

July 22nd, 2014

To: University of Alberta Students' Council 2014/2015

Re: Vice President Student Life Council Report

"Life isn't something that you possess; it's something you take part in, and you witness."

Louis CK

Hi Council,

Welcome to my report! Please feel free to ask any and all questions!

Council and Governance

My meetings with councilors are ongoing! I hope to find a time soon, when I find time in my work load, for this core group of interested councilors to meet.

Councilor Binczyk is now directly in contact with our Senior Manager Marketing and Communications to work on Council's presence at Week of Welcome. Come out to the Council Administration Committee at 5:00PM on the sixth floor of SUB!

Our committees are hard at work! Please refer to our minutes for committee reports for more information. Thank you to our amazing committee chairs!

Access and Communications

In the past week, we have met with both the Students' Association of MacEwan University executive, and the Graduate Students' Association executive. It has been valuable to hear about what each association is working on, and to find common avenues where we can collaborate.

I have been really happy with the relationship we have with the Gateway, and the work that they do. The exposure for microwaves, the SUB renovations, and so on, is much appreciated!

Student Groups and Associations

In the past weeks, I have dedicated time to supporting the **International Students' Association**. I have been communicating with both Student Group Services and the Office of the Dean of Students about the ISA's registration. I received great feedback from them on constitutional concerns, drafted amendment recommendations, met over the weekend with the

ISA executive to get them approved, then reformatted their constitution for greatest ease of use.

Last year, as part of a student group, I began drafting new **student group finance templates**. Through my experience in student groups, and my conversations with students in other student groups, it became clear that our templates needed a bit of work if we were to best support finance executives in all of our student groups. I've drafted a budget template and a ledger templates in consultation with our Senior Manager Finance and Administration, and I am very happy with the result! I have some more work to do to in terms consultation with our staff. The hope is that this document can find its way into student hands in the coming months.

The Delta Upsilon fraternity challenged the Students' Union to a **water war** last week. With some passionate execs and staff at our side, we met them in greater numbers and won! The best part of the whole experience was President Lau recruiting students from residence to join us. However, the war isn't over. More council company next time would be very welcome!

I watched the **World Cup Final** with the Pakistani Students' Association, the African Students' Association, and the Chinese Graduate Students' Club. It was amazing to see the collaborative relationships they're building and I really appreciated the invitation to watch the final with all of them!

Health and Services

The **Health and Dental Plan** committee is on its way! Nominating committee has been so gracious as to assist in finding three student representatives by the end of the summer. VP Hodgson and I had a meeting with our StudentCare representative, and we've received our committee orientation information packages for when the committee meets.

I have been working on **U-Pass** issues consistently for the past month, and have been advocating for students navigating through the sometimes complicated exemption process. I am at the point now where I have articulated the whole process. I plan to create a document outlining the whole system so my successor can navigate the complex interoffice relationships with ease.

University

The Alcohol Policy Review Committee met last week and we are looking to review our terms of reference to identify what our campus needs are with respect to alcohol policy, and how the committee will look moving forward.

Events

The **COFA events calendar** has started receiving submission! Thank you to the Business Students' Association for submitting your events. I have set aside time in the coming weeks to start adding all Students' Union events.

Thank you for taking the time to read through our reports! If you have any recommendations for quotes at the start of my reports, let me know!

Best,

Nicholas Diaz
Vice President Student Life 2014-2015