: Arseneau

Secunder: Lutes

Vote passes unanimously.

UNB Lifeline – They help to book appointments, which raises a red flag because we do not know what information they are taking from students and how that is being delivered. Also, only members who have been a part of UNB Lifeline for one academic term are eligible to become executive officers, which may be exclusive.

Fernandez: “The data collection thing is a bit problematic. It could prove dangerous if they have a lot of student data, so maybe making a provision for how they are going to collect student data. Also, executive positions are usually open to anyone in the membership.”

Arseneau: “I do know that sometimes it is limited to UNB students but I have not seen any specifically regarding time.”

Wilson: “I understood that they were not collecting data but helping to make appointments. Maybe just ask them to clarify.”

McMillan: “Where it is Canadian Blood Services, it is not really UNBSU in my opinion. They are a company so if you want to donate, you are under what they want so that is not really something that we can support, in my opinion.”

Arseneau: “I think they are working with Canadian Blood Services to promote it. If we do see that as an issue that they are working with this organization, I definitely understand that perspective. On booking the appointments, it sounds like they are putting in the information, based on this. I can contact them and clarify because if they are redirecting towards resources on how to book, that would be okay.”

Fazio: “The Student Union has either a position statement or a policy regarding data collection. My recommendation would be to have a discussion with the club to make sure that their data collection process adheres to those standards and add that to the constitution.”

Zundel: “I know that we have a clubs and societies policy. Is there anything in there, on the issue of restrictions of executive members?”

Arseneau: “I do not have it memorized but I do not believe there is anything regarding executive members but I can definitely look into that.”

Jefferies: “My concern is with the exclusivity of people who can donate. That was a conversation that I brought up with the executive, but we determined that everyone can still be included in the club itself because they can still volunteer and contribute. They cannot all donate blood because there are people who travel to certain countries or due to their sexual preferences, they cannot donate. That was my biggest red flag, but they can still participate. I recommend reaching out to the group and recommending that they find more ways in which they can reach out to those students to make sure it is inclusive of all.”

Fernandez: “We do have a pretty comprehensive data policy that was written last year. We should refer them to that and make sure they are following those guidelines. I did a quick search through the clubs and societies policy, looking at executives and there is nothing relating to restrictions on executives, it is not mentioned so it is a bit of a grey area right now. The only necessity is that executives are voted on by a two-thirds majority vote.”

Evans: “I think it is a good idea that we make it more accessible for more people to volunteer. I know that when I was in high school, they rejected half the people because of anemia or height, as they have a lot of restrictions.”

Wilson: “Regarding the data policy, I am assuming they have a liaison with the Canadian Blood Services, so I am assuming that if you have donated before, you can make an appointment there. Reaching out to Canadian Blood Services and seeing how they are using that data so that we know where it is going.”

Fazio: “My perspective on the executive membership issue is that executive members are still members of the club. Putting restriction on executive members needing prior membership of the club puts restriction on membership.”

Motion that the UNB Lifeline constitution is sent back for review.

Mover: Arseneau

Seconder: Lutes

Vote passes unanimously.

UNB Finance Club – have not been active for two years so they must go through the application process again. An issue is that they have vague guidelines about when membership fees will be established. Another issue is that they have honorary and ordinary members. Honorary members are granted by majority of executive officers, but it also states that only ordinary members will pay fees.

Fernandez: “The honorary thing is probably more so if a significant person had gone through the club and they want to grant lifetime membership. I doubt it would be to give their best friend the ability to not pay, even though it sounds like they could, so I would refer that back.”

Motion that the UNB Finance Club is sent back for review.

Mover: Arseneau

Seconder: S Mackenzie

Vote passes unanimously.

5.9 Sean MacKenzie: Scholarships for Full-Time Students

Computer Science Councillor, Sean MacKenzie, presents that the recent change in academic and financial recognition for being a full-time student is now three courses. However, the UNB website has not changed their view regarding scholarships. The website currently says that, in regards to scholarships, a full-time student is defined as somebody who is enrolled in four courses or twelve credit hours. This leaves a grey area for students who are being charged as a full-time student but are unable to get the scholarships rewarded to full-time students.

Zundel: “Have you spoken to anyone in administration about their actual stance? Knowing IT services at UNB, they could be fairly slow to respond.”

S Mackenzie: “I have not contacted them yet because I had a concerned student who wanted to see if anyone on Council had any knowledge of this. It seems like something that should be dealt with fairly quickly.”

Mangusso: “To my knowledge, the scholarship regulations have not changed, although students are now, both academically and financially, considered full-time students if they are enrolled in three courses. In order to qualify for undergraduate scholarships, they need to be enrolled in four courses or twelve credit hours and have taken four courses or twelve credit hours in their previous semester as well. Those regulations have not changed and I talked to Victoria Sparse, the Director of Undergraduate Awards, about that last month.”

Zundel: “From your conversations with them, are they appearing unwilling to change the undergraduate awards requirements?”

Mangusso: “It does not seem to be coming from unwillingness, more so just that the regulations for the university were changed without proper consultation with undergraduate awards and understanding of what the ripple effects would be.”

Motion to move this issue to be discussed at Internal Affairs Committee.

Mover: Mangusso

Seconder: S Mackenzie

Vote passes unanimously.

6. Reports to Council

6.1 Vice President – Communications

- #dontcutourfuture campaign
- Homecoming
- Get Out The Vote
- This week is sustainability week!

- Shinerama is this weekend!
- Academic Concern Directory was launched.
- On top of their own media projects and campaigns, there is a lot of external requests. It would be beneficial to develop a policy or system to help decide what to share and what not to share.

6.2 Vice President – Student Life

- Room 123B – Student Legal Information Centre office. Office hours are Monday and Wednesday 10am-4pm and Tuesday 11am-4pm. All full-time UNB students have access to SLIC, information can be found on the website.
- This week is sustainability week.
- Partnerships with Engineers Without Borders and Counselling Services.
- UNBSU Food is doing a lunch and learn in the SUB Atrium on Friday.
- Herself and SafeRide Coordinator, Liam Lutes, are in the final stages of the SafeRide partnership with the Victory Meat Market, which allows people to choose if they would rather go to Sobeys or to local shops downtown.
- Liam set up a booth in the SUB last week which was beneficial as they received 8-10 more SafeRide driver applications.
- A group of engineering students are doing their senior design project and working on software development for SafeRide.
- UNBSU market party for UNBSU Food is happening in a few weeks.
- Sexual Violence Task Force Committee have been talking about putting disclosure cards in residences.
- UNBSU Food has a partnership with Greener Village to deliver monthly food boxes for UNB students, staff, and alumni on a needs basis. It is not publicly promoted yet.
- Has gotten lots of emails from people who want to volunteer with the Student Union. Currently figuring out how to get them volunteering.

6.3 Vice President – Finance & Operations

- Spending a lot of time meeting with clubs and going through finances, constitutions, and yearly applications.
- The Alcohol Policy is starting on Wednesday October 16th.
- Has been working on the revised budget, which has been difficult while adding positions and councillors, as well as the full-time student change, so the money has to be reallocated.
- Cleaned out the think tank so that it can be a more useful space for councillor meetings and collaborations.
- Sam and Craig had a call with RBC and solidified a full-year sponsorship in which they are committing \$9,250 to the Student Union, which is double what they had last year!
- Single-use coffee packets campaign, in which they were all donated to the men's and women's shelter downtown.

6.4 Vice President – Internal

- First senate meeting two weeks ago.
- Launched the Academic Concern Directory a couple weeks ago.
- Finished the councillor meetings and is always open to more chats.
- This week has been focused on strategic planning. She is on the Strategic Planning Steering Committee as well as the writing team, with Mark Walma and his equivalent on the Saint John campus, which is writing a position paper on student experiences and success.
- There were two roundtables in Fredericton and two roundtables in Saint John.
- She is looking at opportunities to get VP Academic, George MacLean, and Michelle McNeil, who has been looking over the strategic planning process, to come to Council in the next couple weeks. She has also talked to them about doing intercept conversations in the SUB and elsewhere on campus, where students can give input on strategic planning topics without committing to a three hour session.
- Dr. Paul Mazerolle gave a draft mission and values statements for the university. Also looking at opportunities for him to come to Council.

- Friday October 25th 2:30-5:00pm – town hall session for strategic planning. Very important to attend!

6.5 Vice President – Advocacy

- CASA – himself and Nadia will be going to Ottawa on October 25th to participate in the CASA Membership Sponsor Program for gathering Indigenous voices of youth from across Canada.
- Had a priority document due on October 4th. CASA looked into eleven different asks to advocate to the new federal government in February. Advocacy Committee and the executive ranked their top eight, which was:
 1. Student Financial Aid
 2. Student Organization and Autonomy
 3. TRC and Increase in Success for Indigenous Students
 4. Educational Materials Focused on Open Educational Resources
 5. Health and Wellness
 6. Sexual Violence Prevention
 7. Supporting International Students
 8. Youth Employment and Work-Integrated Learning
- Three that missed the list were Student Housing , Student Research, and Infrastructure Support. Everything was conducted by a point system except Student Organization and Autonomy, which ranked as number eight but Mick placed it as number two because nothing else can be done if the union does not exist as whole.
- Elections – polls open Saturday-Wednesday. After that, people can still vote for their home riding in the advanced polling station, but can no longer vote on campus.
- Monday September 30th was the all candidates debate which was very successful with a full house!

- GOTV partnered with Homecoming events and they had people pledge to vote for a breakfast after the party.
- Advocacy committee had their first meeting, where they looked into Fossil Free UNB and discussed the priority asks.

6.6 President

- #dontcutourfuture was successful! Himself and UNB and STU students gathered on campus before walking to the legislature where they were met by David Coon, who accepted the letter from the NBSA, outlining what they see as the ideal future for student financial aid. David Coon spoke with Craig afterwards and said that he would read it at the legislature in November and be a strong advocate for an increase in student financial aid. A number of other MLAs also mentioned that they had similar ideas and would be willing to speak with the Student Union. Similar campaigns were carried out at UNBSJ and Mount Alison.
- NBSA will be doing advocacy during the reading week in November.
- CASA – Member Sponsorship Program in Ottawa as well as, during November 25th – 27th, himself and Mick will be going to Vancouver for CASA’s annual Policy Strategy Conference.
- Homecoming
- Got Out The Vote
- Sits on the universities’ Advancement Committee who had their first meeting this week.
- Multicultural Initiatives Coordinator, Faith, is planning her first project – a multicultural food night in November. Partnering with UNBSU Food and the Multicultural Association of Fredericton.
- Townhouse – Craig and Jenna sat down for discussions about events and services. Applications are open for the Townhouse team and executive.
- Policy Committee
- Shinerama was a success!

- Debate went well!
- Strategic planning – it seemed like administration was listening to student voices.
- Potentially going to Toronto next week to represent NB students at the Mental Health Commission of Canada’s National Conference. There are currently no NB delegates. If Craig’s proposal gets approved, he will go going to Toronto for two days, paid for by the MHCC.

7. Announcements

Lutes: “The Student Legal Information Center is opening tomorrow. It is a place where you can talk to a law student about a legal issue you have been facing. We may not be able to help you ourselves but we can always refer you to somebody who can help you, for free. It is an extremely valuable service that not a lot of people know about so please spread the word.”

Jefferies: “Wellness week is set for November 25th – 29th. The Wellness Coordinator and I are looking at different activities that we can do so that we can put out a full calendar so that everyone is aware of what is going on. If anybody has any ideas, please let me know. Also, Advocacy Committee will be meeting October 20th 4:00pm-5:00pm.”

Question Period

Wilson: “I am aware that you have had a budget change, especially since you are getting more fees from full-time students. Is there any way that we could take a look at the new budget?”

Arseneau: “It will be ready for the next council meeting.”

8. Other business

9. Adjournment

Mover: Pittman

Seconder: Archibald

Meeting adjourned at 9:31pm.