

Date: 08/18/2022

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice President Operations and Finance 2022/23 Report #8

Dear Council,

I hope you all had a good two weeks! I was away for about a week, but here are my updates!

GLO Module: Sustainability

One of the platform points I ran on was to potentially create another GLO module surrounding the topic of sustainability. Through this training, our goal is to hopefully provide student groups with more information on how they can be more sustainable in their practices and also be aware of the services they have access to on campus. I've been meeting with a couple of staff members regarding this, and it is currently underway!

Residential School Memorial

The Residential School Memorial Planning Committee has been meeting consistently in hopes to get a lot of the details on the memorial sorted out in time for the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. We currently have a lot of work cut out for us in the next couple of weeks, but we have a lot of ideas on ways we can improve the memorial this year. I am looking forward to how the final product will look come September 30th. In addition to the memorial, we also have a lot of other things planned for the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation that involve a couple of our other businesses. We hope that we can raise a lot of awareness and money with our coming events for the end of September.

ISA Office

I've been working on the ISA Office for quite some time now. I've met with Aiman and Mobahsir, the VP Internals of ISA, to discuss the potential temporary ISA Office Space in SUB. I've also spoken to Dhir, the president of the ISA, to update him on the confirmation of the space. We are still continually following up with Space Optimization and just waiting to hear back from them on securing a permanent space for the ISA that will meet all of their needs, but in the meantime I wanted to give them at least a smaller temporary space that International students can have access to. We're hoping to have them in an office by the start of the Fall semester!

Dewey's Menu

Another part of my portfolio that we've been working on is the Dewey's menu! We're currently in the process of figuring out what the "Dewey's identity" will look like, and looking at some potential new items for the menu. Both Abner and I have looked at three different possible versions, but it's currently still a work-in-progress. We hope to make changes to the menu soon! If you have any suggestions, please send them my way.

EDI Steering Committee

I mentioned in my last report that the VPOF is part of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Steering Committee. This committee is more internally-facing and is primarily focused on ways the organization as a whole can work on EDI. Last year, their primary objective was to get data on how our staff feel about our EDI practices. They created and sent a survey to all of our SU staff to gather their thoughts on the EDI approaches of the organization. We recently just got the final report on the survey results,

which though are largely positive, also point toward areas for improvement within the organization and work that the committee can focus on.

Counterparts

ASA VPE

I met with Saim, the VP Finance at the Augustana Students' Association, to update one another on our goals! We're setting up monthly meetings from now on, but we discussed topics from UASU Cares, the Augustana Pub, and CoFA Finance and Admin Working Group.

City of Edmonton Annual Student Conference

I got invited to speak at the City of Edmonton Annual Student Conference last week! It was a really cool opportunity and I got the chance to talk about my experiences in student governance and how I got involved in the first place! Here is a photo of my speech!

CUPE Agreement

Council may remember the CUPE Agreement that I brought forward a couple of weeks ago. It was finally finalized today! Both parties sat down and signed the new agreement, and it will last for 4 years until it is up for renewal again.

TikTok

If you didn't get to see it yet, Joannie and I filmed a TikTok for the UASU Instagram page! It focused on highlighting the new furniture we got in the SUB living room. [Here's](#) the link if you haven't seen it!



SUDS

Last weekend, the Exec got the chance to go to the Student Union Development Summit held by AMS UBC. We were able to meet a lot of student leaders all across Canada, attend workshop, and hear from inspirational speakers! My favourite part was talking to other VP Operations and Finances and learning more about how they ran their businesses, and the opening keynote from Deputy Minister Daniel Quan-Watson. I want to leave you all with one very important lesson that he gave us: Don't take advice from someone who's not in the position you want to be in.

If you have any questions or want to grab a coffee, don't hesitate to reach out!

Best,

A stylized, handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read 'Julia'.

Julia Villosa

Vice President Operations and Finance
University of Alberta Students' Union

