

June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013

To: University of Alberta Students' Council 2013/2014

Re: Report of the Student Life Portfolio

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Hello Council,

First, let me apologize for not sending in my report in time for the main agenda. As some of you may know, I was in Boston for the American College Health Association Annual Meeting 2013 from Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> until Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. Including time spent networking, the conference ran from 8AM straight until midnight. Here, I will vaguely note a few key takeaways from the conference, but will elaborate in an upcoming Conference Report after discussing the items with the rest of our Exec team.

So – let's see what I've been up to in the past two weeks!

## **I. Programming**

### **Athletics**

Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup> – one month of classes done, a busload or two of students from Augustana, cheap beers with peers, and a hockey game with Golden Bears. If all goes well, the SU Exec will run a BBQ in collaboration with the Augustana Students' Association (ASA) in the early afternoon that day. As classes end, busses will arrive and we will bring Augustana students with us back to main campus to enjoy a tail gate party in Varsity field. Later in the evening, a hockey game will commence just a few steps over in the Clare Drake arena, between the Augustana Vikings and the U of A Golden Bears.

Currently waiting on all parties to confirm the date! Main barrier is a possible time conflict with the IFC Toga Party.

### **Week of Welcome**

As we speak, our Week of Welcome (WoW) Facilitators will be looking over some of the work created by our Marketing department and finalizing our theme for WoW 2013!

## **II. Services**

### **Peer Support Centre**

As mentioned last time, I had the vision of adding an outreach component to the Peer Support Centre (PSC). With further discussion with our Services Managers, we will start by initiating a Comprehensive Review of the service.

As for Unitea, which is seeking a more sustainable structure, the PSC will be a resource, providing training for their volunteers. In the meantime, we will also be seeking individuals who may be interested in taking a leadership role within the young organization.

**Student Group Services**

(VPSL & VPOF) The criteria for student group granting will be evaluated soon to ensure that our values are reflected in where funds are distributed. This includes Start-up, Activity and Conference grants which are accessible throughout the year from SGS. I would love to hear any feedback you may have regarding the granting process!

**III. Advocacy****Residence Community Standards**

As the Community Standards are up for review, I will be advocating for a wider variety of well-defined restorative sanctions in both Restorative Justice (RJ) and Administrative lease processes. I will also be advocating for an assessment of how cases are routed, to maximize RJ and minimize Administration involvement. Last but not least, I will also strive for a clear appeal process for Administrative disciplinary cases.

**IV. Other****Council/Faculty Association Retreat**

Loved it : )

**City of Edmonton Recreation Facilities**

A conversation has started with the Operations Supervisor of the City's Leisure and Recreation Facilities. They have brought about a proposal, where all Students Union members receive annual admission passes to City of Edmonton-operated recreation and leisure centres (16 facilities, including the Kinsmen Sports Centre and Terwillegar Community Recreation Centre, located throughout Edmonton) at a cost of \$25.00 per year (a 96% discount from the 2013 price of \$624). The key to the financial viability for this program from the City of Edmonton perspective is an "all in" commitment from the Students Union, i.e. fee is attached to annual Students Union fees collected from all U of A undergraduate students.

**Check Yourself**

As mentioned in the previous report, weekly meetings have been scheduled to participate in strategies to improve promotions of safe drinking habits. Unfortunately, the meeting times have conflicted with other meetings and I have been unable to attend the past two meetings. However, in my conversation with Donna Cave, Director of University Wellness Services, I will be following up with the Check Yourself Working Group to clarify the outcomes of such an intervention before fully committing myself to weekly meetings.

**American College Health Association Annual Meeting 2013**

First off, I am proud of what we have here on campus. While we are thinking about how to increase healthy eating options, opportunities for exercise and lower stress, our counterparts in the United States are trying to ban smoking and fight underage drinking. Nonetheless, the conference provided me with several ideas that could be implemented on our campus as well as valuable connections to other like-minded student leaders. As action items, I will be reviewing the following issues:

*Smoking Policy**Healthy Campus Curriculum**Alcohol Risk Management**Student Health Advisory/ Advocacy Committees*

Cheers,

William Lau

[Electronically Submitted]