

Date: 21 June /2018

To: University of Alberta Students' Union Council

Re: VP(A) 2018/19 Report #4

Dear Council,

This heat wave is insane! I'm trying to soak it all in with my cousin, visiting from Texas and for her this hot week is their regular summer. With university governance slowing down, I've had time to focus on my platform priorities which is just great. Below are a few updates!

1. First OER Advocacy Meeting!

I chaired my first OER Advocacy meeting and it truly went so well! We took the time to really figure out our goals for the year, and for future years. The entire team is so student focussed and as much as they can't collaborate with the SU, I can't wait to work with them all. We started with a design system workshop to help develop our terms of reference and discussed some potential great projects we can do together.

2. Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)

This two day training ended today and it really was an impactful two days. I was able to be there with VP Bourgeois, Landing staff, Sexual Assault Centre staff, a Rutherford librarian, a university Chaplain, some faculty staff, LiveWell and overall a really amazing group of people. I would recommend this training to anyone who is interested in this work, and thank you to the Dean of Students for sponsoring us.

3. Internal University

Meeting with Director of Academic Ancillary Services, Learning Services Kevin Moffitt

This meeting was great for me to understand this role in depth; Kevin oversees the Technology Training Centre, Campus Design and Print Solutions, and the University Bookstore. Fun fact: the bookstore broke-even in profits for the first time in 8 years this fiscal year. We talked about some great ways for the SU and Faculty Associations to collaborate, so stay tuned!

Ad-hoc Transition Committee Meeting

This committee stems from the 'Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Governance Including Delegated Authority' where we will be discussing all the GFC committees. Right now, we have been discussing the Council on Student Affairs and its committee membership.

Meeting with the Vice-Provost's Council

The entire executive team (VP Brown was in Quebec) presented our draft goals to all the Vice-Provosts from which we were given feedback and had discussions about collaborations.

4. General Faculties Council

GFC Academic Standards Committee

I was at the ASIST training, so VP Brown attended as my proxy. There was nothing too exciting on this agenda, and was mostly graduate program focussed. The new Alberta Credential Framework from the Government is also being rolled out, so it is being taken to all committees for

consultation on the implementation; there is not major changes to undergraduate programs. We do have a new Vice Chair, Karsten Mundel, from Augustana!

5. Faculty Associations

All four of the COFA boards have been scheduled for next week and I could not be more excited! I have a really exciting plan for each of the boards, and working with faculty associations is definitely the highlight of this job. Can't wait for COFA and Council to collaborate this year.

6. Tour with Ellen Shoeck

This was such a pleasant surprise. Ellen has been on campus forever, and once worked in the University Governance office, was the Grad Students' Association Executive Director and is now the University Historian.

6. Looking Forward

In the next few weeks, I have a few internal university committee's to look forward to: the Institutional EDI Scoping Group Meeting, the Provost's Digital Learning Committee (PDLIC) and the Council on Experiential Learning Meeting.

Today was the 22nd National Indigenous Peoples Day; a day to celebrate the diverse cultures and histories of Indigenous peoples. The month of June is also Indigenous History Month, so I genuinely hope you all take the time to delve a little deeper into your connection with reconciliation and its integrate these learnings on your time on the UASU Students' Council. Thanks for reading this 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!

Kind regards,



UASU VP (Academic)

Akanksha Bhatnagar