

## Fall General Meeting report August 12-November 12, 2021 VP Events and Outreach

Events and Outreach: I attended regular summer, fall and winter event planning meetings with staff and our VP Equity. We are currently planning our late fall and winter programming that will include Transgender Day of Remembrance in mid-November, December exam destressors, and upcoming winter programming which we will announce in *The Voice* and our social media feeds. The VP External and I conducted outreach to various departments at U of T Scarborough Campus (UTSC) to connect with part-time and mature students. The President and I sent APUS materials to the U of T Scarborough Campus Students' Union (SCSU) for our VP External's outreach. On August 27, I was joined by our Events Coordinator and VP Equity to meet with the Association of Women in Math, the Math Union and QueerSphere to learn about Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) student challenges. We are planning a December exam destressor with these groups. I joined the tri-campus U of T Federal Election Roundtable and planned election outreach with the Events Coordinator. I helped create content, proof and send out *The Voice* weekly newsletter since September, and managed social media posts. If Board members see an event that we should promote please contact [vpoutreach@apus.ca](mailto:vpoutreach@apus.ca)

Fall Orientations: I participated in other organizations' fall orientations and in the Queer Orientation planning sessions and reached out to various tri-campus student unions, departments and student groups to request that APUS present at their orientations. I presented at the online Family Care Office orientation Sept. 17. Staff, VP Equity, the President and I managed the APUS collaboration with LGBTQOUT for Queer Orientation and sincere thanks to our President and VP Equity for their invaluable logistical support. Staff, Executives and I planned and executed APUS's fall orientation October 14-15 which featured several speakers on learning strategies, career services, financial supports for part-time students, the Canadian Federation of Students, Ontario Public Research Interest Group, Students for Barrier Free Access, Sexual Gender and Diversity Office, Family Care Office, and an introduction to APUS governance, services and programming by our Executive team. We awarded a raffle prize based on our preceding social media contest.

TTC: I attended the August 4 meeting of the External Advisory Group on the [Fair Pass Transit Discount Program](#) administered by the City of Toronto Poverty Reduction Strategy committee. I prepared a first draft of the APUS letter submission for the "5 Year Fare Plan" decision at the TTC Board meeting that was postponed to November 17 and is now further postponed until February 2022. The TTC may restart community consultations.

If APUS members would like to advocate for public transit from the part-time and mature student perspective, please consider giving a deposition to the TTC Board, submitting a letter or providing online feedback. We will promote these opportunities in our social media or contact [vpoutreach@apus.ca](mailto:vpoutreach@apus.ca) for more information. Note: Board members may like to read the StudentMoveTO report "Moving Postsecondary Students in the GTHA," submitted to the September 15, 2021 TTC Board meeting available [here](#) or see [StudentMoveTO](#).

APUS/CFS affairs: Since August I have attended the Executive meetings, the OVPS consultation August 23, and the APUS Summer General Meeting Aug. 12. I coordinated the data release from the UTILE housing survey from the winter 2021 term which will give us

valuable information to advocate at the institutional, municipal, provincial and federal levels. I attended the U of T Library Student Advisory Committee online meeting on October 5 which discussed student experiences with library reopenings. I asked about Gerstein access during front campus construction, library space, book pick up and plans for book removal. If you have concerns about library services contact me. I was appointed in October to the Woodsworth College Council and meetings will commence this month. I attended the online CFSO General Meeting August 18 to 20. I submitted a motion October 4 for the CFS National General Meeting in November on the Canadian Disability Benefit as it relates to students with disabilities. Along with my colleagues I will attend the online NGM November 16-18. I attended Student Life Represent workshop Advertising and Social Media July 29 and attended other webinars (library services, returning to campus).

Mental Health: APUS has worked all year on its recommendations concerning the Mandated Leave of Absence Policy (UMLAP) which affects students with severe mental health conditions. With other APUS Executives, I attended the UMLAP Review Committee's virtual town halls Sept. 23 and October 5. With other students, I interviewed American involuntary leave experts between August to October, collated research results, and shared information with relevant groups. I helped plan our Oct. 20 meeting with the Review Committee and submitted APUS's recommendations on November 1, and participated in the UofT Mississauga Students' Union "UMLAP phone zap" on October 26 and the UMLAP advocacy meetings November 3 and 10. The preliminary UMLAP recommendations are available [here](#).

NOTE: APUS members may like to watch the recordings of the Active Minds workshop series on Leaves of Absence for Post-secondary Students Oct. 19, 21 and 28 that I attended: <https://www.activeminds.org/programs/transform-your-campus/leave-of-absence-campaign/>,