November 9th, 2016
To: University of Alberta Students’ Council 2016/17
Re: Vice President Student Life Council Report

Dear Council,

On November 7th and 8th, the executive and I got together with our counterparts from students’ associations across Alberta for a CAUS all-exec. We attended excellent sessions and some of us had the chance to attend question period at the Legislature! It’s always a pleasure to share what we’ve been up to with other associations and take a moment to evaluate our position on pertinent issues in comparison with other institutions.

ADVOCACY

Mental Health

Advisory Panel on Post-Secondary Mental Health
The first teleconference of the advisory panel on post-secondary mental health took place on Monday, November 7th. Members of the panel introduced themselves and presented what they would like to see come out of the panel: the scope of the recommendations, different areas of expertise that members of the panel have and our respective priorities.

Residence

Lister Meal Plan

The Lister Meal Plan was the topic of discussion at the Residence Budget Advisory Committee (RBAC). We shared the data from our survey with the committee, which was followed by the Vice-President F&O proposing a few changes to the plan as proposed currently:

1. The plan would cost $4550, instead of $4650 for the first year. The $100 difference per student would be taken on by F&O for the first year.
2. There would be a CAB location where students could pick-up food that they would have pre-ordered via an app.

Residence Association Fees
The fee collection issue, although theoretically resolved, still warrants ongoing discussions with Ancillary Service and the Dean of Students’ Office since these offices are still working through the specifics and logistics of the fee collection.

Residence Life Task Force
We are in the process of finalizing the choice on a proponent. All members of the TF were in agreement as to who our first pick was!

Lister Representatives
The Discover Governance Manager and I hired the last Lister Representative; she is representing Mac Hall and was introduced to the team last week.

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Landing-Finance and Administration
During that meeting, we discussed our current financial situation and the implications that we would advise the rest of the Board to take into consideration when making decisions.

Sexual Violence Policy committee
This committee is the immediate group that gives feedback on what we think the sexual violence policy that the University is drafting should look like.
A final draft of the procedures was be presented to various university committees; the approval process of the policy is well on its way!

MISCELLANEOUS

A reminder that my office hours are 12 p.m to 1 p.m on Fridays so stop by if you want to chat or have any questions. If that doesn’t work for you, you can also e-mail me at vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca and we’ll find a time to meet and chat.

Cheers,

Francesca Ghossein
Office of the VICE PRESIDENT STUDENT LIFE

(Submitted electronically)