

VP SL Council Report – May 1st

Hey Everyone!

This report doesn't have much in it because the lion's share of my work will start in the second week of May after we get back from retreat. I have been doing a few things though so here are a few quick updates as to what Colten has transitioned me on so far. Hopefully I am not the last one to congratulate you all in getting involved in the governance of the Students' Union and I am very excited to be working with you all over the coming year!

1. Student Groups and Faculty Associations

During my campaign in and in the few weeks that followed, I met with several groups and FAs about their activities and what grievances they had. Although I didn't meet with too many, the grievances list is long and I intend to work so that these student groups can conduct their activities efficiently and effectively and serve students as much as possible. FAs generally had difficulties with transition among other things and problems with Audit Committee. The list of grievances from student groups is much longer and I will indulge council on this list if they wish.

2. SU Services

During my campaign, I also met with several directors and managers to discuss their services as well as what the departmental plans which outline several changes to be made to services. Since that time, new directors, assistant directors, and services employees have been hired and I look forward to working in conjunction with them to ensure that these departmental plans are put in place.

3. Residence Halls Association

Over the past several weeks, there have been several significant events that have shaped the course of the RHA for the upcoming year. Perhaps most significant is the change in membership of the RHA. Recently, Lister students voted to stop paying membership fees. As the Acting President for several weeks, I was in the process of composing an agreement between the RHA and the Lister Hall Students' Association, which is currently being reviewed by several people in 2-900 before it is signed. I look forward to working with the Incoming President Kaibree Drake and the incoming council. I also encourage any and all of you who live in residence (and that includes Greek houses in East Campus Village) to apply to fill the executive positions of the RHA Executive.

4. Physical Activity and Wellness Center

I've had the pleasure of sitting in on a couple of meetings regarding the PAW Center Design and development. The first was with the architects who will be designing the building. This meeting consisted of potential changes to the design. The next meeting was with several members of the university administration, including members of the Faculty of Phys Ed and Rec, the Dean of Students, and Facilities and Operations. Finally, there was also a meeting this past Wednesday about the Teaching/Community Kitchen that is being put in the PAW Center. I am excited to say the least about the interest expressed by students, the university, and members of the community in the kitchen and the possibilities with the space.

5. Community Standards Review

Colten took me to a meeting with several members of Ancillary and Residence Services to discuss infractions within residence and some information that needs to be provided to the committee in order to accurately make decisions regarding community standards, etc. The committee will be meeting on a weekly basis to discuss various aspects of community standards.

6. Transition

Colten and I have completed our transition meetings. Other than perhaps Vice President Cheema, I think we had the smoothest and least dull transition. I am excited about Orientation next week and Retreat and I can't wait to formally start working in 2-900 as the Vice President Student Life.

7. Meetings with Councilors

Councilor Smith and I met to discuss a few different issues ranging from awareness to programs that councilors and the executive can bolster to better serve students. I invite any and all of you to meet with me for anything that pertains to my portfolio. After all, we have to work together to accomplish all of our goals and work for students.

I look forward to working with all of you in the upcoming year. If you have any questions, feel free to send them my way or to ask them during question period. Echoing Vice President (Elect) Kusmu's sentiments, written questions gives the executive the opportunity to fully and completely answer your queries so those forms of questioning are encouraged. Also, I once again encourage all of you to get more involved and become Week of Welcome Facilitators for WoW 2012!

Regards,

Saadiq Sumar