

Date: October 06, 2020
To: Students' Union Council
Re: President 2020/21 Report #12

Dear Council,

Time is flying by quite fast and things are getting exciting, big changes are happening, and it's important more than ever to represent our constituents in the midst of these happenings.

Here is a summary of what I've been up to over the last two weeks:

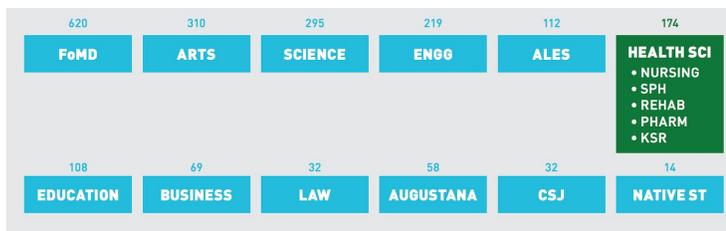
Academic Restructuring

The Academic Restructuring Working Group (ARWG) of which I am a member, and have been reporting on over the summer, released the public document with the proposed models. The [Interim Report of the Academic Restructuring Working Group](#) consists of detailed description of the restructuring process, consultation, data, comparator analysis, among others, as well as the three models currently on the table. Attached are the three models (A, B, C) take from the report:

Scenario A – Health Sciences Consolidation

In this scenario, most current faculties would remain unchanged, while the Health Sciences faculties, with exception of Medicine and Dentistry would be consolidated into schools within a single faculty.

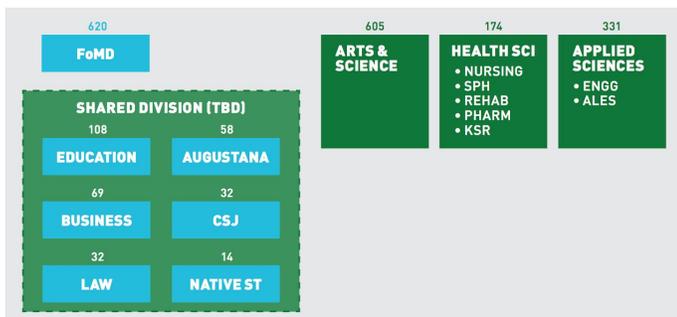
FIGURE 18 HEALTH SCIENCES SCENARIO



Scenario C – Consolidation and Shared Division

This scenario presents a hybrid division model. Faculties are consolidated with discipline-specific schools where there is academic synergy for doing so (Arts and Science, Applied Science, Health Sciences) and a shared division brings administrative economies of scale to the remaining smaller faculties. Medicine and Dentistry remains intact, given its significant size as is.

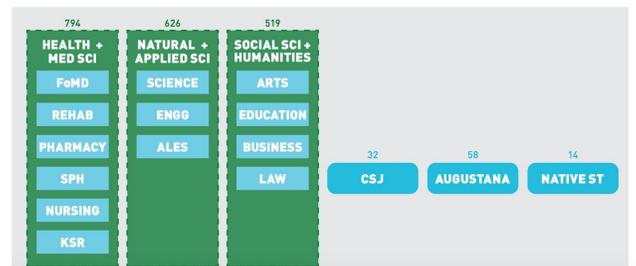
FIGURE 21 CONSOLIDATION PLUS SHARED DIVISION SCENARIO



Scenario B – Tri-Agency Alignment

In this scenario, most current faculties would be consolidated into three divisions, broadly along tri-agency lines. Current faculties would continue to be called faculties and would retain ownership of programs, teaching, and research, while the divisions would provide overall strategic direction and administrative services, recruit and supervise faculty leaders, and set faculty budgets. Campus Saint-Jean, Augustana, and Native Studies would remain outside this structure as stand-alone faculties, retaining academic and administrative autonomy.

FIGURE 19 TRI-AGENCY ALIGNMENT SCENARIO



- I presented the models to the Students' Council, as well as the Council of Faculty Associations and am consistently taking feedback back to the ARWG.
- I continue to encourage you as Councillors to get feedback from your constituents and relay them to me so I can bring the concerns to the ARWG.

Board Finance Property Committee (BFPC)

- As UASU President, I sit on the Board of Governors as well as two subcommittees, of which BFPC is one of them. At this meeting we discussed a number of financial items in closed, as well as in open
- This was the first BFPC meeting Bill Flanagan attended as UofA President and the last meeting of VP Finance, Gitta
- Discussion around the annual review of key budget factors

Academic Planning Committee

- Steve presented on the Academic Restructuring Working Group Interim Report, while having an in depth discussion around scenarios and concerns

External Advocacy

- Between VP Ley and myself we met with about six MLAs pushing for important advocacy priorities from tuition, PSE funding models, campus sexual violence to providing supports for students during a pandemic
- CAUS advocacy is continuing to be exceptional this year, with complete goals, plans for a fall campaign around PSE importance, and the recent hiring of the Indigenous Research position

GFC Member Orientation

- I was invited to present on effective consultation and communication at the GFC orientation session where I presented to new and old GFC members alike

International Students' Association

- I was invited to present to the ISA board about the Students' Union
- I was pleased to present on the Students' Union, it's advocacy, services, businesses and the scope of the organization

Orange Shirt Day

- The Executives were proud to support Orange Shirt day to educate and raise awareness about the residential school system that existed in Canada which only ended in 1996. The shirts are but a symbol of greater need for work to be done and we are committed to working with and uplifting Indigenous voices.



Governance Restructuring Task Force (GRTF)

- At the last regularly scheduled Council meeting I presented on the GRTF which is to be an ad-hoc committee of Council. The GRTF will develop recommendations for structural changes to governance models at the University of Alberta Students' Union (UASU) and will further identify the strategies and processes for implementing the recommendations.
- I have been working on the Standing Orders along with the Executive team, with feedback from Council at the last meeting, and I am excited to be leading this process to create the best structures possible

My office hours are by appointment, and I am happy to meet in person safely on campus if you are comfortable. Email me at president@uasu.ca and I would love to buy you a coffee from Daily Grind!

Yours Sincerely,



Joel Agarwal

University of Alberta Students' Union President

Joel Agarwal, President

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