

February 7, 2012

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Council

Hello Council,

Below are the highlights since my last report.

Capital Project Planning

Council's approval of a renovation referendum two weeks ago marked the conclusion of the feasibility study. The next steps will be contingent on the referendum's outcome. Our latest payment to DIALOG was \$28525.79, and our payment to Turner & Townsend (order of magnitude estimate) was \$4,200.

Student Group Granting

The Student Group Granting Committee conducted the latest granting cycle last week. The meeting went fairly smoothly, although the volume of successful grants exceeded budget. A discussion ensued about how to more elegantly manage this type of situation. Ideas include creating quotas for different grant types, adjusting the score threshold required to receive a grant and varying the available grants depending on the time of year.

Grant Allocation Committee

GAC met last Friday and had a relatively brief meeting. The committee received an update on the status of the awards adjudication committee and discussed the process for ratifying members. It was noted that a new Assistant Manager of SFAIC has been selected – she began work this week. An Access Fund Selection committee meeting was scheduled as well.

Budget and Finance Committee

The Budget and Finance Committee met last week and welcomed two new members – Councillors Le and Elmallah. The committee reviewed an initial version of budget principles. We'll be recommending a set of principles for Council's approval in the near future.

U-Pass Advisory Committee

I attended the U-Pass advisory committee in lieu of the Vice President (Student Life). I explained the status of the Spring-Summer U-Pass referendum, including the steps leading up to it and the timelines moving forward. Another item of discussion was the current U-Pass agreement, which terminates in August 2013 and will need to go to referendum next year in order for the program to continue.

Facilities Development Committee

FDC held its monthly meeting last week, with two main items on the agenda. The proposed Discrimination, Harassment and Duty to Accommodate policy suite was presented in draft form for feedback. The University of Alberta International General Space Program was presented for approval and was approved.

Power Plant Program Charette

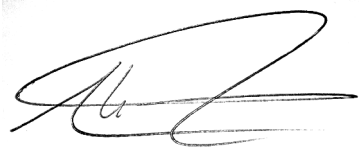
The President, General Manager, Vice President (Student Life) and I attended a program charette for the Power Plant, along with representatives from Facilities and Operations, the GSA and the Dean of Students. The meeting was a good start to the Power Plant discussion and gave every party an opportunity to articulate their vision for the building. In terms of the lease, the President has been meeting with the GSA President and the Provost to begin negotiations.

Miscellaneous

Other activities in the last two weeks have included writing a midterm, attending Policy Committee and playing in Break the Record.

Should you have any questions, comments or concerns, feel free to get in touch at 780-492-4236 or vp.finance@su.ualberta.ca. If you wish to discuss any topics in depth, I would welcome the opportunity to meet in person.

Cheers,



Andy Cheema