

**Date:** 10/08/2021

**To:** Students' Union Council

**Re:** Vice President Academic 2021/22 Report #8

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Dear Council,

I hope that all of you are doing well. Below is a summary of what your VPA has been up to over the past two weeks. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out and ask!

### **Return to Campus**

With less than a month before all of us return to campus, I am sure many of you are wondering what COVID safety and support for students will look like this Fall. From an academic standpoint, this is where my focus will be in preparation for the semester:

- Advocate that academic resources on campus be readily available to international students who cannot travel to Canada and other students who may not be able to attend in-person classes for health or other justified reasons.
- Advocate that students who are unable to attend in-person are worked with collaboratively to determine accommodations that meet the needs of the student and the instructor.
- Advocate that and the use of any online proctoring (if applicable) in a course is clearly communicated to students via course syllabi before the semester starts.
- Advocate for an improved and simplified online process for students to request accommodations through Accessibility Resources.
- Recommend using masks in classrooms and other academic spaces where social distancing is not possible, but physical presence is necessary.

This is not an exhaustive list, and there is still much more that we are figuring out. We will continue to update you on the additional advocacy we are doing.

### **Meeting With Faculty Associations**

Over the past two weeks, I've been meeting with each Faculty Association President and VP Academic to do a monthly check-in, chat about their progress on their goals, and provide them with any updates to prepare for the fall semester.

### **Bylaw Committee**

I'm currently in the process of completing amendments to Bylaw 200 (Aboriginal Consultation and Engagement), and the First Reading will be ready for the following Students' Council meeting.

### **Nominating Committee**

We have been sharing information about the student-at-large vacancies on the Student Group Committee wherever we can. I'm happy to say that after weeks of posting on social media and newsletters, we have gotten quite a few applicants to fill the four (4) vacancies! Councillor Sivakumaran, Councillor DeGrano and I will be concluding interviews for shortlisted candidates over the weekend. The Nominating Committee will be voting on our recommendation to Students' Council on Monday.

### **Policy Committee**

The First Principles of the Experiential Learning Political Policy are complete and on the Order Papers for approval. I would like to give special thanks to Councillor Dhillon and Councillor Aamer for all their hard work in expanding the scope of this policy and making it much more comprehensive than the previous one.

### **POP QUIZ**

***If you can answer ALL of these questions correctly, you will receive a prize!***

1. What are my dog's name and breed?
2. Who on Students' Council declares themselves "The Peoples' Chair"?
3. Who is VP Fotang's LEAST favourite Marvel Superhero?



Cheers,

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

### **Abner Monteiro**

Vice President Academic  
University of Alberta Students' Union