

Prepared by: Saadiq Sumar, Vice President (Student Life)

To: Students' Council 2012/13

Hey Everyone!

A lot has been going on in the last couple of weeks and I'm doing my best to work through a serious case of burnout. I'd also like to congratulate the Vice President Academic, the Undergraduate Research Symposium Coordinator and members of the Programming and Venues Department. The Undergraduate Research Symposium was a huge success and a lot of students took some time to learn a little bit more about what other undergrads are doing on our campus, which was fantastic!

Programming

Campus Musical

As I mentioned at the last meeting of Students' Council, the Director, Luay Eljamal, and the Choreographer, Cara Chong, were selected in the interview process. They have begun the task of recruiting students for the production team as well as setting up some audition times. In case you or someone you know might be interested, the following times are being used for auditions:

Wednesday, November 21 - 6:30 - 9pm

Thursday, November 22 - 3-5pm, 6-8pm

Monday, November 26th - 6:30 - 9pm

All auditions will take place in 3-06 SUB.

To book a time slot, please e-mail eljamal@ualberta.ca. Things are moving quickly on this front and this has taken up a significant chunk of my time over the last couple of weeks.

Post Secret

Frank Warren, creator of PostSecret (a community mail art project), had three shows at the Myer Horowitz Theatre. We attracted a large group of students and community members and the response to the shows was fantastic. I was able to sit in on one of the shows and it was very empowering to hear from some students.

Campus Cup

Campus Cup is quickly approaching. At last count, there were just over 70 teams in the tournament, translating to over 1000 students. The divisions will be finalized soon and the schedule should be coming out early next week.

Services

U-Pass

The U-Pass Advisory Committee is starting to look at additional items that the student associations want to see in the contract, including a reduced replacement cost. If you have any suggestions on this front, please let me know.

In terms of the Spring/Summer U-Pass, the contract has almost been finalized. There are a few minor edits which have to be made, but this contract as well as the price structure for the main contract is 99.999...% done.

Advocacy

Food Services Advisory Group

Doug Dawson, the Director of Ancillary Services, and I have had a very tough time building the Terms of Reference for this committee. Although my hope was to finalize this document soon, we have hit a bit of a brick wall and I'm waiting to hear back from the director's office on whether or not he'd like to press on.

Sustainability

Several members from the Office of Sustainability, the Assistant Manager of Student Services, and I met to discuss what happened at the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education Conference in mid-October in Los Angeles. The VP Ops/Fi, the General Manager, and I are currently working on a conference report, which we will be submitting to council.

Mental Health

I met with two students who are organizing a Mental Health Awareness Week in mid-March. We discussed how the Students' Union could help them reach more students on campus and what other groups they could collaborate with. At this point, it seems unlikely that I will be able to get multiple groups together to work on a campus-wide week, but this is something that I will leave for the next VPSL to work on.

Other

Message from Robin Everall

Robin Everall is the Provostial Fellow charged with looking at the state of mental health on our campus. The following is a message from her:

"Dr. Everall is interested in undergraduate student perspectives on questions such as:

- Are students aware of the mental health and support services available to them on and off campus? What do they know about these services?
- How should services be promoted to reach the largest number of students and increase awareness of service availability?
- What impedes students from accessing services?
- How should we reduce the barriers to accessing services?
- What services are necessary but missing?

The goal of this process is to enhance relevant, responsive, and accessible mental health services to students at the University of Alberta.

The meeting schedule of each group will be set after the group is established, but members should be available in October.

Nominations are being solicited from a wide diversity of students, including full- and part- time students, international students from a variety of countries, domestic students, and students who are parents.”

Please pass this message on to your constituents so that Dr. Everall can do a complete job of identifying mental health related issues on campus and working to solve them.

Athletics

- Friday, November 16th: Pandas Basketball vs. Lethbridge (6PM)*
- Friday, November 16th: Golden Bears Hockey vs. Regina (7PM)*
- Friday, November 16th: Golden Bears Basketball vs. Lethbridge (8PM)
- Saturday, November 17th: Pandas Basketball vs. Lethbridge (6PM)
- Saturday, November 17th: Golden Bears Hockey vs. Regina (6PM)
- Saturday, November 17th: Golden Bears Basketball vs. Lethbridge (8PM)
- Friday, November 23rd: Pandas Basketball vs. Victoria (6PM)
- Friday, November 23rd: Golden Bears Hockey vs. UBC (7PM)
- Friday, November 23rd: Golden Bears Basketball vs. Victoria (8PM)
- Saturday, November 24th: Golden Bears Volleyball vs. UBC (1PM)
- Saturday, November 24th: Pandas Volleyball vs. UBC (2:30PM)
- Saturday, November 24th: Pandas Basketball vs. UBC (6PM)
- Saturday, November 24th: Golden Bears Hockey vs. UBC (6PM)
- Saturday, November 24th: Golden Bears Basketball vs. UBC (8PM)
- Sunday, November 25th: Pandas Volleyball vs. UBC (1PM)
- Sunday, November 25th: Golden Bears Volleyball vs. UBC (2:30PM)
- Friday, November 30th: Golden Bears Volleyball vs. Mount Royal (6PM)
- Friday, November 30th: Pandas Hockey vs. UofM (7PM)
- Friday, November 30th: Pandas Volleyball vs. Mount Royal (7:30PM)

*Legacy Games – free entry with a valid ONECard

Takeaways:

- **Sign Up to audition for the Campus Musical!**
- **Meet with me if you are interested in the portfolio or just to chat!**
- **Talk to your constituents about the message from Dr. Everall**

If you have any other questions, please ask during council, stop by the office in SUB, or send me an email at vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca.

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