

Date: 15/06/2021

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice President Student Life 2021/22 Report #4

Hi Council,

Wow, I can't believe it's been two weeks already; time is flying by! Here are some of the things that I have been working on:

Residence / CORA

CORA had our first meeting on Thursday. We covered A TON of stuff, including our strategic plan for the year, addressing sexual violence in residence, residence fees and residence concerns about COVID. I'm looking forward to working with CORA and updating you on the work we do.

As a VERY important residence update, Newton Place has been sold and will no longer be a residence run by UofA. This does not change residences existing leases, and residence is working to make this a smooth transition. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Social Media

This year the exec is working to connect with more students via social media. While this may seem trivial, it is an important part of getting students involved with student governance and has been part of many executives and councillors platforms. On the 2nd, I took over the Instagram account and showed folks what a day in my life is like. If you saw that and have feedback, please let me know.

We also have a giveaway contest going on right now for a \$50 gift card. It's open till the 18th, so y'all should check that out!

COFA

The Council of Faculty Associations (COFA) had its first meeting at the start of this month. I am looking forward to chairing the Member Service Group and working with the faculty associations.

Period Poverty

VP Kimani and I have finished our business proposal document for the period equity initiative. Now we are 'switching gear' by working on fundraising for the project and setting up advocacy meetings/presentations to get the Uni excited about this initiative. We are also continuing our talks with Ruth. Ruth is a sustainable menstrual products company run by UofA Alumni that we are hoping to work with.

The Ring Houses Coalition

The Ring House Coalition is continuing its amazing work, and things are looking up! I'm hoping to give y'all an exciting update on this in the coming weeks.

EDII

We have been working on a bunch of Equity Diversity Inclusivity and Indigenization (EDII) projects.

- This month I had a meeting with Terry Sperling to discuss the Pride sidewalks. They should be painted in the 3rd month of August. I also spoke to him about the importance of them being painted in the 'new' style.
- VP Kimani and I are continuing to lay the groundwork for Aboriginal Awareness week.
- I have been working with our marketing team to create the posts for Indigenous History month. Please share those.
- The EDIT Committee applications closed today. We had over 20 applications! I am looking forward to reading over the applications and going through the interview process.
- The Policing Policy committee has met and we are starting our research for the committee.

Sexual Violence

Sexual violence advocacy is slow and this issue has lots of moving parts, but I'm slowly finding my footing on this work. Some of the things I have done so far include"

- Working to create a year-long advocacy plan and met with (almost) everyone I can think of who has been working to address this issue within the uni.
- We are waiting to hear back about the Feminist Grant and Recovery Fund that we applied to. If we get this grant, it will be directed towards funding the mandatory sexual violence prevention training the exec wants to create this year.
- We are waiting for the hiring process to start for the Sexual Violence Prevention Coordinator. This will shape a lot of my advocacy for the next year.
- Abner and I are continuing to work on the Experiential Learning Policy.
- I have been working with marketing on the campaign that will connect survivors with supports; this campaign will be launched in November.

Misc meetings with representatives

I continue to have recurring meetings with my counterparts from the ISA, AUFSJ and the ASA. These meetings have been very productive so far, and I am looking forward to working with them on various projects.

GFC

Last Monday (June 7th), I attended my first GFC meeting as VP Student Life. As usual, GFC was interesting, and we discussed a lot of important topics. Two that fall in line with my portfolio are Item 5: Proposal for the Establishment of the GFC Committee on the Documentation of Indigeneity (CDI) and Item 10: Clean Air Strategy. I gave a long statement at GFC that addressed the numerous concerns the UASU Executive and many other student representatives have with a complete smoking ban on campus. The gateway covered a few of my comments in this [article](#). If you have any questions/comments about the Clean Air Strategy, please let me know!

Pronoun Campaign

Me, marketing and the folks from the Landing had a meeting about the Pronoun Campaign, and it looks like it's all going as planned. If you have any ideas for this campaign, please let me know!

Self Care Tip

This is a very superficial and quick tip (because I am out of space). If you don't like to read and want a break from screens while still being entertained, you should listen to podcasts! One that I particularly recommend is the Ologies Podcast with Alie Ward.

Best,

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