

June 13, 2017

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Students' Council

Hello Council,

It has been a very busy few weeks since my last report! Since I have been away so much in the month of May, I have spent the first few weeks of June getting caught up on everything. Please find below a summary of my work since our last council meeting.

Goals

STRIDE

The applications for STRIDE have closed and the first cohort meeting will be in the coming weeks! It looks like the summer cohort will be about 15 people, which is the size we were hoping for.

University Business

Meetings with Administration

The executive team and I have had a busy few weeks of meetings with senior administration. During the summer we spend time discussing our goals for the year, and figuring out where there is compatibility and differences with other stakeholders. These meetings included a session with the University Facilities and Operations team as well as a full day retreat with the Office of the Dean of Students and Graduate Students' Association. VP Ushakov and I also had our monthly meeting with the Dean of Students, and VP Scott and I had our monthly meeting with the Provost. All of these meetings were productive and we were able to discuss a variety of current issues as well as goals for the coming year.

MOU

The executive team and I spent the morning of June 1 at the Memorandum of Understanding signing in Quad. It was very important that we were in attendance at this important event. This is one of steps being taken towards reconciliation with indigenous members of our campus community.

GFC

VP Scott, VP Ushakov, and I attended the General Faculty Council meeting on June 5. In my opinion, the most interesting item discussed was removing some religious undertones from the induction address during convocations.

Internal SU BusinessISA

VP Larsen and I met with Akrem, the International Students' Association President, last week. In this meeting we discussed how the SU could better support the ISA, our political policy on international students, as well as their plans for their by-election in Fall.

External BusinessMeeting with GPRCSA

The executive team and I had lunch with Blaine, the President of the Grand Prairie Regional College Students' Association. It was very interesting to discuss student politics with him and showcase the work we do at UASU.

Other Exciting EndeavorsGovCamp

Thank you to all those who came out to GovCamp! I hope everyone learned lots, connected with other individuals in student governance, and had an overall enjoyable time. The executive and I were pleased to be in attendance and meet everyone at the conference.

Augustana Convocation

The executive and I had the privileged of being in the platform party at the Augustana convocation last week. All of the executives will be attending at least one other convocation either at north campus of Campus Saint Jean in the coming weeks. It is truly special to watch our peer's convocate!

PLLH Opening

The executive and I attended the Peter Lougheed Leadership Hall opening. It was a very big event with many current and previous members of government in attendance.

1000 Women Luncheon

Councilor DiPinto, Councilor Lillo, VP Ushakov, and I attended the NorQuest College 1000 Women luncheon. This is an event I very much enjoy going to every year, as it really highlights the importance of women, especially mothers, gaining an education.

Media Training

The executive and I will be spending a half-day doing media training next week. This is important as executive members are often called upon to represent U of A students in the media.

Personal

I am taking a short vacation (June 8 – 12) to travel to Las Vegas with some of my friends! I will be out of the office for two workdays, but will be catching up on emails and work on my return. I have excited to spend time with friends in the hot Las Vegas weather!

Closing Remarks

As always my spring/summer office hours are Wednesday's from 12:00PM-1:00PM in Students' Union Building (SUB) Suite 2-900. Please feel free to drop by during this time if you ever want to chat.

Thank you for reading my report and happy to answer any questions you may have.

Marina Banister
UASU President