

Executive Summary

Highlights from February 16, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting

Shay Hamilton, Chair
Andy Do, Vice Chair
Ercole Perrone, CEO

- S. Hamilton provided the Board with her Chair Update detailing her advocacy efforts including her participation in the Humber College Presidential Search Committee, her numerous meetings with senior leadership at Humber and Guelph-Humber regarding student issues and concerns as well as dialogue and planned meetings with the heads of Humber's Faculty Union as well as the OPSEU Faculty Bargaining Unit.

"Shay's Chair Report highlights the hard work being undertaken to best represent students. As for the importance of the ongoing search for a new President of Humber College, the Board was pleased to hear that there is a broad variety of candidates with different backgrounds, knowledge and experiences." - Maksym Botte

- The Governance Review Committee (GRC) submitted a report detailing the numerous meetings undertaken to review and discuss IGNITE's governance strategies, By-laws and policies. The GRC has continuously identified opportunities to provide more clarity and efficiencies within board documents, stay in line with governance best practices and present considerations for the IGNITE Board. The report identified the committee's focus on the review of roles and responsibilities for board members and Student Engagement Coordinators, communication between the Board and operations and length of terms for board members. The GRC's efforts will continue for this academic year specifically, board composition, in light of Humber's new International Graduate Student Campus.

"The GRC, together with the Board of Directors are working hard at making sure that all the students' voices are heard, in particular for those from the new International Graduate School campus for next year's election cycle." – Alex Sein

- The Board continued their discussion regarding the support for increased student access to services provided by the Institution as funding through ancillary fees. The Fee Protocol process and the ancillary fees it governs have been discussed by the Board at consecutive Board meetings resulting in the decision to approve an annual fee adjustment of 3% for ancillary fees that are strongly aligned to



student success: Health and Counselling, Career Services, Orientation/Peer Tutoring, Library Services and the Math and Writing Centre.

“It is always important to weigh the costs and benefits before committing resources and that is what we did with this proposal. The allocation of student fees is important, and we must spend the necessary time and resources assessing where students' money is used from an accountability perspective and today, we were able to come to a consensus on investments that best support the student experience.” – Shay Hamilton

- The Board heard from T. DeFrancesco (Director, Finance and Administration), on IGNITE’s proposed 2022-2023 Operating Budget. It was explained that the Membership category is budgeted to operate in a deficit position, which will be offset by the surplus’ budgeted for in the other three mandatory fee categories (Career Success, Well-Being & Financial Security, and Advocacy & Leadership). The Social Events and Opportunities category plans to operate at a balanced budget. Overall, IGNITE’s operating budget was unanimously approved at a \$158,000 deficit due to the student insurance program, which will operate at deficit to support a 1-year bridge contract while a Request for Proposal process is carried out.
- In addition, the Board approved that a minimum of \$50,000 up to a maximum of \$100,000 be reallocated to IGNITE bursaries, immediately available to all students.

“As we are hoping to return to a more in-person model next year, IGNITE’s student fees have returned to their pre-covid rates (with minor changes) to reflect a more involved student experience. Additionally, IGNITE has used their unrestricted funds to cover the costs of the 2022-2023 Insurance fees, to ensure that students have a complete and supportive insurance plan available to them.” – Gabi Rana

- The Board discussed a series of options related to the upcoming IGNITE elections for next year’s Board of Directors. Based on feedback received from potential candidates about the challenges of connecting with students in a virtual environment (from the perspective of acquiring signatures in support of their respective nominations), the Board approved a temporary amendment to the Elections and Appeals policy stating the following:
 - candidates need only provide 30 signatures within their nomination package as opposed to the previously stated 100 requirement: and
 - nomination signatures can now be from any campus as opposed to strictly from the campus they are aiming to represent

“The board’s unanimous decision to loosen the candidate requirements shows the importance we place on students’ ability to access leadership opportunities and the



importance we place on having student elections. I know we're all looking forward to meeting the next generation of student leaders!" – Eli Ridder

- The College Student Alliance's February Conference is taking place (February 16-18), providing an opportunity for student leaders at member student associations to participate in workshop sessions, learn from keynote speakers and make decisions about the CSA's future. The Board is set to receive an end-of-year report on IGNITE's relationship with the CSA examining its first year as a member.

"The CSA has held really good conversations with member student associations regarding return to campus plans and how the impact on student learning, social concerns and any transportation issues." – Melany Palacios-Naranjo