

**Date:** 19/10/2021

**To:** Students' Union Council

**Re:** Vice President Academic 2021/22 Report #13

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Dear Council,

I hope you had a relaxing Thanksgiving weekend and took some time to reflect on all of the things you are thankful for! Here is a summary of what I've been working on:

### **SRA Summit**

The SRA Summit is nearly here, and I am excited to announce that we have made significant progress to completing this project and ensuring its success in supporting our leaders across campus over the last two weeks. Our hope with this engagement is to create an open and collaborative space for student leaders to address their concerns, develop skills to aid them in their advocacy efforts, and address prevalent issues on our campus. As we are nearing the SRA Summit itself, we have finalized a list of five topics that the SRAs will have the opportunity to choose from. For any of you interested, here are the topics:

- Tuition and the Student Consultation Framework
- Isolation, Community, and Mental Health
- Financial Strain and Support
- Campus Health and Safety
- Available and Accessible Student Services

### **Teaching, Learning, and Evaluation Policy Suite**

Over the past several months, The Provost's Office has been hard at work advancing the development of a [new set of GFC Policies](#) that incorporate principles of effective teaching and house procedures related to student input on the evaluation and experience of teaching (aka USRIs). Both VP Draper and I were heavily involved in this process last year, and now you have the opportunity to share your thoughts too!

The University will be hosting two town halls about these new policies and their contents. This is the perfect opportunity to provide feedback on a set of university policies that will set the stage for the teaching, learning, and evaluation of students for the future! The details are below:

Townhall #1

Monday, October 18, 2021

3:00 pm to 4:00 pm MDT

Townhall #2

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

2:00 pm to 3:00 pm MDT

**[To register, click here to be taken to the google form](#)**

## **Open Education Week - Just Around the Corner!**

The Open Education Conference is an annual conference for sharing and learning about open educational resources, open pedagogy, and open education. This gathering celebrates the core values of open education that strive to realize education ecosystems that are accessible, affordable, equitable and inclusive to everyone regardless of their background. The Conference is happening next week, from October 18 - 22. Registration is \$25 USD for students, and financial assistance is also available to subsidize the cost! All in all, this is an excellent opportunity to learn about what open education is and the forms it takes!

Here is the link to sign up if you're still interested: <https://openeducationconference.org>

## **Questions from Council - Gender-Neutral Washrooms**

In our last meeting, Councillor Morris asked me about instructors not accommodating students who need to use gender-neutral washrooms and must commute across campus at times to do so. Since then, I've spoken with the Dean of Students about this, and he has said that if any student has an instructor unwilling to accommodate them so they can use the washroom, email [dosdean@ualberta.ca](mailto:dosdean@ualberta.ca) and he will reach out to the instructor and get it sorted out. This is a protected ground, and no student should be penalized for having to use the restroom.

## **G.F.C.**

This semester, we decided to create a Futsal team! I'm happy to report that G.F.C. did indeed have a successful first meeting of the year with a final score of 6-4. Stay tuned for regular updates on our GFC adventures in the coming months!



Cheers,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abner Monteiro', is written over a white background.

### **Abner Monteiro**

Vice President Academic  
University of Alberta Students' Union