

July 21, 2011

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Council

Hello Council,

With the return of the President, I can no longer boss around the Executive Committee and I have moved back into my more humble office. Although 2-900 is no longer the same without my iron fist, we are generally happy to have our fearless leader with us once again. Below are the highlights since my last report.

Executive Retreat

The Executive Committee spent a full day out of the office last week for a retreat. We divided our time between discussions of portfolios and progress on selected topics. The retreat was a great way for me to “check in” with my fellow executives and to assess the course of the year. I came back to the office inspired and look forward to the next one in a few months.

Capital Project Planning

In parallel with the financial conversation being carried out at BFC and Council, we are entering into discussions with a number of potentially suitable architects. A Request for Proposal has been distributed, meaning that we have invited firms to prepare proposals for design work in SUB. The RFP deadline is set as July 27th.

Health and Dental Plan Committee

The Health and Dental Plan Committee is an advisory body that deals with the delivery of the Plan and its communications strategy, to ensure that it meets students' needs. HDPC had its first meeting of the year last week. Terms of reference were set, an orientation to the plan was provided, and the year's communications initiatives were reviewed. There was also discussion about resolving an information asymmetry pertaining to the dynamic nature of enrolment numbers.

SUSTAIN SU

We are in the process of renewing the collaboration agreement between SUSTAIN SU and the University's Office of Sustainability. This annual document serves to record and to formalize the existing relationship between the two parties, which often combine efforts to further campus sustainability programs. The Vice President (Student Life) and I have been helping to fine-tune the agreement, and I should be able to sign it upon my return.

Product Development Expert

The Senior Manager (Food & Beverage) and I have completed interviewing chefs for the position. We have a meeting arranged with our preferred candidate this week to discuss the position and the terms of employment in greater detail. If all goes well, we could deploy the Product Development Expert in August!

PAW Centre

The SU and GSA recently met to discuss the status of the PAW Centre agreement. Our respective legal counsels will collaborate on a formal response to the University. As they transition into a more active role in the negotiations, we expect a new phase in the process to take shape.

Grant Allocation Committee

GAC will be meeting next week to discuss the latest revisions to the proposed new awards. I anticipate this process coming to a conclusion soon – this will entail a formal approval of additions and changes to awards and some revisions to standing orders.

BFC

BFC meets next on Monday, July 25th to discuss financing of the “Get Out The Vote” campaign presented to Council by the Vice President (External) last meeting.

Ontario Trip

I am writing this report from Toronto’s 38-degree heat (too hot for the mosquitoes, thankfully). I am here with the General Manager, President and Vice President (Student Life). Tomorrow, the General Manager and I attend the CSHG Board meeting. The four of us have spent two days on the road, visiting local Students’ Unions and learning about their facilities. The Students’ Unions of four universities have given us tours of their buildings: Wilfrid Laurier University, the University of Waterloo, McMaster University and York University. I have learned a lot about the range of possibilities that exists in terms of physical space and its interaction with successful business operation and service provision. What I have seen will definitely be of value as capital project discussions continue.

Cheers,



Andy Cheema