

Date: 25/06/2018
To: Students' Union Council
Re: President 2018/19 Report

Dear Council,

I'm certain I will be full of stories from the weekend by the time I get to council! I am attending a number of events on behalf of the UASU, including some GearWeek rock offs, this weekend and really looking forward to it.

Refocus Meeting

The executive team spent the morning of the 16th doing a full end of the year planning session, executive check-in, and team feedback session. I am very excited for the coming 3 months, as they will be a absolute dozy with things like the provincial elections, giveaways, and advocacy meetings.



Jazzed to do some timelines - Jan. 17th

Advanced Education Budget Consultation

VP Brown and I spent the afternoon with the Minister and stakeholders on the 15th to go over priorities for the upcoming budget. In brief, we reiterated that the next steps after Bill 19 are to increase support for student grants (Alberta has the lowest loan to grant ration in the country), the need for critical deferred maintenance at the UofA, and continued support for mental health services on campus.

Deferred Maintenance

Following the presentation to council, we have followed up with Facilities and Operations staff to go over the next steps for advocacy in regards to critical infrastructure and the Students' Unions' role in that conversation. F&O continues to follow up on the deferred maintenance report commissioned by the UASU in 2016/17 and in addition, has drafted an information campaign to explain the current situation to the university community. On our end, we have



prepared a student spaces report that includes a rubric for assessing such spaces and that should role shortly. Finally, we are continuing to advocate for a 10% immediate increase in the Government of Alberta's 2019 budget cycle for deferred maintenance on campus.

AB Party Event

The Alberta Party hosted an event in Room At The Top on the 16th, at which I was able to speak at length to party leader Stephen Mandel and candidate for the riding Katherine O'Neil. Stephen Mandel gave a number of comments in support of the university community and was welcoming in regards to developing ageing infrastructure, research, and access to education.

CAUS Counterparts

I am sure that almost everyone has the story about executive and Robbie riding in the Ram 1500 all the way to Calgary and back in 24hrs, however, if you haven't yet, it was too much. Otherwise, the conference was excellent and it was fantastic to get updates from the rest of the province. My favourite session was in regards to breaking the perpetual cycle of student leaders burning out and correcting poor transition expectations.

To Note:

- The executive judged antifreeze and was in attendance at mixology. I was thrilled to judge mixology for the first time and had a wonderful evening!
- A draft of the strategic plan should be completed for mid to late February. My thanks to all those who have put in all of the hours so far.
- I am currently a item on the Henday Hall Skulk scavenger hunt and a lot of folks have been coming in to grab photos. Ivanhoe is still the better challenge IMO.
- GovWeek kicks off next week and councillor Bilak and I will be giving a presentation on how to lose an election and make friends. I am very excited as I last did this presentation as a councillor with President Fahim Rahman.
- The UASU is opening a new partnership with Flair airlines next week without giving any more away, I am very excited.
- News in regards to a significant change to tuition and mandatory fees in Ontario has put our provincial and federal advocacy groups hard to work. I would suspect many statements over the next few days.

Cheers,



UASU President
Reed Larsen

