

Hi Council,

I hope your summer is going well, and not going by too quickly! It's been a good couple weeks in 2-900, busy, as usual.

It's come to my attention that lab manuals are a significant expense for students, particularly in the faculties of science and engineering. Course manuals are printed and then sold through the bookstore, which adds an extra expense that is passed on to students. I haven't taken any action on this front yet, but I know that there are at least a couple of departments that distribute lab manuals in other ways, so I will be talking to them and hopefully figuring out whether it is possible for SU to facilitate any action on that front.

I attended an International Student Services meet and greet this week where I met and spoke with a number of different people who interact with international students in a number of different capacities. It was enlightening to see the number of people there and to hear about all of the work that goes into providing international students with services and ensuring they have a good university experience and are able to succeed.

Also this week, as an executive, we met with members of the Registrar's Office, mostly to discuss the 10 Point Enrolment Management Plan, which is a new system that the RO is planning on rolling out for new students. The most important points of the plan include: there will be a new committee to manage the rolling out of the plan, this committee will have student representation, students will know that they are accepted to the U of A earlier, a strict entrance average will no longer be listed on the website, but rather a range, and that gives faculties more control over how many students they admit so that they are not over-admitting or under-admitting, and students will receive offers for acceptance, residency, and loans in a single package. I think it sounds alright so far, but I'm looking forward to further consultation and seeing how it develops.

Starting ASAP, SUBtitles will be accepting editions of books that are one edition old for consignment. Previously, the business would only accept the most current editions of books. This is in line with the aspect of the Be Booksmart campaign that encourages students to use older editions of books if it's feasible for the class.

I've been having a lot of conversations with the managers of SGS and I'm pleased to announce we have begun to put provisions into place to make constitutional reviews easier for student groups. We have decided to put them onto a three year cycle, this will make things easier on student groups as well as SGS staff. A tracking system can be built into the already-existing framework of collegiate link and we are looking into it. In order to handle the issues that may arise in between reviews, we will be agreeing upon a grandfathering policy for SGS that will come into effect when there is an issue where a group's constitution is silent or unclear.

Last week, we had a really fun even with the GSA where we played croquet in quad. ~~My team totally lost every round~~ My team won. It was a really good bonding event, I feel as though the SU and the GSA have a great relationship this year.

That's all for now! See you on Tuesday,

Kathryn