

CESAR'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT



**SEMI-ANNUAL
GENERAL
MEETING
NOVEMBER 15, 2018**



CESAR

Continuing Education Students'
Association of Ryerson

Local 105 of the Canadian Federation of Students

DEAR CESAR MEMBER,

Another successful fall term for CESAR is coming to an end! As we close another year it is important to reflect on the work of your students' union. This year, the CESAR team welcomed new and returning students back from the summer during our Fall Orientation Fair, which engaged hundreds of students. The two-day fair got students participating in fun activities, like a huge basketball net and bouncy castle. We also got to introduce our new campaigns to students, including our Municipal Election Campaign, which focuses on how six different municipal issues are students' issues, like transit, housing, and child care. Through these issues, the Municipal Election Campaign aimed to bring students to their own municipalities' polls, and to engage in conversations about how municipal election issues are our issues as students. We also got to talk to students about all the services, workshops, and other events we were offering for this semester.

It's been a successful start to the term, and we are looking forward to continue this momentum for the winter term. On behalf of the Board, I would like to share our gratitude and appreciation to you for supporting the work of YOUR students' union. I thank you for a year of victories, and for your dedication in growing our students' union to be the best it can be. Through centering the narratives of continuing education, part-time, and distance education students at Ryerson, we are achieving a more inclusive post-secondary education for all! There is lot's of work ahead of us this coming year, so come join us and get involved with your students' union!

Here are some opportunities:

- **Join a CESAR Campaign: Care about indigenous solidarity, accessible transit, or rising tuition fees? If so, join our campaigns!**
Email: vp.campaigns@mycesar.ca.
- **Volunteer with CESAR: Talk to students, develop your public speaking skills, and become an expert on student engagement!**
Email: vp.events@mycesar.ca

We always want to hear from you. Please write us with your ideas, and how we can improve your experience at Ryerson.
Email: board@mycesar.ca.

In solidarity,

The CESAR Board of Directors

Leizl Yance, President

Phyllis McKenna, Vice President Equity and Campaigns

Jo Miller, Vice President Events and Outreach

Amanda Lin, Vice President Services

Murali Gopinadh, Member at Large

Fatma Abdulrahman, Member at Large

River-Jordan Allick, Certificate Director

Munir Nadim, Certificate Director



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CAMPAIGNS

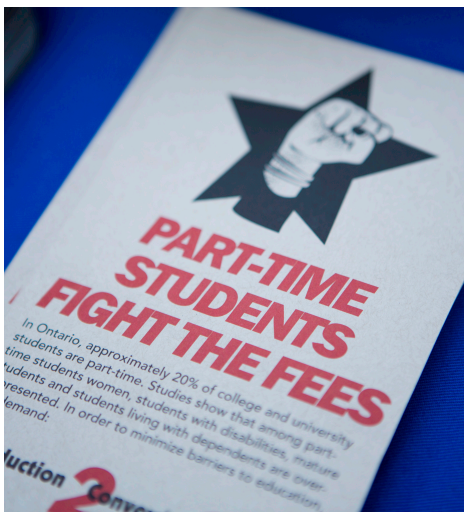
FIGHT THE FEES

Students in Ontario pay the highest fees for post-secondary education in all of Canada. With the continuous rise in tuition fees, students in Ontario face significant financial barriers in accessing post-secondary education; including a monstrous amount of debt incurred from taking out student loans. Enough is enough! We need to fight tuition fees!

The Fight the Fees campaign has been focused on educating students and raising awareness about the state of post-secondary education at Ryerson and across Ontario.

Students continue to sign onto the petition for free education, as well as fill out postcards to be sent to members of provincial parliament. During Ryerson's orientation and CESAR's Orientation days, we hosted a rock wall named 'Mt. Debtverest' that we used in the campaign.

There was a provincial day of action planned for February 1, 2018, and CESAR representatives have been attending coalition meetings with student leaders across the GTA to discuss and plan the day.



ACCESS, CARE AND WELLNESS

Over the summer our campaigns assistant provided a detailed list of the mental health support services available on campus for our members. We found that there are services for part-time students, but we are severely lacking resources for continuing education students. We created a petition to lobby the University around these issues and during orientation we collected over 400 signatures during the 2 days. The three demands for the university are:

1. **Hire a Chang School-specific counsellor for continuing education who can deal with the diversity of mental health concerns of continuing education students.**
2. **Create more programming for parents and mature students at Ryerson and**
3. **Extend the hours of operation of the counselling centre on some weeknights to accommodate students enrolled in night classes.**

As part of the campaign we have hosted Wellness Wednesdays which took place on a Wednesday each month. Each event had a different focus and we partnered with different student groups on the activities offered. We recently held the 'Science of Stress' with the Psychology Students' Union who presented information and interactive booths about different things that your body can do/eat/use to cope with stress.

SOLIDARITY WORK

Over the summer in collaboration with Indigenous Students Association, Indigenous Students Rising, and the RSU; we launched the Colonialism 150 campaign which resulted in an outrageous amount of anti-Indigenous racism across campus. Finally after 4 months of waiting for a response from University Administration, we had our first meeting on Oct 31st. CESAR will continue to play an active role in dismantling the ongoing colonialism and racism that exists on campus and beyond. The Black Liberation Collective has been at the forefront in these efforts to challenge systems of oppression and we are very grateful for the contributions that they have made. Moving forward Indigenous students and the collectives/associations mentioned above will be included in discussions and work on the implementations of the TRC calls to action on campus.

SERVICES

HEALTH AND DENTAL PLAN

All part-time degree students have access to the CESAR Health and Dental plan. Plan coverage includes 80% coverage for prescription drugs, discounts on eye exams, up to 65% dental coverage and more! Your coverage begins in September or January depending on your date of enrollment, and spans through the Spring and Summer terms until August 31.

The fall 2018 term is the start of new benefit period for the health and dental plan. Three email notices were sent out to remind students to opt-out, and to provide information on the CESAR health and dental plans. The deadline to opt-out and enroll dependents onto the CESAR Health and Dental plan was Friday, October 12.

Here are the fall 2018 opt-out period in numbers:

- **Approximately 1927 students are enrolled as part-time degree students this term, and therefore in the health and dental plan.**
- **657 of those students successfully opted out of the plan.**
- **20 of those students enrolled their partners/family onto the plan.**

OPT-OUT REFUNDS:

CESAR has emailed students who successfully opted out during the wait period for their opt-out refunds, so they were consistently informed on the process. Every year we distribute cheques mid-November. This year, distribution is set to begin at the semi-annual general meeting.

Over 100 students taking distance education will be mailed their refund cheque. CESAR continues to receive requests from distance education students, to have their cheque mailed. CESAR will be following up periodically to ensure each student gets their cheque this term.

TERMINATION OF CERTIFICATE STUDENT OPT-IN PLAN:

CESAR has discontinued the certificate student plan for the 2018-19 academic year. This decision was made with careful consideration in spring 2018 after an assessment of the plan usage and cost. After only 20 students enrolled using the opt-in option, it was determined that CESAR cannot sustain the additional plan at a rate that is affordable to students.

MEMBER SERVICES OFFICE

The Member Services Office is open to all CESAR members and the regular office hours are:

**Monday to Thursday
from 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.**

Fridays from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

The office is located in the Student Centre Lobby at 55 Gould St.

Services provided at the Member Services Office include movie tickets, the good food box program, and the discounted adult VIP metropasses. Monthly adult VIP metropasses, which cost \$128.50, go on sale day 20 of the previous month (E.g.: November passes are available on October 20). CESAR members can save \$17.00 by purchasing the VIP Pass.

CESAR day-planners are available free of charge at the Member Service Office as well.

Discounted tickets to “Absolute Comedy” have recently been added to the list of tickets available for purchase at the Member Services Office.

LEGAL SERVICE

CESAR offers free legal services to its members through our in-house lawyer, Bill Reid.

If you are a CESAR member, you are eligible to meet with the lawyer to discuss any personal legal issue, ranging from: family law matters, landlord and tenant issues, employment or debt problems, criminal charges, accident claims, immigration applications, dealings with the government or corporations, and commercial or intellectual property issues.

CESAR's lawyer will offer you as much advice and assistance as he can with respect to each situation, and the best part is that there is no charge for using this service.

Appointments are available every Tuesday between 2:30 – 6:00p.m. To book an appointment please visit the CESAR website.

BURSARY

CESAR offers a bursary to its members every term. Any CESAR member who is in need of financial assistance can apply. It is a needs-based, non-refundable grant that is paid directly to bursary recipients.

All bursary applications are reviewed anonymously by the bursary committee. Bursary recipients are selected based on financial need and equity criteria.

More information about the CESAR bursary is available on the website at mycesar.ca/bursary.

- **In the winter 2018 term, CESAR received 443 applications and disbursed 100 bursaries.**
- **In the spring 2018 term, 261 applications were received, of which 236 applicants qualified to be considered for the bursary. A total of 75 bursaries was disbursed.**
- **In the summer 2018 term, we only received 60 applications, of which and only 40 applicants qualified to be considered for the bursary. CESAR awarded 24 bursaries allowing over 60% of applicants to receive the bursary.**

For the current term, CESAR has received 546 applications of which 464 applicants qualified to be considered for the bursary. This semester CESAR, will disburse 150 bursaries, due to the lesser number of applications received and distributed in the spring and summer 2018 terms.

BURSARY SURVEY

CESAR is continuously seeking better ways to communicate with, and update its membership of upcoming campaigns, events, services, and important deadlines.

To this end CESAR, conducts a one-question survey when students pick up their bursary cheque to establish how best to reach members.

The results of the survey showed that most members heard about the bursary through the monthly CESAR newsletter sent to all members, followed by the CESAR website, attending the CESAR orientation in the fall or the winter terms, and through outreach and class talks conducted by CESAR executive. Other sources of information were identified as the Ryerson University and Chang School websites, as well as information provided to students through their respective program administrators and professors.

EMERGENCY GRANT

The Emergency Grant Program aims to assist students facing unexpected emergency financial situations with a non-repayable grant. The grant is awarded for up-to a maximum of \$500 per academic year and available to cover non-academic related emergency situations. The Emergency Grant is only available to current CESAR members who are not also RSU members. CESAR received a total of 30 emergency grant applications in the period from May 1, 2018 until October 23, 2018.

The Board of Directors approved four, and granted a total of \$2000.00. Ten applications were reviewed and not awarded the grant as they did not exhibit unexpected financial emergencies. One applicants did not follow-up with processing. One applicant already received an emergency grant during the academic year they reapplied, so they are not eligible to receive the grant again. Seven applicants were RSU members and consequently were not eligible. Five applicants were not a current CESAR members and therefore was not eligible for the grant. Two applications are currently under review.



STUDENT RIGHTS AND ACADEMIC ADVOCACY

CESAR employs a full-time Student Rights Coordinator to assist CESAR members with all matters related to academic misconduct, grade and standing appeals, as well as any administrative issues with the university.

CESAR's Student Rights Coordinator, Lyndall Musselman, is available by appointment or during drop-in hours which are:

- **Tuesdays, 2p.m. – 4p.m.**
- **Wednesdays, 4:30p.m. – 6:30p.m.**
- **Thursdays, 3p.m. – 5p.m.**



UNIVERSITY POLICY REVIEW

Ryerson's main academic policies are currently under review: Policy #134, the Undergraduate Academic Consideration and Appeals Policy, and Policy #145, the Undergraduate Course Management Policy. The equivalent graduate student academic policies are also under review. The Senate established the Ad Hoc Academic Policy Review Committee (APRC) in 2015 to review these specific policies. CESAR has two representatives on this university committee: the Vice President Internal and the Student Rights Coordinator.

On October 2, 2018, the revised version of policy 135, now called the Final Examinations policy, was approved by Ryerson's Senate. This updated policy was reviewed over the past two years and input from CESAR representatives helped make it more accessible to students. Important aspects like exam conflicts or exam overloads are now fully explained and the process for resolving these issues for students now clearly spelled out. This new policy will be in effect for the upcoming exam period of fall 2018.

Two pilot projects are still being assessed through this committee: the Academic Consideration Request (ACR) online system and the student self-declaration pilot to

defer an academic obligation and not have to submit a doctor's note or documentation of a personal crisis. Students in degree programs through the Ted Rogers School of Management are continuing to use the online system to request academic consideration. First rolled out in October 2017, it is supposed to be user friendly, help keep personal information confidential, and be time efficient for both students and administrators. The APRC is monitoring feedback on this project and based on a survey conducted of TRSM students using the system it seems they like it but the one major complaint is that students must still submit the original or hardcopy of the Health Certificate to their home program. This seems redundant as a digital version is also requested through the online system. There has been discussion at the APRC that the digital version should be sufficient, so hopefully moving forward the hardcopy will no longer be required to submit. This project was expanded for degree students in the Faculty of Engineering and Architectural Science for Winter 2018 term, degree students in the Faculty of Science and Faculty of Arts as of September 2018 are now using the online ACR system as well.

The student self-declaration pilot project underway for students in the Mechanical and Industrial Engineering Program was underway through all of the 2017-18 academic

year and is continuing through the fall 2018 term. Students in this program are limited to using the self-declaration form once to cover two missed components in a three day time span per term. The self-declaration is a form a student submits to declare that they are unwell or unable to attend class or submit a specified academic component like a test or assignment. Other universities like the University of Alberta, Queens, and Carleton have the option for students to use a self-declaration form instead of requiring a note from a doctor or Health Certificate. It would be very beneficial for students if this self-declaration process was opened up to all students.

There is a focus this academic year to review and draft a new Appeals policy for undergraduate and graduate students, which currently is covered by policy 134 and 152 for graduate students. The Student Rights Coordinator is a representative on the Appeals Sub-committee of APRC working to ensure students' interests are protected in drafting this new policy.

CESAR is devoted to making sure student input is included and put at the forefront of all decision-making. Thus, we continue to collect feedback from students regarding these policies, which we then compile and relay to the APRC at Ryerson.

Please contact CESAR's Student Rights Coordinator at studentrights@mycesar.ca if you have any additional questions, or are interested in sharing your experience with academic appeals, academic consideration, or course management issues.

And as always, CESAR's Student Rights Coordinator is available to assist students with appeals and complaints. The CESAR Student Rights Coordinator prioritizes supporting CESAR members, but is open to assisting any students in need at Ryerson.

ACADEMIC STANDING AND APPEALS WORKSHOPS

Leading up to the deadline to appeal Winter 2018 and Spring/Summer 2018 grades and academic standing, (which was May 25 and September 14, 2018), the following workshops were offered to assist students:

- **"Academic Probation, RTW, PPW: What are my options?"**
- **"How to Write a Strong Appeal"**

CESAR works with the RSU to offer these workshops at the beginning of every semester to help students determine if they should appeal their grades or standing from the previous semester. Students can also go to mycesar.ca to obtain a comprehensive info package on the grade and standing appeal process and find out the dates for upcoming workshops.



STATISTICAL DATA ON STUDENT APPOINTMENTS FOR ACADEMIC ADVOCACY

In order to track information about the students who seek advice from the Student Rights Coordinator, CESAR (along with the RSU) ask students to fill out an Intake Form for a meeting regarding student advocacy. From the beginning of May 2018, more than 65 students have come in for assistance or booked an appointment with the Student Rights Coordinator. 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.

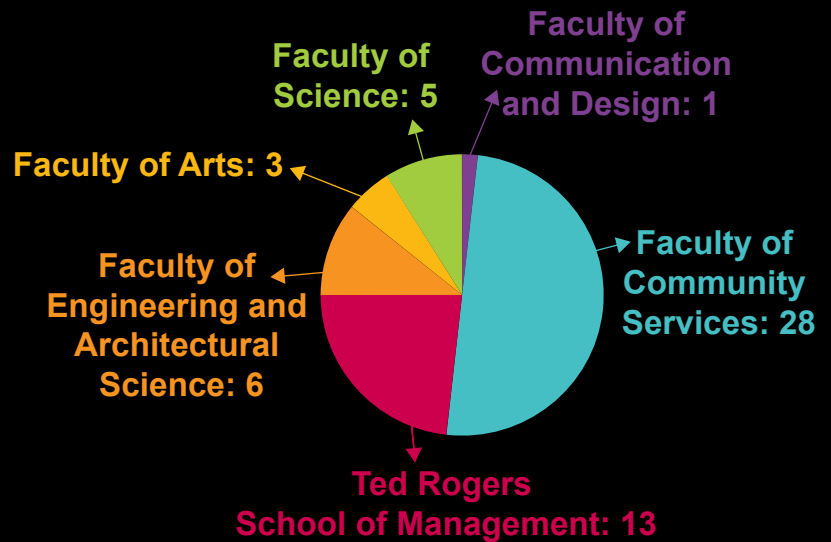
STUDENT IDENTITY DEMOGRAPHICS

It should again be stated that many students opted not to complete this part of the form because it is not mandatory, but 29 of those who did complete the form identified as a woman, while 12 identified as a man while none identified their gender as being pan or spectrum. 34 students identified as being racialised. 19 students identified English as being their first language, while 20 stated that another language was their first language.

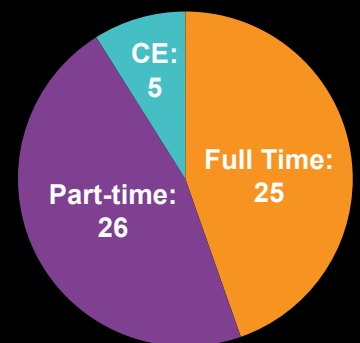
GENERAL ANALYSIS OF ADVOCACY INTAKE INFORMATION

Collecting data is helpful to determine if there are any trends relating to systemic issues students face and to monitor the volume of student visits, and the nature of these visits, over a period of time. It's interesting that almost half of the intake forms are completed by students in the Faculty of Community Services. This past year there were many students from the Daphne Cockwell School of Nursing reporting issues relating to an unapproved grading variation in some of their courses and so a high volume of students from this program area submitted grade appeals in May and September. It should be noted that some of the students' cases are complex and involve multiple meetings and extensive preparation for appeal submissions or appeal hearings, while some of the cases are straightforward and are resolved quickly. It should also be noted that not every student that seeks assistance or is offered academic advocacy support is asked to submit an intake form. Due to the nature of concerns, it's difficult to always find time to ask students to complete this form – however, going forward more effort will be made to track at least the volume of assisted students each year.

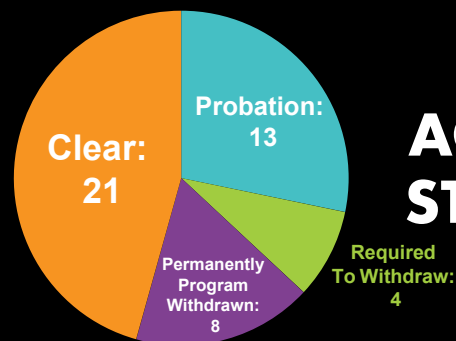
PROGRAM INFORMATION



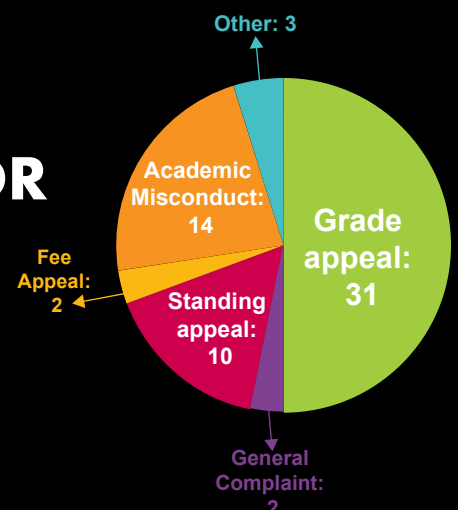
STATUS OF ENROLLMENT



ACADEMIC STANDING



REASON FOR VISIT



INTERNAL RELATIONS

CESAR has been working very hard to increase the events, services and campaigns work of the students' union to benefit its members. The full-time staff and elected representatives are energised and excited about the work we've accomplished. This year we have put new and improved focuses on recruiting volunteers, as well as generally improving our communications and social media presence.

STAFF RELATIONS

Five of CESAR's full-time staff are unionized with CUPE local 1281. CESAR is currently employing three students through the Career Boost program; which are a Graphics Assistant, a Campaigns and Outreach Assistant, and Events and Programming Assistant. All three students work ten hours per week and are supervised by full-time staff.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

The organization's cash flow is in accordance with the Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. CESAR's approved budget seeks to make a significant investment in our membership outreach and events programming. This has allowed CESAR to engage in better strategic communications with our membership, both in order to reach students, and to listen to the priorities of the student body.

SPONSORSHIP

This year, CESAR once again sought the official support and sponsorship for programming and initiatives from within the University. A sponsorship package was created that boasted photos and information about previous programming, but more importantly laid out plans and intentions for this year and rough estimates of what those initiatives would cost. Examples include hiring CESAR members, Week of Welcome expenses and activities, as well as high-profile speakers. CESAR is happy to announce that we successfully secured significant support from the President's Office and are waiting for a response from the Chang School for this year's programming.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership fees are received on a different calendar than CESAR's fiscal operations. We have only recently received the Spring/Summer 2018 fees for this fiscal – which are lower than Spring/Summer fees for last year. We expect to receive membership fees for both the Fall and Winter semesters sometime in February, which is in line with last year's timeline.

MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

CESAR has a system of regular communication with its members, using a variety of mediums. This year, CESAR refined its membership communications to include:

Bi-weekly newsletter:

This is delivered electronically to all students on our mailing list. The newsletters contain information about upcoming events, CESAR's services, and important dates.

Students can sign-up to CESAR's mailing list on the website, by speaking to an outreach representative, or by emailing communications@mycesar.ca.

Communications to all CESAR members

All CESAR members will receive email communications delivered to their Ryerson email accounts four times a year. This email will include information that is essential to all members. Bursary deadlines, academic appeal dates, election information and deadlines will all be included in these quarterly communications.

In addition to email communications, CESAR is focusing on its social media channels, where we've hosted several online contests that have received a high level of engagement and interaction from members

You can follow us at [@RyeCESAR](https://twitter.com/RyeCESAR) on Twitter and Instagram, or find us on Facebook at facebook.com/cesar105 for regular updates.



BY-LAWS AND POLICY

CESAR has ongoing discussions about how we can improve our students' union through updating and reviewing the CESAR by-laws and policies. The By-laws and Policy Committee of CESAR has met numerous times so far this term (since May 1, 2018) on July 17, August 14, September 10, September 24, and October 15. The proposed by-law amendments you see in the appendix of this report were a main point of discussion for the By-law and Policy Committee. The initial drafting of these suggested changes came from this committee and then were recommended to the Board of Directors, who then ultimately recommended these proposed amendments to this membership meeting.

The CESAR policies that the committee worked on are related to the Board of Directors' Honouraria by-law amendment and therefore the same titled policy was updated and sent to the Board of Directors for approval pending the two-thirds approval of these by-law amendments at this membership meeting. There also is a new joint health and safety committee policy that is up for consideration at the next Board of Directors meeting (set for October 31). Also recommended for approval at this next Board meeting is a new policy on reproductive justice that the By-law and Policy Committee has been drafting.

The By-law and Policy Committee is a committee of the whole, which means that it is an open committee for any CESAR member to participate in. If you are interested in attending meetings of this committee, please email vp.internal@mycesar.ca.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND OUTREACH

CLASS REP PROGRAM

CESAR would like to congratulate all the students who have stepped up to be Class Representatives this term. We are truly unable to do this work without you.

We are proud to have 25 Class Representatives who have volunteered this term. We look forward to working with more class reps in the upcoming terms!

Class Reps are vital to CESAR's work. They are the link between CESAR and the student union's membership. They build community at Ryerson, through engaging students in events and services. They are the key to making CESAR a vibrant students' union.

The Class Representative Program ensures there is representation across programs, certificates, and areas of study at General Meetings.

As a Class Representative, remember to check your email for information and updates to pass on to your class. Feel free to pass on concerns, suggestions, and feedback to the CESAR Board at board@mycesar.ca. The CESAR Board wants to hear from you!

If you have questions about being a Class Rep please email classrep@mycesar.ca

OUTREACH AND VOLUNTEERS

CESAR's work is made possible by the amazing volunteers who get involved every term.

We're very pleased to have many new volunteers getting involved with us this term, and several committed volunteers continuing with us.

Since the start of this term, we have had 93 student sign-up as new volunteers on Track-it-Forward. Of the 93 who signed-up, 10 have actively volunteered and it's never too late to join the CESAR volunteer team. You can join our events committee, help with outreach, poster, data entry, crafts and decoration, and more!

To start volunteering visit mycesar.ca/volunteer-program. You can also reach out to our Events and Outreach Coordinator at outreach@mycesar.ca





EVENTS

CESAR puts on a variety of events and workshops throughout the year.

One of the highlight this year was our Fall Orientation Fair! This year, we prioritized seeing and meeting as many new CESAR students as possible. We offered free games, activities and free burgers.

Immediately after our orientation and the Week of Welcome, we dived into our amazing events scheduled for this semester. With a municipal election in the horizon we prioritized outreach to encourage students to make an informed vote through raising awareness about key election topics a. We focused on childcare, policing, reproductive justice, transit, housing and road safety.

DO YOU HAVE A GREAT EVENT IDEA?

CESAR can help make it a reality! Contact Vice President Events Jo Millier at vp.events@mycesar.ca with your event idea and CESAR may be able to provide support and funding.

Interested in being involved in event planning and programming? Join the Events and Workshops Committee! It's a great way to gain event planning skills, and meet other students on campus.

To get involved, please email vp.events@mycesar.ca.

Here are some of the other great events we've put on and participated in so far this year. Included in this list are also some events that are upcoming this semester:

- **September 5: Reproductive Justice Training**
- **September 17: Reproductive Justice Training (continued)**
- **September 17-21: Disorientation**
- **September 18-19: CESAR Orientation**
- **October 18: Municipal Election Fair and Movie Screening**
- **October 31: Pumpkin Carving Contest**
- **November 28: International Student Gala**
- **December 10-15: Exam Destressors**
- **Interested in being involved in event planning and programming? Join the Events and Outreach Committee! It's a great way to gain event planning skills, and meet other students on campus.**

To get involved, please email vp.events@mycesar.ca.
Want to organise an event? We can help!

LEIZL YANCE, PRESIDENT

SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERS'

MEETING REPORT, NOVEMBER 2018



CESAR

Continuing Education Students'
Association of Ryerson
Local 105 of the Canadian Federation of Students

POSITION OVERVIEW

The President is the official spokesperson of the student union, who acts on behalf of the Board and the membership. The interests of part-time degree students and continuing education remains at the forefront of the President's portfolio – to advocate and lobby for the membership. The President works to foster equity practices in creating a safe campus and community for students. Further, the President oversees communication with University administrators, external groups, and the membership. The President also communicates with the Chang School to ensure that the needs of the membership are heard, and to ensure student issues are taken up. Included in the President's role is managing staff relations as well as creating transition plans for new incoming Board members.

COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

Labour Management Committee: a CESAR committee that works to ensure positive relations between the CESAR Board and CESAR employees.

Palin Foundation Board: this Board oversees the operation of the Student Campus Centre

MAJOR TASKS

Over the summer and fall semesters I continued to work with the Executive Director and CESAR executives to continue the work of your students' union. Together, the CESAR team worked tirelessly to ensure another successful fall orientation for new and returning students. In addition, CESAR continues to prioritize outreach initiatives through tabling, and municipal election outreach from August to October.

During the summer semester CESAR introduced the new campaign, Municipal Issues are Students Issues, which organized and mobilized students for the Ontario municipal election 2018. We talked to countless students about how accessing affordable child care, housing, and safe roads were central to local politics, and how their vote in their municipality could influence these issues. I worked closely with the team at CESAR, and we listened to the needs of the membership to create this campaign. We also worked with other student unions across the province for a shared vision of post-secondary education during the municipal election, with a campaign called Vote Local, organized by the Canadian Federation of Students - Ontario.

Furthermore, I have prioritized working on a campaign that highlights the ways in which transit is becoming inaccessible for students, where student leaders across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) are planning and organizing for an inclusive system. CESAR will continue to support the Students for Greater Transit Access campaign because the cost of our underfunded transit systems by our governments, shouldn't be a burden downloaded onto students, or community.

Another campaign focus has been Reproductive Justice. Ensuring that all students have access to a campus that fosters a safe learning environment is important to work at CESAR. At the core of the work CESAR does is an anti-oppressive framework. It was in this spirit that the Reproductive Justice campaign grew. Reproductive Justice is the idea that everyone has the human right to full bodily autonomy that is free from any form of reproductive oppression. The campaign began as a reaction to anti-choice demonstrators presence on our campus, but reaches beyond conversations around the right to choose. We began this year hosting trainings for those interested in learning about how Reproductive Justice includes reproductive rights, affordable healthcare, adequate prenatal pregnancy care, and comprehensive and LGBTQ+

LEIZL YANCE, PRESIDENT

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inclusive sex education. CESAR wants to ensure that our campus is a safe environment, and therefore support the principles of Reproductive Justice. Part of my role is to also meet with university administrators to bring forth CESAR related issues, provide updates, and to ensure a positive working relationship with the university. On this note, I have regular meetings with President Mohamed Lachemi and with the Chang School Dean, Marie Bountrogianni. Through these meetings I am able to center the narratives of CESAR member.

MEMBER REPRESENTATION

As the President of CESAR, through my work, I strive to center our members. Through meetings with university administrators and stakeholders, as well as external community meetings, I prioritize CESAR students in all conversations. In addition, through outreach and different events throughout the year I am able to engage and communicate directly with students. CESAR campaigns aim to advocate for students through different demands in a more inclusive postsecondary education, and overall, communities.

All of the work I do as President of your students' union strives to center CESAR members in all capacities. Through administrative and external community meetings I continue to place CESAR on the table; to continue the movement and work of your students' union. In addition, I engage with members through outreach, events throughout the year, and class talks. As a student union that prioritizes advocacy and equity, CESAR continues to work on campaigns for a better and more inclusive postsecondary education, and overall community. Thus, members are represented in all facets of the work that I take on as President of a student union that tirelessly works to meet the needs of the membership and community.

PRIORITIES

- **Introduce the Municipal Election Campaign**
- **Introduce the Reproductive Justice campaign, through outreach and trainings**
- **Improve membership engagement through volunteer opportunities and events**
- **Review and update CESAR by-laws and policies to strengthen member representation and Board of Director work**
- **Provide better services to CESAR members to ensure needs are met**

PHYLLIS MCKENNA, VICE-PRESIDENT EQUITY AND CAMPAIGNS

SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERS'

MEETING REPORT, NOVEMBER 2018

POSITION OVERVIEW

As Vice-President equity, my role is to educate and mobilize CESAR members through outreach, assisting with planning events and workshops and providing external/internal community groups with resources to help build campaigns. Furthermore, my role is to also ensure that all CESAR'S campaigns are equitable and inclusive. I also chair the campaigns and equity committee meetings once a month and encourage CESAR members to be a part of the campaign building process.

COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

There has been minimal community participation attending the Campaigns and Equity Committee from board members, Executives and Students at large. It is important that previously mentioned folks engage in our monthly meeting to ensure that we are centering student's needs. If you would like to attend the meetings, please don't hesitate to contact me.

MAJOR TASKS

During my time as your Vice President Equity, I have lobbied the university for better mental health services, assisted with events, workshops, winter orientation and continue to engage with communities and CESAR members by launching campaigns such as the Fairness for Students, and the Access Care and Wellness.

I will continue to fight for issues that affect our students and beyond. Outreach will be a priority of mine for the rest of my term. During this time I will educate students on how to vote, provide you with details of our Fairness for Students and how our member can become aware and engaged at any capacity they are comfortable with.

MEMBER REPRESENTATION

As CESAR'S Ontario Executive I attend all external meetings with the Canadian Federation of Students at the provincial level (CFS-ON), represent CESAR during lobby week with both Provincial and Federal Governments of Canada. I ensure that Part-time and Continuing Education students' issues are included at all capacities. Last, I am the National Circle of First Nations, Metis and Inuit Students Caucus Chairperson. I help build community and engage Indigenous students across the Country in CFS community events, chair monthly meetings and attend gatherings.

PRIORITIES

- Advocate for better mental health services
- Educate and mobilize students for the Fairness for Students campaign
- Continue to hold the university accountable to TRC recommendation promises
- Ensure equity is at the forefront of all CESAR'S work



CESAR

Continuing Education Students'
Association of Ryerson
Local 105 of the Canadian Federation of Students

JO-ANNE MILLER, VICE-PRESIDENT INTERNAL

SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERS'

MEETING REPORT, NOVEMBER 2018

POSITION OVERVIEW

The Vice-President Internal is responsible for ensuring CESAR maintains good governance through updated and accessible policies and by-laws by maintaining, creating, and expanding to reflect the needs of CESAR membership. It is also the duty of VP Internal to represent CESAR members at varying University decision-making bodies, such as Senate, the Chang School Council, and any standing committees or task forces that affect the CESAR membership. Over the past semester, the VP Internal has sat on the Academic Policy Review Committee, Senate, Chang School Council, and the Students Initiative Fund Committee.

MAJOR TASKS

- Acts as CESAR's voting representative on Ryerson Senate. This is where decisions concerning academics, including updating University policies and approving new programs are made.
- One of three CESAR voting members on the Chang School Council which operates similarly to Senate, but focuses on the governance and administration of Chang School.
- CESAR's voting member at the SIF (Students' Initiatives Fund) committee which provides funding for student initiatives.
- Review, update, and create new CESAR policies and by-laws to strengthen member representation, and Board of Director work.

MEMBER REPRESENTATION

Within the past two months, the VP Internal has been working with the Academic Policy Review Subcommittee of the senate on academic policies such as:

- **Policy 134 - Undergraduate Academic Consideration and Appeals**
- **Policy 135 - Examination Policy**
- **Engaging with CESAR members through outreach, events, and workshops**

PRIORITIES

A main focus of the VP Internal position has been bringing forward the unique issues and barriers faced by part-time, Chang School, and certificate students; as our issues are often overlooked within the larger scheme of things at the university. Moving forward, there will be continued review of CESAR by-laws and policies to pay close attention to recurring issues within the organization, and to improve on issues brought forward by students in our policies.

More outreach to students to get their input on how we could be working with administration to improve the services that are offered to Chang School students, since many of the services on campus are limited in scope, or their hours of operation do not reflect the needs of our membership.

**JO-ANNE
MILLER,
VICE-PRESIDENT
INTERNAL**

**SEMI-ANNUAL
GENERAL MEMBERS'**

**MEETING REPORT,
NOVEMBER 2018**

Since taking over the position of VP of Events and Outreach at CESAR in July 2018, I have had the opportunity to be part of the planning and outreach for many of our exciting events!

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

We held a volunteer training session on September 15th that was well attended. The event included an informative and interactive anti-oppression workshop. Many of the participants who came to the training volunteered for the CESAR Orientation Event held the following week.

CESARS ANNUAL ORIENTATION EVENT

On September 18th and 19th we held our annual CESAR Orientation Event. This year we had a barbeque, bouncy boxing and basketball set up for our members to enjoy. The event took place at Victoria and Gould on the first day and in front of the Student Centre on the second day. Tables set up for our members to learn about CESAR and all the wonderful services we offer. CESAR also took this opportunity to share information about our campaigns which included: Vote Local, 15 and Fairness, as well as Reproductive Justice on campus. Promotional items we gave away this year were water bottles, agendas, buttons and stickers. This year we had great participation.

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE TRAINING

We held three separate Reproductive Justice training sessions between September and October this year. We had a variety of speakers discussing and sharing information for our members to learn about Reproductive Justice and how it impacts students.

MUNICIPAL EVENTS FAIR AND FILM SCREENING

Throughout the semester CESAR had been campaigning to encourage students to vote local in the October 22, 2018 municipal election. We had over 1000 students who committed to vote local. Our final push in the campaign was during the Student Learning Centre's Annual Open House where we continued sharing information that impacts students. The issues we highlighted included: transit, childcare, housing, road safety and policing. We also had a film screening in the evening entitled "Where Now?" a documentary about place-making in Toronto, hope, home and community.

ANNUAL PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST

On October 31, 2018 we held our Pumpkin Carving Contest. This is always a fun event with students showing off their carving talents and for students new to Canada learning our Halloween customs.

AMANDA LIN, VICE-PRESIDENT SERVICES AND FINANCE

SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERS'

MEETING REPORT, NOVEMBER 2018

POSITION OVERVIEW

The Vice President Services is part of CESAR's Board of Directors. The main duties of my position are in the areas of finance and budgeting, services provision, and outreach.

COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

I currently chair the meetings of both the finance committee and the bursary committee. The finance committee oversees and follows up on CESAR's expenditures and revenues, and adherence to the budget. The bursary committee is composed of two additional board members. Together, we review bursary applications and select the bursary recipients for each term.

MAJOR TASKS

- Enhance the promotion of CESAR services to CESAR members
- Maintain the financial assistance for both continuous financial hardship and emergency situations through the CESAR bursary and emergency grant respectively
- Maintain membership engagement through outreach
- Collaborate with the Canadian Federation of Students to advocate for the importance of being part of a bigger impactful student movement
- Participate in outreach activities to promote CESAR's main campaigns: Vote Local regarding the municipal elections and the United for Equity campaign
- Follow up on the budget with CESAR's President and Executive Director

MEMBER REPRESENTATION

- Sponsorship and donation policies have been reworked to better support CESAR members
- Actively responding to communications via emails, phone calls, and in-person interactions
- Engaging with members at workshops, trainings, and different events
- Continuing to create equitable opportunities for part-time, continuing education and Chang School members through job postings and honorariums.

PRIORITIES

- Review and improve processes associated with the CESAR Bursary
- Continue promoting CESAR services to our members, such as students' rights advocacy and free legal service provision during outreach and events
- Streamline communication and information provided about the health and dental plan
- Prepare for CESAR's 2019 Free Tax Clinic
- Continue to prioritize CESAR members through event sponsorship
- Look into ways to improve the health and dental plan to better serve our membership



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