

January 24, 2017

Dear Council,

I hope everyone is having a great start to their semester. It has been a particularly busy month for me because of the interdisciplinary conference as well as starting up university governance meetings again. Below is an update on my work from the past few weeks!

1. Projects

Interdisciplinary Learning

I am excited to announce that registration for the Interdisciplinary conference is now live! The schedule and tickets can be found on interdcon.com. I have been spending a lot of time marketing the conference, I do that through putting the opportunity into newsletters, emailing specific people, and having a social media presence. I recently met with Sarah Forgie, Vice-Provost Learning Initiatives, to discuss the conference again and their support has been a huge asset. Side note, Dr Tammy Hopper has been appointed to the position of Vice-Provost (Programs)! I will work with her moving forward on many governance meetings.

2. Meetings & Committees

Faculty Associations

A large part of my month has been supporting Faculty Associations. I have been working with ISSS and NUA in approving their FAMF, have hosted many COFA meetings, and Rebecca and I continue to go to FA exec meetings. Also, I am informing FA's that they can use our SU voting technology for their elections. This can be a great option for them as it takes a lot of the administrative burden of the FA, as well as may increase their voter turn out. I also had a meeting with members of the NUA to see where I could support their efforts to end clinical bullying, which is a big issue in that faculty. Lastly, I have been in conversation with OASIS, the Arts Faculty Association, about the proposed program cuts that were announced.

GFC Exec, GRC, SWS

I have had some academic governance meetings in the past two weeks. These include a meeting of GFC exec, the Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Governance and Delegated Authority, and the Student Writing Services committee.

ESA

The executive and I joined our counter parts from the different Universities, Colleges, and Technical Institutes from across Edmonton on January 19th to talk about mental health and retaining graduates. I really enjoyed the meeting, it was interesting to talk about local issues and supports. Also, NAIT is a really neat campus and I was excited to see their buildings!

Midyear Management Meeting

On January 20th, I spent a lot of my day in the mid-year management meeting with the rest of the executive. At this meeting we went over our executive mid-year goal update as well as did strategic planning for the SU.

4. Other Exciting EndeavoursAnti-Freeze Judging

President Rahman, VP Paches, and I had the joy of judging the Anti-Freeze dance competition! It was a great time and I certainly enjoyed watching the eager teams dance their hearts out. Big kudos to our Programming and Venues team for putting on a great week!

Events

In line with the executive goal to have a presence at student events, I attended the JDC West opening ceremonies and gala. It was a really unique conference, just imagine hundreds of cheering business students in one venue! I also joined VP Ghossein in attending some events put on for our Campus Saint-Jean students, as well as spent time on the weekend at the Student Sustainability Summit.

CAUS

The executive and I will be in Calgary between January 23-24 for CAUS! While President Rahman and VP Sandare meet with their CAUS counterparts, the other VPs will split into groups with

their provincial counterparts to discuss what they are working on. These meetings are very helpful as we can discuss common challenges, learn from each others innovation and advocacy, as well as plan on transitioning our successor.

Thank you for reading this report and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.



Marina Banister