Hey Council!

I hope you all enjoyed your long weekends, I managed to get out of town and go home to visit with family and it was nice to be home again. Here’s a run-down of what the last two weeks have looked like from the Student Life portfolio and if you have any questions, don’t hesitate to email me or schedule a time to meet!

1. Media Training
Last week, the Executive team had a media training session where we learned how to handle interviews and many other tips and tricks. It was really useful to learn those skills and how to apply them both when dealing with media interviews, but also in committee meetings.

2. UASUCares
Over the last two weeks, we’ve been working with our IT and Services departments to plan how we can improve UASUCares and properly maintain it. After consulting with the Dean of Students’ Office and the UAPS Office, we found that UASUCares is much liked by the administration. We’ll be working with the Dean of Students’ Office to work on the next steps for UASUCares, including fine-tuning the website and a marketing campaign.

3. New Wifi in Residence
The RFP Proposals for a new wifi service in Residence have been submitted. Although I had to sign a non-disclosure and cannot share any information about them, I am confident that students needs have been prioritized by the administration in finding a wifi provider specific to residence buildings.

The initiative to have access to stronger, more in-home type wifi has been advocated for for a few years now. Oftentimes in residence UWS is very spotty, and connects at slow speeds, so it will be a major improvement once a provider is chosen and installed.

4. UAPS Policy re: Question in Council Last Week
After receiving a question referencing an event that occurred at the University of Ottawa recently, I reached out to the UAPS Community Liaison Officer and enquired about their policies and operational practices regarding asking students for identification. The Officer was very informational in informing us that while they do not have a specific policy that allows for asking students for identification, the Code of Student Behaviour allows them to as University employees.

Jared Larsen, Vice-President Student Life
UAPS Officers also receive several forms of training, including regular micro-trainings, to address issues of oppression, unconscious biases, and various other gender and ethnic sensitivity trainings.

Our Community Liason Officer, Ken Chan, is also on many of the same committees that I sit on, and someone who I have worked with over the past two years. The University of Alberta Protective Services are working towards creating more community-based and inclusive ways of providing security, ensuring that all students feel safe on campus.

Cheers,

[Signature]

University of Alberta Students’ Union Vice-President Student Life

Jared Larsen