

Date: 11/6/2021

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice President Student Life 2021/22 Report #16

Hi everyone,

I hope you are all doing well. IDK about yall, but I am so happy it has FINALLY snowed. I know things are about to get crazy with exams and final projects, but if anyone wants to grab a coffee and chat about Council or even non-council things, let me know!

Here are some of the things I've been working on for the last two weeks:

Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Work

Advocacy for sexual violence prevention and response is ramping up, and I've had a few councillors ask how they can get involved with this work. The best way you can get involved is by sharing the UASUs resources and advocacy efforts. Sharing things will not only help connect folks with supports, but it will draw more attention to the issue of sexual violence on campus and create change.

So please follow and share [ibeliveyou_uofa](#) on Insta. This page was created to connect survivors and their supporters with resources and bolster our advocacy efforts, so it's important that we get the word out there.

As I mentioned in my last two council reports, the University will soon hire the Sexual Violence Prevention Coordinator. The hiring committee is currently shortlisting applicants, and I will keep you posted on how this goes.

Finally, on Wednesday the 17th, the UASU will be releasing a public letter that calls on university administrators to do more when addressing sexual violence in solidarity with other student associations, including FAs. **Please share this letter, so it gets as much attention as possible.** We are demanding that the University protect our right to a safe learning environment by:

1. Working with the Association of Academic Staff University of Alberta (AASUA) to reform the opaque, inequitable reporting and investigation mechanisms in the collective agreement.
2. Working with AASUA to reform collective agreement sections that erase disciplinary records after two years. These sections obstruct establishing, recognizing, or considering long-term patterns of predatory behaviour.
3. Hiring and empowering the long-promised Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Coordinator.
4. Working to provide more comprehensive and detailed training to ALL residence assistants. And provide more consent and awareness training to those who live in residence.

5. Setting and enforcing ethical standards for relationships and sexual interactions between faculty and students, particularly their own students, respecting the impact of power differential on consent.
6. Developing and implement mandatory training on consent and sexual violence for instructors, students, and staff. For students, this should look like a short online course that covers consent, relationships, and sexual health, which students need to complete before they can access eClass.
7. Harmonizing all policies and practices surrounding sexual violence to create a single survivor-centred document that lays out clear, consistent practices for all members of the university community across all campuses. This process should be developed in collaboration with students who represent diverse perspectives, including Black, Indigenous, and 2SLGBTQ+ students.
8. Implement and refine institution-wide restorative justice approaches and providing appropriate training to staff, including staff at CSJ and Augustana.
9. Ensure that all Sexual Violence prevention and response resources are available in French and created specifically for CSJ students.

Please note, we are waiting on the Augustana Students Association to finalise their ask, so we add it on!

Indigenous Celebration Week (ICW) Planning

Planning ICW is going well, but it's moving slowly. While we have confirmed four presenters to run sessions, we need many more to make this event successful. Please let me know if you know anyone (they could be an artist, performer, or academic) that I might not have reached out to. I would love to invite them to take part in this event!

The Pronoun Campaign

As I mentioned in my last report the materials for the Pronoun Campaign are printed. We decided to wait till after reading week to distribute them so more people would see them. You should see them around campus this week! I still need help distributing resources, though, so if you wanna help out you can sign up [here](#).

Period equity

I realized that I hadn't given an update on the period equity project recently. There haven't been any big changes. VP Kimani and I continue to work to find locations for the dispensers and secure funding. Once we do, we will be able to instal other dispensers across our campuses. We are also working to develop a period equity campaign that we can start up next semester.

Best,
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