# Executive Reports

## President

**Name: Taylor Chase**

**To:** StFX Student’s Council

**Re:** Report to Council (August 2016)

**Committees:**

Bloomfield Committee: Had Bloomfield Committee meeting where we discussed the topics of, Building Renovation, X-Ring Store, Inn Extension, Clothing Contract and Food Service Restrictions.

McKenna Advisory Board: Had first meeting where we discussed the various leadership events and opportunities that are happening around campus in the coming months.

X-Ring Committee Meeting: Scheduled first X-Ring committee meeting for September 8th. Will discuss eligibility requests, honorary X-Ring and guest speakers.

Student Success Centre: Attended meeting for launch of new Student Success Centre. Will be located on first floor of the Library. Discussed what is needed for better student success at St.FX.

**External Affairs**:

Media Relations:

X989 FM – Nothing but Hits: Did an interview outlining goals for the year and highlighting Orientation Week.

CBC: contacted by Michael Gorman to discuss the progress made by St.FX with regards to the Sexual Assault Policy and the MOU signed by the universities across the country.

Crisis Planning: Had meeting with UPEI President to discuss crisis contingency planning within our students Union (and lack there of). Looking to work with other Universities in the Maritimes to develop a strategy for “worst case scenario events”.

Students NS: Attended the AGM where we as a board had very productive discussions regarding expectations, Struck 3 new committees, Policy, Member Relations and Governance. I will be Chair of the Governance Committee.

CASA: Scheduled first governance committee meeting.

**Internal Affairs:**

Core Leadership Team: Attended the Core Leadership Team event at Crystal Cliffs. Was able to really witness the development of a united team between House Presidents and Residence Life Staff.

Barbeques: We were hosted by both Kent MacDonald and Kevin Wamsly for casual BBQ’s. Both great events to continue to build the relationship between the University Administration and the Students’ Union.

Operating Funding Formula: Meeting with Andrew Beckett regarding the University Operating funding formula with VP External Affairs – Annie Sirois. Discussed that there is no formula and schools are given a flat rate pegged of 2013 numbers of enrolment.

MacPherson & MacDonald: took part in meetings with the University regarding the changes happening to Cameron Hall. Supported VP Residence Affairs – Joelle French, through this process.

International Students: Had the pleasure of Welcoming the International Students to the Students’ Union, as well as meeting with the LEAP (Learning English for Academic Purposes) students.

Speaking Engagements:

* Leaders Forum
* 2 Speeches to House Presidents and Vice Presidents (“State of the Union” and “Advice Moving Forward”)
* Faculty and Staff Breakfast – Thanked all faculty and staff on behalf of students

Student of the Month: Working on nomination form which students, faculty are able to submit to recognize outstanding achievements of students around the community.

AGM: Had a few preliminary meetings regarding the Annual General Meeting which will occur on September 21st. Discussing the structure of the meeting as well as the presenter we will have present for the AGM. Looking great, very excited!

## Vice-President Finance and Operations

**Name:** Chad Hasegawa

**To:** StFX Student’s Council

**Re:** Report to Council (August 2016)

**Note:** Out of Office (On Vacation) Aug 1st – 15th

**Committees**

*Bloomfield Committee:*

Meeting regarding the lease of the Bloomfield based off the requirement by the lease. Looking into the possibilities of a renovation timeline so we are on the same page as the university. Other items on the agenda included Coffee Kiosk, X-Ring store, Inn Extension, Office Space, and the clothing contract.

*Pepsi Year in Review:*

Pepsi had it annual meeting with the three largest stakeholders of the contract, the Students’ Union, Athletics and Sodexo. They now have a Northern Nova Scotia Manager and current Co-op student attending StFX, which will hopefully increase the amount interactive sponsorship with students. As of right now we are one month away from a contract renegotiation but the contract is also volume based (currently 68% of volume consumed). This because of changes to trays at meal hall (sustainability win for the Students’ Union) and things like the strike heavily reduced the amount of Pepsi products used. Moving forward we are still looking to renegotiate the contract based on good faith even though the volume setbacks, anticipated October 2016.

Marketing Strategy Meeting:

After receiving a response from the shortlist the RFP (request for proposal) will take longer than anticipated. It will be closer to a year process so we are looking for a short-term solution for the website while the RFP moves forward. Along with that it opens up some marketing budget that we are looking to move forward with Ohlala on TheU App. We may upgrade the app for better student integration. With the App selling Frosh Kits it have move a lot of activity to the service and we want to capitalize on it while its hot. Almost 2500 registered users and we can see the activity moving up day to day.

**External Affairs**

*Leaders Forum:*

Held to develop student leaders on campus early and strengthen bonds between them. Parties include Res Life, SU Exec and HP/VPS, Athletics and International Students.

Highlights:

* Resource Fair
* Leading at X
* Leaders Keynote
* Pro Social Behavior

*International Students/LEAP Students:*

Meeting with the International welcome week Volunteers, International Students, and the Leap Students on separate occasions to present what the Student Union is and a tour of the building. Julieanne and I also are coming in to present the Health and Dental plan and Aspiria for them during their international Welcome Week.

**Internal Affairs**

*SUB Exec Training:* International Health Plan Associate is now hired and House Accounts Coordinator is bad so training has begun for both of them. Gaojiawei Fu is the applicant we hired and she was able to start right away for training and International Welcome Week. Shelby MacLennan has started and we are doing a presentation to the HPs/VPs for their house accounts and getting them to do a rough budget for the year.

*House Presidents training*:

Putting on a couple of different sessions for the House Councils. Going over house dues and house accounts with Shelby and my part of the executive team. I’m hoping they will be able to grasp this knowledge and utilize it during the year.

*Sponsorship:*

Sponsorship is coming to a close and we are projected to pass the revenue budget line of $24 000. Vic and Sean have been a huge factor to this success and the healthy relationships created moving into the future.

Update:

Gold:

Scotiabank

Aspiria

Pharmasave

Sobeys (Special Deal with the SFRC)

Silver:

Maritime Inn

CIBC

Athletics

Market Square

Bronze:

Grant Thornton

Alumni Affairs

Bell (maybe)

Other:

The Casket

Snappy Tomato

Symphony Nova Scotia

Greco Pizza

Kenny’s Pizza

Pizza Delight

Studio

East-Link

**Sub – Executives**

*Drive U:*

* Both Drive U Senior and most of the regular drivers have been hired. Some driving positions will open up in September.
* Staying in contact with the drivers to bring info for insurance and tranning week.

*Student Food Resource Centre:*

* Victoria Cullen is the new Student food Resource centre coordinator and has been helping Hannah with the campus garden
* The SFRC is now “Powered by Sobeys” with our new Gold Level sponsorship of Orientation Week.

*House Accounts Coordinator:*

* The HAC, Shelby MacLennan, is training and working with the House Presidents this week.
* Going over House Accounts and rough budgeting in 1 on 1 sessions.

*Sponsorship Coordinator:*

* The Sponsorship Coordinator for the 2016 summer is now Victoria Cullen. She was the previous coordinator last summer and is underway on many of her different local businesses connections.
* During the School year we will be exploring different options for Sponsorship Coordinator to take the position in a new direction. Preferably with the Health and Dental plan for preferred providers.

*International Health and Dental Plan Advisor:*

* The International Health Plan Advisor has been hired and its Gaojiawei Fu
* She is an international student from China and had a strong application and ideas for this new position.
* She is helping Julieanne and I with the presentations we have been putting on for the international students

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## Vice-President Residence Affairs

**Name: Joelle French, VP Residence Affairs**

**To:** StFX Student’s Council

**Re:** Report to Council (August 2016)

**Committees**:

1. Student Orientation Committee (SOC)

* Continued weekly meetings with the Student Orientation Committee
* Working on polishing off plans for Orientation Week 2016
* Submitted New House Cheers and had Old House cheers
* Came to a resolution on the cheer-off structure. The cheer-off structure will remain the same as last year, with the sectioning off of quadrants and O’Crew working in the middle sections, in order to oversee and mitigate risk
* It was determined that I will be sitting as the Talent Show PEO and will be helping to run and facilitate the event, in order to easily communicate with the House Presidents and Vice Presidents
* The Talent Show will consist of only three categories this year – Team Dance, Musical (includes instruments and singing) and the Cornucopia of Talent (different and interesting talents will be showcased in this portion) – our goals are to have fun and have effective time management
* O’Crew Shine committee will be speaking for ten minutes at the break in order to educate and encourage fundraiser
* Zack Lane unfortunately will be unable to perform at the tent party on the first night – however the band the Next Exit will be available as a replacement; they are a great local band who will provide awesome entertainment for the first night

1. East Coast Student Leadership Conference – Steering Committee

* During the month of August, the ECSLC Steering Committee did not meet
* Continuing to work with Jan Boomhouwer and Tiffany Maclellan to create a framework for choosing proposals for presentations, as well as gather the proposals
* New website has been created and registration is now open
* Will have more to report in the September Report to Council

1. Planning Committee for the Visit of Senator Murray Sinclair

* This committee did not meet during the month of August, nothing new to report and no action items to follow up on

1. Leadership Summit @ X Panning Committee

* This Committee did not meet during the month of August, nothing new to report and no action items to follow up on

**External Affairs** *(Here is where to indicate what has been happening through your office/department in terms of events outside of the Union, and our executive. Other groups within the university that you have been working with)*

The main event that occurred in my office throughout the month of August, was the combining of MacDonald and MacPherson. The university approached the Student Union Executive Team on August 10th, to explain that both MacDonald and MacPherson were at 50% occupancy and the numbers did not look like they would rise within the next three weeks. In order to keep both residences, open at 50% occupancy, it would put the university in a fiscally irresponsible position. The university did look into allowing TNT to move into the top floors of each building, however there was not enough applicants to fulfill the requirements. The other option to look into was offering rooms in MacPherson and MacDonald as single rooms, however the revenue generated did not outweigh the costs spent. This left the university with the only option to combine the two residences, and completely close MacDonald House. Initially, the University wanted to just have everyone become a part of MacDonald, however the Executive Team felt that it was important to find a solution that kept the integrity and tradition of MacPherson intact. After several meetings with University Admin, the compromise of moving MacPherson to the bottom two floors and MacDonald to the top two floors was brought forward. With intentional planning, goal setting and being proactive, we believe that this is a temporary solution that can be successful in the upcoming year.

In terms of other external affairs, the Executive Team had the opportunity to attend the Antigonish send off for first year students. It was an awesome opportunity to connect with incoming first years and their parents. As an Executive Team, we also attended dinners at Dr. Kevin Wamsley ( Vice President Academic and Provost) and Dr. Kent MacDonald.

**Internal Affairs** *(Here is where to indicate what has been happening through your office/department in terms of events within the Union, and our executive. I would recommend discussing projects that require collaboration between your office and the office of another member of the Executive Board)*

My office has been fully geared towards Training Week for the House Presidents and Vice Presidents, as well as helping support Rachel LeBlanc and the executive team in the execution of Orientation Week. I will attach a copy of our Training Week schedule – the highlights of the week include Cultural Awareness Training, Bringing in the Bystander Training, Views from the U, and a trip to Scotian Glen Camp for some team bonding. If you have any questions about the Training Week or the sessions facilitated, please send me an email at su\_resaffairs@stfx.ca.

Another exciting project has been the creation of the MSB/Plessis/Off-Campus House Hockey Cup. The Executive Team has come up with a fun and engaging idea to name the brand new house cup. The way it will work is that each house will be able to submit a name to the Students’ Union and Nicholas Carpenter, the U’s Full Time Communications and Marketing Manager will help to facilitate a campus wide vote on the names utilizing social media, in order to determine the name of the new House Hockey Cup. The new name will be revealed at the U’s Annual General Meeting, which will be held on September 22nd.

**Sub – Executives** *(Here is where to discuss your interactions and plans for your sub-executives. Please include any hiring of sub-executive positions, as well as communication that you have had with your different sub-execs. This would also be a place to discuss any planning that you may be doing for training sessions for each of the various positions that fall beneath your office)*

I am very happy to announce that in the month of August, a Vice President for Mount Saint Bernard was hired. Her name is Courtney Stamp and I truly believe that she will compliment the House President very well and will excel in the role.

In the month of August, I also opened up the applications for the fourth position of Student Advocate and have received several impressive applications. I am holding off on hiring until the week of September 5th, in order to focus my attention on Training Week and Orientation Week. However, with this said the Student Advocate will not miss any important training, as the training day for Student Advocates will be held on September 18th and Office Hours will begin during the week of September 19th.

In terms of House Presidents/Vice Presidents/OCLs, I have been communicating with them the requirements for Training Week and Orientation Week, as well as finalizing the schedule for training week. I will have a full report and review of Training Week in my September Executive Report.

## Vice-President Activities and Events

**Executive Report: August**

**Rachel LeBlanc**

**Vice President: Activities and Events**

Hello All! I’m happy to be reporting to council on what’s been happening in August. Since most of the action has been centered around frosh week plans, you will notice that my August report is rather short, since it’s been putting together the finishing details and confirming all the bookings. Nonetheless, here it is!

**Committees:** Working with SOC committee and ERC committee on upcoming event for Orientation week and September

**Student Orientation Committee**: Worked the last few weeks to approve some last minute changes to the events:

1. New Tent Party band

2. Glow Games t-shirt signing station

3. Inflatable laser tag, bouncy castle and mini golf course

4. Approved the Cheer off quadrants

**ERC Committee**: Met for the first time to review Events for September and Frosh week. All events for frosh week were approved and the Nursing Ball and Women in Business Society’s event were approved. Will be sitting on the committee meetings starting September once frosh week is out of the way.

**External Affairs:**

1. Worked with Glow Parties to get inflatables in for frosh week
2. Touched base with all entertainment, management production people about frosh week plans to follow up

**Internal Affairs:**

* **Entertainment Coordinators**: Worked with Brandon to review last year’s Entertainment Coordinator position. With the recent changes, we reviewed the terms of reference to make some edits to the document.
* **O-crew**: Having regular meetings with O-crew Co chairs to review the O-crew logistics.

**Working with VP Academics and Mary Coyle** to organize X talks for the year. Looking at Bauer theatre as a suitable space and seems to be good to go!

* **Working a lot with Sean Ryan** on Orientation week planning. Cannot thank him enough for all of the guidance and effort he is putting into helping execute this week.
* **Working with the team for Septembers’ Frosh week 2016**

**Sub Executives:**

**O-crew Co Chairs:** Preparing and helping them organize their training week through bookings and logistics. Presented to the O crew Exec team during their training week. Kelsey and Hannah have been able to successfully plan and modify the training week to accompany some last minute changes to the location.

**Society Coordinator, Tiffany MacLennan:** Have been connected with her via email and phone on society night. Will begin coordinating dates for the Society ratifications that need to happen before the AGM.

**Entertainment Coordinator**: As the role has been striped as a sub-executive position, Brandon Hamilton and I developed a new framework for the Entertainment Coordinators. The mutual agreement outlines the various responsibilities and a clear role description. The objective is to make the role more experiential, which emphasis on hands on experience with event planning.

## Vice-President External Affairs

**Name: Annie Sirois**

**To:** StFX Student Council

**Re:** Report to Council (August 2016)

**Committees**

* *McKenna Centre for Leadership:* met this month to discuss leadership events that the centre, the university, and the Students’ Union will be putting on this upcoming academic year.
* CASA’s *Member Relations Committee:* met to review the work plan and assess where to go moving forward; currently in the brainstorming process on how to increase membership and maintain membership for the organization
* CASA’s *Graduate Committee*: met to review policy changes

**External Affairs**

A correction to my July report, Taylor and I attended the **CASA Policy and Strategy Conference** at Red River College in Winnipeg from the 27th to the 30th. The bid to host the Annual General Meeting in March went to Acadia Students’ Union, who ran unopposed. The Policy and Strategy Conference was extremely successful as all the committees within CASA developed a strategic work plan to achieve their goals this year. The **SNS Annual General Meeting** was also held at Acadia at the beginning of August. There the SNS board went through training on National Builder, a tool that we will be using to encourage students to vote in the upcoming provincial election (which has not yet been called, though there is speculation it will occur in Spring of 2017). The board also reviewed the financial statements, created three new committees. Taylor will be the Chair of the Governance Committee and I, the Chair of the Policy Committee. I will also now be fulfilling the positions of Vice-Chair of the board this year, which includes reviewing monthly financial statements and assisting in the creation of the budget. Using the work plans we used at CASA, I developed a work plan for the SNS committees to use this year as well.

**Internal Affairs**

I have secured a date for the **All-Candidates Social Debate for the upcoming Antigonish municipal election**. The social will be available to all StFX students and will be taking place in the Golden X Inn from 6:30PM until 8:00PM on September 22nd. It will be a chance for all candidates who are running for mayor to interact with students in a social setting. Official invitations will be sent out to candidates once the town’s returning officer has finalized the list. I was also granted the rights to use the ‘Get Out The Vote’ logo for the municipal election and have tailored it to be better associated with the Town of Antigonish. I have also been working on voter information cards that will be passed out throughout September.

I have secured a date for **Student Assistance Nova Scotia** to come to campus on November 22nd to give a presentation. The presentation will provide students with information on how grants and loans work, and how to repay loans once students graduate.

Have begun work on an **External Affairs Committee** that will act as an advisory board for myself for when I meet with members of government. To increase transparency and legitimacy, the committee will be composed of the diverse demographics we have on campus. Members, who will be students at large, will be able to provide me with insight into student issues they face so that I will be able to go and advocate on behalf of them to government.

Much of the last few days before Orientation Week was dedicated to meeting with Orientation Crew (OCREW) members, House Presidents/Vice Presidents/and Off-Campus Leaders, International Students, and Residence Life staff. I’d also like to thank the Student Transition Coordinators for hosting a highly successful Leadership Forum!

To provide some closing remarks, I am blown away by how fast this summer has gone by. I’ve had the privilege to travel to Ottawa, Halifax, Winnipeg, and Wolfville to advocate on behalf of students. There I have met countless people who are driven to make substantial change for students in Canada. With everything that I strive to do this year in my position, my ultimate goal is to one day make post-secondary education available to all those that want it.

Annie Sirois

Vice President External Affairs

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**Glossary**

**StudentsNS/SNS:** Students Nova Scotia is the STFXSU’s Provincial Lobbying Group. It is an alliance of Nova Scotia post-secondary student associations, including StFX, Acadia, Cape Breton, Saint Mary’s, Kingstec, and Annapolis Valley. The organization gives students in Nova Scotia a united voice, helping set the direction of post-secondary education by researching challenges, identifying solutions, and creating the political space needed for these solutions to happen. For more information: <http://studentsns.ca/> or contact the Executive Director Sophie Helpard at [director@studentsns.ca](mailto:director@studentsns.ca)

**CASA:** Canadian Alliance of Student Associations is the STFXSU’s Federal Lobbying Group and a national voice for Canada’s post-secondary students. Established in 1995, CASA is a non-partisan, not-for-profit student organization composed of student associations from across Canada. For more information: <http://casa-acae.com/> or contact the Executive Director Michael McDonald at [ed@casa.ca](mailto:ed@casa.ca)

**MLA:** A Member of Legislative Assembly is a representative elected by the voters of a constituency to the provincial legislative assembly. The MLA for the Antigonish constituency is Mr. Randy Delorey of the Liberal Party. Contact: [office@delorey4antigonish.ca](mailto:office@delorey4antigonish.ca) or 902-870-5899

**MOU:** refers to the Memorandum of Understanding, an agreement between the provincial government and all the universities in Nova Scotia. It serves to provide operational direction for universities.

**MP:** A Member of Parliament is a representative elected by the voters of a constituency to the House of Commons (also known as the Lower House). The MP for Central Nova constituency is Sean Fraser of the Liberal Party. Contact: [sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca](mailto:sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca) or 902-867-2919

**PSE:** refers to post-secondary education, also known as higher education, which encompasses universities, academies, colleges, seminaries, and institutes of technology.

## Vice President Academic Affairs

**Name: Ryley Erickson**

**To:** StFX Student’s Council

**Re:** Report to Council (August 2016)

**Committees**

Academic Computing Committee

* 1 meeting (July 5)
* Current computers are not fast but they do the job
* We will not be able to survive the current year with all the computers however
* Looking at moving back to Windows, but no firm decision was made
* Looking at closing down the computer lab on third floor Nicholson and using the up to date computers there to replace the failing ones around campus
* The faculty are all switching to Windows which will save $100,000

Academic Planning and Priorities

* 1 meeting (July 18)
* Worked on the concept for new degree pattern that will be unveiled sometime later this year
* Minutes for this meeting are in camera unfortunately

Joint Committee on Studies

* 1 meeting (August 22)
* Looked at changing the medaling process for seniors to avoid double medalist
* Lots of discussion around it, was decided that we were going to do it by an online vote
* Discussed the option of a dual degree in arts and sciences. The idea was passed and will be reviewed by other senate sub-committees.
* Briefly discussed making 400 level courses mandatory for each degree but idea fell through

Mckenna Advisory Board Committee

* 1 meeting (August 29)
* Introduced to the purpose and set up of the McKenna Advisory Board
* Ran through the list of leadership events that each section of the school was holding in the upcoming months
* Received information on the leadership summit that will be happening September 22

Student Orientation Committee

* Four meetings (August 3, 10, 17, 24).
* **1st meeting**
* Went through each event in the event booklet
* The event booklet is so that if everyone involved in orientation week was wiped out by a meteor, then people would still know how to put it on
* Cheer-off changed to Memorial Field location to make it easier
* The new O-Crew committee executive is Jamie Conway
* **2nd meeting**
* Cheer off structure was discussed but no decision was made
* The exhaustive list of house cheers was edited then passed
* 2nd tent party will now be held on the patio of the Inn instead to provide a more intimate environment more suited to the type of music being played
* Sponsoring frosh kits was discussed and will be looked at for next year
* Talked about running ice-breakers during the break on Sunday
* If there are enough hoses, then we will have slip and slides during jello slide
* **3rd meeting**
* Cheer-off decided to be done in quadrants like last year (this was done on August 18th as it was raining during this meeting so we could not go out and stake it out)
* We will have signs on welcome day posted all around the KMC to indicate to both the parents and the students where and when the various events are.
* We have removed the cheer section of the talent show to make things run smoother
* All meetings for during frosh week were planned
* **4th meeting**
* Added inflatable games as an option for people who don’t want to do cardio hip hop or the zen room
* Ratified the new MacPherson cheers
* Approved the schedule for welcome day to be printed out and posted all around the KMC
* Glow games will be moving ahead with glow in the dark fabric markers at a station within the rotation, instead of having paint or a free for all with the markers
* The rollout for events was discussed

Timetable Review Committee

* 1 meeting (August 2)
* Looked at getting rid of the 5:15-6:30 block to give time for students to have dinner
* Night classes will now begin at 6:00pm and no class will be held between 5:15 & 6:00
* Looked at changing the start of the school day to either later or earlier, but both ideas were deemed unsuccessful

**External Affairs**

Nothing to report, other than I wrote my MCAT in Halifax (which is kind of external)

**Internal Affairs**

**Take Back the Night**

Met with the Antigonish Women’s Resource Center to begin planning Take Back the Night. We are looking to do it in a similar format as last year with an opening forum outside Nicholson, sign-making all day in the Bloomfield Centre and then the march around town. I will be coordinating with the university while the AWRC will be coordinating with the town.

**Faculty Social**

We currently have over 30 faculty confirmed for the faculty social and numerous 3rd and 4th year students will be there to provide a student perspective. The professional programs will be up in the conference rooms while the rest of the programs will be in the main arena in the KMC. We also now have appetizers coming!

**Leadership Training**

We had a full day of leadership training with Frank Gallant who is our point person for all leadership training. It was very successful and we are feeling ready for Welcome Week

**LGBTQ+ BBQ**

The heads of X-Pride & Get Real have been informed and know their roles for the