

February 9th, 2017

To: Students' Council 2016 – 17

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

Re: Students' Union Council Report #20

Hi Council,

It hasn't been too long since our last meeting, so I'll keep this report brief. Hope you all get a chance to rest over the upcoming Reading week!

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

1. Universities Canada: Converge 2017

The Converge 2017 Conference hosted by Universities Canada went very well. The sessions focused on responding to the Truth and Reconciliation commission, pluralism, inclusivity and innovation. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau spent an hour doing a Q & A with the student delegates too, which was a highlight for myself.

2. InterD Conference

All of the executives were present at the InterD conference, which I thought went very well. All of the sessions that occurred were highly relevant to the conference. I also appreciated the openness the Provost brought on the barriers our campus faces in implementing interdisciplinary studies.

3. EMPFest

I've had a chance to attend some events of EMPFest, with one being organized by CAPS. They were able to pack a room in SUB with students interested in developing a master resume, which was very exciting to see. The Career Confessions event went pretty well too, with some very engaging speakers being at Dewey's.

4. Teaching Intensive Stream

I have been meeting with members of the Provost's office to figure out the next best steps for the report on teaching intensive stream that has been prepared and presented to CLE, but not yet approved. I'm currently trying to figure out if it would be best to submit the report to GFC or the Provost's office for formal consideration.

5. MNIFs

VP Paches, VP Ghossein and myself were at a meeting of the MNIF Oversight committee. There we voted to approve the new reporting structure on how MNIFs are used at the U of A, which will go to



BFPC for the next step in governance approval. The reporting structure will include other revenue streams for each service provided by an MNIF, and include data on the previous year's allocations.

A large concern for the committee now is providing the same level of service when costs rise and MNIFs are frozen by the tuition freeze. I am concerned about future increases beyond CPI, or even API, to these MNIFs once a freeze is no longer in effect.

6. CAUS

CAUS had a policy committee meeting where we reviewed our internal bylaws and policies to bring them more up to date. The points we focused on covered staff per diems, our contingency fund and how to access the PD budget for staff.

7. Presence and Relevancy

All of the executives had our executive report card interviews with the Gateway last week. I have also been chatting with a few folks who have had questions about the SU Elections.

Beyond attending EMPFEST events and being away for the Converge 2017 conference, there haven't been too many campus events I've attended. I know a lot of people will be chatting about what the Students' Union can do for students over the next three weeks with the Executive and BoG elections coming up, and encourage councilors to be a part of the conversations!

All the best,

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

Fahim Rahman

President

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