

# JANUARY 2026 EXECUTIVE REPORT

President, Eloghosa Avenbuan

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## GENERAL UPDATES

- **Winter Orientation**  
On January 8, I tabled at the University Winter Orientation alongside our Clubs and Societies Assistant. This event was a great way to connect with incoming undergraduate and graduate students, informing them of all the support available at the OTSU.
- **Black History Month**  
This month, I met with multiple departments and stakeholders to discuss events and potential collaboration for Black History Month in February. So far, the OTSU is planning on continuing the Black Student Spotlight and Black Excellence in Leadership Scholarship, valued at \$300 each. Additionally, we have a black-owned board games event in collaboration with the Black Visionary Program on February 25.
- **OUSA Paper Authorship**  
In preparation for OUSA's Spring General Assembly, our VP affairs and I are authoring Tuition, Ancillary, and Incidental fees policy paper in collaboration with student representatives from McMaster's Student Union and Brock's Student Union. The paper has gone through multiple rounds of edits with more to come before the assembly in March.
- **OTSU Frost Week**  
Beginning on January 13, I participated in OTSU's two-week-long Frost Week events. I want to create a huge shout out to the Events and Engagement team for the work and time they spent pulling all these events together.
- **President Council Meeting**  
This month, we had our second Society President Council meeting. In this meeting, society presidents provided any updates they had to the clubs and the society department. We also had a preliminary discussion about gala planning, as we know that each president is in the midst of planning for their individual galas.

## COMMITTEE UPDATES

- **Clubs and Society Committee**  
The clubs and societies committee met this month, and more details will be discussed in the VP Student Life's report.

# Vice-President of Student Life, Tuirani Kerfelec

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## GENERAL UPDATES.

- **NAP x Health Promotion**

In continuation of the development of the Nutrition Access Program, we met with Sienna Smith, who oversees the Health Promotion Program on campus. During this meeting, we reviewed upcoming initiatives within the department and explored potential opportunities for future collaboration.
- **NAP x Financial Aid Office**

I met with Debra White and Steeve Thickett to discuss the financial support available to students throughout the academic year. This meeting also provided an opportunity to explore the possibility of introducing an ancillary fee to help finance the Nutrition Access Program initiative.
- **OTSU Influencer**

Following the success of the OTSU Influencer Program during the Fall semester, the program was relaunched this semester. While over 20 students expressed interest in the Fall, only three students applied this term, with one individual remaining actively engaged. Engagement levels were significantly lower compared to the previous semester.
- **Winter Fest**

As WinterFest comes to an end, we observed lower student engagement during this period. This decline is consistent with trends seen at this time of year and is not considered concerning. Feedback from students indicated that those who attended enjoyed the WinterFest programming. From an operational perspective, scheduling WinterFest closer to the start of the semester, similar to the Fall semester timeline, may improve both staff capacity and overall student engagement in future iterations.
- **President's Council Meeting**

We met with several society presidents on January 14th to conduct mid-year check-ins and assess their progress. With many societies preparing for annual galas and major events, we reiterated our ongoing support. Most societies are currently in the early stages of planning, and we will continue to guide as needed.
- **Clubs & Society Awards**

Although there was initial interest in creating a new event titled Lead & Link, an executive decision was made to return to hosting the annual Clubs & Societies Awards. This decision was based on the value of maintaining a longstanding tradition that recognizes and celebrates the contributions of student leaders and organizations. The event is currently in the early planning stages and is tentatively scheduled to take place in April. Further details will be developed and shared as planning progresses.
- **Pause & Reflect**

I have met with the Wellness and Support Services Coordinator and the Manager of Events and Engagement to collaboratively plan a week-long series of wellness-focused events in March. The initiative, now titled Pause and Reflect Week, was originally referred to as Blooming Week and is dedicated to promoting student wellness and mental health. The week will feature a range of low-barrier, student-centred activities designed to encourage reflection, creativity, and positive self-recognition. Planned activations include DIY craft activities, reflection walls, "letters to your future self," and an achievement wall, all hosted through interactive booth-style programming.
- **Pangea Revamp: OTS(U)**

Due to consistently low engagement in recent years, we have decided to reformat Pangea Week into a Student Highlights Week. This new approach shifts the focus toward celebrating our campus community through interactive pop-up booths such as a community cork board, gratitude walls, a makers market, and similar low-barrier engagement activities.
- **Annual General Meeting Preparation**

In preparation for AGM Part II, I dedicated significant time to developing the Nutrition Access Program presentation.

This included refining key messaging, ensuring alignment with program objectives, and preparing responses to anticipated questions from members to support a clear, informed, and productive discussion.

## COMMITTEE UPDATES

- **Clubs and Society Committee**

The committee was convened on January 21st, during which we reviewed one student proposal and conducted a detailed analysis of the Clubs & Societies Fall Semester Report. Through this review, we identified several inconsistencies, which appear to stem from limitations within the current rubric platform. Based on the findings of the report, the committee initiated further discussion and agreed to reach out to other student unions to gain insight into their policy frameworks. This outreach is intended to inform how we can revise, strengthen, and further develop our Clubs & Societies policies for the upcoming academic year.

- **OTSU x OTU Advisory Committee**

The committee was convened on December 3rd to review several key updates. Discussions included confirmation that domestic tuition fees will remain frozen for the 2026–2027 academic year. The committee also discussed the possibility of adding an OTSU member to the Academic Council and the Board of Governors to strengthen student representation. Additionally, attention was given to the downtown campus, with discussion focused on the downtown lounge, study spaces, and overall signage visibility.

## Vice-President of Student Affairs, Anwoy Barua

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### GENERAL UPDATES

- **DRT Survey**  
I have begun organizing and analyzing the student transit data collected through the DRT survey, and in collaboration with the Trent Durham Student Association, we are preparing a formal presentation to deliver at the Transit Executive Committee (TEC). This presentation will be used to advocate for service improvements that directly address student concerns around reliability, overcrowding, and commute barriers. Key recommendations being explored include stronger investments into higher-capacity solutions, such as implementing articulated buses on high-demand routes, including bus routes that connect students commuting to and from Scarborough.
- **WinterFest**  
Throughout Winterfest, I supported student engagement by attending events, assisting where needed, and helping ensure students felt welcomed and connected on campus. These opportunities contributed to fostering a stronger sense of campus community, especially during the winter term when commuter student participation typically declines.
- **Tuition and Ancillary Fee Paper (OUSA)**  
I have been actively working on the tuition and ancillary fee policy paper by reviewing feedback, refining key concerns, and helping strengthen the language to ensure it is clear, evidence-based, and aligned with student priorities. This work supports broader advocacy efforts focused on protecting student-funded services, improving transparency, and reducing financial barriers for students.

# Vice President Downtown, Kailey Haskell

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## GENERAL UPDATES

- **Downtown Winter Prom (OTHS Gala)**  
The first-ever downtown campus society gala, Downtown Winter Prom, took place last Friday, January 16th. 75 tickets were sold, and approximately 30-35 students attended, alongside a few faculty members. While I was hoping for a higher turnout, I believe that this event was a success. Students and faculty mingled and made new connections, and everyone enjoyed the food, photo booth, and activities.
- **Downtown Lounge Project Update**  
The vending machine is being moved, thanks to the help of a dedicated Ontario Tech staff member from the Office of Campus Infrastructure and Sustainability. The lounge space should be mostly set up by the end of January. I will be following up with the university's communications & marketing department about when the glow sign can be installed.
- **Downtown Signage Update**  
Last week, a new bulletin board was installed over the OTSU table. This board is at least double the size of the others on campus, and in a much more visible/high-traffic location. I'm looking forward to using this signage space for future event promotion.
- **Downtown Faculty Council**  
I attended the December faculty council meeting to remind professors and support staff of the upcoming downtown gala. The faculty's support of this event definitely made an impact, and I hope to work with them more closely on future events.

## COMMITTEE UPDATES

- **Downtown Campus Advisory Committee Update**  
The DCAC is currently working on the preliminary details for the downtown end of year celebratory event, now called the Downtown Social. Creating a signature, annual event at the downtown campus was part of my platform, so I am very excited about this opportunity. I will be setting up a meeting with the relevant OTSU staff in the next week or so to discuss details and start working through the university's risk management process. In other news, we have had a committee member step down, so I am reviewing applications to hire 1-2 new students in the next week or so.
- **Downtown Campus Engagement Committee Update**  
No updates to share.