

September 5, 2012

To: Students' Council 2012-2013

Re: Report of the Vice President Academic

Hello Council,

Welcome back to the academic year at the University of Alberta! See below for my biweekly update.

I. Student Representative Open House

On Wednesday September 12 at 5:00 PM, the Students' Union will host an open house so that students can meet other student representatives, including FA reps and Councillors. Please attend, and consider bringing a guest who may be interested in student governance at the University of Alberta. We'll have some delicious food, a keynote speech from the University Secretary, and interactive activities with the Exec, CRO, and Discover Governance staff.

II. Registrar Search Advisory Committee Town Hall

The University is hiring a new Registrar and Vice Provost. They are responsible for student records, admissions, recruitment, scholarships, and other projects that work behind the scenes supporting students as they transition through University. If you have thoughts about what projects the new Registrar should undertake, or the qualities you think a Registrar needs, please attend the Town Hall meeting on Tuesday October 2 at 12:00 PM in ECHA L1-490.

III. Academic Policy and Process Review Task Force

The SU is looking to appoint three undergraduate students to sit on the APPRTE. This committee meets monthly for two hours, and provides recommendations for bureaucratic rules for review, from the student perspective. If you or a peer is interested, please send a cover letter and the contact information for a reference to vp.academic@su.ualberta.ca by September 20 at 5:00 PM.

IV. Student Governance Officer

Upon the resignation of Jessica Nguyen as Student Governance Officer, I'd like to welcome Rebecca Taylor who will be serving as SGO until the end of the academic year.

V. Interim Director for the Centre for Teaching and Learning

The current Director for the CTL has finished her first five year term at the end of September. She will be replaced by Dr. Sheree Kwong See as Interim Director for two years. I will be working closely with Dr. Kwong See and Vice Provost Bill Connor to help the CTL continue to improve in the future.

VI. Institutional Management in Higher Education General Conference

I will be attending the IMHE General Conference in Paris, France from September 17-19. This conference features a long list of speakers, workshops, and sessions on issues key to the development of Universities in difficult economic times. Issues of importance to the SU include: planning, attributes and competencies, alternate routes, transfer credit, experiential learning, bachelor degree models, governance, integration of teaching and research, assessment and grading, and teaching and technology.

VII. Vacation

I will be taking my first vacation at the end of the September. I will not be able to attend the September 25 Council meeting, but I look forward to updating you on my progress when I return.

VIII. FAs at Orientation

8 Faculty Associations were given sessions during Orientation 2012 to present to their members. I attended the ISSS, CBAS, and ESS sessions, and noted that the discipline-specific information really seemed to be valuable to the attendees. I will work with CSD to ensure that FAs continue to have time with their members at Orientation.

IX. Visioning Committee

I have participated in drafting a report on the online learning environment which is slated to go to the President's desk in the next few weeks. The recommendations intend to put the University of Alberta at the forefront of the online learning environment in the next five years.



It was great seeing many of you at the Discover Governance and Students' Council tables at clubs fair over the past week. As always, don't hesitate to email me at vp.academic@su.ualberta.ca if you have any thoughts or concerns.

Sincerely,


Dustin Chelen