

November 17th, 2016

To: Students' Council 2016 – 17

From: Fahim Rahman, Students' Union President 2016 – 17

Re: Students' Union Council Report #15

Hi Council,

I hope the last meeting went well! I'm told that it was a quick meeting, and I apologize for not being able to phone into the meeting. I will certainly be present for this upcoming meeting. The Provost will also be at this meeting to give a presentation on tuition plans, including the tuition hike for international students.

1. CASA Advocacy Week

CASA's Advocacy Week was a huge success, as we were able to field over 160 meetings with MPs, parliamentarians, Senators and government staff. I had the pleasure of advocating to MPs Jeneroux (my own MP), Vaughn, Sorbara, Lake, Calkins, and Schmale, Parliamentary Secretary to the PM (Youth) Schiefke and the staff members within the Ministry of Employment, Labor and Workforce. That last meeting was an incredible experience – the staff members have an impressive knowledge of what post-secondary is capable of and how to support marginalized groups in accessing post-secondary.

I am hoping that we see strong progress on the nine asks that CASA has this year. If anyone would like to read them, they are available here: <http://www.advocacyweek.ca/recommendations>

Connecting with our partner organizations across the country was an excellent experience as well. We've all been through different experiences at our home institutions, but still find time to unite under these federal priorities outlined at the beginning of the year.

2. Meal Plan

The current edition of the meal plan is going forward to Board Finance and Property Committee for approval. I will be preparing with VP Ghossein in advance of this meeting to talk about how this meal plan will impact students in Lister. I am hoping that we see a change from the current proposed plan because of the negative responses we have heard from students about it.

3. CAUS

As nearly all members of CAUS were present at CASA, we held a formal meeting to discuss some pressing items. In particular, we are wrapping up the hiring of an interim Executive Director while the current one starts mat leave in January.

4. Advocacy on Campus



There was one meeting the executives weren't able to attend around Prayer and Meditation Space in HUB, which General Manager Dumouchel attended on my behalf. I will check in with him to see how the meeting went. VP Banister also attended an APC meeting as the SU representative as I was in Ottawa.

I phoned into the most recent meeting of the Residence Life Task Force, where we worked out timelines now that a third party has been selected to conduct an independent and neutral review of the state of residences.

5. Alumni Council

There was an Alumni Council meeting where we checked in regarding progress on the Council's strategic plan, and outlined some of the major events coming up next semester.

10. Presence and Relevancy

VP Ghossein and I attended the Remembrance Day ceremony for the province in the Butterdome, to lay a wreath and recognize the sacrifices our students made in letting Canada be a free and fair country. Beyond that, I've been spending time on the hill and have brought as much UASU and UAlberta pride to the hill as possible.

That's all from me folks! Looking forward to the next report,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'FR' with a stylized flourish.

Fahim Rahman

President

[University of Alberta Students' Union](#)

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