



CESAX

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

March 10, 2022



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LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE

Dear CESAX Members,

Thank you for joining us for the Winter 2022 Annual General Meeting. We know that many of our members take part in our work while juggling online learning with jobs, family caregiving, and other commitments, and we are excited that you have chosen to join us tonight to take part in student democracy through your students' union.

Over the past year, CESAX has been working proactively to communicate with our members to hear your perspectives around student issues at X University. Issues like expensive tuition fees for domestic and international students, the concerns around the pandemic and in-person learning, renaming the university and our own students' union, and hearing about issues that are priorities for our members in the upcoming provincial election. CESAX has worked to advocate with and amplify the voices of our members and students at X University to the Chang School and the university's decision-makers, responding to the university's decisions and calling for transparency and accountability around the issues we have been hearing from students and community members about.

We have consistently found that the voices of students, particularly part time and Continuing Education students who are heard from less often, need to be amplified to be heard by the X University administration. The University has made clear that their ongoing strategy is to rely on students, especially international students, private donations and partnerships, to make up for chronic government cuts and underfunding. We know this is not an adequate or fair solution to our broken funding system. Students' unions have a very important role to play: to call for better, to fight for public education, to hold the university accountable, and to advocate for fairness for students through a more fair system.

With a provincial election in the springtime right around the corner, students have an opportunity to make students' issues known and heard. CESAX and the student movement across Ontario will be looking for student members to share information with to help our classmates and friends make informed choices around voting and apply pressure to politicians and candidates who are looking for students' votes. Our power in our movement is in our collective numbers and the work we can do collaboratively together. We will achieve our goals for a better X University, better education system, for free and accessible public postsecondary education, and we invite all of our members to join in our movement.

To see the Semi-Annual Meeting Report from March–November, 2021 visit:
<https://mycesax.ca/about/semi-annual-report/>

COVID-19 REPORT & UPDATES

Visit campaigns section for CESAX's advocacy on return to campus planning.

Operations

CESAX continues to operate throughout the pandemic. The majority of services and events have been transferred to digital platforms. For services and events that could not be transferred to digital platforms, the CESAX team has worked to provide information on community supports, offer in-person opportunities or develop alternatives to our regular programming.

Health & Safety

CESAX has prioritized the health and safety of our staff, volunteers and general members throughout the pandemic. The office has not been open to members since March 2020.

To ensure the safety of everyone involved, CESAX has regular meetings of the Joint Health & Safety Committee where we review policies and procedures. Through these meetings, we update internal procedures and have established workplace protocols in line with the standards set by the Ministry of Labour.

Future Planning

CESAX was planning to open the Member Services Office with the other central students' unions but deferred the opening due to the rise of the Omicron variant. We will continue to look at public health guidelines and university planning for a possible gradual re-open in the Spring 2022 Term and full-return for Fall 2022.

EQUITY & CAMPAIGNS

Introduction – Vice-President Equity & Campaigns

This has been a very unique year for student engagement and organizing. Many Continuing Education students are growing tired of the systemic barriers to education that have been exacerbated by the pandemic and are looking to get involved in meaningful ways. CESAX has many internal and collaborative campaigns but has prioritized three, year-long campaigns that challenge oppressive systems in our society. These main three campaigns are *Harm Reduction*, *Indigenous Resurgence*, and *Education for All*. Since the new year, CESAX has also been active in making sure students' voices are heard in the university's return to campus and has also launched a No Forced Return campaign to advocate for an accessible, hybrid education model for all students.

Get Involved!

If you have ideas for new campaigns or ways to expand upon existing ones, join the Equity and Campaigns Committee. You can also email any questions to vp.equity@mycesax.ca or sign up for our newsletter.

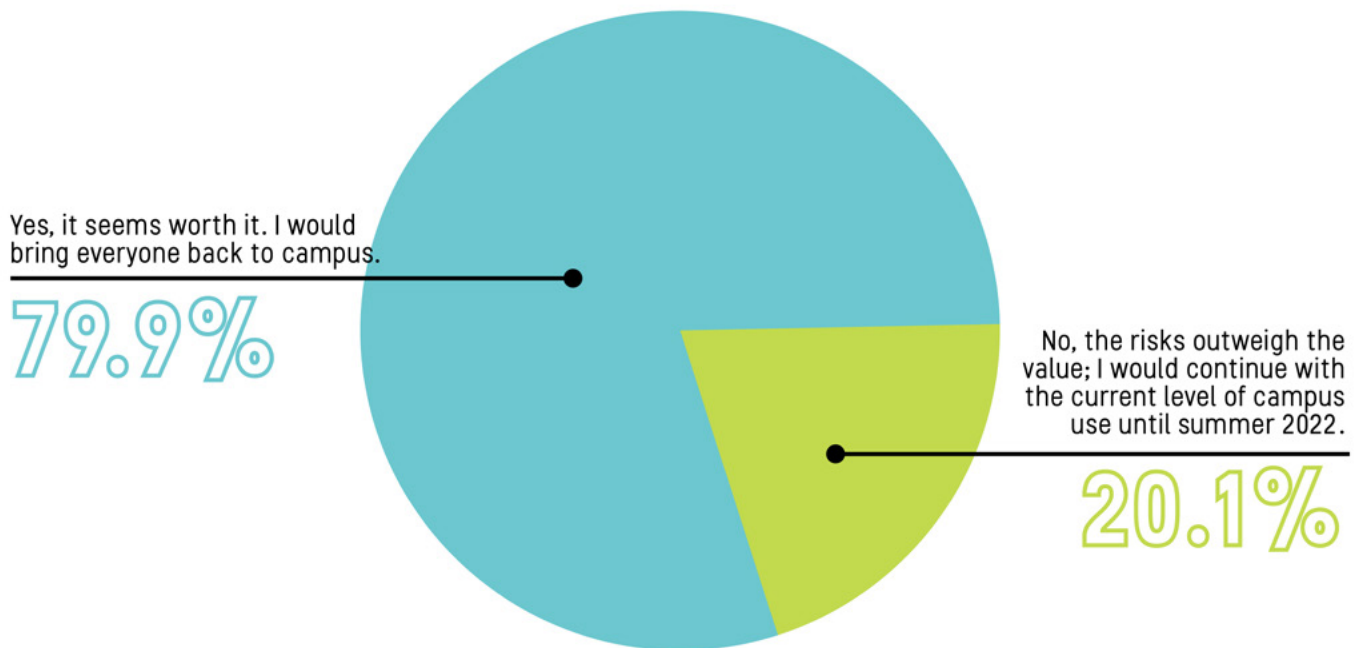
No Return to Campus! Education for All!

While CESAX was initially planning a gradual return to campus in the Winter 2022, the Omicron variant put our plans on hold because of the serious health and safety concerns in our workplace, campus, city and healthcare system. Unfortunately, the University has planned to go full steam ahead. CESAX has been advocating against a return to campus and for a hybrid or fully online module for the Winter 2022 term.

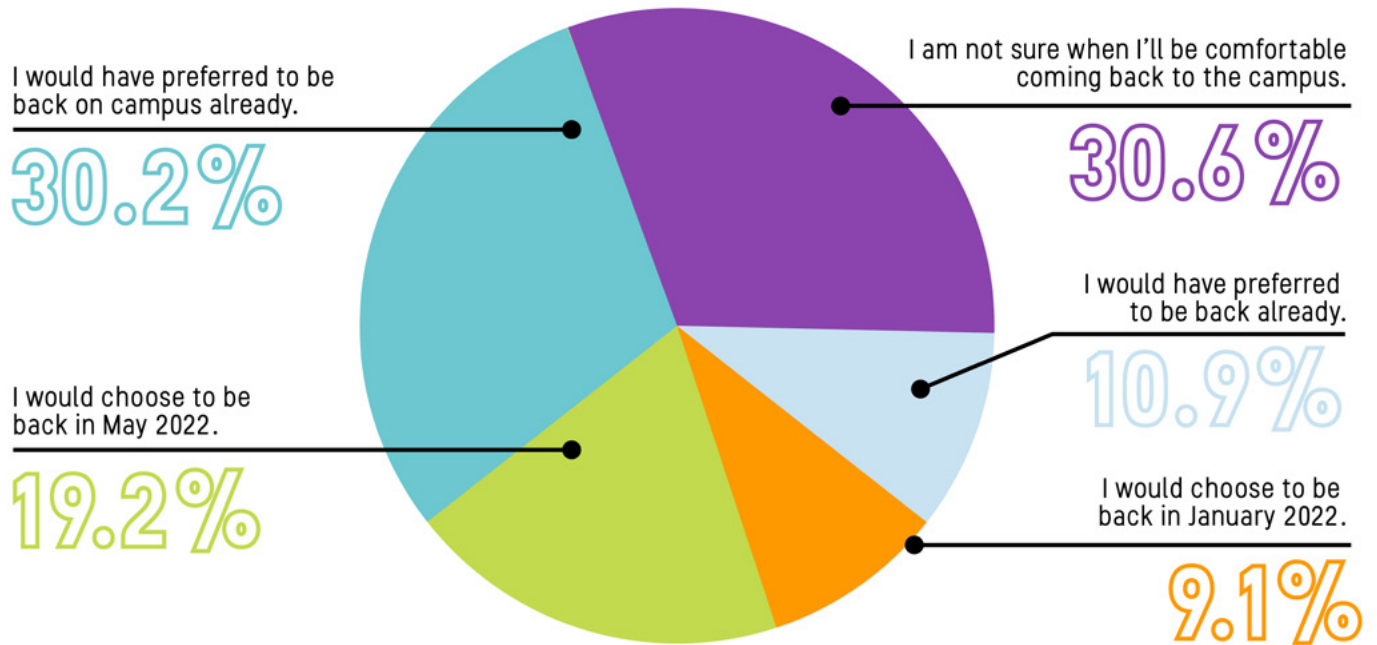
Student Survey

CESAX worked with the Graduate Students' Union to host a survey on return to campus planning. Over 1,300 students responded and there was a clear sentiment that students did not think that the university was prepared for a return to campus.

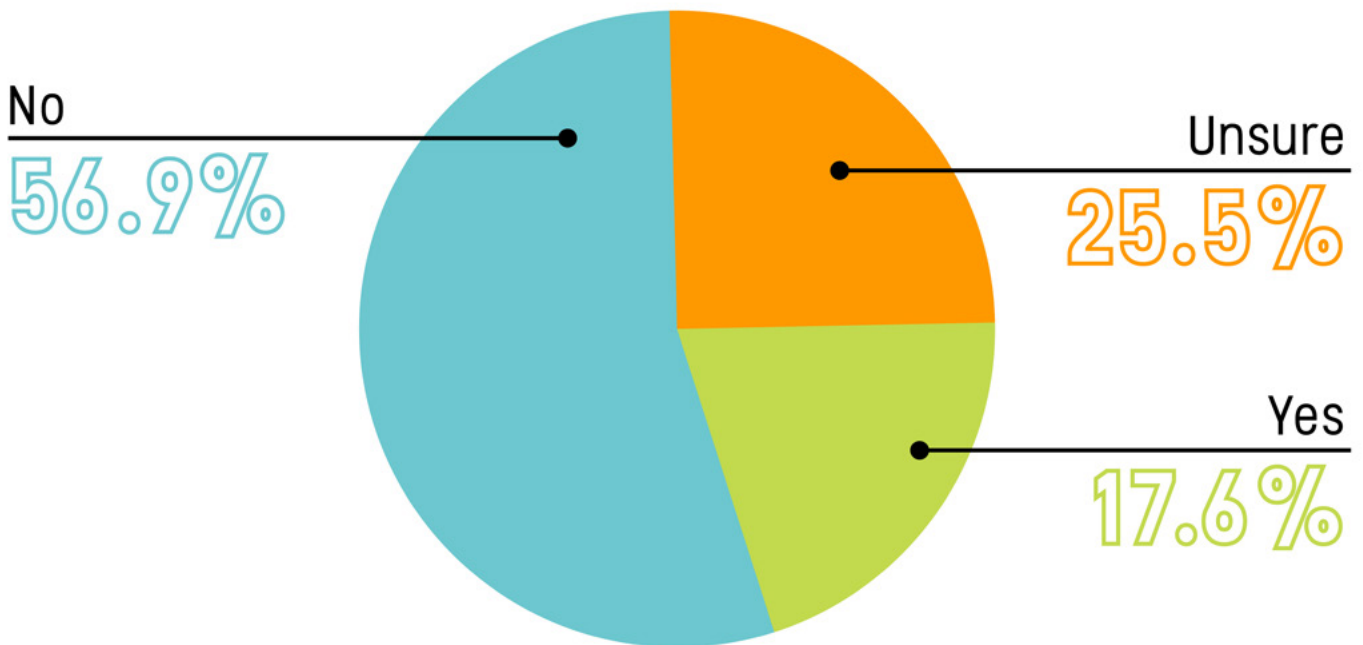
1. If the decision was up to you, and with all aspects of the pandemic in mind, would you decide that the entire university should be back to full on campus, in-person courses and community events for January 2022?



2. If you have a choice, when would you choose to be back on campus (for in-person learning)?



3. Are you confident in the university's capacity to plan for a safe return to campus for January 2022?



Communication with University

CESAX has worked with the Chang School to ensure clear communication has been shared with Chang School students about the continuance of online learning and the procedures around the Ryerson Safe app. We have demanded the Vice-Provost Students be more clear on the provisions for CE students and to discontinue the use of “students” as only referring to undergraduate, graduate and law students, while excluding continuing education.

CESAX requested that the University halt the threatening and punitive language around uploading student status to the Ryerson Safe app. While CESAX fully supports mandatory vaccines to visit the campus, we are opposed to the notion that students must be physically in classes while the pandemic is still a harsh reality.

CESAX has communicated with the President’s office around the rushed return to campus citing concerns for immunocompromised students and household members, fairness for international students and out-of-GTA students and unrealistic expectations for symptomatic and asymptomatic students.

Read the Letter to President Lachemi:
mycesax.ca/jan24

Email Zap

CESAX is running an email campaign to President Lachemi and other decision-makers around the return to campus. Sign here: mycesax.ca/noreturn

Provincial Elections

The upcoming provincial election in the spring of 2022 is an opportunity to mobilize our members and students across the province around student issues at the polls. CESAX is forming our plans for a robust campaign that aims to raise solidarity around tuition fees, accessible housing, long term care concerns and funding for our postsecondary education. We plan to share information with students about the political history of funding cuts in the province of Ontario, build pressure on candidates and elected representatives around a number of important student issues, and support students to lobby their provincial candidates directly.

CESAX is planning an international student vote, as we know that international students in Canada are unjustly excluded from the right to vote in elections, and doing so could result in a strong Right to Vote campaign. We also hope to create an accessible platform comparison for students to easily access party stances.

Election Day: June 2, 2022

Registration Link:

eregistration.elections.on.ca/en/home



Indigenous Resurgence

Following the removal of the Egerton Ryerson statue CESAX continues to work with, and stand alongside Wreckonconciliation U and Indigenous organizers at X University. We thank those organizers for letting us be a part of the movement to advocate for truth and reconciliAction.

CESAX declined submitting a submission to the Taskforce due to the perception of past Presidential-appointed Taskforces. CESAX did not want to validate a process that was not community-led.

CESAX awaits updates from the University in regards to renaming, and will take lead from Indigenous student organizers as far as response to these very critical decisions are decided.

Learn more about the X University Campaign at: <https://mycesax.ca/xuniversity>

Harm Reduction

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, accidental overdoses due to a toxic, unregulated substance supply have reached an all time high in Ontario. With a concentration of services in the downtown core of Toronto, X University is at the center of this public health crisis. This is why we have continued for Harm Reduction to be one of our core focuses.

To foster educational opportunities in the area of harm reduction, CESAX has hosted free online events such as naloxone training and overviews of existing public

health policies. CESAX has also contributed to the 11th annual Social Justice Week with an interview with frontline supervised consumption workers to discuss strategies to combat this public health crisis.

CESAX is also in the process of creating educational materials and sterile supplies to promote safer consumption on campus. This education will also be furthered by working with the Chang School in the development of a new certificate program in harm reduction.

Watch the Tour of the Works:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AY6Z0WqeH64&t=716s>

Education for All

CESAX continues to organize for a future of fully-funded post secondary education, and are working to mobilize our members to advocate with us. To make up for government underfunding, X University, as well as other institutions, continues to pursue a strategy of making international students pay more and more – even raising fees during the pandemic. CESAX has been vocal in opposing these tuition increases and calling for an end to differential fees. To this end, we are in the process of creating a Lobby Document to submit to the university to consider student priorities in the university budget.

Read last year's lobby document at:

<https://mycesax.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/CESAR-Lobby-Document-2020-2021.pdf>

Collaborations & Endorsements

CESAX has partnered with many community organizations to create learning opportunities and events for our members. Our financial donations can be found in the Services section. CESAX continues to partner with community organizations by sharing opportunities in newsletters, D2L and on social media.

Many of our partnerships took place in the month of June for Indigenous History Month and Pride Month programming. Collaborations continued in September with a webinar event titled “Understanding the Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act with Students for Harm Reduction. CESAX also co-hosted the annual Toronto Disability Pride March and collaborated with the Centre for Safer Sex and Sexual Violence Support to host an online facilitated discussion event about signs of secure attachment in relationships.

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS

The Canadian Federation of Students is our national and provincial students’ union, conducting research, mobilizing students and advocating for effective and principled change. CESAX is local 105 of the Canadian Federation of Students.

Founding Principle

To achieve our ultimate goal – a system of post-secondary education that is accessible to all, which is of high quality, which is nationally planned, which recognises the legitimacy of student representation, and the validity of student rights, and whose role in society is clearly recognised and appreciated.



Campaigns

Working groups

The Canadian Federation of Students has launched several working groups to further develop and update their campaigns. This includes:

National Working Groups:

- Consent is Mandatory
- United for Equity

Provincial Working Groups:

- Education for All
- International Students Advocacy Meeting
- Police-free Campuses
- Joint Health & Safety

Lobby Weeks

The Federation hosts annual lobby weeks where students' movement activists meet with decision-makers across all parties to discuss post-secondary education policy and alternatives. The Federation produces lobby documents to support policy amendments. CESAX Executives participated in both provincial and national lobby weeks.

National Lobby Week: February 22 to 25, 2022

Provincial Lobby Week: February 28 to March 4, 2022

Services

The Federation offers a number of services to students' unions and general members.

Ethical Purchasing Network

This service allows students' unions from across the country to use economies-of-scale to purchase orientation and membership swag at bulk rates and makes purchasing ethical materials more feasible. Through this program, CESAX has been able to purchase ethically produced and manufactured water bottles, tote bags and other supplies.

National Student Health Network

As you will see in our Services section, CESAX is currently using the National Student Health Network through the Federation. This allows students' unions to negotiate fairer and more transparent plans for members, with minimal administrative fees through for-profit third parties. The network is an essential player in fighting off increased privatization of students' union health and dental plans, whereas leading competitors Gallivan, We Speak Student and Student Care are collectively owned by for-profit 'People Corporation.'

UFile

The Federation provides promotional codes for members to use UFile to complete taxes for free. Along with being a standard online tax filing system, UFile is also a bilingual program that is effective for filing taxes between provinces. The promotional code is **CFS1981**.



Governance

The Canadian Federation of Students has a provincial and national component that ensures we have strong and diverse representation when advocating for students. In addition to at-large representatives, the Federation also has a council of constituencies to advise the campaigns and work we do as a students’ movement.

www.cfsontario.ca | www.cfs-fcee.ca

Current Representatives	2022–23 Representatives
National Chairperson: Alannah Mckay	National Chairperson: Marie Dolcetti-Koros
Ontario Chairperson: Vacant	Ontario Chairperson: Mitra Yakubi
National Deputy Chairperson: Wesam AbdElhamid Mohamed	National Deputy Chairperson: Wesam AbdElhamid Mohamed
National Treasurer: Marie Dolcetti-Koros	National Treasurer: Riaz Nandan
National Executive Representative–Ontario: Kayla Weiler	National Executive Representative–Ontario: Sarah Abdillahi
Ontario Treasurer: Sarah Abdillahi	Ontario Treasurer: Camille Duhaime

CESAX Representatives

CESAX has two appointees on the Federation’s Ontario structure:

Local 105 Representative – Steph Rychlo, VP Equity & Campaigns

Part-time & Continuing Education Caucus Chair – Annie Yang, VP Services & Finance

SERVICES

Introduction – Vice-President Services & Finance

Student services are an essential part of our organization in saving students money, creating access points to our organization and making our campus life more accessible. While our services continue to be offered online, we are eager to return to the Member Services Office when it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we have collected a lot of feedback on our programs, have revised our operating procedures and create new ways to promote our services.

To learn more about all of our services, visit www.mycesax.ca/services

Health and Dental Plan

All part-time undergraduate degree students are automatically enrolled onto the CESAX Health & Dental plan, as the fee is compulsory under part-time undergraduate students' program fees. In Fall 2021, there were 1880 part-time undergraduate degree students enrolled onto the plan. Just over 800 students opted-out of the plan for a refund by the October 8, 2021 deadline with valid proof of comparable alternate, pre-existing coverage. Additionally, 19 students paid an additional fee to enroll their dependents onto the plan.

The 8-month prorated coverage of the CESAX Health & Dental plan began January 1, 2022 and ends August 31, 2022. New Winter 2022 enrollees had the opportunity to opt-out with valid proof of comparable alternate, pre-existing coverage by February 11, 2022 deadline. We are currently undergoing the opt-out refund audit process. Once complete, funds will be distributed to students via e-transfers. This method has been very efficient at providing students with their opt-out refunds.



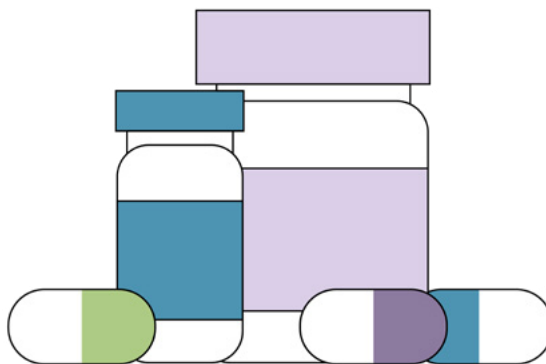
Plan Enhancements & Resources:

In September 2021, Green Shield Canada unveiled a new Plan Member Online Services/mobile experience via GSC Everywhere. Plan members enjoy easy access to the following features:

- Streamlined online claiming
- Coverage checks for specific benefits with more thorough, real-time results
- Easier search and filter for claims history
- Modern search function to find conveniently located health providers that are in good standing with GSC
- Easier access to GSC's collection of digital health tools and products
- Easier access to update personal and payment information

Effective January 1, 2022 any CESAX member using [Pocketpills](#) to fill their prescriptions will have 100% drug coverage until August 31st, 2022. Check out if [Pocketpills](#) is right for you.

These services are provided to our students because of CESAX's membership in the National Student Health Network (NSHN) and the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS).



Legal Aid Clinic

CESAX offers free legal services to its members. Bill Reid, CESAX's in-house lawyer, is available to provide advice and assistance with respect to most legal areas. Bill has served over 50 CESAX members this year, however usage is climbing as a result of outreach initiatives we have undertaken during the present pandemic.

One initiative is a series of ten "Quick Information" links that appear on the Legal Aid Clinic page of the CESAX website and provide general information about legal issues of common interest.

Please visit <https://mycesax.ca/legal> or contact legal@mycesax.ca to make an appointment.

Some Legal Services

- Most legal issues
- Landlord & tenant conflicts
- Family law
- Employment law
- Criminal law
- Debt issues
- Accident claims
- Immigration & other government matters
- Corporate, commercial & intellectual property issues
- Advice on legal documents or proceedings
- Notarization or commission documents
- And more...

Tax Clinic and UFILE

Unfortunately we've had to cancel our Winter 2022 in-person Tax Clinic due to current circumstances with COVID. However, we are excited to be able to provide students with the opportunity to file their taxes from the safety and comfort of their own homes.

UFile

Thanks to CESAX, the Canadian Federation of Students and UFile ONLINE all Canadian post-secondary students can file their taxes online for FREE with this special code: CFS1981. UFile.ca is one of Canada's leading online tax filing services. Students can use UFile.ca to file taxes for their spouses, partners or dependents.

Visit ufilefree.ca to learn more. Special code offer: **CFS1981**
Take advantage of this offer by:

Signing in to a new or existing Ufile account for the current tax year

Enter your tuition fees and months at school (must file T2202a) and click NEXT.

Locate the “**Special offer**” form in UFile's left hand navigation.
(You may need to scroll down the screen.)

Enter the following Canadian Federation of Students
“Free for Students” special offer code: **CFS1981**

Click NEXT

Enter the rest of your tax information and then you can print
or NETFILE your return whenever you are ready -- free of charge!

Bursary

CESAX Bursary is a one-time grant open every semester. It is a financial needs-based bursary eligible to every continuing education, part-time, full-time, and distance education student enrolled in Chang school course(s) in the current semester. CESAX receives a direct fee from students to fund this program. However, the Board has allocated additional funds to the program due to the increased need and the surplus from the previous fiscal year.

By the Numbers

Semester	Individual Allocations	Number of Recipients	Total Allocation	Increase from Previous Year
Spring 2021	\$400.00	100	\$40,000	+\$10,000
Summer 2021	\$400.00	100	\$40,000	+\$10,000
Fall 2021	\$500.00	190	\$95,000	+\$15,000
Winter 2022	\$500.00	150	\$75,000	+\$15,000

Total 2021–2022 Bursary amount: \$250,000.

Emergency Grants

With the consistent promotion of the Emergency Grant from December to February, we saw a surge of applications. There were many unexpected difficult circumstances that placed a burden on our community during this time, including the surge of the Omicron variant, the untimely return to campus, and extreme weather. To better meet our students' needs, the description of the emergency grant was updated to better define qualifying life circumstances as emergencies. The grant continues to serve students with unexpected, sudden, and acute life events that are threatening to their livelihood and wellbeing. Applicants with more chronic financial needs are redirected to other financial aids including the CESAX bursary and the new CESAX Equity Grants.

Equity Grants

The CESAX Equity Grant is a one-time \$250.00 non-repayable grant for equity-seeking groups. The intention of this grant is to provide aid to equity-deserving students without invasive questioning or proof of hardship while also making financial aid readily accessible. Open from February 1st – March 1st, part-time undergraduate, certificate program and continuing education students were eligible to apply for one of 100 grants divided over five categories:

- Students with Disabilities Grant
- Two-Spirit & Queer Student Grant
- Former & Current International Student Grant
- Student Parent Grant
- Racialized Student Grant

The CESAX Equity Grants are currently a pilot project that may return in the future with the establishment of a recurring reserved fund.



Student Services Survey

CESAX has collected feedback on member services and is currently compiling a report to recommend improvements to CESAX services.

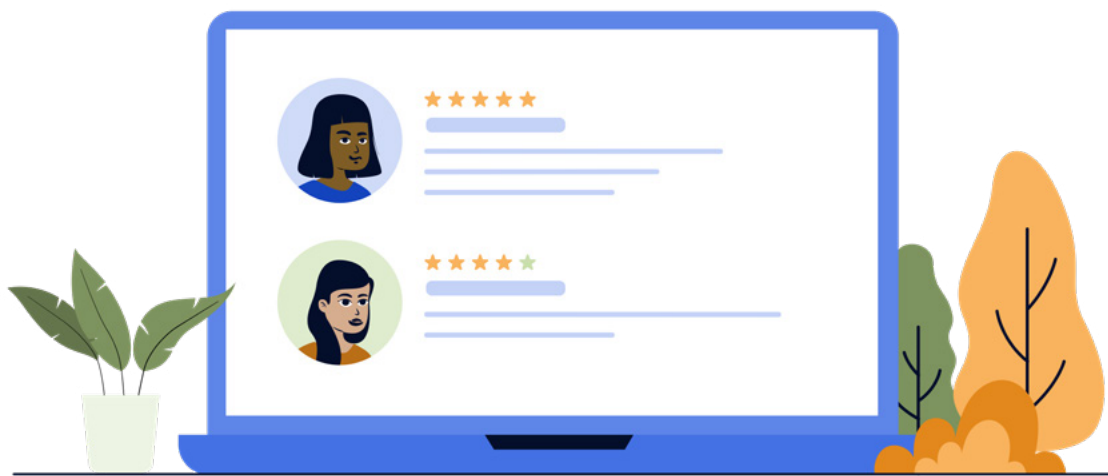
Sponsorship

Below are the donations and sponsorships that CESAX has been a part of from March 1, 2021 to November 1, 2021:

- Ethno-Racial Disability Coalition of Ontario (ERDCO)
- Butterfly Project
- Annie Parker Foundation
- Free Grassy Narrows
- Toronto Prisoner Rights Project
- Unifor Chair for Social Justice & Democracy
- Chang School Photography Exhibit
- Palestinian Youth Movement-Toronto
- Toronto Disability Pride March
- Indigenous Harm Reduction-Toronto
- Native Arts Society
- Wreckonciliation at X University
- 1492 Land Back Lane

Below are the donations and sponsorships that CESAX has been a part of from November 1, 2021 to February 29, 2022:

- Gidimt'en Checkpoint Land Defenders
- Families of Sisters in Spirit
- Toronto Environmental Alliance (TEA)
- Toronto Prisoner Rights Project – Survival Drive
- Tricultural Committee for University Education at Sudbury
- Mask Access Project by Disability Studies Student Association, X University



STUDENT RIGHTS AND APPEALS

Introduction – Vice-President Internal

CESAX is an active organizer on the university governance scene. Our team is consistently present, active and loud at university meetings to ensure our members are reflected in university decision-making. Through participation in the Senate, Chang School Council or various policy committees, we have built a reputation as a well-researched team. Through our governance advocacy we have also grown long-lasting partnerships with faculty and staff unions, as well as our sister union in the X University Graduate Students' Union (XGSU). Our members continue to have strong advocacy through our Student Advocate who assists with all matters related to academic misconduct, grade and standing appeals, as well as any administrative issues or complaints with the University.

Get Involved!

Do you want to get involved in bylaws, policies and governance issues? Get involved in the CESAX Bylaws & Policies Committee. You can also email any questions to vp.internal@mycesax.ca or sign up for our newsletter.

All Union Coalition

CESAX continues to initiate and facilitate monthly meetings with campus labour unions and students' unions around mutual concerns to develop allyship. Collectively, we have been able to work to share information on the Navitas program, Health and Safety planning, cuts to education and collaborate on policy proposals that serve students, instructors and staff members. When we work together, it becomes more difficult for the university administration to divide us.

University Governance

CESAX has largely focused its governance issues around fairness for international students (Read about Navitas below) and the return to campus plan (read under campaigns). Over the course of the pandemic, CESAX has witnessed – and opposed – the erosion of democratic processes and meaningful discussion at this university and the heavy-handedness of the university upper executives. Despite this, CESAX has attempted to foster stronger relationships with the Chang School and Vice-Provost Students, and the various departments our members work with directly. We are currently working on our annual lobby document and budget submission to the President's Office.

Renaming Committee

CESAX has written to the university regarding the renaming process. Our letter stated clearly that the actions of the new committee must be more public and accountable, and that it should have more representation from Indigenous communities. Our letter also indicated a desire to avoid having the renaming process dictated by corporate funders to the university.

Navitas International / Ryerson University International College

CESAX continues to work with student, labour and faculty partners locally, provincially and nationally to oppose the Ryerson University International College (RUIC) and its parent company Navitas International. In December 2021, CESAX finalized and released our research and recommendations document. Our recommendations balanced the basic principles of free education and human rights for international students, with the reality that the university has signed a private agreement with Navitas for a ten-year period.

Read the Navitas Lobby Document: the Erosion of Public Post-Secondary Education and Exploitation of International Students
mycesax.ca/ruic



Senate

CESAX continues to actively participate in the university Senate where academic decisions are made on behalf of the entire university. CESAX works collaboratively with other student senators and faculty representatives to ensure students get policies that are fair and equitable for all students, including continuing education members.

In the January Senate meeting, CESAX led an amendment to bylaws to limit proposed powers of the Senate Priorities Committee to ensure that emergency powers must be connected to force majeure cases, such as extreme weather or quarantine.

University Policy Review

Senate Policy 159, Academic Accommodation of Students with Disability

This policy oversees the accommodations policies and procedures available for students with disabilities. Throughout the review process, there were two student senators involved on the committee, however no students' union representatives were allowed on the committee. In January, the university hosted open consultations on the policy where CESAX participated and got a commitment for special consultations with students' unions and their advocates. The university indicated that their intent to focus on barrier-free accommodations planning. The amendments to this policy are tentatively aimed at being presented to Senate this spring.

Senate Policy 76, Development and Review of Certificate Programs

This policy oversees the creation and review timeline of certificate programs. CESAX has participated in the committee to provide feedback and will be conducting a consultation with the committee. The updated policy is currently expected to be presented to Senate to vote on in June.



Chang School Governance

CESAX continues to meet with the Dean of the Chang School to advocate on behalf of our members. This has included advocating for clearer direction on requests to convocate, the new refund policy and communication around COVID-19 policies and procedures to CE students. CESAX has also advocated for a lower barrier of enrolment to be used as the standard for certificate and course discontinuations, which would ensure smaller class sizes and more options available to students.

Get Involved!

Do you have feedback for the Chang School in terms of policy, services or academics? Get involved in the Continuing Education Advocacy Committee. You can also email any questions to vp.internal@mycesax.ca or sign up for our newsletter.

Academic Standing and Appeals Workshops

Every semester CESAX, the Graduate Student' Union (XGSU) and the Ryerson Students' Union (RSU) host workshops to support students facing issues with their academic standings (such as Academic Probation, Required To Withdraw, or Permanently Program Withdrawn) or who want to file grade appeals to challenge the final grades they received.

Between 15 – 35 students attended each session.

Watch Online

Watch the recordings of the webinars on our YouTube Page: mycesax.ca/youtube

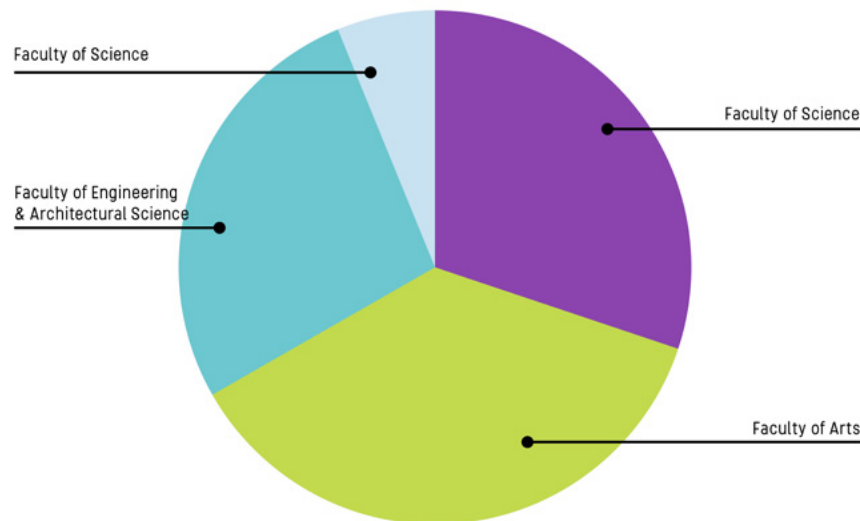


Statistical Data on Appointments

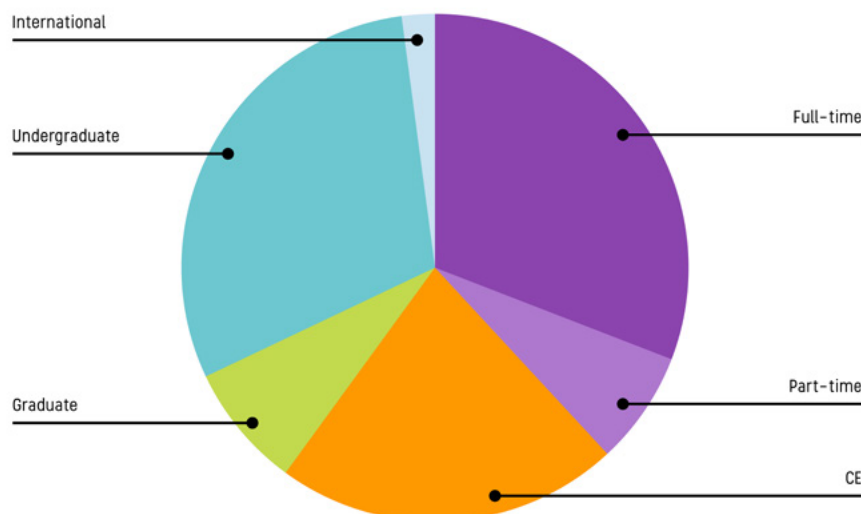
In order to track information about the students who seek advice from the Student Rights Coordinator, students utilizing this service are asked to fill out an Intake Form. The total number of Intake Forms for May 2021 to February 1, 2022 is 65. This amount is technically lower than the previous year where the total number of students who completed Intake Forms was 82. The total number for 2021–22 is misleadingly low because our intake process is imperfect and not all students opt to complete the form.

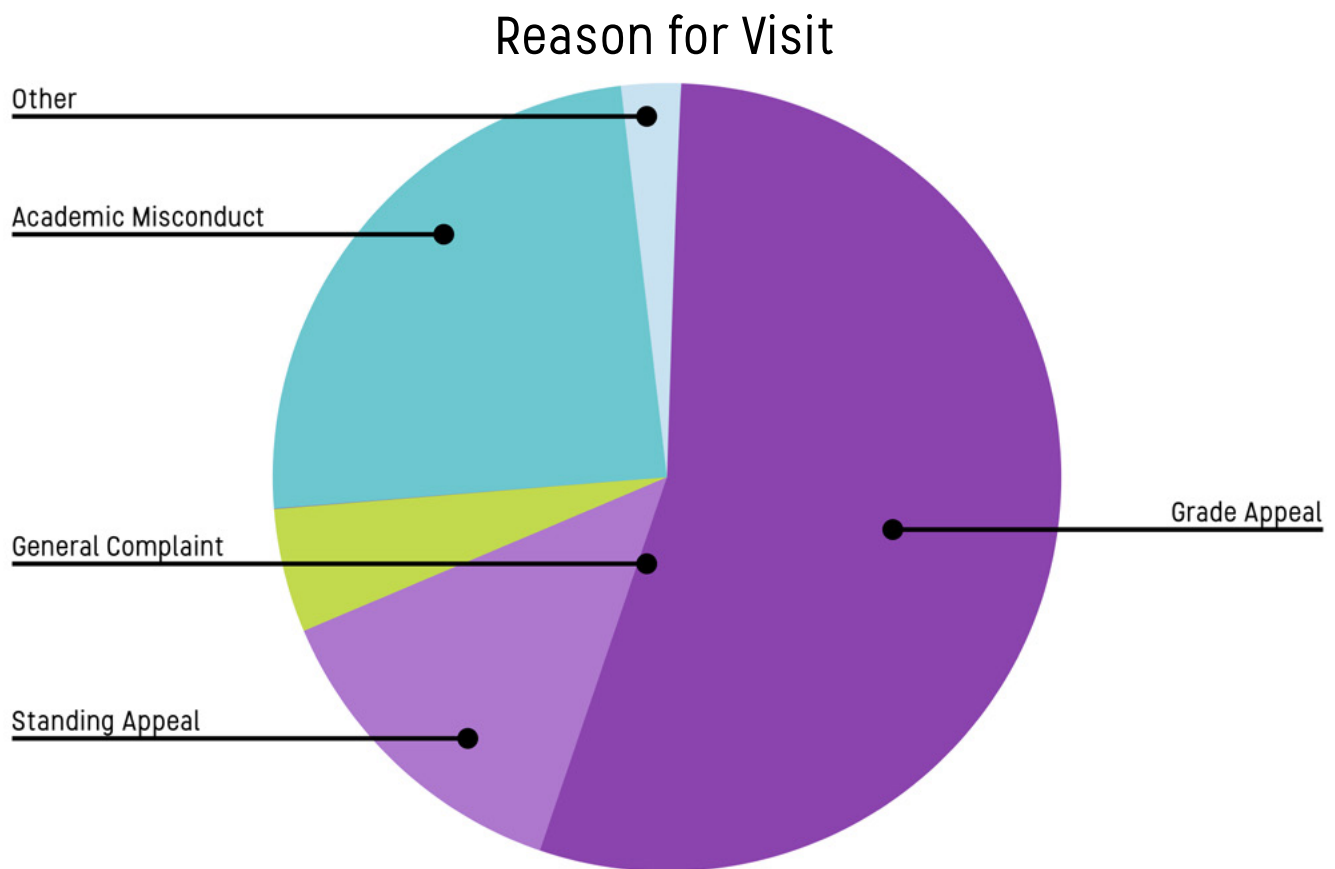
The statistical information below reflects what was indicated by students. Keep in mind that some students chose to identify themselves in certain ways, filling in some fields and not others, and that completing the form is optional and not at all mandatory. together, it becomes more difficult for the university administration to divide us.

Students' Program Information



Status of Enrolment





Student Advocacy Intake Form Identity Demographics

Our intake forms also track identity demographics, however it should be stated that many students opted not to complete this part of the form because it is not mandatory. For the 2021–22 year in total 42 of those who did complete the form identified as a woman, 17 identified as a man, and 1 identified as non-binary; 41 identified as racialised; 38 identified as heterosexual; 3 identified as bi-sexual; 1 identified as gay; 4 identified as lesbian; 1 identified as queer; 25 stated that another language other than English was their first language. however, CESAX does have a seat on the university’s Senate – the highest level academic decision making body. The CESAX President has been filling this position and attending all Senate meetings, which happen the first Tuesday of each month.

EVENTS & OUTREACH

Introduction – Vice-President Events & Outreach

Despite the challenges caused by the pandemic, and the changing nature of continuing education, CESAX has been able to adapt and rise to the challenge with digital programming. We continue to develop new strategies for part-time degree students and continuing education students. We also are doing a thorough review of the volunteer and class representative program to reflect the changing dynamics of our campus. As tuition and cost of living continue to rise, it is harder for students to find time to get involved than ever before. However, we will continue to try and find as many pathways as possible, with varying capacities and outcomes.

Find our events at mycesax.ca/events or join the Events Committee to get more involved.

Get Involved!

If you want to get involved in CESAX events, join the Events Committee. You can also email any questions to vp.events@mycesax.ca or sign up for our newsletter.

Winter Orientation

CESAX hosted our annual welcome back week digitally for the second year. We had originally planned an in-person skate night but were forced to cancel due to the pandemic. CESAX also offered a grand prize to students who attended multiple events and opportunities.

Fireside with Chang School

January 24, 2022

Students were able to ask questions to CESAX and the Dean of the Chang School about studying at X University. Questions focused on career and academic support, financial aid, the university name change, and addressing conflicts in the digital classroom.

Paint Night

January 25, 2022

Students had the opportunity to join Vicky Wang, a musician and visual artist, in an evening exploring and discovering ways for self-expression through art.

Games Night

January 26, 2022

Students joined us in an evening of playing fun games like Pictionary and Lie Swatter, and won amazing game-related prizes.

CESAX 101

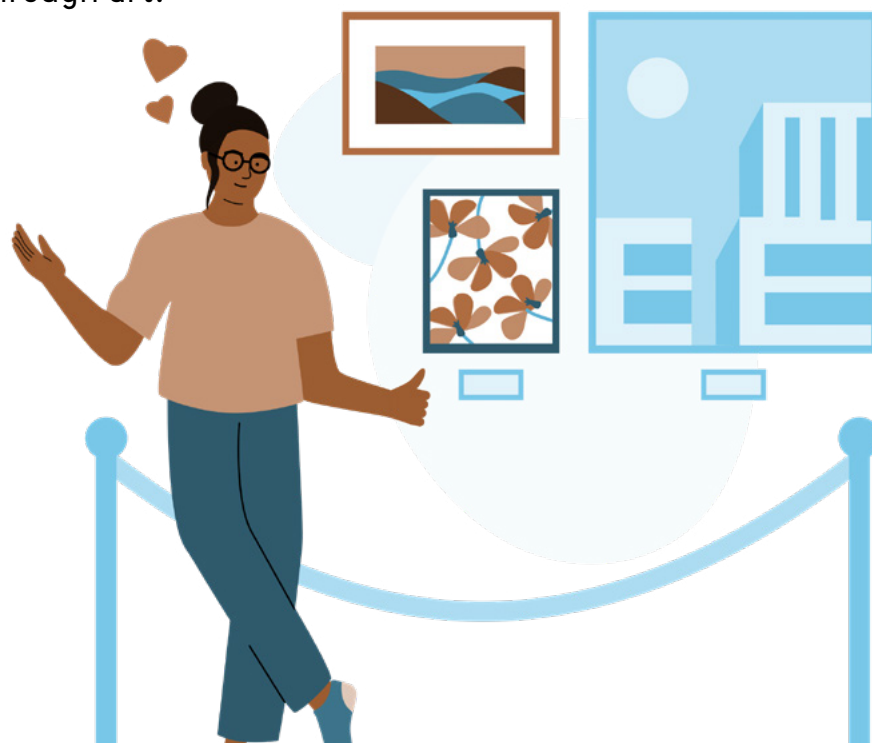
January 27, 2022

Students learned about the various services, events, and campaigns that the union has to offer. Questions were asked about the health and dental plan, who can access our services, and how to get involved.

Drag Bingo

January 27, 2022

Joined by Toronto-based drag performer Erin Brockobic, and burlesque performer Babia Majora, students enjoyed an evening of bingo, performances, and prizes from GladDay Bookshop.



Navigating Academic Success Series

CESAX hosted four academic success workshops in the Fall term.

View the workshops at:

mycesax.ca/academicsuccess

Mental Health and Academic Consideration Requests

February 2, 2022

CESAX hosted a workshop for students to learn about ways to safeguard academic performance when faced with mental health challenges. The workshop included a thorough breakdown of the Academic Consideration Policy 167 and timelines, as well as other relevant policies and campus resources.

Black History Month

In addition to a line up of online events, CESAX developed a social media campaign on Black history and excellence.

Movie Night: Celebrating Black Film

February 10, 2022

This year, we hosted a screening of *The Harder They Fall*, available on Netflix, that took back Black representation and depiction in westerns. Following the film we had a discussion space with students where they highlighted how they felt about the movie and their views and opinions.

Black History Trivia

February 16, 2022

Trivia night surrounding Black Excellence. Trivia questions were themed around Black accomplishments and facts.



Neurodivergent Support Group

November 2021

To build community and assist neurodivergent students with remote studies CESAX designed a series of online discussions by and for neurodivergent people. In the fall of 2021, CESAX hosted multiple ADHD and Autism support sessions. These discussions were focused on navigating challenges autistic people and ADHDers have faced during COVID, especially from the perspective of BIPOC and assigned-female at birth folks who are underrepresented in mainstream depictions. Different discussion topics were covered in each session, and participants were able to choose the topic they feel most passionate about. Accessibility was a primary focus of this project, therefore no diagnosis of ADHD or “Autism Spectrum Disorder” were required to attend.

Monthly Trivia

CESAX hosts monthly trivia events featuring various themes and categories from some of the most current events that took place and was centered around upcoming events. It served as a fun refresher to participants to learn and educate themselves while having fun with knowledge. Prizes were awarded for first, second and third place winners at each trivia series.

Naloxone Training

November 3, 2021

With increasingly potent additives circulating in the country’s unregulated drug supply, overdoses are on the rise. This session provided an overview of the toxic drug crisis in Canada alongside overdose prevention and response practices. This was a necessary event with valuable knowledge for first responders, health care practitioners, or anyone concerned with the rise of overdose deaths from contaminated substances in our communities.

Paint Night

November 11, 2021

We hosted our first paint night as a way to engage students into a creative, calm and soothing space. The atmosphere was magnificent and amazing pieces were created.

Green and Red Flags

February 9, 2022

CESAX worked with the Centre for Safer Sex and Sexual Violence Support (C3SVS) to bring educational Sex and Relationship Week programming to campus. Green and Red Flags was a discussion-style event which explored the function of all forms of relationships in our personal growth and development. This event encouraged participants to explore signs of secure and nurturing attachment in our connections with others.

ORGANIZATIONAL

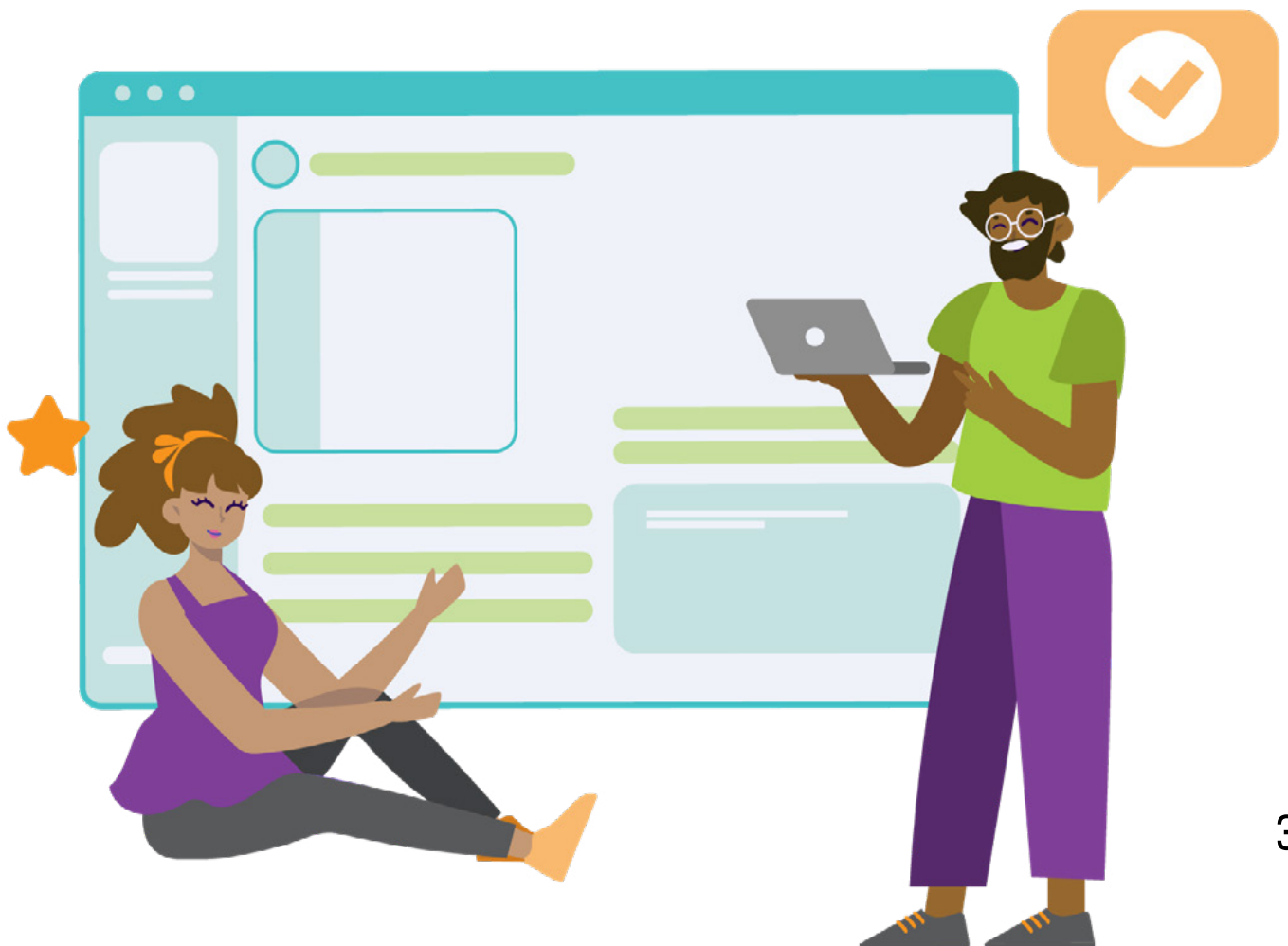
Name Change

On May 21, 2021 the CESAX Board of Directors approved a motion to temporarily change the name of our organization to align with the calls to action by Indigenous students at X University. The name change came into effect on June 1, 2021 and members were notified via email, D2L and social media. A section of our website was also dedicated to informing members of this change. This name change was further confirmed at our Semi-Annual General Meeting in November 2021, with the addition of investigating next steps to modifying our name.

Human Resources

CESAX currently employs five unionized full-time staff, one Executive Director and a number of part-time staff and placement students. CESAX was able to maintain a record number of part-time employees and guarantee student work opportunities during the pandemic.

CESAX continues to advocate for the inclusion of Continuing Education students in the Career Boost program and provincial Work Study program.



Finances

CESAX Membership Fee 2021–22:

Total: \$14.39

- Operating Budget: \$11.11
- Bursary: \$2.78
- Ryerson Student Centre Fund: \$0.50

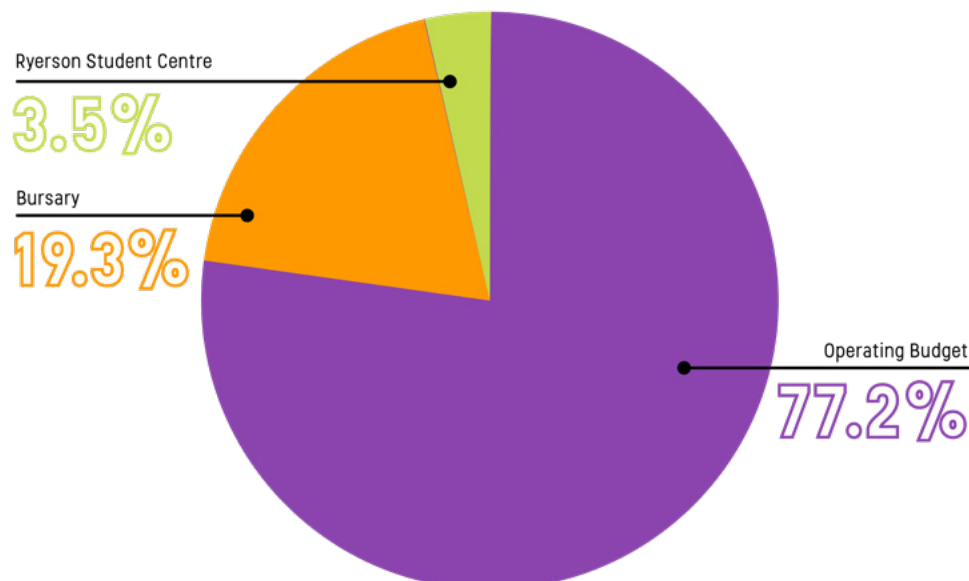
Other referendum fees:

- Health & Dental (for part-time degree only): \$232.47
- Canadian Federation of Students: \$2.72

CESAX is currently in a healthy budget position. We continue to see growth or slight increases in membership enrollment in all semesters. With COVID-19, the Board of Directors has had to review the operating budget and the current demands and needs of the membership. This has resulted in a reduction in common expenses from in-person programming, such as food for attendees, and re-invest funds into communications software, emergency grants and more digital programming.

Communications

Digital communications and social media have become a core practice at CESAX. Whether it be for campaigns or event promotion, in the age of COVID-19, social media has proven to be our most impactful outreach tactic. Because of this, CESAX has aimed to increase its social media presence on Instagram, Twitter and TikTok. In order to increase our social media engagement and presence we have tried several new strategies including but not limited to; social justice education shareables, instagram repost contests, following allied organizations and re-sharing their content. With social justice education becoming more and more prominent on social media it has become much easier to see traction on our educational materials, and it has proven to be a successful tactic at educating our membership. Becoming a strong temporary alternative to in person outreach surrounding equity and anti-oppression.



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic CESAX has also continued to host all of our events on ZOOM. We also offer many of our events via live stream on facebook, youtube or our website for those members who are perhaps less zoom savvy. Additionally, events are closed captioned and re-posted on our youtube channel.

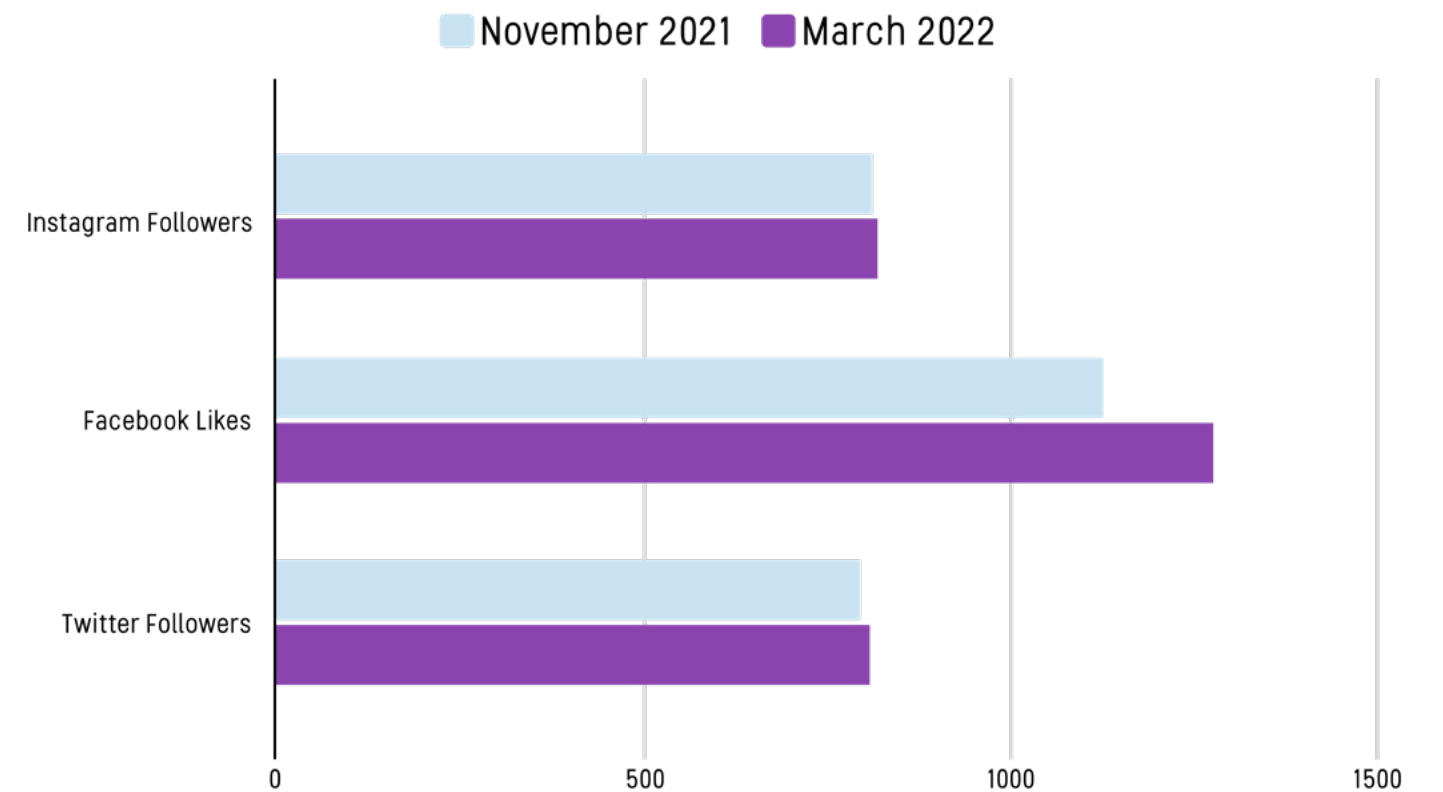
Zoom webinar requests are being streamlined through an internal form which also takes into account event promotion strategies. We are currently emailing the membership at least once per month with updates that include opportunities for involvement and advancement, as well as partner content.

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel to get all our videos with captions:
www.mycesax.ca/youtube

Social media growth from November, 2021– March, 2022

Instagram followers: 7.5% (from 812 to 870)
Facebook likes: 8.2% (from 1130 to 1,277)
Twitter followers: 1% (from 800 to 808)



Volunteer Program

The Volunteer Program continues to try to find engaging volunteer opportunities for members, including but not limited to hosting events, assisting in organizing events logistics, and occasional in-person outreach opportunities – public health guidelines permitting. The program is run through Track-it-Forward, which allows students to sign up for events, log hours, and receive awards. CESAX has held a volunteer training for the 2022 Winter semester, which involved sharing information on volunteer opportunities and expectations, as well as an anti-oppression training.

CESAX will continue to host training sessions each semester. We continue to send weekly emails to registered volunteers outlining future events and opportunities for engagement. We also have a group chat on Signal to help foster a community environment among volunteers. The union is planning on hosting an end-of-year volunteer appreciation event at some point in April.

Sign up as a Volunteer at mycesax.ca/volunteer



CESAR
VOLUNTEER TESTIMONIALS

Working with the student body, advocating for services and rights for the students, and bringing our voices to the Administration and Faculty were all important and fulfilling.

Visit mycesar.ca/testimonial to share your experience

Ian Royer
Volunteer & Board Member | 2017– 2019



CESAR
VOLUNTEER TESTIMONIALS

My fondest memory of my time at CESAR is attending the Skills Symposium in summer of 2016 and meeting students from other universities to share ideas and attend informational workshops.

Visit mycesar.ca/testimonial to share your experience

Class Representative Program

The Class Representative Program continues to run each semester. Class Representatives have been recruited through a form available on the CESAX website, and advertised through e-newsletters, D2L, and social media. The success of the Class Representative program typically depends on in-person outreach, which continues to be a barrier for engagement in this program. CESAX has hosted a virtual Class Representative Information Session, educating students on the program and how to get involved. Regular communication continues with Class Representatives to support individual projects, address issues that arise, and provide opportunities to share new ideas that students would like to work on.

Open Committees

All CESAX members are able to attend these meetings. Each committee has an active e-newsletter and meets at least a semester, if not monthly.

The **Bylaws and Policy Committee** deals with all governance-related documentation and overall organizational structure of CESAX.

The **Events Committee** is responsible for all things events at CESAX. A list of upcoming events can also be found on our website and various social media platforms.

The **Equity and Campaigns Committee** works on social justice and equity initiatives, including events, workshops, lobby documents and institutional advocacy to create social change.

The **Continuing Education Advocacy Committee** is an ad-hoc committee that looks at identifying concerns and issues facing CE students.

Staff Appreciation

Over the past year, staff at CESAX have gone above and beyond in spite of the challenges of the pandemic to continue to work in support of Chang School students. The CESAX Executive and Board deeply appreciate the work of the full time and part time staff who are an amazing team committed to fighting for justice, building student power, offering services, and advocating for our members to bring about progressive changes to the university. Our students' union is fortunate to have the passion, experience, and care that our team of staff has brought to our organization. Thank you to each one of our staff for all of your dedicated service to CESAX members. None of the work that our students' union does would be possible without them.





CESAX

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

March 10, 2022

President

Welcome

Over the past year, I've been working with our team to advocate for our members, participating in meetings with university administrators, relaying concerns and confusion from members around on-campus learning, collaborating with campus labour partners and sister students' unions. Through persistent efforts, we've maintained a focus on the need for clear communication from the university, the importance of increased government funding to reduce tuition fees, our opposition to X University's partnership with the Navitas corporation, and the university's renaming process, among other issues affecting students.

Updates

- Chaired monthly meetings of the X University All Union Coalition, where we regularly communicate and work in solidarity with the X University Graduate Students' Union (XGSU), the X University Faculty Association (XFA), CUPE 3904, OPSEU 596 and other campus labour unions.
- Participated in monthly university Senate and Chang School Council meetings on behalf of CESAX as an elected representative.
- Submitted input to the university's renaming committee indicating our concerns around the intentionality of the process, the timeline for submitting community feedback, and the values that may be reflected in the university's new name.
- Participated in the university's Policy 76 working group.
- Worked closely with the Executive Director to oversee the human resources of the organization, including the return to campus and office space planning and other matters as they arise.

Closing Projects

- Working with the VP Equity & Campaigns, our Executive, and our staff team to educate and agitate CESAX members and students in Ontario to prioritize students' issues in the Spring Provincial election.
- Participating in National and Provincial Lobby Weeks organized by the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) to apply direct pressure to elected policy decision makers around funding for postsecondary education and mental health supports for students.
- Lobbying the university on behalf of CESAX members by meeting with President Lachemi, senior administrators, and the CESAX team as a part of the university's budget consultation process.

VP Equity & Campaigns

Welcome

For students we have not gotten the chance to meet, welcome to CESAX! For students who have come to our events, committees, and general meetings in the past, thank you for being involved and enthusiastic about creating community in a time of uncertainty and isolation. Thank you for letting us be a part of your post-secondary experience.

Updates

- Provided webinar education on harm reduction and training on naloxone administration
- Advocated for equitable education and admission processes on the Medical School Advisory Committee
- Created the framework for and released CESAX's first round of low-barrier Equity Grants
- Engaged students to vote in the 2021 Federal Election
- Facilitated the creation and implementation of CESAX Neurodivergent Support Spaces
- Represented CESAX on the Ontario Executive Committee of the Canadian Federation of Students - Ontario
- Chaired the CESAX Equity & Campaigns Committee each month

Closing Projects

- Advocating for a safe return to campus and online alternatives for all students
- Pushing for a universal accessibility model in the review of Policy 159: Academic Accommodations

VP Services & Finance

Welcome

It has been a difficult winter for many of our members. We appreciate your continued support, engagement and feedback for CESAX. This past year we have coordinated a number of surveys to get feedback directly from our members. We continue to revise our language to advertise services, enhance our digital footprint to educate members on services they have access to, and work with campus partners to create easy ways for students to engage student services. Thank you to the board and staff team for revitalizing our services – and for the members who use them!

Updates

I have been making recommendations and updates to the Emergency Grant and CESAX Bursary in this time of changing needs.

I have been chairing CESAX Finance and Bursary committees

I'm in a working group hosted by the Canadian Federation of Students Ontario and putting together a Climate Justice Campaign.

I have been getting constant reports and feedback from the Services Coordinator about the PT health and dental plan, tax clinic, and other services at CESAX.

I have helped organize and facilitate the Neurodivergent Support Series this semester, a joint project between VP Equity & Campaigns and VP Services

I made the Member Service Survey to use to improve our current and future services. The Survey closed with 146 responses.

I have been supporting the executive team and staff in various campaign efforts, including the Navitas Lobby Document, Fairness for International Students No Forced Return, Indigenous Resources, and the Provincial Elections Organizing

Closing Projects

- I will be creating a report and recommendations based on the Member Service Survey
- Neurodivergent Support Space
- CESAX Podcast series on racism and racial solidarity in the student movement

VP Events & Outreach

Welcome

Thank you to everyone who got involved in CESAX over the past year. It has been an honour and pleasure to serve as the VP Events & Outreach. Through the year, we have planned a great line up of diverse events, enhanced our digital outreach footprint and tried to find new ways to create volunteer opportunities. The successes of this portfolio belong to our entire events team from board members, to staff, to our general volunteers – so thank you!

Update

- Worked with the events team to launch the Winter Orientation schedule
- Worked with the events team to launch Black History Month events and a social media schedule for February
- Researched and databased campus groups to engage with on social media and in future events planning
- Hosted monthly trivia nights for general members
- Participated and organized program orientations to give introductions to the students' union
- Conducted semesterly volunteer training
- Hosted monthly Events Committee meetings

Closing Projects

- Develop a podcast proposal for anti-racism initiatives
- Developing and releasing an end of year events survey
- Finalizing a volunteer program guideline and report

VP Internal

Welcome

It is a pleasure to see both new and returning individuals in the space this year. For everyone that has taken the time out of their schedules to participate with events and programs this year we extend our gratitude. Thank you all for your continued engagement and support and I hope that we can continue to foster change and growth together

Updates

- Participated in ongoing discussion around the RUIC and the University's role in ensuring that students have access to all services needed to be successful in the program and transition.
- Lobbied the university and government in different areas by drafting and sending letters to the Dean or the University regarding issues as they arose.
- Worked alongside other executives and staff to collaborate with a student group with a mission to assist the community during the pandemic.
- Collaborated with staff to submit Bylaw proposals for the Fall General Meeting around Class Representatives, General Meetings, Executive Committee and the inclusion of the Graduate Students' Union
- Collaborated with staff to submit operating policy amendments related to Honorariums, Health & Dental Plan procedures, TTC token distribution procedures, and various financial procedures
- Chaired the Bylaws and Policies Committee and ensured documents were updated.

Closing Projects

- Working with other executives to promote student advocacy opportunities and representation for Part-time degree students.
- Collaborating with the events team to host a podcast about Inclusivity and Diversity within the organization.
- Implementing Issues-based policy, in solidarity with other organizations for the same cause.

Appendix A

Meeting Agenda

Semi-Annual General
Membership Meeting

Continuing Education
Students' Association of
X University – CESAX

Date:

Thursday, March 10, 2022,
6:00–8:00pm

Location:

Zoom Room – Student
Campus Centre, 301–
55 Gould St., Toronto,
Ontario

1. Call to Order

2. Welcoming Remarks

- a. Recognition of and Respect for Unceded Traditional Territories of First Nations People
- b. Equity Statement

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion: AGM–22/03/10–01

Be it resolved that the AGM agenda be approved as presented.

MOVED: VIECHWEG
SECONDER:
RESULT:

4. Elections Forum

5. Approval of Minutes

Motion: AGM–22/03/10–02

Be it resolved that the 2021 SAGM minutes be approved as presented.

MOVED: VIECHWEG
SECONDER:
RESULT:

6. General Motion: Course Union Funding

Motion: AGM–22/03/10–03

WHEREAS there are currently eleven part-time degree programs, with three programs being exclusively offered as part-time degree programs; and

Appendix A

Meeting Agenda

Semi-Annual General
Membership Meeting

Continuing Education
Students' Association of
X University – CESAX

Date:

Thursday, March 10, 2022,
6:00–8:00pm

Location:

Zoom Room – Student
Campus Centre, 301–
55 Gould St., Toronto,
Ontario

WHEREAS CESAX currently provides sponsorship for student groups and events; and

WHEREAS course unions (also known as program unions) exist in most full-time programs and are funded by the Ryerson Students' Union or Graduate Students' Union and the faculty student society; and

WHEREAS there are currently no formalized provisions for CESAX to support collaborative course unions or exclusive part-time degree course unions; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that CESAX institutionalize course union funding for part-time degree programs; and
BE IT RESOLVED that the CESAX Board and Bylaws and Policies Committee be tasked with developing a policy which includes course union funding.

MOVED: RYCHLO

SECONDER:

RESULT:

7. AGM Report

8. Announcements

9. Adjournment

Motion: AGM-22/03/10-04

MOVED:

SECONDER:

RESULT:

SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Continuing Education Students' Association of X University – CESAX

Thursday, November 18, 2021, 6:00–8:00pm

Zoom Room – Student Campus Centre, 301–55 Gould St., Toronto, Ontario

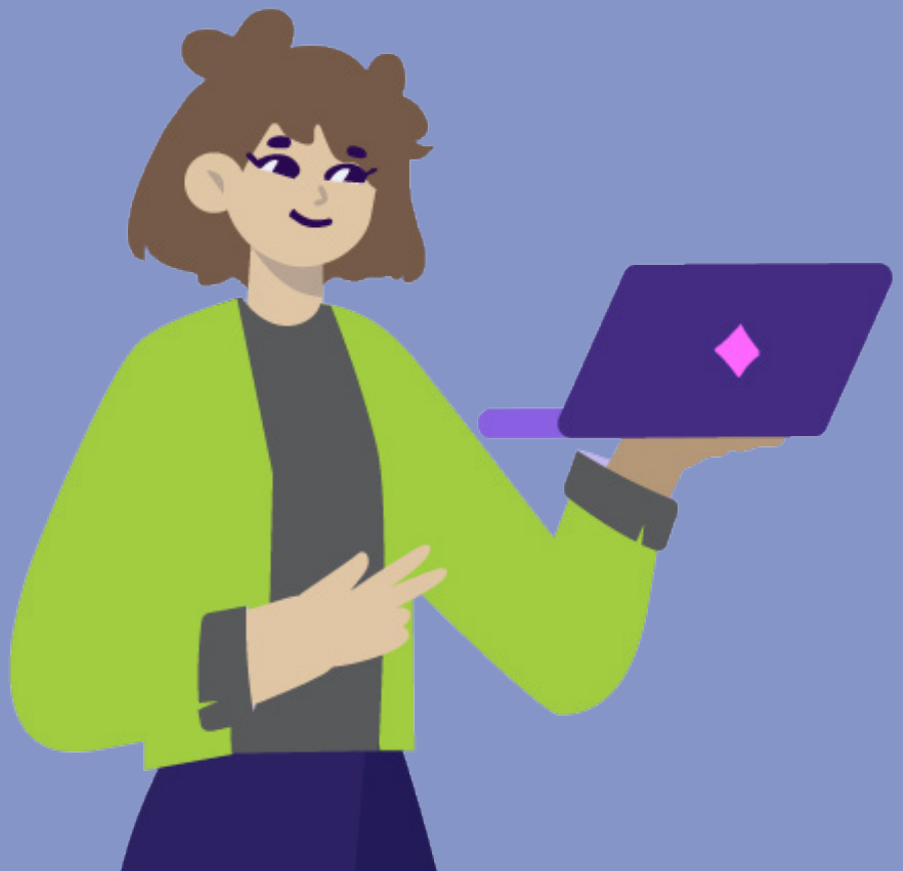
Attendance (Voting):

Aisha Manjra
Annie Yang, Board
Bikutakenji Pliszka
Britney Viechweg, Board
Chava Bayla Wald
Colin Johnson
Erinn Daley–Reid
François Marchildon
Janet Rodriguez, Senate

Janine Simmons
Jasdeep Sekhon
Linda Thani
Maddy Fast, Board
Noha Farawi, Board
Olivia McIntosh, Board
Omotayo Apampa, Board
Parthiban R, Board
Reesha Nauman
Rejaan Seepersad
Saarah Furmli
Samantha DeCouto
Shwathy Pathmanathan
Steph Rychlo, Board
Suanny Aranguren, Board
Tahsin Bakth
Tanzeem Saleha
Varisha Gay

Attendance (Non-Voting):

Hildah Otieno, Chair
Amanda Lin, Services Coordinator
Ayat Rizvi, Campaigns & Community
Engagement Assistant
Corey Scott, Executive Director
Gord Lee, Auditor
Jessie Whyte, Events & Outreach
Coordinator
Lyndall Musselman, Student Rights
Coordinator
Shahla Navai, Internal Coordinator
Zayd Ghunaim, Communications &
Campaigns Coordinator



1. Call to Order

Meeting is called to order at 6:07 pm

2. Welcoming Remarks

Fast called the meeting to order

- a. Recognition of and Respect for Unceded Traditional Territories of First Nations People
- b. Equity Statement

Yang reads the Equity Statement

- c. Welcome and meeting procedure overview

Fast welcomed and introduced Otieno as Chair of the meeting, noting her educational credentials, holding a bachelor degree in Political Science and a post graduate certificate in Non-Profit Management, and her extensive involvement in the student movement, as an executive of the Canadian Federation of Students, and serving as Vice President, Students Rights of the Continuing Education Students' Association of X University.

Otieno thanked everyone for inviting her to the space and explained that the meeting would follow Robert's Rule of Order, and that the agenda set out the items to be discussed. She said that every motion required a creator and a seconder, who would open the floor for motivation and discussion, following which the motion would go to a vote through a Zoom poll. She explained that the participants would be able to raise a Point of Order, or raise a Point of Information, when they required to point out an issue or ask for further clarification on a motion by using the Chat box on Zoom.

Otieno noted that following the Robert's Rules of Order gave structure to running a meeting, but in itself was not complete without participants acknowledging the land that settlers inhabited, and to read the equity statement to ensure that mutual respect was in force at meetings

Otieno announced that Close Captioning had been enabled. She gave the floor to Scott, who asked participants to speak slowly and clearly so the conversations could be properly captured for transcription.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion: SAGM-21/11/18-01

Be it resolved that the SAGM agenda be approved as presented.

MOVED: VIECHWEG

SECONDER: CHAVA

RESULT: CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion: SAGM-21/11/18-02

Be it resolved that the 2021 AGM minutes be approved as presented.

MOVED: VIECHWEG

SECONDER: Colin

RESULT: CARRIED

5. Approval of 2020–2021 Auditor’s Report

Motion: SAGM-21/11/18-03

Be it resolved that the audited statements of the 2020–21 financial year be accepted as presented.

MOVED: YANG

SECONDER: Kenji

RESULT: CARRIED

Yang introduced Lee from Yale and Partners as the auditor for the 2020–21 CESAX’s financial year.

Lee stated that the Association was in a strong financial position and had been run in a very responsible manner by the members of the Board. He said the balance sheet showed over \$2,000,000 in cash reserves, and the liabilities were mostly inclusive of existing responsibilities to benefit students such as the Health and Dental plan, the Emergency Grant, and restricted funds such as the bursary, and the Canadian Federation of Students’ fees. Revenues had been higher due to higher enrolment numbers. He added that the Association also had increased their Reserve Fund from six months to 18 months during the pandemic.

Johnson said that he had noticed that in the 2020–21 fiscal year he had seen an increase of \$100,000 in salaries from the previous year.

Lee stated that this was due to the hiring positions for vacant full-time staff positions.

6. Approval of 2021–2022 Auditors

Motion: SAGM–21/11/18–04

Be it resolved that Yale and Partners be approved to conduct the 2020–21 financial audit.

MOVED: YANG

SECONDER: FAST

RESULT: CARRIED

Yang thanked Lee for his presentation. She stated that CESAX had been using Yale and Partners, a well-respected firm in their highly regulated sector, for a few years and had found them to be competent and knowledgeable of CESAX's operations. For this reason, CESAX recommended the continuation of service by the firm of Yale and Partners.

7. Bylaw Amendment 1: Inclusion of RGSU

Motion: SAGM–21/11/18–05

Whereas the Ryerson Graduate Students' Union is a recently established central students' union; and

Whereas graduate students may enroll in continuing education courses during their degree; and

Whereas full-time and part-time graduate students should have the same rights and responsibilities as full-time degree students when taking continuing education courses; therefore

Be it resolved that bylaws be amended as reflected in Appendix C: Bylaw Amendment 1.

MOVED: VIECHWEG

SECONDER: RYCHLO

RESULT: CARRIED

Viechweg stated that since the Ryerson Graduate Students' Union had only been recently established, this by-law set out that their members would have the same rights and responsibilities as the full-time undergraduate students, taking a continuing education courses.

8. Bylaw Amendment 2: Class Representatives Change

Motion: SAGM–21/11/18–06

Whereas the Class Representative Program is a specific type of volunteer opportunity for students to get involved with CESAX; and

Whereas the Class Representative Program currently requires elections for volunteers to sign up; and

Whereas the Class Representative Program should be amended to reflect digital classrooms, ease of access and communication of information; therefore
Be it resolved that Bylaw III: Class Representatives be amended as reflected in Appendix C: Bylaw Amendment 2.

MOVED: VIECHWEG

SECONDER: MCINTOSH

RESULT: CARRIED

Viechweg stated that this by-law was being proposed to allow for an easier way to democratically elect class representatives as a number of classes were run digitally.

9. Bylaw Amendment 3: TTC Reimbursement

Motion: SAGM-21/11/18-07

Whereas the TTC tokens are discontinued and replaced with a standard fare therefore;
Be it resolved that Bylaw IV: General Meetings be amended as reflected in Appendix C: Bylaw Amendment 3.

MOVED: VIECHWEG

SECONDER: RYCHLO

RESULT: CARRIED

Viechweg stated that since the TTC discontinued tokens, this by-law changed the term 'token' to 'standard fare' to reflect this change.

10. Bylaw Amendment 4: Executive Committee Honoraria

Motion: SAGM-21/11/18-08

Whereas the Executive Committee is comprised of five executive members elected annually;
and

Whereas the Executive Committee is limited to set hours and compensation as defined by the Bylaws; and

Whereas the Executive Committee is made up of current students who often balance other work and personal commitments; and

Whereas the Executive Committee is often expected to complete more hours during busy periods of the year such as Orientation period; and

Whereas Canadian Federation of Students meetings will often be scheduled for 24 to 40 hours in addition to regular work expected to be completed by Executive Committee members; therefore

Be it resolved that Bylaw VII: Executive Committee be amended as reflected in Appendix C: Bylaw Amendment 4.

MOVED: VIECHWEG

SECONDER: SEEPERSAD

RESULT: CARRIED

Viechweg stated that this amendment reduces the minimum hours worked by the Executives from 20 hours to 15 hours, making it more accessible for part-time students and workers to run for an executive position and fulfil their duties at CESAX. She stated that the change also allows Executives to work up to 40 hours during times when multiple events and projects and meetings took place. This increase of hours would only be granted for a maximum period of six weeks during a given year.

11. General Motion A: University Name Change

Motion: SAGM-21/11/18-09

Whereas Indigenous students, staff and faculty have called for the name of Ryerson University to be changed due to its namesake Egerton Ryerson and his influence in the establishment of Residential Schools; and

Whereas Indigenous students, staff and faculty called for the university to be called “X University” in lieu of Ryerson University; and

Whereas the CESAX Board of Directors approved a temporary change to the Continuing Education Students’ Association of X University (CESAX) and has communicated such change to the membership on June 2, 2021 and implemented changes via email, website, social media and other areas where applicable; and

Whereas a long-term name change would require approval from the general membership, bylaw amendments, registration with the Not-for-Profit Corporations Act and many other areas; and

Whereas the Ryerson University Board of Governors has decided to change the name of the University and will announce a timeline in Winter 2022; therefore

Be it resolved that the Continuing Education Students’ Association of Ryerson (CESAR) Continue to operate informally as the Continuing Education Students’ Association of X University (CESAX) until a new name of the University is determined; and

Be it further resolved that the students’ union establish a name change committee of the Board to investigate the next steps to implement a name change for the union and the necessary budget and resources to facilitate such a change; and

Be it further resolved that the students’ union submit a letter to the University to say that Indigenous students, faculty, and staff must have determination over the new name of the University, so that student concerns are addressed.

MOVED: FAST

SECONDER: JOHNSON

RESULT: CARRIED

Fast stated that the University was in the process of changing its name, and that she was proud of what the indigenous community members, students, faculty, and staff had accomplished. She said that CESAX would lobby the University to engage the parties demanding this change to be part of the decision-making process during the name change. She pointed out that the Continuing Education Students' Association of X University (CESAX) had informally implemented the name change at minimal cost to the organization and had advised the membership accordingly. Once a name change was announced by the University, CESAX would formally seek approval of the membership for a new name for the union. In the meantime, a committee would be established to determine the resources and funding necessary to implement the final name change for the organization.

Rodriguez thanked the board for formalizing the name change in the by-law, pointing out that as a separate organization from the University a lot of administrative work had to be done to comply with the provincial government regulations concerning the name change of the Union. She said that she was happy to hear that minimal funding was used on the project and that a further study was on its way. Rodriguez congratulated the Board on their responsible and good governance practices.

Rodriguez acknowledged the work of the many faculty members, staff, and students who had asked the University for many years and in many ways for the name change and the removal of the statue. Many students, she said, discontinued their studies at the Institution because of the trauma they experienced. She said she hoped that the views of those who were most harmed would be considered and that the undertaking would be lengthy, involved, and transparent for the process to be meaningful, rather than coming up with a catchy business name. She said that that would be the honourable thing to do. Johnson stated he understood the importance of solidarity for the Indigenous members of the community and said he hoped that the Union would also advocate on behalf of the Black community on campus.

SAGM Report

Otieno gave the floor to Fast.

Fast thanked the Executive, the Board, the part-time and full-time staff, and volunteers for the great job they had been doing over the course of the year, before giving the floor to the Executive to present their report.

Rychlo highlighted a number of campaigns they had been working on such as the Harm Reduction Campaign. They said that the opioid crises had significantly increased the number of deaths in Ontario, and that this campaign included training on harm reduction policies and naloxone training among other things. Another campaign run on behalf of the Organization was to work in solidarity with the Indigenous communities on educational resources on Indigenous resurgence, as well as supporting a lot of actions. Other campaigns' included Education for All Campaign as part of a larger campaign run by the Canadian Federation of Students, as well as the Federal and Provincial Election campaigns, educating members on important issues for students. Rychlo thanked Ghunaim and Rizvi for the great work they were doing.

Viechweg highlighted the University Policy Review she had been working on, specifically the Senate Policy 46 review alongside other community members to come up with some recommendations. She said she was happy to report that some of the recommendations had been taken into consideration by the Senate. Another program looked at was the partnership of X University with Navitas, a private Australian company, recruiting international students, which created a two-tier system which was inequitable to students being recruited. Alongside other universities, research was being done on this project, the results of which would be published when finalized. Other things worked on were policy and by-law reviews, some of the revisions were reflected in the current by-law amendments.

Yang highlighted that due to the increase of student funding needs during the pandemic the Board had decided to allocate additional funding for the bursary and emergency grant program and increased their reserve fund from six to eighteen months. She said that CESAX had also successfully negotiated additional benefits in the health and dental plan offered to part-time students, which included social work, counselling, psychology, and psychotherapy. She said that a survey was being prepared for feedback on the CESAX health and dental plan, and encouraged members to participate to help improve the service. She also enumerated a list of donations and sponsorship allocated to various causes and organizations. She thanked Lin, Scott and Navai for their work in supporting these services.

McIntosh highlighted the scheduling and preparation of the kits to be handed out to students at the CESAX fall orientation. She said that there had been a large lineup of fun-filled events, and that pre-orientation had been bigger than ever before. McIntosh said that four workshops were held with the help of team members, and specifically Lyndall Musselman and Annie Yang around academic and well-being success, which had been extremely well received. She gave a big shout-out to Whyte who made it all happen, and thanked the executive for lending a hand. McIntosh said that the Indigenous History and Pride month event was in collaboration with other campuses and touched on a lot of important events and issues in addition to many social and political events.

Fast announced that CESAX was working on the safe return to campus for members and staff to ensure that a proper process was in place. She said that CESAX was working with the All-Union Coalition on common ground issues to act in unison, and that a survey was being prepared to find out how the membership felt about the return to campus. Fast said that the Board had voted on an informal name change for the Union and had communicated this to the membership on different platforms. She said that minimal funding was used to implement the change. She said that CESAX welcomed the newly established X University Graduate Students' Union (XGSU) on campus, and that they were doing great work for the graduate students. She said that CESAX had signed an operations agreement with them to ensure continuation of services to graduate students, and was also collaborating with them on advocacy and representation. She thanked Navai for helping keep the organization running.

12. Announcements

Scott stated that the Union would like to provide an incentive for people who took the time to attend the meeting, and that they would receive an email where they could indicate their preference for gift certificates.

Rychlo encouraged members to attend the various committees of the Union and said that students could sign up for them on the CESAX website

McIntosh announced that weekly meetings regarding winter orientation planning would take place and that the following events had been planned: Fireside with the Dean, CESAX Talks: Mental Health Kits, Harm Reduction Educational. CESAX 101, Drag Bingo, In-Person: Skating and Food, In Person: Orientation Giveaways. She said communication about these events would be sent to members to allow them to plan their attendance.

Rychlo announced that spaces to support neurodivergent students had been created, and asked students to join the ADHD or Autism support sessions. They said no diagnosis would be needed to attend.

Yang stated that several surveys were in the works, one of them being the services survey, focused on continuing education and mature students, to indicate any services they would like to see. A prize of \$100 could be won when completing the survey.

Lin announced that the upcoming annual tax clinic would be held in-person this year, and that volunteers would receive a Canada Revenue approved training to help students file their taxes. She asked students to contact her at services@mycesax.ca.

Whyte announced that the class representative program allowed students to help CESAX to inform fellow students about upcoming campaigns, events, and services, and to help students connect with CESAX for support. Class representatives could also engage in advocacy opportunities. There is also a volunteer program for students to participate in which brings along recognition, rewards, build skills, make connections, and build community. Please visit the website or contact us for any information you may have.

13. Adjournment 7:32 pm

Motion: SAGM-21/11/18-10

MOVED: JOHNSON

SECONDER: VIECHWEG

RESULT: CARRIED