



Date: 05.04.21

To: Students' Union Council

Re: BoG Rep 2020/2021 Report 1 - Representation and Metrics

Dear Council,

Exams took a lot of my time up these last two weeks, but I still have some things to share! Hope you're all surviving post-exams and looking forward to summer!

Pressing Issues

1. **AB2030 Release:** I am reviewing the Government of Alberta (GoA) recommendations for post-secondary education and will share about how these factored into my Board Reputation and Public Affairs Committee (BRPAC) meeting on Friday, April 30th.

Meetings

- **1. The Landing:** met with the outgoing coordinator to discuss the best consultation pathway for my role.
- 2. Federal Budget Meeting: hosted by the Political Science Undergraduate Association, I had the opportunity to hear from Minister Karina Gould about how the budget benefits students, and asked why Maskwa House of Learning had not been funded by the Government of Canada (GoC), even though UAlberta applies to both the GoA and GoC for infrastructural funding. She shared that GoC only funds GoA's funding nominations and that I could chat with the Special Representative for the Prairies about this.
- 3. Board Governance Committee (BGC): topics included approving new Board bylaws an accompanying handbook for new members, which will be useful to new student reps, and the recent joint meeting between BGC and General Faculty Council's (GFC) Executive Committee regarding Academic Restructuring controversies.
 - a. Notably, while the bylaws indicated that recruitment was based on competency alone, the recently amended Mandates and Roles document that guides recruitment to the Board, raises the importance of diversity (this amendment, approved by the Board in March 2020, has not been approved the Minister of Advanced Education, so it cannot be found publicly anywhere. Here is the public, current rendition).
 - b. I raised the short term need for the handbook's university history section to include our existence on forcefully ceded Treaty 6 land and the larger need for the Board to consider and communicate how it, a colonial governing body, interacts with Indigenous governance systems in a spirit of reconciliation.



- c. Google Form Consultation: apologies for not getting forms out for BGC or BRPAC; exam preparation took all of my time, but I will get out forms for other meetings going forward.
- **4. GFC**: some topics included were graduate courses, a new GFC committee on the Documentation of Indigeneity and GFC establishing a position on the metrics the Board had established for the recently approved <u>Academic Restructuring model</u> (aka colleges with college deans).
 - a. I raised the need for a metric that evaluated college EDI implementation that aligned with something like UAlberta's <u>EDI strategic plan</u>. The Provost told me that the Board would implement this if they wanted it.

Professional Development

 Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) Shared Conversations on EDI: involving several sessions over two days, we learned about and discussed EDI in regards to students experiencing disabilities, CASA's Indigenous Advisory Council, and campus sexual violence and racism across Canadian institutions.

Thanks for reading!

University of Alberta Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative

Dave Konrad