

Date: 05/17/2022**To:** Students' Union Council**Re:** Vice President Academic 2022/23 Report #1

Dear Council,

From an international student to the first international student Vice President in the history of our Students' Union, here I am -excited, energetic, focused to traverse the path of excellence in my persuasion to stand in for student rights. I can't tell you how honored I feel while writing this report to you. I have no words to explain my gratitude for the opportunity of working with incredible people like you and I am certain that it is going to be a really great experience for all of us.

Since last month, I have been on the transition mode, learning all the ropes -roles and responsibilities associated with the Vice-President Academic's Portfolio from my very able predecessor -Abner Monteiro, who is luckily here as our President now. I commit to take forward the incredible projects that he initiated during his term along with some new ones.

Coming from a country, where Student Union leadership has a totally diametrically opposite meaning, this sojourn has been and will be the most enriching experience. I am learning something new each day and building up skills that will help me to serve the students to the best of my ability. I am determined to use this position to the fullest in terms of representing student voices in an effective way.

Besides my own portfolio, I got the chance to learn about other executives' portfolios while we were on retreat which was very insightful and will help us to work collaboratively on projects as a team.

During the last week, I have reached out to the COFA representatives and GFC student representatives, and will be setting up meetings shortly.

I am happy that we have a very diverse council this year which will help us to create a well knit community cloth with diverse coloured threads. My advice to you is to believe in yourself and never hesitate to put forward your opinions while respecting others' at the same time. Let's move passionately on this path. I'm really excited for the upcoming year!

Reach out to me whenever you want to chat and I will be there.

Cheers,

**Gurleen Kaur**

Vice President Academic

University of Alberta Students' Union