

October 20 2011

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Council

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## **Sustainability Assessment**

We are very close to finishing the Sustainability Assessment. The Assessment itself is done and we are working on an executive summary to make it easier to read and an implementation plan. I have been working with the Senior Management team to see what they think is the best way to move forward on some of the recommendations. I have also been talking with the Office of Sustainability about how we can best assess and track our sustainability in the long term. I am hoping to have all of this done and published to you sometime in November.

## **Executive Retreat**

The Executive had a half-day retreat on Friday, October 14. We generally used the time to do in depth on what everyone was working on and to make sure that we were all on track for completing our goals. We also had a chance to discuss some of the major projects that we are working on and to think strategically about our next 6 months. We spent a while talking about communication and engagement and I am very hopeful that we will see some major progress on those two fronts in the later part of our terms.

## **Meeting with Councilors**

I have now met with every councilor except those who were elected in the by-election. I am currently working on a summary of what I learned from the meetings and will present that to you all as soon as it is finished. I also had a chance to talk with some councilors at Fall Retreat, which was great thanks to CAC, about communication and engagement. I am currently thinking up on some ways in which we can work together on these fronts and have some pretty lofty goals as to what we can accomplish.

## **Budget Advisory Committee**

The Vice President (Academic), Vice President (External), Director of Research & Political Affairs and I have been using the Budget Advisory Committee to discuss Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees and the Installment Fee. We are making progress on both fronts but I am really not sure where the discussions will end up. The conversation on MNIFs will likely come to a 'pinnacle' in the next month and it will be clear either way what direction we need to take with our advocacy. I have also found out a lot about the Installment Fee over the last month and am meeting in a week with the Vice President (Finance & Administration) of the University to discuss the issue further.

## **PAW Centre**

The President of the Graduate Students' Association and I have been meeting with the University's Administration regularly over the last month to discuss the PAW Centre. I think we are very close to a final agreement and I very much look forward to bringing it to council soon.

**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).