

Date: 09/03/2021

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice President Academic 2020/21 Report #20

Howdy Council!

I hope you are all doing well! Its a busy time of year, so don't forget to be kind to yourselves

Elections

Congratulations to the winners of the UASU elections! Its going to be an interesting next year of your life.

To the candidates who were not successful, I truly hope you are not dissuaded from continued participation. There have been fantastic ideas this year and those don't have to be lost.

CBC Online Proctoring

As part of the continued pressure around online proctoring I was interviewed by CBC Edmonton and made an appearance on CBC Edmonton AM to discuss the importance of getting rid of these exploitative softwares.

<https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-17-edmonton-am/clip/15827917-online-test-monitoring-software-causing-problems-students?share=true>

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/university-of-alberta-students-call-for-end-to-online-exam-monitoring-1.5933094>

Additional information around online learning

The UASU had submitted a FOIP request around the amount of students reaching out about concerns around online proctoring, lecture recordings, and participation grades.

Between the start of Maya 2020 and the end of December 2020 there were

- 2,975 unique records around at Student Accessibility Services about online proctoring
- 393 unique records around at Student Accessibility Services about lecture recordings
- And 690 unique records around at Student Accessibility Services about participation grades.

These records included students as well as professors reaching out about these topics. This data showcases how endemic this issue is, as we know many cases go entirely unreported for a variety of reasons

CTL Open Education Symposium

It was Open Education Week last week! For OE week the Centre for Teaching and Learning put on an Open Education Symposium! I had the fantastic opportunity to present on the first day of the symposium. I talked about how to effectively engage students in Open Education, both at a policy level as well as at an individual pedagogical level.

A lot more has happened since we last met but there isnt nearly enough space to fit it all in my report.

Dont hesitate to reach out and ask me about it though!

All the best,

David Draper

University of Alberta Students' Union Vice President Academic
