

February 2nd, 2017

To: Students' Council 2016 – 17

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

Re: Students' Union Council Report #19

Hi Council,

We've hit February, which means we're all approaching the late stages of our terms as student representatives now. I hope you're all considering returning for another year with the Students' Union, as it's been great working with you all!

Here is an update on my activities since we last met:

1. Students' Union Executive and Board Elections

I hosted three job shadow days and had a couple of students drop by to learn more about the role of the President. My door is still open for anyone interested in the position or curious about the SU. The Students' Union Exec Meet & Greet was a great opportunity to connect with students interested also.

2. Mid-Year Management Meeting

All of our executives were present at our mid-year management meeting, where we both gave and received an update from our management about the progress we've been able to accomplish this year. Most of these items were reported to Council in the SU Executive Goals Update presentation last meeting. We also had some discussions about how to assess our impact for students.

3. CAUS

The full executive were also present at Calgary for two days, with myself and VP Sandare participating in CAUS meetings. VPs Banister, Ghossein and Paches had programming organized between the UCSU staff and their counterparts at the other institutions.

Myself, VP Sandare and DRPA Mastel were also present for a meeting around student financial aid with staff from the Ministry of Advanced Education. A significant amount of the discussion was focused on the role that tax credits, grants and awards play in improving post-secondary accessibility.

4. Multi-Faith Prayer & Meditation Space Opening

The Dean of Students, Graduate Students' Association and Facilities and Operations offices, alongside the SU, celebrated the opening of a multi-faith prayer and meditation space in HUB. This is a priority that many of our students, including the Muslim Students' Association, have sought since 2012, and I was very glad to see it be accomplished for students' benefit now.

5. Teaching-Intensive Stream

I presented a revised version of the teaching-intensive stream report I've been working on for about a year now. CLE didn't have many concerns on its content, but wasn't sure what the next best steps were for the subcommittee exploring a teaching intensive stream here. I hope to get an answer at the March meeting of CLE.

I also attended GFC with VP Banister, where some of the changes to the Helping Individuals at Risk program were finally approved after a series of recommendations.

6. MNIFs

VP Paches and I followed up with the VP Finance and Administration office regarding a new reporting structure for our MNIFs. We are adding three year historical data, relevant metrics on student impact that are tracked are U of A services funded by MNIFs, and a breakdown of alternate revenue streams any other U of A services may benefit from.

7. Residences & Residence Associations

VP Ghossein and I had a meeting of the Residence Life Task Force, where members are now reviewing the research results to determine the areas of focus for residences moving forward.

We also met with the Graduate Students' Association to see if any changes to residence association fee collection for next year will be required.

8. Alumni Council

The work of the Community Relations committee continues, as they met recently. We are currently trying to collaborate with the Senate and Alumni Ambassador groups on campus to raise awareness of how our alumni support community efforts and building.

9. Presence and Relevancy

VP Banister, VP Sandare and I attended the third Alberta Student Leadership Summit organized by our staff in collaboration with the university. VP Paches and I gave interviews to students on campus about nutritional quality and food services on campus.

All of the executives attended the vigil for the victims of the Quebec attacks organized by AMPAC - Alberta Muslim Public Affairs Council. Councilor Farooq and I were approached by the St Alberta Gazette after the vigil on a mosque concluded.

The Board of Governors had a dinner between the Non-Academic Staff Association and the Academic Staff Association which went well.



All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fahim Rahman'.

Fahim Rahman
President

[University of Alberta Students' Union](#)

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