

Date: 09/06/2022**To:** Students' Union Council**Re:** Vice President Student Life 2022/23 Report #9**FRT & SV EDUCATION***My experience*

I completed my First Responder to Sexual Assault & Abuse Training by the Association of Alberta Sexual Assault Services (AASAS). This training is intended to build the capacity of professionals, paraprofessionals, and community members to respond effectively to disclosures of sexual assault and sexual abuse. Survivors who receive safe and supportive responses to disclosures of sexual violence are more likely to reach out for help from medical and counselling services and/ or report to the police. First Responder to Sexual Assault and Abuse Training™ is inclusive of the full continuum of sexual violence and across the lifespan.

Taking this course and practicing disclosures, was not always easy, although I learned a lot. I was able to identify even some of my own biases when responding. I do feel a lot more confident and empowered to support students who may need it. One of the sections of the training was rethinking prevention initiatives, and this was insightful for me to take into consideration when doing SV advocacy. Looking forward to receiving my certificate!

How can you get involved?

If you are ever interested in further educating yourself, the UofA Sexual Assault Centre offers different training and courses. They have an amazing Education and Programming that is open to the UofA Community. Here are two that I've taken in the past which I found very helpful.

- Consent in Practice - [link](#)
- Supporting Survivors of Sexual Violence - [link](#)

SU & RO - PERIOD EQUITY

As Julia and I have mentioned, we are working on implementing a new strategy for the period equity initiative. One of our most important goals with this is to ensure that students needing menstrual products the most are accessing our program. We have been meeting with The Registrar's Office and our IT department to work out logistics to target low-income students and work them into our existing technology (Perks) to directly give them a semester's worth of products. Julia and I are very thrilled with how this project is advancing. We've been able to make progress on both aspects of the new strategy, we're looking forward to sharing more with you all soon.

BACK TO SCHOOL & MEETING STUDENTS !!!*Basecamp wrap-up*

I was able to attend the Basecamp wrap-up this year. Basecamp is the Orientation that new residents go through after moving in. I was honored to be the first VPSL in 3 years to give a speech. The last time a VPSL gave a speech to residents was Jarod Larsen during my base camp when I first moved to Résidence Saint-Jean in 2019. I was able to meet a few residents and talk to them about the Students Union and what we have to offer.

CSJ Orientation

I attended the first full in-person Orientation at Campus Saint-Jean since 2019. I was able to give tours to first and second-year students. It was great seeing the campus full again and full of laughter and excitement. The new students have lots of enthusiasm and I was able to recruit some students who would

help out with RSJ! I was also able to teach our new students the CSJ chant, which they killed btw!

TAWOW

I invited the rest of the colleagues to attend TAWOW alongside Services. TAWOW is the annual interactive booth fair held specifically to welcome new and continuing First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students at the University of Alberta. The event allows students to learn more about the services and programs available to them at the U of A and within the Edmonton community. The execs and I had such a good time meeting students and getting to know them a bit.

WOW

Week of Welcome was a blast. It's not over yet! Check out our events this week. Huge shout out to our events team and volunteers who help put all of it together. As a student coming from CSJ, I have to say it has been overwhelming seeing so many students everywhere. Although I've loved meeting students every day last week. Connecting with hundreds of students every day has truly been the highlight of summer and term. The execs and I attended various events during WoW. We also toured the club fair probably way too many times and got to meet some of the student leaders on campus in person. We also served pancakes to the UofA community.

Also, one last shout-out to all of you who helped out with WoW one way or another. I hope you all enjoyed meeting students as much as I did.

PRONOUN CAMPAIGN

I continued the work of my predecessor VP Dixon, and sent out the pronoun Campaign. So far I have been getting positive responses from professors. I've been discussing with counterparts in seeing how we can further utilize this campaign and create a strong cohort of allies and explore other inclusive initiatives on campus. Stay tuned!

SU Staff Update - Services hired a new FNMI Specialist: Danni Okemaw

EDI Selection Committee

Quick Update - I have been asked by Clint Galloway Director of ACCESS, Student Services - Wellness Supports, to be a part of their EDI coordinator hiring process. Interviews start this week.



Joannie Fogue

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