

Office of the VICE PRESIDENT STUDENT LIFE

December 1st, 2016

To: University of Alberta Students' Council 2016/17

Re: Vice President Student Life Council Report

Dear Council,

Last Saturday, I played Dodgeball for the first time in YEARS and it was amazing! I was hesitant to participate in Campus Cup at first but now, I am sooo glad I did. I mean..yes, I was sore for 4 days straight and couldn't move much but it was worth it. I encourage all of you to participate next year, if you're still around!

On a more serious note, I had a very promising meeting with folks from the Aboriginal Students' Council last week. The ASC, NSSA and other partners are putting together meetings where the community can come together and talk about next steps after the TRC, from curriculum reviews to the question of mandatory classes in academic programs. I will keep council informed of when the meetings are, as one of their VPs expressed interest in having SU presence at those meetings. So as soon as dates are confirmed, I will include them in my report!

ADVOCACY

Mental Health

Advisory Panel on Post-Secondary Mental Health

We had our first in-person meeting scheduled for November 28th at MacEwan University. We discussed the project charter, the engagement plan as well as the terms of reference. We will be reaching out to stakeholders throughout the month of December. We are still in the process of determining a standard approach to consultation that all members can follow.

I am very optimistic as all members of the panel are very insightful and highly qualified and bring each a different perspective to the table.

Residence

Residence Life Task Force

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This week, the Task Force reviewed the questions that were to be asked in the survey. We discussed whether or not a reward was necessary for responding to the survey, the revised timeline for issuing the recommendations, following up with the community on the progress of the Task Force and so on.

We will inform council as soon as the survey goes out and will keep updating you on our progress as we go. For those of you who live in residence, please do encourage everyone around you to fill out that survey

Lister Representatives

The Lister representatives, the Discover Governance Manager and I are meeting on a monthly basis to look at what the new Lister association would look like after it's supposed to come back

Student Groups

The Dean of Students informed us that he/his office was in the process of drafting the new Student Group Policy that would take into account our shared vision on student group recognition and discipline. We will be approached with a draft and the policy would make its way into governance come the Winter semester.

Seeing as we have many presentations in council, a presentation can be given at the start of the Winter term, as we would need to discuss next steps and mechanisms as to student group discipline within the SU.

PROGRAMMING

Student Initiative Project

The Programming and Venues department, our general manager and I had an extensive brainstorming session about proceeding with the expansion of the Last Class Bash. As per my platform promise, I will be working on soliciting student group participation in planning and organizing an event that will meet diverse student interests! I am very excited about this project and will keep council updated with my progress on that!

PROJECTS

Mental Health Website

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On my platform was also the idea of creating a mental health website that would act as an accessible and easy way for students to learn about what 's available on campus as well as the role of the resources. That information tends to be convoluted on the platforms that we currently have so I am in the process of designing a website that would meet student needs: I have already found a external developer and will be approaching an interested sponsor for confirmation about funding part of the website in the near future.

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

Campus Law Review Committee

The Sexual Violence Policy was a topic of discussion at the last CLRC meeting. The committee provided feedback to be incorporated into the Policy before it makes its way through the formal governance process. On the agenda, was also a report from the University Appeal Board (UAB) as well as the Office of Student Conduct and Accountability where they presented an overview of the nature and volume of their cases in aggregate.

MISCELLANEOUS

A reminder that my office hours are 12 p.m to 1 p.m on Fridays so stop by if you want to chat or have any questions. If that doesn't work for you, you can also e-mail me at vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca and we'll find a time to meet and chat.

Cheers,

Francesca Ghossein
(Submitted electronically)