

Students of Caribbean & African Ancestry
RM 1430 (Student Union Building)
Simon Fraser University
8888 University Drive
Burnaby, B.C V5A 1S6



SFU Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry (SOCA)
[January 27th, 5:03pm]

ATTENDEES: Laury, Yaye, Emmanuel, Oromiya, Samia, Mason, Mugasha, Marie, Susie, Yaye, Adanna, Araba, Amina

MEETING AGENDA

TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

SOCA recognizes we are situated on the unceded territories Coast Salish Territories of the Musqueam, Kwikwetlem, Squamish and Tsleil-waututh and we recognize the importance of this acknowledging that this land has never been granted, surrendered nor sold to any government but taken by force.

ROUNDS

(Name, Pronouns, Access needs*, Your favorite snack that you'd love to have in the space!)

- Laury, she her hers, access needs are met, ice cream
- Yaye, she her, access needs met, ice cream
- Oromiya, access needs met, water
- Marie, she hers, access needs met,
- Mugasha, He/Him, access needs met, protein bars
- Samia, access needs met, coffee!
- Emmanuel, He/him, access needs met, ice cream
- Mason, He/him, access needs met, blender
- Susie, African chips!
- Adanna, she/her, access needs met, Plantain chips
- Araba, She/her

*If your access needs are met = You dont need any accommodations to help you engage better

- Examples: your wifi is choppy, you'll be engaging in the chat, you need closed captions, etc.)

APPROVE MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

- **Approved (Any issues?) :**
 - **January 13th, 2023 - Approved**

REPORT OF OFFICERS AND ACTION ITEMS FOLLOW UP

- **President - Laretta**
 - Planning BHM events - ON track, need to confirm caterers and some stuff for cultural night. Payments are in process for vendors.
 - Met with the VP-PEI. INTERested in supporting the Black community at SFU. They have offered to sponsor catering and room booking. Book reading at the start of the kick off.
 - Reachout to cultural groups, only one has confirmed.
 - Working with the SFSS for a temp staff in the interim.
- **Vice President - Emmanuel**
 - Planning black history month events and working with Laury to help coordinate
 - Had meetings with SFSS to plan the movie nights
 - Checking in on the team and ensuring folks are on track
 - Planning coordinating and ensuring executive meeting today happened
 - Helped set up and coordinate catch ah vybe
- **External Relations Officer - Oromiya**
 - Meeting with HeadHeartHand Foundation. Interested in collaborating with SOCA, supporting funding and events.
 -
- **Internal Relations Officer - Amina**
 - Talks w/ SFPIRG about “no cops on campus” event, marie will be attend on my behalf
 - Promoting Embark and CAMP events - Already talked w/ Yaye
 - Meeting w/ TD CEC, about possible collab w/ SOCA about engagement w/ surrey kids at secondary and elementary schools
 - This meeting will happen on Monday
 - In talks w/ Woman Centre about possible BHM collab - will be happening sometime in the middle of the week (?)
 - In talks w/ Library coordinator about BHM display, will provide a majority of the stuff, just need a specific date to be held.
 - Sending out invitations for BHM events
 - Some have reported back, other clubs/associations are inactive so might have to contact the president or any active members
- **Secretary - Gift**
 - Worked on Newsletter
 - Attended Catch a vibe
 - Planning Black History Month
 - Responded to emails
 - Created schedule of team’s availability
- **Treasurer (and Finances report) - Samia**
 - Accounts balances and in and out flows (trust, levy fund, soca core, staff department line item, scotiabank, outstanding/upcoming grants):
 - Trust: \$8644.36
 - Levy: \$23,102
 - Waiting on cheques reqs, possibly \$1200
 - Funds have been forwarded now to ASA and SSA

- Soca CG core fund: \$450
 - Staff Dept Levy:
 - Scotiabank (external):
 - Still working on ensuring that signatories are transferred from past executives to current relevant executives
 - And booking appointments with the bank to look into any issues
 - Grant funding : N/A
- Cheques to be signed (include Motions Date and Number approved and person to reimburse): N/A
- Cheque requisitions to be done
- **Events Coordinator - Mugasha**
 - Help support set up for Catch a Vybz
 - Had a meeting with a potential photographer for comedy night (may not go with him)
 - Lots of organizing and planning for the comedy night
 - Planning on negotiating with the external organization regarding the comedy night (trying to bring it down to to \$25 to \$25 and we are booking in a theatre, and we have arranged folks to sing for the opening
 - Working on opening program, itinerary and MC “speak”
- First Year Rep - Vacant
- Grad Rep - Vacant
- **FIC Rep - Richard**
 - Will be added soon
- **Execs at large - Marie**
 - Working on comedy night logistics
 - Making social media content for BHM and advertising online
 - Reaching out to groups to post regarding our events
 - Discussing with SFU Athletics on a collaborated initiative
 - Supporting with catch a vybez with cleaning and entertaining members
 - Responding to emails
 - Working on a possible collaboration with UBC Black Medical School Org
- **Execs at large - Susie**
 - Working with full of chance, and working on a survey. 65 people filled the survey now.
 - Planning on the a community event for Feb 25th
 - Working on catering and making connections between the organizations
 - And supporting with programming
- **SOCA Black Student Support Staff - Araba**
 - Supported with the planning of Catch ah vybez
 - Supporting BHM planning including email correspondence, scheduling meetings, cheque reqs for vendors, internal promotion of the event, space booking etc.
 - Website updates
 - Supporting Black students.
- Other Assigned Members and Items

REPORT ON SPECIFIC MATTERS

-

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- RR25 project with former SOCA president, Lama Mugabo ([RR25 Project with Lama Mugabo](#)): Introduced last GM meeting - Updates by Samia
 - WONDERING IF PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED
 - A reflection tour every summer with about 15 people.
 - Want to host a biannual conference at SFU in collab with the University of Rwanda
 - [Action item] - make graphics and share for interested people to sign up
- BHM Events:
 - Open Ceremony (Feb 1st)
 - Location - Social stage, SUB across Blenz. Time:
 - 3:00pm. Speakers - Yabome Gilpin-Jackson, Prof. June Francis, presentation by Laretta and Emmanuel.
 - Performances, Raffles, Black businesses, \$100 apple gift card included!!
 - Panel Discussion (Feb 15th)
 - The Office of the VP-PEI will sponsor the event. - catering and room booking. Suggested African and Caribbean foods. Provided the contact for VanSuya. Panelist - Edward, Kalesa etc.
 - Yabome - book reading before the panel discussion starts
 - Reception after the event.
 - Comedy Night (Feb 25th) - 4 Open Mic Positions (Due Feb 5th by 11:59 pm)
 - Sign Up before Feb 5th
 - Planning on bringing this night to an SFU Auditorium (BFA),
 - Planning on 4 performance and we created a google form,
 - Criteria - students who are interested in performing can sign up using the google form. \$50 honorarium and don't have to purchase tickets to the show.
 - SFU Student engagement is interested in booking the space for us and provide staffing support
 - Cultural Night - Tickets are being sold right now!
 - Sign Up before Feb 5th
 - Clarifications ticket prices, it is \$10
 - You are getting food from West, East African and Caribbean food
 - Performances, DJ, red carpet, 360 photo booth, Mini award to acknowledge people that have been significant to the Black community at SFU.
 - Formal, African inspired, traditional.
 - Suggestion - have Prof. June to open the event.
 - Dance Workshop with the Choreographer (Izo DreamChaser)
 - Confirmed, 14th February, 5pm to 7pm
 - Iz
 - Games and Movie Night
 - February 10th

- The location isn't set yet but we are looking at the 4th floor in one of the bookable rooms or we'll go for SOCA, we are collabing with the SFSS for this, SFU wanted to collab as well but we are still looking at the logistics
 - There will be finger food from Vansuya and refreshments
 - Games and prizes to win from all of those too!
 - Movie: Pursuit of Happiness
 - Suggestions: Ali,
 - Action Item: ask the groupchat
- Interested in information/mentorship session with Black Students interested in pursuing a career in Medicine by the Black Physicians of British Columbia org. (Composed of UBC Black medical students, residents, fellows and staff physicians) - Marie
 - If members agree, Marie and Oromiya will initiate this workshop
- BHM SFU Athletics, February 16th - Mason Glover
 - During the women's black basketball game
 - Having Jamaican food
 - Dancers from SOCA: Compensation involved, Halftime about 14 minutes thereabout but not the whole time
 - Looking for a performing artist, Marie suggested drummers
 - Ezawa on the volleyball team
 - Having a DJ at the game, playing musical chairs at the game
 - Having speakers at the event, giving a speech at the event
 - Reaching out to Tiara
 - Honour and Invite High-achieving Black Students to the events
 - Marie is asking for how many students; about 10-15 students
 - A vendor/ Black business at the event
 - Highlighting SOCA's event at the game.
 - Emmanuel asking if we have any media content we can promote ultimately

COMMITTEE AND SUB-ASSOCIATIONS UPDATE

- Social Justice and Advocacy Committee
 - No updates
- Cultural Events Committee
 - Above
- Parties and Pub Night Committee
 - In regards to the event we had last week, it was a participation committee
 - Not many went since it was very close to UBC
 - They made \$100 from the event
- BSSC Committee
 - No updates
- Dance Team
 - Dance workshop from above
 - And athletics collab
- NSA -
- SSA

MOTIONS

1. SOCA Elections Spring 2023

Be it resolved that SOCA calls elections for Spring 2023 as follows for the Nominating Committee to work with policies in line with the previous elections policies and execute the elections within these periods.

- **Nomination Period: Feb 22 to March 5 (by 12:00pm), Campaign Period: March 6 (6:00pm) - March 12 (11:59pm), Voting Period: March 14-16**

Moved by Samia / Seconded by Emmanuel

CARRIED unanimously

Discussion

- Nominating committee has the authority to change the dates to extend nominations.
- **Approved Election Candidates shall be announced as early as March 6 2023 (The Nominating Committee shall ensure that the Candidates announcement within 72 hours of the close of nominating period).**
See previous nominating committee report:

Spring Election

https://www.sfusoca.ca/uploads/1/1/8/5/118513699/nominating_committee_report_spring_2022.pdf

Fall By-Election

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ImpaaxWSPBak8lhpCe2cTBuLbxFF-eHY/view?usp=drivesdk>

Elections Policy Draft 2023/2024:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1n8jfOg5jfevWim6MeCmh-ztmvW99LTsDoz0zdcYR93c/edit>

2. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Motion for Nominating Committee

Whereas, Nominating Committee is to be struck for formation of elections and policies,

Be it resolved that Samia Ishimwe, Marie Haddad, be appointed as per constitution VI.6, and in the event that someone else is interested from membership, they be appointed from amongst to occupy the third and fourth seat on the Nominating Committee at a future meeting

Moved by Marie / Seconded by Amina

CARRIED unanimously

DISCUSSION:

The Nominating Committee is anybody responsible for running the elections, recruiting people to run the elections. There is a guideline document available in the drive and accessible to interested persons.

- We have two others interested so ask again if they are interested next meeting

3. Collaboration with UBC Community Lead of the Black Physicians of British Columbia

Whereas the UBC Community Lead of Black Physicians of BC is a group of Black Medical Students, Residents, Fellows and Staff Physicians with a mission to provide mentorship to current and prospective Black medical students and to advocate for systemic changes at the UBC Faculty of Medicine to improve equity and combat institutionalized racism;

Whereas the UBC Community Lead of the Black Physicians of British Columbia reached out to SFU SOCA to collaborate with Black Student Unions across the province to hold an informational/mentorship for undergraduate students who are interested in pursuing a career in Medicine;

Whereas the organization is asking if we would like to collaborate on a session where they could advise students about the pathways to an MD, allow a safe space for students to ask questions and to allow students to network and find mentors as SFU doesn't have a medical school;

Whereas they have offered to provide speakers and refreshments if we provide a room sometime in March or April;

Be it resolved that SFU SOCA approves and gives permission for the Executive Committee representation (External Relations Officer and At Large Executive) to proceed to meet to further discussions on the collaboration and planning of the workshop.

Moved by Mugasha / seconded by Susie

CARRIED unanimously

Discussion

- Samia is open to work with Oromiya and Marie as well

4. SOCA X Tunji Comedy Night

Whereas SFU SOCA members have approved the SOCA X Tunji Comedy Night to be held on February 25th as part of the BHM events;

Whereas SFU SOCA members indicated to negotiate pricing to aim for lower ticket

pricing for students;

Whereas Executives are formulating a finance plan to negotiate tickets to \$5 per students (and reserve 50 tickets for students) and to ensure SFU SOCA receives an adequate return from general ticket sales;

Whereas SFU SOCA see's it fit to cover refreshments costs and minor event-related costs;

Whereas the Back to School Collaboration with UBC did not require funds and \$2500 in funds are available for use;

Be it resolved that SOCA approves an amount of \$2000 from the Back to School Collaboration with UBC line item to fund snacks and other event-related costs.

Moved by Marie / seconded by Mugasha

CARRIED unanimously

Discussion

- We have a line item with the Back to School collab, we didn't use any funds, we are asking to move the funds of that money into the comedy night

ACTION ITEMS FOR EXEC

- Action Items
 - RR25 project
 - [Action item] - make graphics and share for interested people to sign up
- Get performers
- Check back with Israel and Evans if they're interested in the nominating
- Event with Athletics - Business, performance, DJ and students
- Ask the groupchat what movies they would like to watch for our BHM Movie Night and Games Night

OPEN ISSUES OR CONCERNS

1. Two weeks ago a past SOCA executive reached out to Laury, he was impeached and the information is on the website, he is asking that SFU SOCA remove the details of this on the website as he feels it is not necessary. It rubs him off the wrong way.

- Agreed to make these adjustments

Meeting Adjournment moved by

Emmanuel/Seconded by Samia Meeting Adjourned at

6:36pm]