

Introduction

My name is Shanleigh McKeown and I'm running for SESS President for the 2018/19 academic year. I'm the current VP Student Affairs for the SESS and am hoping to increase the accountability of the SESS executive in the coming year and create stronger connection with the students in the College of Engineering.

If I am elected SESS president my main goal is to ensure the accountability of all SESS Executive to SESS members and to create a stronger connection with students so that the SESS can better serve its members.

Connection with Students

The SESS is currently lacking a connection with students. This is in part since students aren't automatically members of the SESS, but a huge part is because the SESS doesn't have an intentional and goal to increase that connection to better represent students and tailor the services the SESS offers to the needs of the students.

By creating an intentional goal and by having the president provide intentional guidance with this goal in mind, the SESS would be able to maximize member benefits and better understand the needs of students. Creating a central goal for the SESS allows for direction during projects taken on throughout the year, substance to the overall framework of the SESS executive and volunteers and maximizes member benefits.

Accountability

To give an overall goal substance, leadership needs to provide accountability structures to hold the SESS Executive accountable to members. To do this as president, I'd implement public executive workplans, bimonthly meetings with individual executive members, and end of the year justification reports for each executive position.

Executive Workplans

Public executive workplans would be created over the summer by individual executive and myself and would be finalized at the annual Exec Retreat. They would then be made public on the SESS website and be presented at the first council meeting of the academic year. Upon input from members at the council meeting, changes would be made so that executive workplans best represent the needs of the students. Workplans would be referenced each council meeting during executive updates, and changes to the workplan would be made public to members throughout the year. Making this public allows for input from students at per the work of each executive and forces accountability.

Bi-monthly Meetings

Another way I'd ensure accountability within the executive is with bi-monthly meetings with each executive member. These meetings would consist of myself and the executive member

reviewing the individual workplan of the executive member and discussing any upcoming deadlines, projects, or changes to their workplace. Also, these meetings would serve as a time to discuss and review the transition reports of each executive and address any problems that have arisen within the executive team. Implementing these meetings would allow for increased accountability within the executive, minimize missed deadlines and opportunities, increase communication, and help to identify problems before they become issues. Overall, these meetings would allow the SESS executive to maintain and work towards an overall goal for the SESS.

Justification Reports

Finally, as president I would implement end of the year justification reports for each executive. These reports would be presented at council and would allow for the reconsideration of all VP positions annually. Justification reports would be presented at the final council meeting prior to the opening of the following SESS Executive elections, also allowing students who are considering an executive position a better understanding of the roles. These reports would ensure a continual review of the SESS Policy and would help to ensure that the structure of the executive team is what best represents the needs and wants of the students.