

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL

### Tuesday, July 30, 2019 6:00PM Cascade Room, Students' Union Building

We would like to respectfully acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Métis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux territory; specifically the ancestral space of the Papaschase Cree. These Nations are our family, friends, faculty, staff, students, and peers. As members of the University of Alberta Students' Union we honour the nation-to-nation treaty relationship. We aspire for our learning, research, teaching, and governance to acknowledge and work towards the decolonization of Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

### **LATE ADDITIONS (SC-2019-07)**

2019-07/1	SPEAKERS BUSINESS
2019-07/2	<u>PRESENTATIONS</u>
2019-07/3	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
2019-07/4	BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORT
2019-07/5	OPEN FORUM
2019-07/6	QUESTION PERIOD
2019-07/7	BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS
2019-07/8	GENERAL ORDERS
2019-07/9	INFORMATION ITEMS
2019-07/9k	Vice-President (Academic) - Report.
	See SC-2019-07.11.
2019-07/91	Vice-President (Student Life) - Report.
	See SC-2019-07.12.
2019-07/9m	Board of Governors - Report.
	See SC-2019-07.13.



OFFICE OF THE Vice President Academic

Date: 07/25/2019

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice President Academic 2019/20 Report #7

Dear Council,

I had a wonderful time this past week with family in Calgary - the first time we were all together since Christmas. Things are going to get quite busy now in preparation for September when students fill campus and I am ready to get back to the office this week and prepare.

Since the last report, all four COFA boards have met and I would say that there were some robust discussions regarding some common issues that Faculty Associations (FAs) face. I am confident that COFA will be a place for collaboration providing the only venue where FAs can gather to address common issues, while helping each other out. VP External Adam Brown gave a short presentation on the Get Out To Vote (GOTV) campaign that will be happening this fall for the federal election, and there was good discussion regarding that.

The Be Book Smart Fair will be taking place on September 13th where there will be booths and interactive activities where students can learn about the importance of Open Education as well the many avenues of alternatives to spending high costs on textbooks and other academic materials. If you are still interested in being a part of this or volunteering in any way, please let me know!

I am in the process of planning for the next Research Event Discussion Group to meet to talk about dates, and logistics. This is looking very promising as we may have support from the VP Research Office. The Undergraduate Research Initiative is also a key player in this event, as well as the many volunteers who are helping out in the discussions, planning and putting in time to make this event a success.

Other than that, I am well rested and ready to get back to Edmonton. If you'd like to meet regarding anything, please reach out to me!

Cheers,

University of Alberta Students' Union Vice President Academic

Joel Agarwal



OFFICE OF THE

## **Vice-President (Student Life)**

Date: 07/30/2019

To: Students' Union Council

Re: Vice-President (Student Life) 2019/20 Report #7

Dear Council,

We're coming into our last month of summer! Just about time to crack open the books again, it felt like the summer flew by. Here's my report though!

### 1. Sexual Violence Prevention

I have been meeting with various University administrators over the past few weeks to discuss the hiring of the Sexual Violence Prevention Coordinator. So far, all of the stakeholders involved are eager to see this initiative progress. We are analyzing the financial logistics of the position to determine a sustainable funding operation. More to come soon!

### 2. Emergency Response Plans in Residence

Last week, the Residence Advisory Committee approved Residence Services' emergency response plan. The plans will be included in trainings for all student leaders in residence and will be very helpful in future emergency situations.

#### 3.CAUS Conference

This week we are attending the CAUS Counterparts conference in Lethbridge. It's going to be nice to meet all of our counterparts and see what work they're doing!

August is a very busy month for the exec and we are out of office a lot, but if you need to reach me please send me an email and I'll get back to you as soon as I can!

Cheers,

University of Alberta Students' Union Vice-President (Student Life)

Jared Larsen

Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative Report to Students' Council 30 July 2019

Hello Council,

It has been a fairly busy week, but there is interesting and exciting news coming up soon on the Board of Governors. Next Tuesday, I will be attending a reception with Demetrios Nicolaides, the Minister of Advanced Education, along with most other members of the Board of Governors. This is a great chance to meet him briefly mention a few board-level student priorities, particularly related to deferred maintenance and facility renewal. Michael Phair, the Chair of the Board, will also be discussing student priorities for the next University President with me in the next few weeks, as he collects feedback from all board members to inform his work on the committee.

In the next two weeks I will also schedule a meeting with the East Campus Students' Association, the residence association with the best summer availability, to discuss unique ECV issues. I particularly plan to discuss with them how we can include more equal recreation programming funding and improved on–site mental health supports in the Board Finance and Property (BFPC) committee's discussions of rent increases. The board does not directly deal with these kinds of operational issues, but it is important to be able to explain to students why we do not feel that current planned rent increases provide increased value for students. I also plan to discuss vacancy rates in ECV with them, which remain high despite the University continuing to build new units. The continued vacancies in ECV provide one of the strongest arguments to the university for addressing student priorities in residence. The residence system is clearly not competitive enough with private renting for third and fourth year students, and offering solutions to that problem is likely to be a good way to communicate the importance of either increasing value to students or restraining rent growth to BFPC.

Lastly, the Board was recently provided a letter from Minister Nicolaides outlining the steps he wants universities and colleges to take to create a free speech policy. The Board will be voting both on a motion to endorse the Chicago principles, and must later produce and approve a later U of A-specific policy that will conform to the Chicago principles and will be the reference document for issues around free speech that might come up. I will be seeking meetings with various interested groups when this is being drafted to see what input the campus community has on that document. If you would like to discuss elements of the Chicago principles that need to be addressed in the U of A-specific policy, please let me know.

Thank you, Rowan Lev

Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative

P.S. happy (late) birthday councillor Beasley!