

July 5, 2012

To: Students' Council 2012-2013

Re: Report of the Vice President Academic

Hello Council. Here's a summary of my work for the past two weeks.

I. Academic Relations Group

In order to involve more students in the VPA portfolio, and to generally empower the student voice across campus, I have established the Academic Relations Group. Members will attend advisory committees on behalf of the VPA, receive specialized support from myself and Discover Governance, and have an inside look at the workings of the University. It's an excellent way to have your voice heard, and to build your advocacy skills. If you have any friends that you think would benefit from being involved in student governance, I hope you'll encourage them to apply for ARG! The deadline to apply is July 20.

II. Faculty Association Task Force

We've made some adjustments to the scope of the work of the task force, as well as its membership. I will be bringing the Terms of Reference to Council to ratify hopefully at the next meeting.

III. Student Success Centre

I met with Dr. Wendy Doughty, Director of the Student Success Centre. She spoke about efforts to expand eligibility to the Fresh Start program for students who have been required to withdraw from the University. We discussed the mandatory fee for online courses designed to help students in serious risk of failing out of University.

IV. Online Advising

I met with Shelagh Holm from Administrative Information Systems. AIS is working to make course scheduling information more detailed and easier to share online. Their next project will hopefully be to provide a technological back-end to improve undergraduate advising, something desperately needed on campus. I wrote a letter of support encouraging the University to fund the research needed to compile program rules for the purpose of developing this system.

Cheers,


Dustin Chelen