

September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**To:** Students' Council 2016 – 17

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

**Re:** Students' Union Council Report #10

Hi Council,

I'll keep this report brief, as things haven't been slowing down since Week of Welcome. Most of my time has been spent on preparation and marketing for Gov Week, alongside residence life advocacy.

Here is an update on my duties:

### **1. Gov Week**

The official schedule for Gov Week is live at [www.govweek.ca](http://www.govweek.ca)! I'm making an effort to attend sessions hosted by the Minister of Advanced Education (Monday 1 – 2 pm), President David Turpin (Tuesday 12 – 1 pm), EPSB Board Chair Michael Janz (Wednesday 2:30 – 3:30 pm), CAUS (Thursday 1 – 2 pm) and finally Mayor Don Iveson (Friday 1 – 3 pm).

It'll be a packed week! I'm also presenting on issues facing the SU Monday at 2 – 3 pm, as well as with Councilor Larsen Thursday from 4:30 – 5:30 pm.

Finally, VP Banister has panels each day. VP Paches will have two sessions, one touring SUB (Wednesday 2:30 – 4 pm) and the other on the SU's financial levers (Thursday 11:30 – 12:30 pm). VP Ghossein will also have two sessions: Wednesday 4 – 5 pm on residence advocacy and Thursday 3:30 – 4:30 pm on sexual assault support policies. Finally, VP Sandare is hosting the GovWeek after party Friday from 3 – 6 pm.

Hope to see you out there as much as possible!

### **2. Residences**

The Residence Life Task Force is wrapping up their RFP to do an independent review on the state of residences at the U of A. VP Ghossein and I also met with a candidate for the position of Assistant Dean and got to know them. Finally, General Manager Dumouchel and I also attended part of the transition for our newly appointed Lister student reps and talked about some of the history behind changes to student life in Lister over the past years.

The more pressing issue the past two weeks has been around residence associations.

- GSA; Gateway; DoS realization

### **3. Week of Welcome**

I had an incredible time at Week of Welcome this year, trying to participate in as many pancake breakfasts and events as possible. Movie Night for Captain America: Civil War was incredibly



packed (and worth it!). I wasn't able to attend the Comedy Night, but Mother Mother was another great event, and the Block Party was a fantastic end to an eventful week.

I'm very impressed with our event execution, student turnout at events and finally the hard work of so many staff and volunteers to make all our programs happen.

#### **4. CAUS, CASA**

The CAUS Policy committee met recently, looking at our policies that focus on tuition. We are renewing most of them as is, though the most contentious one for UASU I suspect will be the discussion on market modifiers. CAUS policy states that we are opposed to an form of differential tuition, including market modifiers. I'd appreciate hearing from Council on whether you

CASA's Policy committee approved about half of the policies that were set to expire at the end of this year, and also looked at a draft policy around RESPs for students.

#### **5. Alumni Council**

I attended the second meeting of Alumni Council, which was reminiscent of the introductory conferences for CASA and CAUS simply because we covered the mandate and scope of Alumni Council. We also covered the regular activities Alumni Council does each year.

#### **6. Misc Projects**

I presented our executive goals to GFC Exec, a presentation required before it goes to full GFC for advice and consideration. I will also present to BLDC at the end of the month.

VPs Ghossein, Paches and I attended an MNIF oversight committee, which was a project steered by President Khinda last year. We will be working out a reporting system so that students have more transparency in what their MNIFs (mandatory non-instructional fees, often seen as basket of goods fees) are going towards at the University.

VP Sandare and I also attended the Tuition Budget Advisory Committee, which was short because of the tuition freeze from Bill #3 last year.

#### **7. Presence & Relevancy**

After Week of Welcome, the SU Exec hosted a BBQ in collaboration with AUFSJ at CSJ for the students over there. We saw MP Boissonault for a brief time, and connected with many students while practicing our French skills.

Two FA dinners have taken place: one with the Alberta Pharmacy Students' Association and the other with the Faculty of ALES Undergraduate Association.

That's all from me, and I look forward to the upcoming meeting!



**Fahim Rahman**

President

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