

# S EPTEMBER 2025 EXECUTIVE REPORT

# President, Eloghosa Avenbuan

#### **GENERAL UPDATES**

# Hiring Wellness and Support Services Coordinator

This month, I collaborated with Jen Neitzel, Manager of Events and Engagement and Brian Robson, Executive Director, to hire for the Wellness and Support Services Coordinator position. Three interviews were conducted, and after the interviews concluded, we selected Dianne Montecillo. She has previous experience as a Person Support Worker (PSW) and also has a wedding planning business, and we are so excited to have her join the team.

# Student Inquires

With the Health and Dental Plan opt-out deadline fast approaching, I had multiple meetings with students informing them about the benefits they get from the health and dental plan and showing them how to download and utilize the new Alumo app. I helped two students so far set up their app and utilize their benefits.

# Hiring a Web Developer

I assisted Brian, Jennifer Prior, our Manager of Marketing and our Human Resources Generalist and Chief Returning Officer, Kylie Zamora, with hiring for the Web Developer position. Similar to the Wellness interviews, we conducted three interviews and selected Aaron Hong. He is a recent graduate from TMU, with experience collaborating with multiple major brands. Welcome to the team, Aaron.

# Hiring Student Analyst and an Advocacy Position

I, along with the VP Affairs and VP Student Life, conducted interviews for the Student Analyst and Advocacy position. We conducted three interviews and selected Maxine Cristobal, an education student who has previous experience leading advocacy campaigns at Okanagan College Students' Union.

#### • Student Deals

The Student Deal Project that I and the VP of Student Life worked on is now up on our website. I have sent out emails to multiple establishments informing them of the website so that they could start applying the discounts to students. For more information about student deals, feel free to check out our website under latest.

#### OUSA GA Hiring

In preparation for OUSA for the General Assembly, I have been working on recruiting four delegates to attend the general assembly with me between October 23rd - October 26th. As a result, I have been coordinating with offices, such as the Indigenous Office, to increase student engagement and sign up. The posting is also up on Bamboo HR for students to apply.

#### Orientation

The executives and I attended orientation events between September 2 - 12. Overall, it was a great way to welcome new first-year students and to get them informed about the services we provide at OTSU. Much appreciation to Joelle

Gueco for putting the events together, and all the staff who spent their time to make sure these events were a success.

# **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

# • Election Committee

The election committee met to go over the recommendations from the last meeting, details to be discussed later in this meeting.

# • Clubs and Societies Committee

Please see the VP Student Life report.

# Vice-President of Student Life, Tuirani Kerfelec

#### **GENERAL UPDATES**

#### • OTSU Fest and Orientation Weekend

We spent the past two weeks welcoming new and returning Ridgebacks to campus, and I was thrilled to see so many familiar faces return! It was wonderful to reconnect with students in such a fun and engaging environment. The level of participation was higher than usual this year, which was clearly reflected in the number of surveys completed throughout OTSU Fest.

#### • OTSU Influencers

To boost student engagement on campus, I collaborated with seven students who served as OTSU Fest Influencers over the two weeks. This initiative was highly successful; many students actively engaged and attended most of the events. It also allowed me to meet more students and connect with them on a deeper level. The influencer program encouraged more students to learn about our Union and participate in our events.

#### • Clubs and Society Ratification

Due to the number of applications for club ratification, the Event & Engagement team has decided to close the ratification period early. We have worked hard to ensure that the ratification is as fair as possible to everyone. We will be sending emails to clubs with a history within our community to offer them an alternative, as discussed with the Clubs and Society Committee.

#### • Introducing an Equity Position in Societies

Due to the limited number of available spots, our team was unable to approve all club applications this year. To address this challenge and ensure inclusivity, we are exploring the introduction of an Equity Position within societies. This role would provide dedicated support for equity-deserving groups on campus, creating safe spaces for 2SLGBTQ+, BIPOC, and Indigenous students to connect and engage within their faculties. The implementation of this position will depend on the level of interest and support from our community; however, our goal is to ensure that all students feel welcome and represented.

#### • President Council Meeting

As a continuation of the work initiated by the previous Vice-President of Student Life, we are committed to hosting monthly events to strengthen the rapport between OTSU and the student community. I am currently organising our first meeting, scheduled for the end of the month. This session will focus on the new rubric system, updated societies' policies and procedures, and the OTSU's new initiatives for this year, including the introduction of an equity position within societies.

#### Clubs and Society Executive Training

This year, we have decided to launch an executive training program to ensure that student leaders are well-informed about our policies, procedures, and the new Rubric system. We plan to begin this training by meeting with the executives of clubs and societies in October.

#### Women In Clubs Ratification

This year, we received a significant number of applications from Women in Clubs seeking ratification, representing 13% of our total club ratification capacity. Following discussions with faculty members, we have decided to merge Women in Clubs so that they reflect and represent each faculty.

#### • Food Insecurity Survey

In alignment with the recent approval of the Nutrition Access Program (NAP), I have finalised the program survey, which will be live on our website shortly. To ensure we collect the most relevant and comprehensive data, I cross-referenced a previous survey conducted by the University with my own draft, allowing us to capture all necessary insights.

# Fundraising during Athletics Games

In preparation for our fundraising efforts at the upcoming Athletics games, I am collaborating with the Marketing Department to design visuals that will launch on October 3rd. To encourage donations, we will also be distributing custom stickers as a thank-you to students, alumni, staff members and other donors who contribute to the program.

# NAP Webpage

I am thrilled to announce that the official NAP website has now been launched. This page will continue to evolve as the program develops, serving as a central hub where students can learn about the purpose of the initiative, explore the supports currently available, and stay updated on new developments. I am continuing to work in collaboration with our Communications & Marketing team to ensure the site remains transparent, informative, and engaging for students.

# Hiring for Advocacy and Equity Analyst

Alongside the President and Vice-President of Student Affairs, I participated in the interview process to hire for the Advocacy and Equity Analyst position. For further details, please refer to the President's report.

# **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

# • Clubs and Society Committee

I am excited to announce that our Members-at-Large positions are now filled. We recently hosted a meeting where we discussed several important topics, including Women in Clubs, a review of the Club Collaboration & Merger Agreement, and the proposed equity position within the different societies.

# OTSU x OTU Advisory Committee

No comment

# Vice-President Student Affairs, Anwoy Barua

#### **GENERAL UPDATES**

#### • Onboarding and Transition

Since stepping into this role, I have primarily focused on familiarizing myself with OTSU's bylaws and ongoing initiatives. I have also started connecting with the executive team to better understand current priorities and the workflow within the organization.

#### DRT Availability Proposal

I have submitted a request to Durham Region Transit (DRT) via CUTA Young Leaders Summit 2025 advocating for increased availability on the 920/921 routes, as these buses are frequently at capacity and affect student commuters, particularly those travelling between Scarborough and the campus.

#### • Review of Previous Initiatives

To gain a clearer perspective on possible projects, I have reviewed past initiatives carried out by previous Vice Presidents of Student Affairs. This has helped me identify opportunities to continue successful efforts while also brainstorming potential new directions.

#### • Team Integration

I have begun introductions with the broader team and am in the process of building working relationships to ensure smoother collaboration on future initiatives.

# • Brainstorming New Initiatives

I have started brainstorming potential initiatives for this year. While I am still in the early stages, this process is helping me explore opportunities where I can bring meaningful impact to students moving forward.

# Student Advocacy & Equity Analyst

Working alongside the President and Vice-President of Student Life, I participated in the interview process to hire a candidate for the Advocacy and Equity Analyst position. For further information, please refer to the President's report.

# **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

# • Student-at-Large Advocacy Committee (SAAC)

I have reviewed the candidates who were hired onto the committee and noted that there are still two vacancies that need to be filled.

# Vice-President Downtown, Kailey Haskell

#### **GENERAL UPDATES**

#### • Orientation Events

I attended the downtown campus orientation event on August 30th, during which I tabled, gave a short speech about the OTSU and what we offer to students, and participated in the scavenger hunt activity. After the downtown events finished, I went to the north campus and led karaoke alongside the President and VP Student Life. We also tabled on August. 30th and 31st to represent the OTSU during orientation events.

#### Downtown Signage Set Up

Just before OTSU Fest, I spent several hours postering and setting up signage at the downtown campus.

#### OTSU Fest

I attended most of the OTSU Fest events alongside the other execs, actively engaging with thousands of students. I was able to talk to students about my current projects and also discuss their ideas, and educate them about what the OTSU does.

# Downtown Advocacy

Over the past month, I have utilized results from the Downtown Events & Experiences survey for advocacy purposes. I successfully advocated for parking passes to be reinstated for downtown students, as well as for additional food options in the form of vending machines. We now have a live ramen vending machine in CHA 105, and there may be another 1-2 added sometime this year as well.

# Downtown Campus Lounge Space

This project is finally underway. After much collaboration with the university, we have selected some commercial-grade furniture that is at a much lower price than what was originally proposed. I am meeting with finance this week to discuss funding, with contributions from the Humanities Society, so long as the OTSU approves it. Beyond that, we have received a couch from the university that is already in the CHA 105 space for students to use.

# • Student City Takeover

I attended the Student City Takeover events and put out a social media post advertising it to students. While the turnout was low, I'm hopeful that the other events they do this month will have a better turnout.

# Downtown Event Planning

Planning is underway for the downtown "gala" event. We have decided to call it something else, which is still to be determined, to reflect the scope of the event - it will be more semi-formal. Currently, we are doing outreach to different vendors and hope to have them secured in the next couple of weeks.

# **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

#### Downtown Campus Advisory Committee

In the past month, I reviewed 9 applications and conducted interviews for the Downtown Campus Advisory Committee. I have put forth my recommendations as an agenda item during this meeting.

# • Downtown Campus Engagement Committee

This committee had our first meeting at the end of August, with a second meeting date to be determined soon. During this meeting, we mostly discussed how to better engage with students downtown through communications & marketing, as well as advocacy areas and event ideas. I also put together a presentation to share some of the comments from students who filled out the Downtown Campus Events & Experiences survey.