

August 10, 2012

To: Students' Council 2012-2013

Re: Report of the Vice President Academic

Hello Council,

My report this week is somewhat shorter than usual. As we ramp up to the Fall semester, much of my work has been focused on building relationships with university administrators and Faculty Association executives. I've also completed a comprehensive review of the SU's advocacy strategies from the past five years on teaching evaluation, teaching professional development, and academic materials.

I. Faculty Association Task Force

Membership for the Faculty Association Task Force has been finalized:

- *Dustin Chelen* – Students' Union Vice President Academic, who will serve as the Chair
- *Kristen Flath* – Dean of Students' delegate, who will serve as the Vice Chair
- *Cory Hodgson* – Representative of the Students' Union Audit Committee
- *Iys Bhaskar* – Representative from student faculty associations and/or campus associations
- *Jennifer Bertrand* – Representative from student faculty associations and/or campus associations
- *Robin Cowan* – Faculty liaison for student faculty associations and/or campus associations
- *Elaine Geddes* – Faculty liaison for student faculty associations and/or campus associations

Myself and the Student Governance Advisor have been preparing meeting materials for the inaugural meeting next week.

II. Evaluation of Teaching

I'm working with the Vice Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction), the Association of Academic Staff University of Alberta Teaching and Learning Committee Chair, and the Graduate Students' Association Vice President Academic to restart discussions on student evaluation of teaching. A 2009 report suggested a number of steps forward for reforming both the USRI instrument and University policy, and we're hoping to work from those results.

III. Registrar's Office

I had my first monthly meeting with Gerry Kendal, Registrar. We discussed a potential change to the withdrawal deadline, changes to course and program quotas and enrolment management, and the SU's involvement in the Welcome Centre project.



IV. Extension of Education Students' Association Probation

The Students' Union and the Education Students' Association collectively agreed to extend the probationary period to November 30, 2012. This is to accommodate the need for the ESA to present to both Students' Council and the Council of Faculty Associations, the latter of which will not meet until October. The ESA also needs to make progress on improving and institutionalizing financial practices.

If you have any questions about other things I'm working on, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,


Dustin Chelen