



November 2 2017

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Students' Council

Hello Council,

I hope everyone is having a good semester! It's been extra busy in my office

Faculty Associations

The Council of Faculty Associations (COFA) had meetings of 3 boards. The Senior Board had representation from 10 faculties, Advocacy Board had 8 faculties, and Finance and Administration 7. All of these boards discussed current events in relating to student governance, shared information on FA events and gave general updates. Finance and Administration board also had a presentation from Students' Council Audit Committee on the FA audit process.

I have been notified of 3 Faculty Associations looking to pursue the creation or increase in a faculty association membership fee. This includes the Organization for Arts Students and Interdisciplinary Studies (OASIS), L'Association des universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean (AUFSJ), and the Engineering Students' Society (ESS). These groups are required to submit proposals for their FAMFs by December 15th for the referendum question to be added for the 2018 election cycle and implementation in Fall 2018.

General Faculties Council

At the October 30th meeting of General Faculties Council we discussed several topics relating to undergraduate students including the future of the Peter Lougheed Leadership College, the ongoing work of the Ad-Hoc Transition Committee, Report of the GFC Committee on the Learning Environment (CLE) on Teaching and Learning and Teaching Evaluation and the Use of Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) as an Evaluation Tool, and Changes to the Admission of Aboriginal Students Calendar Section and updates to Faculty sections. It was announced that the PLLC may be heading in a new direction in years to come and will require new leadership. The discussion on the use of USRIs as an evaluative tool proved to be contentious and focused on necessity for a multi-faceted approach and a recognition of implicit biases in the USRI tool. The changes around aboriginal admissions reflected extensive consultation to update language in the calendar to reflect "aboriginal identity" and to list the types of identification that can be used to prove it when necessary.

Academic Standards Committee, Subcommittee on Standards

At the November 2nd meeting we discussed the proposed New Bachelor of Arts in Modern Languages and Cultural Studies (MLCS) and the associated suspensions in the Department of Modern Language and Cultural Studies. This proposal will see the suspension of all 8 of the current MLCS programs for one new, consolidated BA in



MLCS. We also discussed proposed changes to existing Academic Standing Requirements for Faculté Saint-Jean regarding probation. This is largely a good decision for students at CSJ as it will give them better flexibility when they're on probation.

Committee on the Learning Environment

At the November 1st meeting we discussed the Proposed Student Groups Policy Suite, and Open Education at the University of Alberta .

Peter Lougheed Leadership College, Academic Oversight Committee

The Academic Oversight Committee for the Peter Lougheed Leadership College met for the first time in a number of months. This conversation was distinct from the general conversation held at the whole GFC as it focused specifically on the current academic program and the courses associated with it. Issues around program communication, course oversight and academic quality were all raised. The next meeting should be at the start of December.

GovCamp Lite

New student members of the General Faculties Council attended a "GovCamp Lite", a hybrid version of the summer program which many members of council experienced. It was a much more condensed program and included an overview of Students Union and University governance, and the student representatives role in that structure. It was hosted by Discover Governance.

Botanical Gardens Tour

The Students' Union Executive was given a tour of the new Aga Khan Garden at the University of Alberta Botanic Garden. The garden construction was made possible by a \$25 million donation by His Highness the Aga Khan. This garden is only the 11th to be supported by the Aga Khan in the world, and only the second in north america. The construction is set to be complete by June 2018.

SU Awards Night

I am honored to have been able to co-host the SU Awards night with VP Ushakov. The Students' Union gave out over \$100k in student awards. A special thanks is owed to those who planned the wonderful evening and to the sponsors of all the awards. And finally, congratulations to all of the award recipients.

I will also remind everyone that my office hours are Tuesdays from 12-1pm or by appointment. If anyone is interested in job shadowing me for a day to see what the jobs like, feel free to reach out to me!

Regards,

