

Office of the VICE PRESIDENT STUDENT LIFE

September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**To:** University of Alberta Students' Council 2016/17

**Re:** Vice President Student Life Council Report

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Dear Council,

The last couple of weeks, my schedule was filled with a balance of office work and events!

On the week of September 6th, I attended many of the Week of Welcome events (Movie night, Comedy night, Mother Mother concert, the Block Party) and other community events (the Mosquers film festival, Green Drinks, la fete de la rentree, ECV Block Party etc.).

On September 9th, the rest of the executive team and I went down to Campus Saint-Jean for an SU Barbecue, as connecting with folks from our satellite campuses is always a priority. We also shared meals with the faculty associations from ALES and Pharmacy where we shared our plans and vision for the year.

On a more serious note:

-On September 6, Chelan Skulski spoke to both Alix Kemp (our Media Advisor) and myself about sexual assault on campus as part of a feature on the I Believe You campaign that the SU and University of Alberta are partnering with.

Fighting sexual assaults on campus (part I)

*by Chelan Skulski on Alberta Primetime, September 9, 2016*

TW: Footage from Brock Turner case up and chants.

-On September 9, I went down to City Hall to speak to the Edmonton Suicide Prevention Strategy that was approved by a committee of city council. The Students' Union was acknowledged by mayor Don Iveson for speaking to the strategy, since the youth need to be engaged in a lot of the work around suicide prevention and are key to the success of such strategies.

City looking at suicide prevention strategy

*by Jeremy Thompson on CTV News Edmonton, September 12, 2016*

This piece is primarily about the suicide prevention strategy that one of the city council committees approved on Monday, but Jeremy Thompson stopped in to speak to Jennifer Yurkiw from our Peer Support Centre.

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## ADVOCACY

### Residence

#### Lister Meal Plan

The Lister Meal Plan that was presented last year is back. This time, with a better plan on how to consult students. Dining Services are putting together 2 Town Halls and a consultation meeting with the SU. I will take all feedback I personally receive to the Residence Budget Advisory Committee as well.

#### Hiring committee: Assistant Dean, Residence Life

Since I was on the hiring committee for hiring a new Assistant Dean, Residence Life, the top choice candidate for the committee was invited from out of province to spend some time on campus and get to know the stakeholders that they would be interacting with.

President Rahman and I met with them one-on one and got to know them a bit better.

A decision is currently being made as to the offer of employment.

#### Residence Association Fees

Although disappointed by how long the process has taken, we are hopeful that an agreement can be solidified before the end of the month on how the residence association fees will be collected.

#### Lister Representatives

I am delighted to have such an enthusiastic team and am looking forward to working with them this upcoming year.

The contracts have been distributed as well as the roles for each Lister rep team and they are now attending various training sessions to prepare for their roles (Community Helpers, Sexual Assault Centre, etc. )

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## COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

#### Sexual Violence Policy committee

This committee is the immediate group that gives feedback on what we think the sexual violence policy that the University is drafting should look like. We were previously shown the

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drafts as part of a larger group of consultants but as of this week, we have a permanent seat on the committee.

A draft of the policy was distributed to all consultants, but if you are interested, please feel free to drop by my office so we can look at it together and note down any feedback.

Council of Faculty Associations (COFA)-Member Services Group

We had our first COFA MSG meeting, where all VP student life portfolios from the various faculty associations get together to discuss services and programming for their faculties and seek opportunities for collaboration.

Board of Directors-The Landing

We had a Board meeting as well as the first meetings of the two committees that I am on: Policy and Finance.

I offered to write the financial policies of the Landing and should be done those by September 29th.

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*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](mailto:vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca) and we'll find a time to meet and chat.

Cheers,

Francesca Ghossein  
(Submitted electronically)