

November 1, 2016

Dear Council,

Happy Halloween! I hope everyone is doing well and has taken some time in the past two weeks to study hard and also have fun. Below is an update on my duties to date!

## 1. Projects

### GovWeek

The GovWeek final report has been finished and is attached to these order papers, late additions, as an information item! The report goes over marketing, finances, timelines, GWAG, survey results, and everything else you may want to know about GovWeek. Happy to answer any questions Councillors may have about this.

## 2. Meetings & Committees

### University Meetings

GFC ASC met last week, at the meeting the proposed changes to the Department of Biology in the Faculty of Science were approved and will not go to GFC for a final vote. These changes are restructuring the organization of the department to offer the same courses but in more broad programs. I also had a meeting for the Ad-Hoc Committee on Governance, at this meeting we ironed out our guiding principles which will likely be coming to the next GFC meeting for endorsement. President Rahman and I had our monthly 1-1 meeting with the Provost, Steven Dew, at the meeting we confirmed the Provost's commitment to the upcoming Interdisciplinary Conference as well as discussed other upcoming issues.

### Student Meetings

COFA Advocacy Working Group met last week where we discussed writing supports on campus and the interdisciplinary conference. President Rahman, VP Ghossein, and I also met with the International Students Association to discuss how their year is going and where we can assist. They are interested in making a presentation to Students' Council on the state of international students on campus.

## 4. Other Exciting Endeavours

### Meals and Events

In the past two weeks the executive and I have been busy attending meals and events with various campus and community groups! We had our dinner with the Arts Faculty Association (OASIS), a lunch with the Board of Governors and GSA, the Native Studies Faculty Association (NSSA) lunch, the Academic All-Canadian breakfast celebrating varsity athletes who maintained an average of over 80%, as well as breakfast with City Councillor Andrew Knack to discuss mental health and transit.

The executive and I were also present at awards night where students received SU awards for their contributions to campus, worked at the SU booth at open house where nearly 9,400 guests attended, participated in an Alberta Health Services campaign to encourage students to get immunized from the flu, as well as volunteered at the Campus Food Bank's annual Trick or trEAT event.

Writing Town Halls

The executive and I also attended the two town halls where the Dean of Students and Deputy Provost solicited feedback from the larger campus community on the state of writing services on campus. Apparently there are approximately 6 services on campus that offer writing support and administration is looking to identify gaps in service as well as areas of opportunity for growth. If you have any feedback on writing services please fill out this form with your thoughts <https://docs.google.com/a/ualberta.ca/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdx7hTcWU29HQV0eFZqLH44WMCViVS-0uXu-H7LA3RMZ2kmvA/viewform>.

As always I have provided a brief overview as to my work in the past two weeks, if you would like more detailed information on any of the items mentioned above please feel free to ask me in question period!

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



Marina Banister