

JUNE 2025 EXECUTIVE REPORT

President, Eloghosa Avenbuan

GENERAL UPDATES

- **OUSA Welcome Con / Strat Con**

Between May 26 - May 29th, I attended the OUSA Welcome Conference in Keene, Ontario. The purpose of this three-day-long conference was to welcome the new members of the OUSA Steering Committee and to set the strategic goals for the organization. Upon the completion of this conference, we were able to:

- Determine the General Assembly dates for fall and spring.
- Discuss OUSA's advocacy priorities for the year.
- Determine the steering committee dates for the fall semester
- Determine which working groups we would participate in.
- Establish a date for next year's Pi Head Dinner.

- **OUSA Summer + Blog**

Over the past month, I attended "OUSA Summer School," which was a series of 3 online Zoom information sessions spread out over the course of June. In the first information session, we met with OUSA's lawyer to learn more about how OUSA, as a non-profit organization, operates, and our roles within the organization as board members. During the second information session, we learned about the different levels of government and how they pertain to our advocacy. I was unable to attend the third information meeting.

Additionally, during June, I wrote a blog for OUSA's website. This blog was meant as a way for me to introduce myself, and for students to learn more about my role within OUSA. OUSA's communications is working on getting the blog up by next month.

- **OUSA Working Groups**

As part of my requirements for being a steering committee member, I am required to be a part of a working group, also called a committee. I am on the Equity, Diversity, Inclusivity and Accessibility (EDIA) working group, and also the risk management and finance working group. This month, the EDIA working group was able to meet and review the recommendations that the last EDIA working group left for us. Our meeting for the risk management and finance working group will commence in July.

- **Student Care Meeting with Larissa**

On June 2nd, the executives and I met with Larissa from Studentcare to learn more about our legal support program. We reviewed the history of the legal program and the metrics. We also spent some time brainstorming initiatives to increase the awareness of this program, including videos and tabling events.

- **Meeting with Athletics + Library Leadership**

On June 3rd, the executives and I, along with our events team, met with members of the athletics department, including Amy Lance and Scott Barker, to discuss partnership opportunities between our departments. We also started preliminary discussions regarding the annual campus cup and campus rec day. Another meeting with athletics is scheduled for sometime in July.

Additionally, that same day the I, along with the VP Student Life and the VP Downtown, met with the senior library leadership team and had a brainstorming session regarding ways the OTSU and library team could assist in helping each other reach our goals.

- **Convocation**

On Friday, June 6th, I attended the Business and IT convocation as a part of the Ontario Tech platform party. It was an amazing experience celebrating the achievements of our newest graduates.

- **Risk Training**

The executive team and I met with Jacquelyn Dupuis from Risk on June 12th. During this meeting, we gained greater insight into how risk at Ontario Tech operates, the different types of risks and how they can be applicable to our events and operations at OTSU.

- **Awards Selection Committee**

This month, I worked on creating a terms of reference for a new start-up committee that I would like to create. The awards selection committee will be responsible for overseeing the distribution of student awards at the OTSU. Contents of the terms of reference have been attached to the board package for board approval in today's meeting.

- **Student Deals**

During this month, the VP Student Life, Tuirani and I met with a couple of businesses, including Tahinis, Church's Chicken and Odd Bunch to discuss partnership opportunities. I am in the process of drafting an agreement document to formalize these partnerships. Tuirani and I also met with the manager of marketing, Jen Prior and the executive director to determine a timeline for the student deal initiative. By mid-July, we are planning on having our list of businesses complete to then send it to marketing for approval. With this timeline, we aim to have the student deal section of the website up by the end of August.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- **HR Committee**

During the month, myself and members of the election committee interviewed three candidates for the social science and humanities board director position. Throughout the interviews, we took detailed notes on each candidate, and the recommendations for the chosen candidate will be presented in this board meeting.

- **Finance Committee**

The finance committee met this month to review and approve the 2025-2026 budget.

- **Clubs and Society Committee + OTSU-OTU Advisory Committee Meeting**

The VP Student Life and I attended the Clubs and Society Committee meeting, as well as the OTSU-OTU Advisory Committee Meeting. Please see the VP Student Life's board report for more information.

VP Student Life, Tuirani Kerfelec

GENERAL UPDATES

- **FEMFLEX Launch**
The women-only hour is a project that my predecessor, Areej Fatima, was developing. I am pleased to share that this initiative has launched its pilot project this Spring. I've spoken with Brianna Christopher, who oversees this new service, and we will collaborate together to coordinate a collaboration to promote this initiative.
- **Convocation Ceremony**
I have participated in three convocation ceremonies, sitting on stage, attending the convocation of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Faculty of Sciences and the Faculty of Engineering. Throughout this period, I have participated in creating content for the social media platform alongside our marketing team. The graduation ceremony provided a good opportunity to interact with the various Deans, the Provost, the Chancellor, and the President.
- **Indigenous Presence On Campus**
In partnership with the Vice-President of Student Affairs, I have connected with the Indigenous office to enhance understanding of the Indigenous culture in our community. We are planning to hold a university Powwow in spring 2026, showcasing performers, educators, and creators. Establishing connections with Indigenous knowledge keepers will give students a richer insight into the history and importance of these territories.
- **Society President Meeting**
I've reached out to all of the Presidents of the Society and have had meetings with some of them (BITSoc, Health Science Society and Graduate Society). We talked about their objectives for this year and the process of ratification. It served as an effective way to initiate dialogue and show support throughout the ratification process and alignment of the OTSU with its ongoing objectives.
- **Discount hub**
I've engaged with several business owners to identify a range of discounts that would best benefit our student community. Our team is in the process of drafting an agreement document to formalize these partnerships. I'm currently meeting with more businesses and will provide them with the finalized agreement as soon as it's ready.
- **Clubs and Societies Policies and Procedures**
The Events and Engagement team and I have been working on changing the clubs and societies' policies and procedures. We are in the process of meeting with the Clubs and Society Committee to get the changes approved before presenting them to the board.
- **Food Insecurity**
I have met with the Odd Bunch with the President. At first, the goal was to settle student discounts. During the discussion, our contact mentioned that they collaborate with other Student Unions to address food insecurity on campus. Our wellness & support service coordinator was in communication with the George Brown College Student Union, and we have met with them to understand how their Student Nutrition Access Program (SNAP) operates and how we could potentially recreate their initiative on our campus.
- **Student Care Conference**
Eloghosa Avenbuan and I attended the Student Care Conference, which is an annual conference diving deep into the OTSU's health, dental and legal coverage services. This year's conference highlighted the transition from mystudentplan and mylegalplan to one merged entity, Alumno. We also obtained information regarding the services most commonly used and ways students are engaging with them. This conference united 20+ universities all over Canada, and the conference offered a valuable chance to network with other Student Union representatives and staff

while gaining insights from their experiences.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- **Clubs and Society Committee**

The application window was opened from May 26th to June 8th, allowing students to apply for the remaining 3 spots on the committee. Nonetheless, most of the applicants were students from the same faculty, which I believe does not represent the diversity of our campus. Consequently, I have selected one candidate for the committee and will reopen the application process to encourage students from different faculties to apply. However, I did add Faith Farayibi as one of the CSC members as we needed to meet quorum for our first meeting, which aimed to start reviewing the Clubs & Society policies and procedures changes. Our next meeting is planned to occur in the second week of July.

- **OTSU x OTU Advisory Committee**

I attended the Advisory Committee meeting on June 19th, where we met with stakeholders of the university, such as the Deputy Provost, the Director of Student Life Operations, the Acting Dean, SGPS (Office of the Registrar) and the Vice-President, Administration. This meeting aimed to get to know the staff and explained the purpose of this committee, which is to have ongoing support from the university during our time as executives. I plan to be in contact with them for upcoming goals.

VP of Student Affairs, Justin Barrett

GENERAL UPDATES

- **Completion of Key Student Advocacy & Support Initiatives**

Since my hire on May 1, 2025, three major projects—the Condom Access & Education Program (in partnership with the AIDS Committee of Durham and supported by VP Life), the Ancillary Fee Report & White Paper, and the Ontario Tech Student Survival Guide (supported by VP life)—have all been completed and are now in the engagement and assessment phase. These initiatives were launched to increase access to harm reduction supplies, improve student financial literacy, and support students navigating university life. All three projects were delivered at no additional cost to the OTSU (aside from wages for labour), emphasizing strategic resource use and fiscal responsibility. Current work includes outreach, data collection, and student feedback to measure impact and inform future programming.

- **Health Sciences Convocation Attendance – June 4, 2025**

As VP of Student Affairs, I attended the Faculty of Health Sciences convocation ceremony on June 4, 2025, representing the Ontario Tech Students' Union. It was a meaningful opportunity to celebrate graduating students, connect with faculty members, and demonstrate the union's commitment to honouring student achievements and milestones.

- **A \$10,000 grant application will be submitted in July to the Canadian Race Relations Foundation**

To support the planning and execution of a Spring 2026 Powwow at Ontario Tech University. This event, developed in partnership with the university's Indigenous Office, aims to celebrate and centre Indigenous culture, history, art, and food. The Powwow will feature Indigenous performers, educators, and creators, with Powwow Café of Toronto tentatively secured to provide food truck services. If approved, the grant will partially fund the event, ensuring it remains accessible to all students while advancing reconciliation, cultural education, and Indigenous visibility on campus.

- **Engagement Phase and Campus-wide Rollout**

With the major initiatives completed, focus has now shifted toward widespread student engagement. This includes tabling, info sessions, digital distribution, and scheduled town halls to promote the Ancillary Fee White Paper, gather student feedback on the Condom Access Program, and ensure new students benefit from the Survival Guide. Evaluation tools such as surveys and attendance metrics will be used to track impact and direct future advocacy efforts.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- Will be starting the hiring process for the student advocacy committee after ED confirms hiring has been completed for critical committees.

VP Downtown, Kailey Haskell

GENERAL UPDATES

- **Downtown Campus Event Planning**

On June 2nd, I had a meeting with the events team to discuss downtown events for the upcoming academic year. We will be continuing some events such as the monthly Grab n' Go Brunches and the petting zoos, and the team is working on adding some new events, including a Downtown Campus Barbeque during O-Week. During this meeting, we discussed revamping the Downtown Events and Experiences survey, which was created by the previous VP Downtown. I then met with the Communications, Marketing and Partnerships Manager on June 9th to review the existing survey. I have since finalized the edits to this survey pending approval from the Communications Manager, and we plan to distribute this to downtown campus students before August to utilize responses for O-Week and fall semester event planning.

- **Attended the Education Convocation to Represent the OTSU**

On June 4th, I attended the Convocation Ceremony for the Faculty of Education. This event was insightful as I got to speak with university stakeholders such as representatives from the Board of Governors and Alumni Council.

- **Meeting with Key Stakeholders**

This past month, I met with many key stakeholders. Some of these meetings were done with the other executives, such as meeting the library executives. Outside of group meetings, I met with the FSSH dean, Dan Walters who is part of the downtown practicum and experiential learning team, Dr. Tyler Frederik, who created a strategic plan to improve the downtown Oshawa community, a representative from the City of Oshawa, the manager of the Biltmore Theatre, and the President of the Humanities Society. These meetings were largely introductory, with the most insightful information being shared by Peter Stoett, the FSSH dean.

- **City of Oshawa Committee Application**

Following my discussion with a representative from the City of Oshawa, I received information about a relevant committee I could join. This is the Community, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (CDEIC). This committee's purpose is to help the city eliminate barriers to services and policies, as well as suggest and consult on new initiatives and programs. I believe that this committee could be very useful to the downtown campus student community, as I can bring forth key topics and challenges from the downtown student voices. I submitted my application on June 18th and am currently waiting to hear if I am accepted to join this committee.

- **Social Media Content Planning**

For the VP Downtown Instagram account, I have recorded and edited an introductory video, as well as recorded a couple of interviews with current downtown students, in which they talked about their programs and experiences as downtown students. In collaboration with our Digital Media & Communications Coordinator, I was also able to film some downtown content that will be featured on the OTSU Instagram. I am currently working on planning content for the first semester, with a plan to post "Downtown Deets" biweekly, accompanied by a monthly blog post on the OTSU website.

- **Project Proposals**

I submitted two project proposals, one for a *Downtown Campus Lounge Space* and one for a *Downtown Campus Signature Event*. The *Downtown Campus Lounge Space* proposal was created in collaboration with the Manager of Student Engagement and the Wellness & Support Services Coordinator. I proposed to create a *Downtown Campus Lounge Space* for downtown students to contribute to having a "sticky campus", as this provides an area for students to socialize with their peers and engage with the student union. This space can also be utilized by various OTSU initiatives and services, such as wellness initiatives, downtown campus events, and e-sports. The next steps will include meeting with key Ontario Tech departments to gain approval and support for this space. My other proposal for a *Downtown Campus Signature Event* aims to create an annual year-end celebration event at the downtown

campus. This event would take place in April, after the exams finish. This initiative will be developed more throughout the academic year, as it is not taking place in the first semester.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- **Downtown Campus Advisory Committee (DCAC)**

During my meeting with the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities Dean, I was informed that there is a new FSSH program, sociology. I have updated the terms of reference to reflect this, increasing the number of student participants from 10 to 11, and added Sociology to the list of programs that we accept DCAC members from.

- **Downtown Campus Engagement Committee**

After meeting with key downtown stakeholders, the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities Dean informed me that the Downtown Engagement Committee existed pre-pandemic. The committee consists of faculty and the VP Downtown, and does not currently have any additional student participation. It is more informal than I originally thought, with its purpose being to keep faculty informed of OTSU events and initiatives, as well as create opportunities for collaboration between the student union and downtown faculty members. There are, unfortunately, no previous notes because of staff changes and how much time has passed, but that is something I will ensure to keep in mind for this year.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Amendment to May Board Report**

I would like to amend my May Board Report to correct some typos and grammatical errors. This is a very minor change that only impacted two sentences of the report.

- **Board Approval for the Updated Downtown Campus Advisory Committee (DCAC) Terms of Reference**

If approved, I will begin the hiring process for this committee as soon as possible.