

December 2, 2013

To: Students' Council 2013-2014

Re: Report of the Vice President Academic

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Hello Council,

Below you'll find an update of my activities from the past two weeks. I was off on vacation from November 23 - December 1, hence the brevity of the report.

## **I. SU Student Experience Survey**

In partnership with Evaluation and Research Services, the SU has sent out a survey to a sample of undergraduate students, consisting of approximately 80 questions on their U of A experience. The topics range from course and instructor quality, to student engagement, to student finance. The responses will be analyzed by the external consultant, and a report that highlights the core outcomes will be produced by January. A more thorough analysis of the data will be completed by February. This comprehensive survey is indented to inform our lobbying strategies to the University and the Government, as well as Council's policy development.

## **II. Engineering Students' Society Resignation En Masse**

On Wednesday November 13, four out of five ESS Executives resigned from their positions at their Board of Directors meeting, with the final Executive resigning on November 27. The SU has heard concerns from Engineering students about the process and rationale for the resignation of the Executives. I sent a letter informing the ESS, Student Group Services, Dean of Students, and Dean of Engineering that the SU would be investigating the situation to ensure that SU and ESS rules were not contravened during the resignation process. This investigation is ongoing with the support of Discover Governance, and I will report the outcome to Students' Council. The SU also reviewed the election for four of the Executive positions, and I'm looking forward to working with the new team. I am thankful for the work that the 5 resigned ESS Executives put into serving and representing their students.

## **III. VPA For A Day**

I'm pleased to have hosted a job shadow day, where two students accompanied me to see what the life of an SU Executive is like. I believe it was the most authentic way for students interested in the highest levels of student government to get a taste of the excitement and possibilities that come with the job. I will hold another one in the Winter semester, possibly on February 10, 2014.



#### IV. Miscellaneous

I attended lunch with former University President Myer Horowitz, as well as meetings with the Vice Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction) and University Governance. I attended meetings of the Academic Standards Committee, the Leadership College Academic Programming Committee, and the AUFSJ town hall on the budget cuts.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call me at 780-492-4236, or email me at [vp.academic@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:vp.academic@su.ualberta.ca).

Sincerely,

  
Dustin Chelen