

SC 16-09.03

September 6, 2016

Dear Council,

I hope you enjoying the first week of school! Campus certainly was buzzing from Week of Welcome and Orientation, thank you to all the councillors who volunteered their time. Below is an update on my duties to date.

1. GovWeek

I am excited to announce that the Minister of Advanced Education, Marlin Schmidt, will be our opening keynote speaker on Monday September 19th of GovWeek! Thank you very much VP Sandare for securing this exciting talk. The GovWeek Facebook event is also now live, please share and invite your friends. The schedule is now complete and we will be releasing the compiled version in the next few weeks after our marketing department fine-tunes it.

GovWeek Advisory Group (GWAG)

GWAG met on Thursday September 1 to discuss advertising strategies and how to mobilize students to attend sessions/events. It was a very productive meetings and I received some valuable take-aways that I will be communicating to all program facilitators.

2. Meetings & Committees

ASC SOS

I had my first meeting of Academic Standards Committee (Sub-Committee on Standards) on Thursday September 1. At the meeting I presented the proposed change to the calendar to allow students taking less than a full course load to still be eligible for scholarships if they are approved through Student Accessibility Services. We received good feedback at the committee and have set up more meetings to fine-tune the recommendation before going to Academic Standards Committee.

4. Other Exciting Endeavours

President Address

Being able to co-host Presidents Address with VP Sandare and VP Paches was a very memorable experience. The energy in the room of 3000 new students was amazing, and as expected President Rahman nailed his speech.



Marina Banister, Vice President Academic

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Congress Tour

The University of Alberta has been shortlisted to host the Federation for Humanities and Social Science conference in 2020. This is very exciting as the conference has 9,000 participants and brings a lot of economic development and prestige to host schools. I was able to give the conference committee a tour of campus, highlighting the Students' Union space. The conference committee members were very impressed with the projected renovations to the Myer Horowitz Theatre, as well as the SUB atrium.



Meals with Faculty Associations

The executive and I had lunch with the Augustana Students Association executive at RATT on Wednesday September 24th. It was great to bond with them over a meal and discuss the exciting initiatives they have planned for their year. We also had dinner on Monday September 29th with the Campus Saint Jean Students Associations (AUFSJ). At the dinner we discussed our goals and how we could support each other in the upcoming year.



Meetings to Discuss Interdisciplinary Conference

I have been having more meetings to discuss the proposed interdisciplinary conference the SU is considering hosting in February. Meetings are mostly with stakeholders in various faculties to get a sense of what they would like to see from a conference and how they could get involved.

Thank you for reading this report and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

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