

Date: 24 May /2018

To: University of Alberta Students' Union Council

Re: VP(A) 2018/19 Report #2

Dear Council,

As I am writing this, I am so happy to be soaking up some sun on the SUB Patio. All of the other Executives have been away at conferences so I have spent a lot of time holding the fort down! Please see a summary of my work below.

1. Open Educational Resource Advocacy Committee

One of my goals, outlined in my platform was to **advocate for affordable classroom materials**. I am extremely pleased to announce that I will be the 2018/19 Chair of the Open Educational Resource (OER) Advocacy Committee! This committee has met previously and is filled with passionate university members; Krysta McNutt, the OER Project Manager and Michelle Brailey, the Digital Initiatives Projects Librarian have been great support. I cannot wait to start working with this team!

2. Academic Relations Group

I have appointed Amlan Bose, Justine Katarina, Juan Felipe Vargas Alba, Mark Klooster, James Thibaudeau and Darren Choi to this group for the summer, and come the fall I will appoint more on a rolling basis if need be.

3. GovWeek Updates

On another exciting note...I have decided to move GovWeek from September to the winter semester. The exact week is still being finalized, we do not want it to overlap with Antifreeze, Science Week or i-Week. This decision was made for a variety of reasons but one reason is that the mandate of GovWeek is to "inform students on how governance works and what opportunities are available"; I feel that once students have been in University for a semester, they have a better understanding of what this campus looks like and what changes they want to see. With this change, I hope that GovWeek can "inspire students to run in elections, get students excited about student governance, help create tradition and collaboration amongst different governance stakeholders and give stakeholders a platform to reach students".

4. Stride Updates

This years Stride Working Group met to discuss the future of Stride. As it stands right now, the Stride Coordinator will be doing the work in developing Stride. As someone who was part of Stride I am happy to see that there will be updates to the programming and happy to say that we will be going forward with a Fall cohort!

5. Faculty Associations

I have begun scheduling meetings with Faculty Associations Presidents and their VP Academic to discuss their goals, my goals and how we can collaborate together.

6. General Updates**Meeting with the Provost**

With President Larsen out of town, I met with the Provost Steve Dew individually. It's always a pleasure to talk to with Steve and we discussed some of the projects coming out of his office, and out of the Students' Union.

Alumni Council Year-End BBQ

This was hosted at Faculty Club, and was a great event to see how our Alumnus interact with the Campus community.

GFC Camp

Discover Governance hosted a GFC Camp for the first time on Saturday, May 19th and it was a really great time! I strongly feel that our GFC Councillors are very ready to be strong advocates.

7. Looking Forward**Meeting with the Student Governance Officer**

I will be meeting with the SGO from Discover Governance to talk about our game plan for the Council of Faculty Associations meetings, the Cultural Group Council, the GovWeek Planning Committee, and just a nice little check in.

Meeting with Vice-Provosts

In the next week, I will be meeting with Sarah Forgie the Vice-Provost (Learning Initiatives), and Tammy Hopper the Vice-Provost (Programs). We work closely together throughout the year, so our monthly meetings are very valuable.

General Faculties Council

On Monday we will have our first GFC meeting, and we will be welcoming new members! I've also organized with the University Governance to host a meet and greet after for GFC Student Councillors and other GFC members to meet in an informal setting.

Thanks for reading this long report! As always, please feel free to ask questions! My office hours for the Spring/Summer are 12PM-1PM on Friday and I will be trying to do them on the SUB Patio as much as I can! If that time does not work for you, please do not hesitate to send me a message and we can figure out a time that works for us! Cannot wait to see some of you at GovCamp!

Kind regards,



UASU VP (Academic)

Akanksha Bhatnagar