

Date: 11/09/2018
To: Students' Union Council
Re: VP(X) 2018/19 Report

Dear Council,

The leaves are changing to their fall colours, there is a crispness in the air, and 30,000 of our members have just returned to our campuses! I would like to extend my warmest welcome to all first-year and transfer students at the University of Alberta as they begin the next very exciting chapter of their lives here with us. I also welcome back returning students who I hope have settled back in comfortably.

1. Updates and Advocacy

- Advocacy Meetings:** On August 21st, President Larsen and I met with Edmonton-Centre MP (and former SU VP External) Randy Boissonnault to discuss issues surrounding Campus Saint-Jean, infrastructure funding and ensuring that campuses are welcome spaces for all students. We also met with Alberta Minister of Labour Christina Gray to discuss the future of the Summer Temporary Employment Program. I am proposing that the SU and CAUS take a new approach to our advocacy for STEP, that we propose an overhaul and creation of a "STEP 2.0" instead of our current asks approach.
- Staffing:** I was involved in the interviews for our External Advocacy Advisor and Get Out the Vote Coordinator positions. We would like to welcome Stephen Raitz as our GOTV Coordinator, and the EAA position will hopefully be finalized by the end of this week at the latest. Fahim Rahman, our Interim Director of Research and Political Affairs, has gone back to law school at the University of New Brunswick, and we thank him sincerely for all the great work he did this summer at the SU.
- ASA Meeting:** On August 22nd, members of the Augustana Student Association came to SUB to meet with the SU executive. I will be furthering discussions with the ASA around an advocacy strategy to the City of Camrose to ensure that the voices of Augustana students are heard in that city.
- RSJ Move-in:** On August 27th, VP Ripka and I assisted with the Résidence Saint-Jean move-in, welcoming students to their new home.
- CASA Update:** I have been reaching out to several student associations across the country that I believe would be great potential members of CASA. I look forward to



engaging in discussions with these associations and broadening CASA's scope and membership.

- Orientation: I was delighted to have been part of this year's Orientation, flipping flapjacks, handing out SU promotional swag, and co-hosting the President's Address with my fellow VPs. It has been great talking to new students about the SU and what we provide for them. We were also joined at the Address by Ministers Marlin Schmidt and Lori Sigurdson, and on September 4th by Alberta Party leader Stephen Mandel at the WOW beer gardens and 'Black Panther' movie screening.



2. Coming up

- Advocacy Meeting: President Larsen and I will be meeting with MP Mike Lake on September 12th, focusing the meeting on copyright laws and access to open education resources (OERs).
- CSJ BBQ: On Friday, September 14th, the executive will be hosting our annual BBQ at Campus Saint-Jean.
- Senate: On September 13th, myself and our other student Senators will be attending New Senator Training.

3. Things to note

- Office hours: I am trying to explore new ways to engage students in office hours, whether it be in-office, online, or holding them in different places on campus. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please email or message me to chat!

I hope you have all had the chance to celebrate the beginning of what I hope will be a great year! My next office hours will be on Thursday, September 13th from 3-4pm in RATT.

Kind regards,



UASU VP (External)
Adam Brown