Dear Council,

It’s been an eventful two weeks! It is also the middle of the Edmonton Jazz Festival which I am extremely excited about!

1. Research Event
Thanks to everyone who has expressed interest in joining the research event discussion group! I have received responses on the doodle poll and should be setting up a meeting as soon as we have enough responses. I am excited to see engagement in this.

2. Alberta OER Community of Practice Annual Spring Summit
I was able to attend most of this conference along with President Bhatnagar, where we attended sessions on some important topics in the Open Education world. I must say that Open Education is very complex with more than meets the eye. However, it is important that both students and faculty are educated on the importance of Open Education and the countless possibilities they bring. I am taking the information learnt from this and using it to plan the Be Book Smart Fair this year!

3. Be Book Smart Fair
In order to educate faculty and students on the importance of Open Education, we are hosting the Be Book Smart Fair this year including an online campaign! This will be happening in either September or October this fall, and if you’re interested, please let me know!

3. Faculty Associations
I am in the process of setting up meetings with FA’s as well as mixers with FA’s along with the SU executives and the corresponding SU Councillors. There will be more information about these - but I encourage you to reach out to your FA representatives on your own and share with each other your goals for the year. Apart from these, Council of Faculty Association (COFA) meetings are being set up as well.

As usual, feel free to shoot me an email if you’d like to meet to talk about anything!

Cheers,

University of Alberta Students’ Union Vice President Academic
Joel Agarwal