

StFX University
Athletic Equity and Safe Sport Advisory Committee
February 13, 2025 Morrison Hall Boardroom

Present: Elizabeth Yeo, Wendy Langley, Megan Fogarty, Matt Spencer, Gary Waterman, Akwiana Akpan, Charlene Weaving, Gatluak James, Michelle White, Greg Hadley, Leo MacPherson

Regrets: Grace Bourret, Monica Foster

1. Approval of Agenda- Motioned by Greg Hadley, Seconded by Gary Waterman
2. Approval of Jan 15 Minutes- Motioned by Greg Hadley, Seconded by Gary Waterman
3. Update from Safe Sport Subcommittee Chair- Greg
 - a. Greg shared the draft project design plan for the upcoming focus groups with the committee
 - b. The subcommittee is meeting quite regularly now with their focus group project about 90% ready to launch.
 - c. Selected 30 athletes and placed them into 6 groups of 5 and will start setting up group interviews as soon as possible.
 - d. Greg has been following a high standard of ethics guidelines as such, this information from the interviews will be used towards policy and in house recommendations and not towards a research project.
 - e. [Barbara McLean, External Advisor](#), will be facilitating focus groups. Greg will be available to her but taking a step back from the group itself.
 - f. Megan asked how the student-athletes were selected. Greg explained that they used a digital wheel as a random name selector, but also adjusted groups to make sure all types of student-athletes are represented.
 - g. Megan asked about how they are handling if the students don't answer questions fully being in a room with their peers. Greg explained that it will be noted as a limitation of the study. Elizabeth also pointed out that students will also be given the opportunity to meet individually or send info privately and anonymously outside of the focus group. This is the same approach used in the External Review of the Sexual Violence Policy.
 - h. Greg and the subcommittee are also now identifying their post focus group to-do list.
4. Update from Equity Subcommittee Chair- Charlene
 - a. At their last meeting, they reviewed the data collected from the surveys sent out to the student-athletes.
 - b. One prominent response that stands out already is that no one wants to play games on Sunday.
 - c. The subcommittee will be ready to start putting together their recommendations following completing review of data.

5. Update from Co-Chairs- Elizabeth

- a. Gave a background refreshers on the External Review of the SV Policy- 33 recommendations came out of that review.
- b. A number of different working groups have taken the information from that review to breakdown and determine what is feasible.
- c. Heads of Student Services and of Athletics came together and worked out a draft action plan for 14 recommendations that overlap their two areas.
- d. Elizabeth asked the group to take a look and give feedback concerning the recommendations to date. .
- e. Elizabeth acknowledges all of the work that is being put into this to set us up in a better place to help prevent and respond to SV issues.
- f. Wendy commented on action item #3. She feels that directing donor funds to an initiative that is of the University's choice causes us to run the risk of losing donors. She would rather see that a portion of the "unrestricted" funds go towards an equity initiative.
- g. Wendy also feels that more funds would come from a specific ask than from taking a percentage from somewhere else.
- h. Megan commented on action item #8. It should also include harassment and discrimination- so that it also includes the Director of Health & Counselling.
- i. Charlene asked for clarification that action item #2 should be marked as complete as we have seen the plan for switching which sport has the prime Saturday spot during homecoming each year.
- j. Elizabeth next gave an update on the External Advisors- Ron MacDonald and Barbara McLean. They have both committed to joining the project.
- k. They will view fact finding data, review recommendations and provide feedback.
- l. Elizabeth asked if anyone had any feedback on the Campus Update #2 that was circulated. No one had anything to comment.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next Meeting: March 20, 2025 10am NT 821