



**Report of the President**  
**Brennan McCracken**  
**KSU Council**  
**September 17, 2017**

**1. Internal – Union Affairs**

**1.1. Orientation Week**

- We are proud that the KSU operates one of the last student-run orientation weeks in the country, and this year's orientation week—dubbed ASTRO-WEEK 2017—was a huge success. The week provided incoming students with a huge range of events, information and supports to help them feel safe, comfortable, and at home at King's: we held a number of energetic dance parties and concerts, held space for students who were seeking quieter activities, and planned everything we did within an anti-oppressive framework to make the weeks' events as inclusive as possible to all.
- Thank you to everyone who helped make the week such a success: our staff people, the student managers and staff of the Wardroom and the Galley, our incredible team of student leaders (some of whom are also KSU councillors!), and most importantly to the 2017 KSU Orientation Week Coordinators Gina Grattan and Hannah Sparwasser Soroka. Look forward to the Coordinators presenting a final report to council in the near future!

**1.2. Wardroom Event Organising**

- This year, we'll be working closer with the Wardroom to organise events together in our campus bar. This month, we're working to provide opportunities for students to learn more about sexual violence and consent culture, and the ways in which these topics intersect. I am currently working with Paisley Conrad, one of the student managers of the Wardroom, to plan a panel on the subject of sexual violence and the law on Thursday, September 28th. Stay tuned for more information on the panelists and how you can submit questions for discussion!

**1.3. Galley Space Agreement**

- I have been working with Jennifer Nowoselski, the KSU's Hospitalitys Coordinator, to draft a new space agreement for the King's Galley. The Galley occupies a 400 square foot space adjacent to the Wardroom and has been operating without a space agreement since December 31st, 2017. We are currently in negotiations with University President Bill Lahey and University Bursar Bonnie Sands about the space agreement and hope to sign a new agreement as soon as possible. We hope to ensure that the new agreement represents the current operations and independence of the Galley, and allows for flexibility and growth in the future. I plan on calling a meeting of the Galley Board of Directors to review the draft agreement before the end of the month.

**1.4. Grad Week 2017**

- I helped to facilitate and attend a number of events during KSU Grad Week. Events included:
  - A final Sodexo breakfast—with tater tots and mimosas!—in the Wardroom;
  - A final FYP lecture, delivered by Dr. Elizabeth Edwards and Dr. Daniel Brandes;
  - A free barbecue in the Quad before Encaenia rehearsal;
  - And a grads-only final Wardroom night.I also had the privilege of attending Encaenia to celebrate the accomplishments of the graduating class. Many thanks to our staff people, and the rest of the folks who helped to make Grad Week 2017 such a success!



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## Agenda for Meeting 1 (Council)

King's Students' Union 2017-2018

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Boardroom, Second Floor, A&A Building

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### 2. External – University

#### 2.1. Sexual Violence Awareness, Prevention and Response Policy Committee

- Students continue to be a leading force on the University's Sexual Violence Awareness, Prevention and Response Policy Committee. I have been working with the other student representatives and Rebecca Stuckey, Outreach and Education Coordinator for the South House Sexual and Gender Resource Centre to ensure the draft policy is survivor-centred, trauma-informed, and supported by dedicated University resources.
- I look forward to the committee bringing the draft policy forward for student and community consultation and working with other committee members to make these consultations accessible to students: this means providing multiple ways of submitting feedback, planning multiple in-person consultations with students' busy schedules in mind, and working to ensure that there are active listeners or other support people present at consultation sessions to make them as safe as possible.

#### 2.2. Board of Governors Meeting (June 22, 2017)

- On June 22, 2017, I attended a meeting of the King's Board of Governors with our two Board of Governors Representatives JS and Daniel. I also attended meetings of the Budget Advisory Committee and Finance, Audit and Risk committee in place of our Financial Vice-President Zoë, who was away for the summer. All of these led up to the Board of Governors voting on, among other things, the King's operating budget for the 2017/2018 fiscal year.
  - The budget included a proposed 3% increase to tuition fees, the maximum increase currently allowed by the province. The timeline of the budget process meant that this budget was voted on during the summer, when the vast majority of students—those who are most directly impacted by these increases—were not on campus.
  - The barrier posed by such high fees is an issue that King's students care deeply about, so we provided an opportunity for students to express how these increases affect them. I drafted a letter to members of the Board of Governors, and posted this letter to the front page of the KSU website. Volunteers gathered to call other students and encourage them to sign the letter, and within a matter of days nearly 100 King's students sent emails to members of the Board of Governors expressing their disappointment in a budget that includes any increases to tuition or fees.
  - At the Board meeting on June 22, The Board of Governors passed a budget for the upcoming year and voted to:
    - freeze ancillary and auxiliary fees for 2017/2018 (including residence fees, meal plan fees, etc.);
    - and eliminate the technology fee (a \$100 fee created in 2013 that had been suspended for the past two years)
  - While these decisions come as the direct result of student organizing and demonstrate that our action works, we cannot be complacent. The budget that passed still included a 3% increase to tuition fees and King's students still pay among the highest fees in the country. We need to remain vigilant in our message: students are in crisis, and the University needs to reduce tuition fees now.
- #### 2.3. Humanities for Young People Workshop
- In July, I was thrilled to work with KSU Student Life Vice-President Lianne Xiao to facilitate a workshop on activism and organizing for students in the Humanities for Young People program. Together with the students, we debunked myths about activism and apathy, chatted about how to run effective campaigns, and shared skills, ideas and strategies for



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collectively working towards social change in our own communities. Thank you to Dr. Sarah Clift and Dr. Laura Penny for asking us to present and to the HYP students for sharing their energy—it was a fun and inspiring afternoon! I also had many meaningful conversations with students, faculty members, and members of the Dalhousie Elders-in-Residence program.

### **3. External – Other**

#### **3.1. Canadian Federation of Students - Nova Scotia**

- I attended a Conference from September 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>. The KSU did outreach about our campaign to fight tuition fees at the Conference.

#### **3.2. Canadian Federation of Students National General Meeting**

- Between June 3 - June 9, delegates from the KSU travelled to Ottawa to represent King's students at the 70th Semi-Annual National General Meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students. I attended the meeting, which brought together nearly 80 member local student unions representing 650 000 students from coast to coast along with Zoë Brimacombe (KSU Financial Vice-President) and Michaela Sam (KSU Services and Campaigns Coordinator). We worked with 200 other delegates to shape the work that the Federation will do with its campaigns and services over the next year.
- The structure of the meeting allowed us to bring the specific concerns of King's students to the national conversation in a variety of meeting spaces. In addition to plenary sessions, I represented King's students in meetings of Budget Committee, in the Nova Scotia Component, in the Queer Constituency Group, and in the Caucus of Small Universities.
- Through workshops and panel presentations, the meeting placed the work of the student movement within an anti-oppressive framework and noted its parallels with other movements for social justice: we are allied with those who are fighting to protect water in indigenous communities, with those resisting Canada 150's celebration of colonial violence, and with those who are fighting for equitable working conditions and a fair wage.
- Delegates also voted to pass three emergency motions brought forward to the meeting: First, delegates were in favour of supporting Beatrice Hunter, an Inuk grandmother and member of the Labrador Land Protectors, who was removed from her land and jailed for ten days for her actions in opposition to the Muskrat Falls project;

Second, delegates were in favour of supporting the amendment to Bill S-3, which would address discrimination against Indigenous women and their descendants in the Indian Act. This amendment would finally place Indigenous women and their descendants on an equal footing with Indigenous men and their descendants, with respect to acquiring and transmitting Indian status;

And lastly, delegates were in favour of a motion to condemn recent actions of Memorial University of Newfoundland and support students in Newfoundland and Labrador fighting for free, equitable education.

#### **3.3. Halifax Typographical Union Solidarity**

- On June 16th, I attended a rally in support of then-striking Halifax Typographical Union members with KSU Services and Campaigns Coordinator Michaela Sam. While those workers have now reached an agreement with their employer, I hope to continue our advocacy for (student) workers' rights and continue building solidarity with the labour movement throughout the upcoming year.



## **Report of the Student Life Vice-President**

**Lianne Xiao**

**KSU Council**

**September 17th, 2017**

### **1. Internal – Union Affairs**

#### **1.1. Orientation Week**

- Most of my summer was spent supporting our two Orientation Week Coordinators, Gina Grattan and Hannah Sparwasser Soroka, and I am happy to report that Orientation Week was a huge success! They organized a safe and amazing week filled with many different events to support all incoming students. I wish them the best in their year to come!

#### **1.2. Societies**

- Society ratification packages were available starting September 11th, 2017 and I was excited to see a number of those packages fill my mailbox this week. King's societies are near and dear to my heart as they make up so much of our community. This year, Michaela (SCC), Zoë (FVP), and I updated our society ratification packages to better support the needs of our members. This year, we've included Council dates, so societies know ahead of time when to submit ratification packages as well as funding requests.
- Zoë and I have also scheduled our society training session for the evening of September 27th, 2017. We'll be putting together an updated comprehensive training session to better support our societies and their executive members.

#### **1.3. CUBE**

- CUBE, the Union's intramural athletics program, has returned for the 2017/18 year! I'm so excited to work with our amazing CUBE Coordinators this year, Ellen Zagar and Cooper Toogood. CUBE ran a successful dodgeball game during Orientation Week and will continue hosting great sporty events every Tuesday and Thursday. I'll be working with Ellen and Cooper to discuss the direction they want to take CUBE this year. I'll also work with them to increase first year student participation and CUBE advertising around King's!

### **2. External – University**

#### **2.1. University Hiring Committees**

- Over the summer, I sat on the standing committee for Residence Life, which oversaw the hiring of new and returning Dons for the 2017/18 year. All dons undergo a two-week comprehensive training session and King's has an excellent team for the upcoming year.
- I'm also sad to report that Assistant Dean, Kristian Rafuse, has moved on from King's. I've been representing students on the standing committee for Residence Life to find a replacement for the position.

#### **2.2. Student Health and Wellness Committee**

- Over the summer, I attended the Student Health and Wellness Committee in the place of our External Vice-President, Marie Dolcetti Koros. Essentially, Dalhousie Health Services and Dalhousie Counselling Service have merged into one access point. Last winter, they reviewed the drop-in system and have made changes to shorten and eliminate the waiting



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list for those seeking counselling. In addition, medical files are now shared between the two services, but students are given the option to opt-out.

**3. External – Other**

**3.1. KSU/SUNSCAD Picnic**

- This Saturday, from noon-3pm, the KSU and SUNSCAD are partnered up to host a “Meet Your Sibling Potluck!” As sibling schools, this was be a great opportunity for students from both campuses to eat, mingle, and learn about our respective student run and owned food spaces.



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### Report of the Financial Vice President

Zoe Brimacombe

KSU Council

September 17<sup>th</sup> 2017

#### 1. Internal – Society Funding

##### 1.1. Funding Form

- The Society Funding and Printing Request Form has been updated, and is now available outside the KSU office and online

##### 1.2. PRIDE Funding

- The executive committee voted to pass the following motion, given that the funding requested was for an event happening before our first council of the year:
- Be it resolved that the King's PRIDE Society receive \$25 in contingent funding to purchase craft supplies for a button making event on September 12th in the Wardroom.  
*Moved by Zoe Brimacombe*
- Given the timing of council this year, this was a good solution. In the future, I recommend that FVPs deal with similar situations on a case-by-case basis.

##### 1.3. Finance Committee

- I want to say a huge final thank you to Angela Capobianco, Leila Salem, Katie Buckley, Marie Dolcetti Koros, and Jacob Baker-Kretzmar, the members of finance committee for the 2016/17 year. I'm very excited to elect a new committee today, and to keep working with this committee throughout the year.

#### 2. Internal – Budgeting

##### 2.1. Process

- I hope to begin KSU budget consultations in the first week of October, culminating in a final draft budget posted on October 12<sup>th</sup>, one week before the Fall General Meeting.
- In addition to individual conversations with students, I hope to hold formal consultations with the executive, with council, and one open to all students. I will also set times to do outreach with the budget to answer questions and receive input, and will also accept input via email.
- Stay tuned for updates over the KSU social media, in TWAK, and on posters.

#### 3. External – University

##### 3.1. Finance, Audit, and Risk Committee / June 5<sup>th</sup> 2017

- I attended a meeting of the University's Finance, Audit, and Risk Committee over the phone this summer.
- The 2016/17 audit was presented and approved.
- I spoke and voted against the proposed 3% increase to tuition, and the proposal to freeze all ancillary and auxiliary fees (except the MFA mentor fee). While the 0% increase is a step in the right direction, we need to see tuition and fee reductions immediately. Despite my vote and one other committee member's vote against the schedule of tuition and fees, the motion passed.
- As the student representative, I also voted against the proposed budget for 2017/18, noting that the priorities reflected in this budget, such as the investment in recruitment and retention without investment in students' mental health, decreasing the up-front cost of tuition, or improving accessibility, were not in line with the priorities of King's students. The budget passed.

##### 3.2. Finance, Audit, and Risk Committee / September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017



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- I unfortunately missed September's Finance, Audit, and Risk meeting due to my own scheduling error.
- The agenda included a financial update, updates on ongoing negotiations with the provincial government, and background on the Carnegie agreement.
- There were no decision items on the agenda, and I will get up to date on any additional information from the meeting.

**3.3. Finance, Audit and Risk Committee / Year-long plan**

- In addition to regular quarterly meetings, this year there will also be shorter "strategic" Finance Committee meetings, with the express purpose of doing long-term planning for Kings' future. The first of these meetings will be in October, and I will report on them to council

**3.4. Budget Advisory Committee**

- Budget Advisory Committee meetings began on Friday September 15<sup>th</sup>. Going forward, we will meet every two weeks to prepare the 2018/19 budget for the university.
- This first meeting was focused on the town hall that Bursar Bonnie Sands and President Bill Lahey have planned for this coming Tuesday. We went through the draft presentation and the committee raised a number of concerns. Based on the feedback given, this presentation will change significantly prior to the community town hall. I raised concerns about the fact that the consultation was planned without input from the BAC, leading to these last-minute changes.
- I encourage students to come to the university budget consultation sessions on Tuesday September 19, 2017 to hear about the university's plans for the coming years and to give input into the budget and its priorities. All details should be in your Dal email.

**4. External – Other****4.1. Government/Student Roundtable**

- On April 19<sup>th</sup> Marie and I attended a Government/Student Roundtable as KSU representatives. We were joined by students from universities across Nova Scotia. Along with fellow Canadian Federation of Students – Nova Scotia (CFS-NS) members the Student Union of The Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (SUNSCAD) and the Mount Saint Vincent University Students' Union (MSVUSU), we presented CFS-NS' lobby document *Investing In The Future: Opening The Doors To Post-Secondary Education*.

**4.2. Canadian Federation of Students Semi-Annual General Meeting**

- I attended the CFS' 70<sup>th</sup> Semi-Annual General Meeting as a delegate of the KSU along with Brennan (President) and Michaela (SCC). I represented King's students in Budget Committee, the Maritimes Component, the Queer Constituency, the Women's Constituency, and in the Caucus of Small Universities, as well as in full-group plenary spaces. I was happy to be able to report on the excellent work we are doing at our local. Brennan will provide a more in-depth report, but I am also available for any questions.



**Report of the External Vice-President**

**Marie Dolcetti-Koros**

**KSU Council**

**Sept 17 2017**

**1. Internal – Union Affairs**

**1.1. Campaigns**

- I was excited to start the year promoting our ongoing campaigns such as Fight the Fees and Consent is Mandatory, along with widespread engagement from students.
- The first Fight the Fees meeting was held on Tuesday Sept 12. We discussed a strategy for the year.
- A campaigns material order arrived in early September free as a benefit of membership in the Canadian Federation of Students. We received materials for the Mental Health and Not Your Stereotype campaigns and continue to stock a number of other campaigns materials in the KSU Office.

**1.2. Union Hired Positions**

- Over the course of the summer the Executive discussed the nature of the two Union Hired Positions. The two positions will focus respectively on mental health and supporting racialized students in a project based approach. Understanding that both these areas require specific attention, the projects will aim to establish how the Union can address both of these issues. Pending further consultation and discussion, these projects will be clearly outlined in the following weeks with the aim to begin hiring for these positions in November. I will keep you updated on the progress and nature of these projects.

**2. External – Other**

**2.1. Canadian Federation of Students Nova-Scotia Executive Meeting**

- I attended an executive meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students- NovaScotia in April as the local 11 representative. Member locals presented reports and reviewed the 2016-2017 academic year. Based on feedback from locals, the executive prepared a campaigns plan to advance organising efforts in the province on issues such as tuition fees. President Brennan McCracken attended the executive's summer meeting in my place while I was out of town for work.



## **Report of the Communications Vice President**

**Cassie Hayward**

**KSU Council**

**17 September 2017**

### **1. Internal – Union Affairs**

#### **1.1. Orientation Week**

- Hats off to our coordinators and to everyone involved! I was fortunate to be able to lend a hand throughout the week. I was mainly in the office to make sure volunteers could get all the materials they needed, but I was also able to make a new sign for "What's New in the KSU"!

#### **1.2. Scribe**

- This past week I have been able to spend some time with our scribe Michael to go over templates for the minutes, as well as procedural aspects of the position.

#### **1.3. TWAK**

- During Orientation Week we were able to get 162 new people following TWAK! These additions mean that almost the entire FYP class is on the list this year. I spent a long time transferring their names, emails and class year from paper into an excel spreadsheet. The first edition of TWAK for the academic year went out on Sunday September 10<sup>th</sup>, and had 10% more opens than the previous mass email sent! TWAK events are also still up on the chalk board closest to the galley – so remind your friends to give it a read every Monday.

#### **1.4. Bylaw Review Committee**

- The Bylaw Review Committee will sit sometime within the next two weeks. There needs to be consultation on a referendum policy before we can sit.

#### **1.5. Goals**

- For the next month my goal is to stay on top of promoting events over social media and create more physical posters for KSU specific events. I have created three new posters for upcoming events, and am waiting on tentative details before I can post them!