

Date: 20/10/2020

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice President Academic 2020/21 Report #13

Dear Council,

Lots of fantastic work has taken place since we've last met! The absolute highlight for myself was receiving the news that this year we have **set a new record for the amount of students on the general faculties council!** Although there is more work to be done, it's great to hear that we are setting new records for student involvement this year!

Snapshot

PHRT

- Met with the PHRT Academic impacts group. Raised concerns surrounding increased workload for students and the importance of maintaining access to recorded content for students.

Perks discussion

- Discussed with the IT and Marketing teams the feasibility of expanding UASU Perks to the Augustana campus. More meetings to come alongside the Augustana Students Association.

New Spaces for Institutional Change panel

- Took part in a "Lunch Container" panel discussion alongside GSA President Marc Waddingham to talk about the importance of including student voices in conversations about institutional change.

Cofa Joint Board

- Received a presentation from VP Ley on upcoming Caus advocacy campaigns and how FAs can play a role in it. Elected a Faculty Association and a Campus Association representative for the GRTF.

Open Ed At Ualberta

- Met with the Open Ed @ Ualberta team and discussed the feasibility of creating an Open Ed submission for the Alberta 2030 Post Secondary Review.

DoS meeting

- Met with the Dean of Students. Raised concerns about the complete moratorium on in person events and suggested a more harm reduction approach to allow events adhering to public health guidelines to take place

FoTL

- Took part in a discussion about how to foster academic integrity in an online environment. I provided student opinions and student centered ideas around academic integrity.

Meeting with Dale Askey

- Met with the Vice Provost Learning Services and Chief Librarian. Talked about how to increase access to library resources for students during covid, and talked about issues with textbook purchases for augustana students.

GFC Programs committee

- GFC Programs Committee met. Discussed a variety of program changes, moving to SAT option for admissions from accredited American curriculum schools, and had a robust discussion on the need for a student centered review of the calendar excerpts for all programs including experiential learning.

Project Deep Dive

Open Ed 2020 Conference

- As mentioned in previous reports I have been working with the Open Ed 2020 conference on their Equity Diversity and Inclusion team! With this team I have been able to help draft equitable conference participation guidelines, reviewed EDI centered conference proposals, and have been working on the allocation of conference attendance scholarships. This conference is looking like it will be absolutely fantastic and I'm very excited to have played a role in its organizing. Registrations are open at <https://openeducationconference.org/> and early bird pricing is open until October 30th. The conference takes place November 9th - 13th and is entirely online! Student pricing is \$25 US but there are scholarships if you cannot afford the price. There are some really interesting topics like "Creating language equity through open education" "Utilizing decolonized OERS to increase learner acquisition" "what provosts want; how to talk to your university about Open Education" and "the power of the student voice in the open education movement" to name a few I'm interested in! The conference also has a bunch of Asynchronous content as well! If you're interested in Open Education, Equity, Pedagogy, Social movements, Advocacy, and countless other topics, or you're just looking for something to do during reading week, check out Open Ed 2020 with me!

Personal life update

- On the homefront things have been going well! The leaves have more or less fallen, and as I'm writing this there was a brief snowfall which means my favourite season of the year is coming to an end. I've been spending a lot of time getting into the spooky spirit for Halloween and am trying to resist the urge of wasting a large quantity of money on a giant 12 foot skeleton. This is especially important because my apartment does not have 12 foot ceilings. The urge however does not care that the skeleton is too big, it only cares that it is very spooky.

Remember, never hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

David Draper



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David Draper, Vice President Academic

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