

Date: 12/14/21**To:** Students' Union Council**Re:** President Report 12/14/21

Dear Council,

I hope you are all feeling ready for your exams and are on your way to excellent results. Personally, I handed in the last term paper of the second-last class of my degree on Tuesday. It's a relief to hand it in, but now the real tension begins as I wait for my grades! I know how tough this time of year can be for all of us, and I wish every one of you success. Never hesitate to contact me or any of my colleagues on the Executive team if we can support you.

Board of Governors

I attended the last Board of Governors meeting of 2021 this Thursday, and was encouraged to see widespread recognition of and support for action on sexual violence. President Flanagan committed in the meeting to acting on the UASU's ten demands, and credited the progress being made on sexual violence response and prevention to the importance of student leadership and activism. The Chair of the Board of Governors, Kate Chisholm, requested on behalf of the Board that Administration conduct an external audit of the University's sexual violence policies. I truly believe we have reached a turning point on campus sexual violence, and that meaningful change is coming.

The Board also debated the removal of the western 240 acres of South Campus from University development plans. It is currently used for agricultural research, but will be converted to housing under the University of Alberta Properties Trust. While this process has been controversial, I believe that land located in the centre of the city near an LRT station serves the community best as housing. The Board also approved the Indigenous Strategic Plan, an extremely important document that lays out a plan for Indigenous initiatives in the medium term. The UASU is committed to supporting its implementation, particularly on areas where obstacles remain, such as the lack of dedicated space which is meant to be addressed by Maskwa House.

GRTF Implementation Followup

VP Monteiro and I will be working with our governance team to develop a series of options to reduce the number of committees of Council, streamline their work, enhance their support systems, and rationalize workloads and membership. We will let Council know once we have finished this work, likely in January. We are eagerly awaiting the report on meeting management practices which will provide a series of options for

alterations or alternatives to Robert's Rules to make Council more inclusive and accessible. We will also be meeting with a few key stakeholders to discuss this in the near future. We are sensitive that a lot of the folks we want to work with are currently very busy with exams, so much of this work will likely wait until the early new year.

Exceptional Tuition Increases

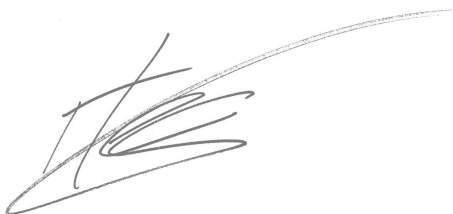
I have discussed the ETI proposals with the Minister's office, and provided the UASU's extensive analysis and recommendations. I believe that we have a compelling case for many of the ETIs, particularly Engineering's, to be declined. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss this further with all of you.

Assistance with Fee Proposals

VP Monteiro and I are working with fee proponents to ensure they are aware of deadlines and have the support they need to conduct consultation and fully inform Council. While our goal in the long term with the Fee Governance renewal process is to make this a much simpler and more accessible process, for the time being it is exceptionally complex and burdensome. This will be a significant draw on our focus for the next few weeks.

This year has gone by incredibly quickly, and I am honestly saddened by how little time we have left to work together. As we round out 2021, I am extraordinarily proud of the Executive team and of all of you. We have faced enormous and unexpected challenges, and yet we have made significant progress on some of the most challenging issues that students are facing. All of us deserve a peaceful, restful holiday season. I look forward to us all returning fresh and energized to complete the tasks of 2021 and begin the tasks of 2022.

Happy New Year!



University of Alberta Students' Union President
Rowan Ley