

May 13, 2011

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Students' Council

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Hi Council,

Although I have been out of town on transition retreats for a lot of time over the past couple of weeks, below you will find what I have been up to.

### **COUNCIL OF ALBERTA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS (CAUS) RETREAT**

CAUS is our provincial lobby group where the University of Alberta, the University of Lethbridge and the University of Calgary make up the membership. The Vice President (External), the Director of Research & Political Affairs, and myself attended the CAUS retreat last weekend. The retreat was structured so that the outgoing student executives were delivering presentation to the incomings and it was very useful and informative.

We also had the opportunity to get to know the executives from Calgary and Lethbridge who we will be working with over the next year. Based on our conversations, both of us believe that this will be a very productive year for the organization. We voted on the positions of chair and vice chair and I would like to congratulate Vice President Iskandar on his election to Vice Chair of CAUS.

The latter half of the weekend was spent by beginning the discussion on what the CAUS priorities for the year will be. It looks like there will be a large focus on a get out to vote campaign for the provincial election when it is called. We were also looking at pushing for Mandatory Non-Instructional Fee Regulation, reinforcing the tuition cap, and the re-establishment of non-repayable student aid. The Vice President will likely talk about this in more detail in his report.

### **CANADIAN ALLIANCE OF STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS (CASA) RETREAT**

The Vice President (External), the Director of Research & Political Affairs, and myself will be attending the CASA retreat in Chilliwak, British Columbia this weekend and should have more to report on it once we are back.

### **THE PAW CENTRE**

We will be meeting with the all of the stakeholders and their legal councils on Monday to try and come together on the agreement. The Vice President (Operations & Finance), our General Manager, and I hope to bring an agreement to council for approval in the near future.

### **CAMPUS FOOD BANK**

The University has agreed to fund a major part of the Campus Food Bank move which is really fantastic; a big thanks to the University and particularly Facilities & Operations for that. With the funding in place we will move forward with all of the planning to make the move happen as soon as possible. The Vice President (Operations & Finance) has taken the lead on this project from our end, working with our General Manager, and is doing a fantastic job of keeping on top of it.

### **FALL READING WEEK**

The University has accepted our proposal to create a taskforce to look into the creation of a Fall Reading Week. I have talked to the necessary stakeholders and am currently in the process of scheduling a meeting to take place before the end of May.

### **BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

I attended the May 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Board Finance & Property Committee where I presented on our 2011/2012 Students' Union fees, as is done every year. These were approved and recommended to the Board of Governors for final approval. There will be a Board of Governors meeting on Friday, May 13 where these fees will be voted on. There is not a lot of new projects going on with the Board at the moment as it winds down for summer but I will keep you apprised of anything that comes up.

**If you have any further questions, suggestions, or concerns**, please do not hesitate to follow-up with me, either in person at SUB 2-900, by phone at 780-492-4236, or by email at [president@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:president@su.ualberta.ca).

*"Always desire to learn something useful" – Sophocles*