

Date: 04/18/2023

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice President Student Life 2022/23 Final Report #24

Cher Conseil, we're done! To wrap up ...here's a list of the work I've done over the past year.
It has been an honor serving you as the 22-23 Vice President Student Life.

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION I was able to complete 2 ARRC Recommendations this year, I wouldn't have been able to have done so without the support and mentorship of Indigenous professors, staff, and students.

- **Successfully Advocated for the creation of a Gathering Space at Campus Saint-Jean**
Attended talking circles with indigenous staff and students to talk about what this space could look like.
- **Addition of Indigenous Education during Basecamp and Ascent (Residence Orientation)**
Residence Life worked with First Peoples House, who gave a presentation "Welcome to the Land"
- **Supported the planning and execution of RSM** in partnership with the Indigenous Students' Union to encourage critical reflection on the history of residential schools and their effects on Indigenous communities.

ADVOCACY, POLICY & INITIATIVES

- **\$1.6 million for Mental Health** money was allocated by the university to [mental health support](#). This includes an expansion of Counselling and Clinical Services to reduce wait times and provide more accessible and culturally competent support.
- **Advocated for the new SGBV Policy** Implementation of the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Policies and Procedures that will be a further step forward in survivor-centred and trauma-informed support for students.
 - A direct win included *explicit mention of the history of colonization with reference to sexual violence and deals explicitly with sexual violence against Indigenous people.*
- **National PSI SV Advocacy** Was invited as a panel expert for a discussion with Courage to Act: Addressing & Preventing Gender-Based Violence at Post-Secondary Institutions in Canada. This discussion formed the foundation for a whitepaper to identify strategies and promising practices related to information sharing about campus gender-based violence complaint outcomes between post-secondary institutions.
- **Improved the Residence Assistant training** worked on a more comprehensive training for RA putting a focus on Sexual Violence Response components. This year all RAs had the opportunity to practice 1on1 Disclosures. **All Residents were required to complete a mandatory Move-In Module**, part of which included information developed about consent and how residents responded to disclosures

- **Addition of SV component to JET** Residence Care coordinator delivered a presentation at the Joint Executive Training explaining how to receive a disclosure, where to direct residents, survivor choice, prevention as advocacy, and clarifying scope and expectations.
- **Expansion of the CFB to Campus Saint-Jean** I was so happy to work alongside the CFB and their board to secure funding for in-person services at Campus Saint-Jean. We were able to run free breakfast programs on Wednesdays, snack stations and guaranteed funding to bring back the CSJ grocery bus.
- **Implementing new Student Conduct Policies and Procedures**
- **Working on the [Days of Significance University Page](#)** we went from 3 days to a wide range of events and holidays that are comprehensive and representative of the university community.
- **Designed Family Lounge & Policies** Worked alongside the DoS, Libraries and stakeholders to create a design for the new Family Lounge in Rutherford. Also worked on the Conduct and Missing Child Policy.
- **Students Union SGBV & Residence Policy** Spearheaded consultation and authored the new policies.
- **CFB Advocacy** Worked alongside the president all year with our respective counterparts to ensure food insecurity was a top priority for the University and discussed plans of building a food pantry and future fundraiser campaigns - this recently resulted in funding for CFB with the support of the Undergraduate BoG
- **AFFIRMED NAMES PROJECT** new project initiative to enable University staff and students to self-declare the name by which they would like to be known (affirmed name) across the University systems and records. I also ran the **pronoun campaign** for the 2nd year in a row.
- **Creating a new student group oversight structure** with the University to be implemented by Fall 2024 so that we can put student life back in the hands of students.
- **SV Climate Survey** worked on developing questions for the survey that the GofA launched earlier this year.
- **Residence Improvement Fund** Successfully worked with Residence Services and CORA over the summer to apply for funding that would improve residents' experiences.

SAVING STUDENTS MONEY in collaboration with the President and VPOpFi Portfolios

- **\$2 million** over two years in savings for the Student Health and Dental Plan
- **\$15,000** donated by internal stakeholders towards improving the infrastructure of the period equity initiative.

- **Froze the Health and Wellness Fee** for on-campus students next year, and prevented a 4% increase.

EVENTS

- **Co-Chaired UofA's World Social Justice Day Working Group** Successfully planned and executed the Living Library event focusing on the intersection of Mental Health and Social Justice. We were able to host the sessions both in English and in French.
- **Planned our First Black History Month Event** Worked alongside the Dean of Students Office to host a BHM Panel: *Where is the love? : A Conversation on Racial Trauma and its Impact on Black Bodies*
- **Celebrated I-day for the first time at the Students Union** In Collaboration with the International Students Association planned and hosted *International Day: Celebrating UofA Cultures Together*. We had booths from different regional groups and a Culture showcase in the evening. All marketing and hosting were done in a bilingual format. We were able to get representatives from all campuses around the table to ensure moving forward everyone is included.
- **Helped Host the Tuition Protest** at the Board of Governors, which engaged students across the university to rally against the fourth consecutive tuition increase.
- **Supported the planning and execution of RSM**, project initiated by VPOpFi in partnership with the Indigenous Students' Union to encourage critical reflection on the history of residential schools and their effects on Indigenous communities.

SOCIAL MEDIA + WEBSITE

- **Student Addiction Awareness Campaign** Held our first-ever SAAC to help inform the community about addiction and how we can create a community of care.
- **Updated the EndCSV Page** Worked alongside the Marketing Team to update our page to include accessible and plain language support and updates on advocacy
- **This is Black Excellence** This year we wanted to highlight black student excellence in all disciplines and campuses. We highlighted students from Augustana to CSJ, from Fine Arts to Science!
- **National Indigenous History Month** Celebrated and highlighted the executives from the Indigenous Students Union on the UASU Instagram page.

Merci,

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Joannie Fogue, Vice President Student Life

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