

May 19th, 2015

To: Council

Re: VPA Report

Dear Council,

I hope May has been treating you well. I've been continuing to get settled into my new role, outlining places to focus on for the year. It was also great seeing a lot of you out for Gov Camp this past weekend!

Here is a report on my duties to date:

1. Transition Retreat

Retreat was excellent in helping me get more settled into the role both the VP Academic and the Students' Union can play for undergraduates, and also helped the new team get settled. We've also started on our goal setting for the year, so stay tuned for more details on my plans for the year.

2. University Committees

The VP Academic sits on over 50 committees, some of which are written into University Governance and some of which are administrative committees.

So far, I've sat on the Standing Committee on Convocation, which discussed collecting feedback from graduates post-graduation as well as how to better incorporate Oaths into the ceremonies for professional Faculties, as well as the University Writing Committee which reviewed an introductory writing course offered in a blended manner.

3. General Faculties Council

General Faculties Council and its standing committees are where a number of items essential to the University are required to be discussed, such as the approval of program and course changes. I attended a meeting of the Committee on the Learning Environment, the Academic Standards Committee Subcommittee on Standards, and the GFC Executive Committee. At CLE, we received an update from the URi and other learning services such as the University Press and our Museums units. At ASC SOS, proposals for certificates in Kinesiology, Psychology and Aboriginal Community Relations as well as MSc.s in Urban Planning and Audiology were brought forward. Finally, at Exec, the primary discussion was around the President's Visiting Committee, where a strategic review of a couple of Faculties per year was discussed. I wasn't satisfied with the value of undergraduate satisfaction within PVC's reviews, and hope to see that changed in the future.

4. Registrar's Office

The RO gave me an update on their plan to move towards an online Calendar for the coming academic year. It's in the very early stages right now, and they don't have a hard launch date, but are hoping to



bring the information into a more intuitive interface for searching what you need from the Calendar. The first step will be ensuring all the content is accurate, followed by modifying the presentation of the content. I trust the RO to provide updates when it is ready for testing.

5. Academic Relations Group

I've appointed Kyle Monda and Jeffry Kochikuzhyil to the Academic Relations Group for the summer, and will be recruiting more members come September when there are both more students on campus and more active committees.

Thanks so much for your time, and looking forward to the next report.

All the best,

Fahim Rahman

(Electronically submitted)