

Date: 16/6/2020

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice President Academic 2020/21 Report #4

Dear Council,

It's been a busy two weeks! Check out my report for an outline of what the past two weeks have been like for me, but don't hesitate to ask me any questions if you want more information!

Updates to previous questions

- I did not receive any questions at the previous council meeting which require additional information.

Public Health Response Team

- I have become a permanent member of the Public Health Response Team action groups 1,2, and 3. This has been a very good experience as of yet and I have had the opportunity to have in depth discussions about the logistics surrounding the fall. We are working on drafting the technology specification for the fall.

Open Education @ Ualberta

- I had an Open Ed @ Ualberta meeting. This group is a group made up of OE advocates from across positions at the university, be they staff, student, library, professors. This meeting was quite useful. We talked about pivoting the group to be more advocacy focused as opposed to awareness focused.

GFC Nom Com

- I had a GFC Nominating Committee meeting. At this meeting we filled student vacancies for the Student Conduct Policy Committee, Facilities Development Committee, Nominating Committee, and filled 4 of 7 vacancies on the Council of Student Affairs. The remaining vacant committee positions are 1 position for the Undergraduate Awards and Bursaries committee, and 3 seats on the Council of Student Affairs

ASC SOS

- I took part in the Academic Standards Committee Subcommittee on standards. This was their last meeting prior to their dissolution to make way for the new Program approvals committee. At this committee I asked questions surrounding the current state of the ASL program in the Faculty of Arts in order to provide information to concerned students

ASC SU Meeting

- The UASU executive and the Aboriginal Students Council executive met in order to foster a strong working relationship and friendship for the year. This was a very enjoyable meeting, a highlight of it for me was meeting Edmond the Gecko.

Meeting with University VP Relations

- The UASU Exec met with the University VP Relations. Here we discussed a variety of things from how to best communicate with students going into the new term, how to maximize positive experiences through online delivery, and much more.

Library OER Training

- I presented for a second time to a library OER training session. This presentation was surrounding Student Advocacy and Open Education. I received questions surrounding provincial and federal OER advocacy as well as questions on the willingness of the current administration at the university to adopt OE.

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Meeting with Vice Provost Programs and Vice Provost Learning Initiatives

- I have monthly meetings with myself, the Vice-Provost programs, and the Vice-Provost Learning Initiatives. In advance of our meeting this month I organized an informal coffee meeting over google hangouts. This was quite a valuable experience as I learnt a lot about the people behind the positions and I believe this will foster a strong working relationship throughout the year.

Webinars

- On thursday I took part in a webinar entitled “Drive Real Change In Diversity & Inclusion” put on by the NeuroLeadership Institute. On friday I took part in their “Build a Better Normal With P&G and Zoom” webinar in order to better develop online programming throughout the year

COFA

- On Thursday we held the first Council of Faculty Associations Senior Board meeting. This was a great experience as I got to meet all the presidents from the various Faculty Associations. We also set the mandate and direction of CoFA for the year.

COSA

- The GFC Council of Student Affairs met on Friday. Although I am not a member of that committee, I attended the meeting to present a one-pager summary of a policy update I am currently starting for the university with the help of VP Kidd. This update is surrounding protections for students during experiential learning opportunities such as Co-Ops or Practica.

Gov Camp

- The first gov camp event took place on tuesday. Although a little hectic at times, jumping from breakout room to breakout room, it was a very valuable experience where I got a lot of great feedback to reflect on for my goals for the year.

Personal life Update

- I am engaged in a Male Fashion battle with the Associate-Dean Academic of the Augustana Faculty. I had two committee meetings which he was also a member of in quick succession. During both meetings we gradually upped our dress code as the other was talking to the point on the floor. I have learned I need to invest in hats as he has me beaten in that category, although I hold my own or edge out with a variety of other accessories. Based on the current trajectory of this, I will most likely need to acquire a tuxedo within the next few weeks.

Remember, don't ever hesitate to reach out to me if you want to chat or have any questions!

All the best,



David Draper

University of Alberta Students' Union Vice President Academic