

Date: 11/08/2020

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice President Academic 2020/21 Report #8

Dear Council,

It's been a great two weeks! The long weekend was much appreciated and gave me an opportunity to get away for a bit. But I've still been up to a lot since we've last met! Here's a quick breakdown of it!

Core Managers

The Core Managers meeting happened last wednesday and was quite interesting as always! We had discussions about UASU perks and the niche it fills as well as plans and development moving forward. Overall it was a very productive conversation and a lot of great ideas came from it! I am really looking forward to seeing it up to its full extent in the future!

Student Life Group

Student Life Group is another internal UASU committee which I sit on. This group is always an interesting one as it provides a unique view into the operations of our services as well as sparks discussion of how to better achieve what we set out to do. One of the unique ideas that came to this group was using SLG as a sort of "Dragons Den" spot for the Events Team leadership to pitch event ideas they have.

Meeting with the ISA

President Agarwal, VP Krahn and myself met with the ISA to help with their SRA application and provide guidance through the process. This has been quite effective and I'm very glad we have been working together on this. By working together in the lead up of their SRA application we have been able to help mitigate problems which may not have been foreseen otherwise and ensure that the process is as clear and collaborative as possible!

New Student Orientation Filming

As an executive team, we got together to film an introduction video for New Student Orientation! This was quite a fun time and I am really excited to see how the video turns out! Alongside this we finally had the opportunity to take exec team photos! Up until this point the only official photos we had as a team were from election night, so it'll be nice to have some new ones

Academic Integrity Research Project

The Dean of Students reached out to me to take part in a research study about views surrounding academic integrity. I sat down with the researcher and we chatted for well over an hour about the importance of pedagogy based solutions, compassion based enforcement, explicitly teaching

students what is expected of them, and clearly outlining what academic integrity looks like from a professor standpoint. Overall this was a really interesting discussion and i'm really excited to see the report when it comes out!

Delegated Authority Pathway and organizational model drafting

After my meeting on thursday with the ISA, I sat down with the ISA president 1-1 to work through drafting organizational models which fit with our bylaws and delegated authority through the PSLA while still achieving the end goals and unique structure which the ISA set out. This was a very enriching meeting and it was quite enjoyable to sit down and discuss organizational structure which is a personal interest of mine.

GovCamp Module Three Opening Circle

I had my GovCamp Module three Opening Circle meeting right before the Sustainability committee on Thursday night and it was very informative. I'm really looking forward to educating myself more in depth about indigenous cultures and histories as well as working to learn the full stories of the one sided histories I was taught in school.

Sustainability Committee

The Sustainability committee met on Thursday night (right before I sat down to write my report) and worked on / passed standing orders! It was quite a fun meeting and it was great to work with a lot of new faces. I'm looking forward to what this committee has in store for the year!

Personal life Update

I was able to take Tuesday/Wednesday after the long weekend off and take an extended break and I'm feeling refreshed now that I'm back! Me and AJ spent a few nights camping in the mountains and went on quite a lot of nice hikes. Getting away from the city was a very nice way to refresh my mind and provided a lot of opportunities for self reflection which is something I value quite a lot. Similarly it gave me an opportunity to start a new book! I've started reading I Will Never See The World Again by Ahmet Altan and it has been a very captivating experience as of yet.

As always, do not ever hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions, comments, concerns, photos of your dog, or jokes. I am always willing to book an online coffee meeting to talk about anything.

All the best,

David Draper

David Draper

University of Alberta Students' Union Vice President Academic