

**Date:** 13 Sept 2018

**To:** University of Alberta Students' Union Council

**Re:** VP(A) 2018/19 Report #9

Dear Council,

Back to back meetings definitely keep us on our toes. Hope you all have been enjoying this snow! Keep reading for my major updates.

### **1. BeBookSmart Fair**

We hosted the Be Book Smart Fair this week, and in my opinion, it went extremely well! From preliminary data, we had about 400 people attend our event!! Thank you to the **few** Councillors that came out to support the event. I was also so happy to see so many staff, faculty and students attend the event and engage in discussions regarding textbook affordability. I could not have done this without the volunteers, who were not only students, but University staff as well. One of the goals I ran on was affordable academic materials, and this was a tremendous step forward. I will be releasing a report very soon with some data regarding the event and for us to gauge steps moving forward. Stay tuned! Enjoy some great pictures below!



### **2. Faculty Associations**

#### **L'Association des Universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean**

We are hosting a BBQ for CSJ students on Friday! Looking forward chatting with students at CSJ and making some burgers (including vegan options!) in this snow.

#### **Interdepartmental Science Students' Society / L'Association des Universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean**

We will be meeting with the Dean of Campus Saint Jean and an associate Dean from the Faculty of Science to discuss Science major/minors and Education options. This was a priority I ran on, and I'm excited to see this file moving forward.

#### **Engineering Students' Society**

On **September 12th at 11:30AM** I was supposed to get dunked for the Engineering Carnival - unfortunately (or luckily some might say) this was cancelled due to bad weather. The Event was moved inside, and went well! Great job ESS!

**3. Open Educational Resources (OER) Advocacy Group**

The OER Advocacy Group was kind enough to help out with the Be Book Smart Fair and it was so great! Huge shout out to the whole team - meeting them this year is definitely one of the highlights.

**Open Ed 2018 Presentation**

Michelle Brailey, a Digital Initiatives Librarian and a member of the OER Advocacy Group, and I are going to be doing a presentation at the Open Ed 2018 Conference in New York, Buffalo. I will be gone from Oct. 5th - Oct 13th for this conference; thanks to the Provost's Office for funding this for me.

**4. General Faculties Council Meetings University Meetings****Academic Standards Committee (GFC ASC)**

GFC ASC will be meeting next Thursday. GFC ASC is responsible for making recommendations in regards to matters of admissions and transfer, including admission and transfer to Faculties, admission of Open Studies students, academic standing policies and general university admission policies, and all institutional marking and grading policies and/or procedures.

**5. GovWeek 2018**

Dates for GovWeek have been finalized: **January 21st-25th 2018**. There will also be re-brand of the marketing - stay tuned! Applications for GWPC and for GovWeek events will open soon.

**6. Internal SU****ARRC Open House**

ARRC will be hosting an Open House on **Thursday, September 27th at 10AM**. This is first time I have heard a committee take a strong stance on student consultation; very happy to see this. I assume that all of Council will make a visit at least once during the event.

**By-Elections**

There are various Council seats and Faculty Association positions open for the byelections. Please do your best to stay engaged and tap some people on the shoulder to run! Voting dates will be Oct 3 & 4.

**SU Swag**

I think SU swag has great potential to better the brand of the SU. Excited to see where this goes!

Thanks for reading this report. As always, please feel free to ask questions! My office hours for the Fall semester are going to be Friday's from 12PM-1PM SUB 2-900 and **will be by appointment**. If you want to meet during my office hours, I ask that you let me know by 9AM on that same Friday. Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks for reading my report!

Kind regards,



UASU VP (Academic)  
**Akanksha Bhatnagar**