



Danielle Burt President Report

January 2015

Federation of Students
University of Waterloo

1.0 Executive-Related Activities

1.1 Committees:

Sustainability Committee

Synopsis: looking into salt alternatives for winter icy conditions. Meeting with the Director of Housing & Residence and Food Services to pitch sustainable food competition in the residences with cafeterias. Received information on how the university tracks: water treatment, energy consumption, and waste management.

Mental Health Committee:

Synopsis: Next step for the committee is to create a proposal to send to the university administration to increase funding to Mental Health Services (Counselling and Health Services). The committee is currently doing research into the university's current practices and services offered within the mental health area. Proposed funding idea will be a tiered peer support group for mental health issues and it will ideally partner with the centre for mental health research. I've also tasked our Marketing & Communications department with creating a marketing plan for a peer support group – it's due by the end of January.

****Note: I've removed all committees of council reports because they will be submitted as separate reports in the agenda for council.**

Board Committees:

Synopsis: the long range plan committee has a draft LRP that will be presented at the February Board. The General Meetings Ad Hoc Committee is working on a general meetings manual, it's about 60% complete. The Risk Committee met for the first time and discussed various risks in the organization.

2.0 University-Related Activities

2.1 Committees:

Orientation Advisors Committee:

Responsibilities: to plan and oversee orientation week at the administrative level.

Synopsis: Haven't met yet. Right now the committee is dealing with venue bookings for Orientation Week 2015 and leader applications. I've met the new FOC team and gave a presentation at their first training weekend about the importance of the role and the impact it has on students.

Orientation Steering Committee:

Responsibilities: to be the highest decision making body on orientation.

Synopsis: Hasn't met yet. Still working on crisis management procedures with the university; I'm waiting on a reply from the draft I sent out to the parties involved.

Student Services Advisory Committee:

Responsibilities: Makes recommendations to the provost about funds for departments that are covered through the student services fee.

Synopsis: recommending fees for the next year. Updating the Ancillary fee process and the way fees are shown to better reflect actual practice.

Meeting with the Associate Deans:

Still have to meet with Environment and Engineering. Then I will be writing a report of findings on the importance and value of orientation to students.

Other Committees: N/A

3.0 External Activities

3.1 Mental Wellness: working on getting a program for students externally that can support their mental wellness and specifically their mental health.

3.2 Change Project: a joint effort between the UWaterloo, WLU, and the city to stop gendered violence. Attended a meeting to discuss data collection from a survey that was previously distributed.

4.0 Meetings with Decision-makers

4.1 University-level:

Alumni Affairs

Set up a follow up meeting to discuss the credit card motion at the Fall AGM.

Mahejabeen Ebrahim (director of equity), Matt Erickson (director of conflict management and human rights office)

There is a proposed event next term, hosted by the university that would include multiple expert speakers on sexual and gendered violence. Feds will be helping with student engagement for this event. I am meeting with some university admin to discuss our current policy and procedure for handling gendered and sexual violence on campus.

Policy 33

The university is reviewing the content of Policy 33 – Ethical Behaviour. There are members of GSA and Feds at the table. Currently it is a Class FS which wouldn't cover student-to-student issues. We are looking to change that and also add a procedure to deal with Policy 33 violations.

4.5 Other:

- Hired a new Varsity Football Coach
- Attended a day conference called "Untapped Sustainability Resources" dealing with unused resources for sustainability practices in Waterloo Region
- Presented about Feds at the International Orientation for Winter 2015 and attended a follow up networking lunch to welcome them to campus and answer any questions they have.
- Kathleen Wynne visited on January 13th
- We toured Fed Hall post-renovations