



el Pres!dente

**President's BUSAC Report
July 17th. 2011
Report #2**

Introduction

Hey BUSAC! It has been a crazy 2½ month ride so far and everything is going by so fast. I must say that being President is much different than being the Vice President University Affairs. I do a lot of strategic planning, assuring that every aspect of BUSU is running as smoothly as possible and providing direction to the organization as a whole.

Due to the restructuring, there has been a dramatic increase in my workload outside of my role as President. Most of the work I have been doing over the last 2½ months has been internally focused. One of my primary goals was to improve the quality of the services we offer to students and refocus BUSU to our mission and vision set out in the constitution. My report will provide some of the details on this internal work but will not be able to capture all of it.

Beyond that, please check out a new BrockTV segment called *Walking and Talking with Daud* which will be my update to the student population as well as to BUSAC. It is much less detailed than the report and is meant to cover just some broad projects we have been working on. Check it out: <http://www.brocktv.ca/?v=715>



I will be doing these videos every two weeks to update both BUSAC and the student population on what I am doing as President of BUSU.

Restructuring

We are, and will be, going through some major internal changes in the coming weeks and months. Among the many changes is a new direction with the position of General Manager. The position is being re-evaluated, examined and altered to better reflect the unique needs of BUSU and its members. These changes will be taking place over the summer and it is my hope that the new structure will be in place and functioning near the end of September.

With this said, I must unfortunately announce that as of Tuesday, July 5th Nazir Khamis is no longer with the organization. I sincerely thank Nazir for his service and dedication over the past few years and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavours.

For more information regarding the restructuring, or if you have a question that would normally be handled by Nazir, please contact me.

If any of you have any comments, questions or concerns please do not hesitate to come talk to me. My door is always open.

Renovations

We have received approval of our building permit both from the University and the city of St. Catharines. The Brock University accessibility committee at Brock University has approved the project to be FADS Compliant and renovations have finally begun.

We are now on the fifth day of construction and the entire area already looks like it has transformed into something totally different. Rob Morosin, our Food and Bar General Manager, has taken the lead on the project and has been putting in a lot of time and energy into assuring the renovations are a success.

Renovations have begun much later than we had originally anticipated. Not a single hour can be wasted in renovations in order for us to assure that we will be ready for launch in O-Week.

We have made the construction plan very flexible so that if everything is not completed for O-Week, we will still have at least parts of Union Station open for the first week of classes.



BUSU Building Expansion Project

The BUSU Building Expansion project, which has continued on from last year, is still making progress. We are just in the final stages of signing an agreement with the Faculty of Business to do a joint feasibility study of building on the same piece of land behind the current BUSU building in either station field.

Once the agreement is signed, we will then put out an RFP (Request for Proposal) for the feasibility study, determine how much space we will need, and see if it would be in the interest of BUSU to build a building in conjunction with the Faculty of Business.

Following that, the plan is to get as much student input as possible into the new building before we go to referendum to potentially increase the Student Expansion Fund so that we can start taking the next steps towards the expansion to a new a building.

Managers Retreat

Every year BUSU holds a managers retreat in which the executives and all BUSU divisional managers go on a retreat to review the managers' year plans and budgets. This retreat typically takes places every year in June or July.

This year for our retreat, we ended up at a beautiful lake house in Port Colborne. We typically go further away but by keeping it closer to home we were able to invite managers, who usually are not a part of the retreat, to come for sessions. It proved to be a great location for the retreat and I would recommend we use the same location for our managers retreat next year as well.

Overall, the retreat was great and really allowed the BUSU executives to get a better picture of what is going on all of the divisions of BUSU. The retreat also allowed the executives and managers to bond and get to know each other outside of the BUSU office.



BUSU's Human Resource Needs and Erie Personnel Company

BUSU has grown substantially over the last 10-15 years and we have reached the point where the HR needs of a 300 person company cannot be left all to the President, the GM and partially, the Ombudsperson. There are a variety of reasons why we need either and HR manager, HR company, or a mix of an HR clerk and HR company to fulfill our needs of human resource.

The reasons vary from the need for employees to have a safe place to go to with their complaints to the need of having a point person take care of all of the paper work and secure filing of the HR files of our employees.

Over the last two months I have been working very closely with Erie Personnel to determine our specific HR needs as an organization. They have completed a full 40 hour assessment of our organization and provided us with what they believe our HR needs are. I will continue to work with the BUSU Board of Directors and Erie Personnel to fill this gap in our organization.

BUSU's First Annual Meet and Greet

This year Arielle Stockdale organized our very first annual Meet and Greet between the new BUSU family and important individuals we deal with on a regular basis at **Brock University**.

My expectations going into our very first Meet and Greet ever were that we were only going to have about 15-20 people show up. We had a much greater turn out than that and had well over 50 people show up to our Meet and Greet. Most of the senior executives from the University attended, including Dr. Lightstone. Arielle did a fantastic job at organizing the entire event and took care of all the details.

The great relationship that exists between the Brock University Students' Union (BUSU) and the University never fails to amaze me. I truly hope that this Meet and Greet continues every year where the new BUSU executives and coordinators can discover the many relationships BUSU has fostered over the years with the University which it needs to continue to foster.



General Updates

There are a few general updates from my portfolio that I would like to give to BUSAC:

SJC and Ombudsperson

The Student Justice Centre operates under BUSU and works very closely with our Ombudsperson. It is going to be a very important year for the SJC. It is my opinion that if the SJC does not become functional this year after I, as President, do everything I can to make it a success

then we should take this back to referendum early rather than wait for another year (SJC has a three year sunset at which point BUSAC considers if we should take it to referendum or not).

Our ombudsperson, Carole Moss, is having a second baby and will be going on her second maternity leave in September. Over the next few weeks we will be hiring another ombudsperson to fill Carole's role while she is on maternity leave.

BrockTV

All three BrockTV managers report up to the President and I provide a level of oversight and direction for the organization as a whole. This can be a difficult task at times because I know very little about production and making high quality videos. Also, BrockTV recently hired its new IT Manager: Justin Masse

They have been working diligently all summer long to plan for the upcoming year. This is going to be a very important year for BrockTV because this year is when the BrockTV referendum sunsets and they will have to go to a referendum again for funding.

Smart Start

Smart Start has been going on for close to two weeks now. It is very exciting to meet all of the new incoming students. One of the best parts of my day is when I get to present what BUSU does for them and get to know some of the students that will be joining us as fellow Badgers.

Staffing update

After nine years of working for BUSU as an employee at Union Station, an Executive Assistant and Operations Manager, Michelle Szafer has moved on from BUSU to work for Niagara College's Vice President of Finance. She will be dearly missed by all of the staff here at BUSU and we wish her the best of luck at her new position at Niagara College.



Conclusion

The report outlines many of the projects and issues that I have been working on over the last 2½ months, but it is difficult to capture everything that I have been doing. Once the academic term begins and BUSAC meets more regularly, I will be able to provide you with updates every two weeks rather than every two months.

Sincerely,

Daud A. Grewal
BUSU President 2011/2012