

Date: May 15 2019

To: Students' Union Council

Re: President 2019/20 Report #2

Dear Council,

The Executive and I have just been settling into the offices as best as we can. It is a high conference season, so we've been very in and out of the offices a fair bit. The summer weather is fantastic though, and it's been an amazing few weeks! The VP's never fail to impress me, and I couldn't be prouder.

1. Executive Committee

- 2019/20 Executive Goals Document
 - We are in the process of working on our goals document for the year. This is where we take our individual platforms we ran on, and consolidate them into one. This is the **sole** document that will guide our year as an Executive team. We will be bringing it to you all soon for some feedback and insight.

2. Internal University

- **Board of Governors**
 - We had our first board meeting, and it went well! We approved the President Search Committee Terms of Reference, and had extensive conversations regarding the impact of the elections on the post-secondary sector, and ways in which the University should begin to explore the relationship of student satisfaction and administrative costs.
- **General Faculties Council (GFC)**
 - At the GFC Academic Planning Committee (APC) we spent a lot of time discussing the impacts of the recent election as well, touched on free speech, approved the Comprehensive Institutional Plan (CIP) which included major wins regarding the ARRC recommendations. We estimate the Campus Alberta Funding letter will not come until late October.
 - Lastly at APC, we had a long discussion regarding the new tuition model for International students which will switch over from a course-based model to a program-based model. This is an extremely large change, and details have yet to be approved by the Board, but overall, this model provides and complies with the new legislation regarding tuition predictability.

3. External Advocacy

- **Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA)**
 - CASA is our federal advocacy group. More information can be found [here](#).
 - VP Brown and I will away again from May 24th to June 3rd for the CASA Foundations Conference!

- **Council of University of Alberta Students (CAUS)**
 - We just returned from our Changeover Conference in Canmore. It was a really productive weekend, and our student leaders in this province are incredible.
 - We elected a new Chair (Sadiya Nazir, UCSU) / Vice Chair (Bailey Harrey, ULSU) We also decided our Provincial priorities for the year, which is super exciting! These include sexual violence, student financial aid, work-integrated learning, mental health, and institutional funding.
 - The institutional funding point will include an ask regarding open educational resources [OERs], which is an issue I have been so passionate about and advocated for years! The exact ask and wording is going to be worked out, but we did it folks! Platform point: ✓

4. Internal Students' Union

- As part of my goals, I wanted the UASU to look at integrating a more equitable environment. In light, the entire UASU staff is going to participating in a mandatory blanket exercise over the summer. I am excited for our staff to interact and learn through this experience.
- Furthermore, we have hired a First Nations, Metis & Inuit Coordinator, Megan Arcand, and we extremely honored to have her as part of our organization - a congratulations are in order! Her role is housed under the newly *re-named* UASU L.E.A.D (Leadership Education and Development) Centre, with a soft reporting structure to the President's portfolio because their role will touch on advocacy.

5. External Community

- *Nothing to note.*

As a last note, RATT on the Patio is back! They're going to be every second Thursday, so come out while you can and enjoy the sun while you can! Thank you for reading my report and I look forward to any questions you may have either via email, or during question period. My office hours this semester will be by appointment, so please feel free to send me an email.

Cheers,



University of Alberta Students' Union President
Akanksha Bhatnagar