



Date: Tuesday June 9th

Time: 7:30 – 10:15pm

Location: Zoom Chat

In Attendance:

Randa Omar, President

Zargham Nasir, VP Internal

Jose Power, VP External

Ashish Gangwar, VP Student Life

Rebecka Ferraro, VP Communications

Athina Alight: Commissioner of Health and Wellness

Mathilde Dreyer: Commissioner of Sustainability

Initiatives:

- Formal
- CBX
- Year-End Show
- Guest speakers to talk about relevant issues
- Trip to carbon neutral building at the University of Waterloo
- Academic extensions with more lenience from professors
 - i.e. For any assignment under 25%, you have one opportunity during the course to use a free pass ticket for a 24-hour extension, without a doctor's note
- Advertising accessibilities services more – people don't know that they are eligible
- Let students know of pre-existing resources
- Provide snacks around midterms and finals



Initiatives Continued:

- Reach out to the Canadian politics society at UofT for a collaboration to make a brochure on Canadian politics, to circulate information on student unions, explaining what they are and what they do.
- Coffee with Proffs: 5 events throughout the year. Collaboration with café and with mentorship to supply beverages.
- Free online ice breakers and actives such as skribblio at the beginning of September
- Studio dinner during second semester
 - On average there is a minimum of 50-60 people in attendance
 - Vegan/vegetarian dinners, with consideration for those with allergies
- Networking events
- Portfolio and Interview sessions: help and feedback from professors
- Professional Headshots for students in the winter and fall
- Have AVSSU office hours
- Have townhall meetings at the beginning of each month
 - Conducted with GALDSU and the Forestry department
 - Lasting between 1-2 hours, with administration attending for half
 - Contact the Diversity and Equity Commission and have them attend
 - Make social media posts asking for townhall questions and comments
 - Have students send in their townhall questions in advance
 - Create an ongoing student forum discussion board

Equity Initiatives:

- Club specifically for students wishing to connect with and receive mentorship from Black architects and designers.
 - This may take the form of a book club or research group to educate and encourage students to read about topics such as anti-Black racism and Black history.
 - Contact Daniels library to provide these books for free as online PDFs.



Equity Initiatives Continued:

- Research Course
 - Consult the faculty to see if there can be an upper year independent research course to study Black architects and architecture. This will be an immediate step towards diversifying the curriculum, as opposed to the timely process of restructuring existing courses. Students would be appointed a Black supervisor within the university, but not necessarily from the Daniels Faculty
- Bridge the gap on the lack of black scholarship
- Initiative to hire more tenured Black faculty
- Speak to professors about how Black architects and architecture should be part of the curriculum
- Scholarships for coloured students

Reducing Student Fees

- Fees are currently 16 dollars, 3 dollars of which goes towards studio upkeep
- AVSSU is considering reducing or removing this fee because the studio will likely not be heavily used during the fall semester due to the pandemic. This would bring the student fees down to \$15.

Orientation Ideas:

- Time Capsule for incoming students
- Educate new students on their options
 - i.e doing a double major, or doing a minor