

Date: 07/03/2019

To: Students' Union Council

Re: VPOF 2018/19 Report

Dear Council,

I hope you all had a wild, uplifting experience throughout election season. For those of you planning to run for Council, good luck! It is folks like you that contribute to the longevity of our organization and improving life on campus. The office has been too quiet for my liking over the past couple of weeks, so I am looking forward to having my pals back. Here are my updates:

Projects & Goals

Since I am now in the last 2 months of my term, most of my time is used to tie up loose ends and pave the way for a smooth transition for my successor. Here's some more detail

- Budget
 - As I mentioned last meeting, we are currently working on creating the budget, and it is quite challenging. Although we are expecting a deficit (as per my predecessor), we are trying to make it the smallest one possible. To do this, we have been meeting with each department individually to ensure that all spending is justified and efficient.
- Union negotiations
 - Much of our hourly staff is part of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, and our agreement is up for renewal this year. I have been working with management to prepare for these negotiations.
- SERC
 - If you haven't filled out our SWAG survey yet, please do! We are going to be going through the data from it and comparing it to SU SWAG purchasing data to make recommendations to increase sustainability.
- SU Catalogue
 - Being designed currently. We have chosen to keep the scope narrow (specifically on events for student groups) in order to keep the quality high, but I have been approached by some future Exec who would like to continue working on it and probably broaden the scope to cover things like services.

- Dewey's Strategic Plan
 - Progress is strong, management is happy.
- Executive Compensation Review Committee
 - We have found a Student at Large and will begin meeting in the next little bit.

Proxy Action

As you know, Reed and I have been picking up the slack around the office while our co-Exec's are away. In the Residence Advisory Committee, they discussed the improvements to the maintenance process. Currently, if a student has an issue with something in their room, the process through which they speak to Ancillary services is fairly convoluted, with inconsistencies in timing as to when they hear back from them and when the issues are resolved. Thus, they are looking into best practices at other schools, as well as doing a cost-benefit analysis on whether they should invest in an automated system for communication with students or have a staff member do so. I also proxied at the Campus Clean Air Strategy Working Group. They are currently coming up with their Terms of Reference as it is a new committee.

In sum

Election results are being counted as I write this, wheuuu! Looking forward to seeing the future of the SU; once again, thank you all for being involved, taking risks, and showing your support for democracy! As much as I am looking forward to transition, there is much to be completed. If you'd like to meet to discuss anything, as usual, please email me at vp.finance@su.ualberta.ca.

Kind regards,

Emma Ripka

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