



Holly Kletke	President	May 2021	Hours Contributed 170
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MONTHLY REPORT

Meetings:

External Meetings (University Level/Stakeholder Meetings):

Institutional/Regularly Scheduled Meetings:

- General Faculties Council
- General Faculties Council Committee of the Whole (x4)
- General Faculties Council Executive Committee
- Arts & Science Council
- Senate Executive Committee
- Fall 2021 Taskforce (x2)
- ULAA Meeting
- ULAA Planning Meeting
- Board Governance Committee
- UofL Board of Governors Meeting

One-time Institutional Meetings:

- QIP Meeting
- President's Executive Alberta 2030 Recap Meeting
- Board Orientation Meeting

Meet and Greets:

- ULFA
- GSA
- CASA
- UofC Students' Union
- Athabasca Students' Union

Meetings with other Stakeholders:

- CAUS Meetings (x2)
- Meeting with Q Space
- SAMRU DDSV Info Sharing Meeting

Internal Meetings (ULSU Meetings):

- Executive Council Meetings (x4)
- Daily Scrum Meetings and Weekly Team Huddles
- SU Building Planning Meeting
- Fresh Fest Budget Meeting
- General Assembly Meeting
- Meeting with Fine Arts Representative

Conferences/Training Sessions:

- CAUS Changeover
- CASA Foundations

- Media Training (*JGR Communications*)
- Bystander Training (*Bringing in the Bystander, Humber College*)
- Cultural Competency Training (*Danielle Gilmore*)

Galas and Events:

- None this month

Activities:

- Media for Vaccination Contest

Projects in Progress:

- Striking up Inclusion Ad-hoc Committee
- Completing and submitting notes on Alberta 2030 Report to CAUS
- Compiling Executive Action Plan

Status Report (the highlights):

The inaugural month of my term was as busy as one might expect. So busy, in fact, that I am at a loss for how to organize my report! I am feeling a lot of pressure to encompass everything that we've been working on this month, while simultaneously maintaining my standard wit and humour that I usually pepper in my reports. However, this report does not need to be 40 pages, so I'll spare you the details and keep it "big picture".

I'll begin by speaking to this year's SU team. I've said it many a time, but I am so proud and excited for our team of incoming student representatives. Each of our elected reps bring something different and valuable to the table, and I can already tell that this team is ready to make waves and bring worthwhile initiatives and ideas to the SU. We had our very first General Assembly meeting on May 19th, which I would file in the cabinet of very productive meetings. We had some great updates from the General Assembly (GA), and we passed the budget and an initial iteration of the Fresh Fest budget. In addition to the May GA meeting, as one might suspect, the Executive Council (EC) have been working

day-to-day in the virtual SU office. To alleviate the loneliness that I've been prone to while working online, I've been subjecting the EC team to daily "scrum" meetings in the mornings. Just kidding, we love the scrum meetings, I think. We grab our coffees or cokes, log on to zoom and update each other about our days yesterday, and our upcoming day. So far, it's been a great way to stay updated on each other's affairs. I would be remiss not to note here how incredibly proud I am to be a part of such a hard-working and resilient EC team. We had a meeting with the President's Executive of the University, and that solidified my pride in being a part of this team. Everyone was so well-spoken and professional, President's Executive seemed very receptive to our ideas and plans are in motion. It's going to be a great year of student advocacy.

In terms of student advocacy on the University front, a lot of university-level meetings populated my calendar this month, most notably, GFC, GFC CoTW, and my first Board meeting! I know what you're thinking, what are all these crazy acronyms?! Allow me to illuminate you: GFC stands for General Faculties Council, and it is the academic governing body of the University, part of the bi-cameral governance structure that we adhere to. GFC CoTW stands for very long weekly Monday meetings. I jest, CoTW stands for Committee of the Whole, which is a committee of GFC that includes all members of GFC, and is the committee that receives the draft reports from the task forces that BAC created back in 2020. Woah there Holly, more acronyms?! BAC stands for Budget Advisory Committee, and the membership consists of about 10 upper administration folks. These folks make some budget decisions and send it off to President's Executive and the Board to approve. I'm being very reductionist in my explanation, but truthfully university governance is quite bureaucratic and difficult to describe when you're trying to get people to read the report you're writing. So again, sparing the details, the Committee of the Whole has, since December, been receiving the reports of the taskforces that were created to re-evaluate efficiencies in various departments, faculties, and areas of our University. The bottom line of this entire process has been that the University is in a difficult financial situation, with the draconian cuts that we have seen from our provincial government. UofC has seen exceptional tuition increases as a result of their cuts, and so far I do not have reason to believe that we will follow suit, however I will say that the UofL as you know it will change significantly in the coming years. We are almost finished the process of receiving the reports, and I'm not exactly sure what will happen next or how soon, but many ideas have already arisen on behalf of EC to act in tandem to these task forces. We are going to be talking to the teaching centre to draft a policy to forgive absences or record lectures when we return to campus, to ensure the safety and success of students come the fall. We will also be a part of whatever conclusive action the CoTW chooses to take upon completion of the reporting process.

That was a long paragraph, in the spirit of Ryan Lindblad delivering his verbal reports, I'll try to keep this next paragraph short, but I make no guarantees. A return to campus is happening. Jason Kenney announced #hotgirlsummer, a.k.a, he is lifting COVID restrictions in July. To be honest, I do not know what this means for us in the fall, but I am attending the Fall 2021 re-opening/task force meetings, and have been assured that a return to campus is happening. There are still many questions to be asked and answered, so I am exercising a virtue that my mother would testify is scarce to me; patience.

Advocacy. What a beautiful word. I know you are probably wondering where else the Students' Union employed their advocacy skills this month, and to that I say, wonder no more! The Alberta provincial government released Alberta 2030, which is their review of Alberta's post-secondary education system. Let's start by getting the glaring issues out of the way, which is that Alberta hired McKinsey & Company, an American consulting firm, to conduct the review. The contract is valued at

\$3.7 million. The consulting firm was involved in a particularly devastating scandal, where they consulted with an OxyContin manufacturer called Purdue Pharma, and the consultation resulted in exacerbation of the opioid crisis in the United States in 2012. Anyways, the AB2030 process came to its conclusion on April 29th, with the release of a summary report (scant in detail) and 3 accompanying engagement summaries. Since the release of the report came before my term as President started, I feel a bit behind in terms of context and knowledge surrounding the entire process, but I am catching up and working with Ryan and the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) to identify the specific impacts that the AB2030 report will have on the UofL specifically. There are 6 goals in the AB2030 report, and each goal comes with a flagship initiative. Ryan and I will be compiling notes on the full report to relay to CAUS in early June.

The final part of my month that I wanted to highlight here was the training I received through CAUS (our provincial advocacy group), and the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (our federal advocacy group). In CAUS, all of our executive team, and our communications coordinator Max Bartlett received media training through JGR Communications. We learned the do's and don'ts of relations with media, how to give interviews, and we got to practice a bit in a following CAUS session. It was a very valuable and helpful training session. I also attended cultural competency training by Danielle Gilmore through CASA, which was a valuable session, learning about the meaning of cultures and respecting diversity. It was a great supplement to some training that I've already received from various other commitments last year. Finally, I also received Bringing in the Bystander Training through CASA, hosted by a representative from Humber College. The session taught me valuable insights into how to act in dangerous situations as it pertains to sexual violence, and it refreshed my knowledge of sexual violence. Although it was a heavy session, it was very important and useful to know.

That was a much longer rundown than I expected to write, but if it was too long for your taste, you can contact me at su.president@uleth.ca to let me know. Same goes for if you have questions for me, I'm happy to chat!

MOVING FORWARD

Challenges I've encountered:

One challenge that I've encountered this month was, generally, loneliness while working. Working online can sometimes make me feel like an island (even before I began my term as President, I was working online) because no matter how fun or energizing a zoom meeting was, I still end the meeting alone in the basement bedroom of my parents house. So, I'm just looking forward to one day being able to work in an office with the executive team, and the wonderful SU staff. I also am looking forward to my next vasebowl at The Zoo. Soon!

I've also realized that I need to shorten the time it takes for me to get into a "groove". My dad's motto is; if you can do it now, do it now, and despite him passing down various genealogical traits to me, he did not pass down his "get'er done" attitude to me. That is my anecdotal way of saying that I need to shorten the time I think it takes to do certain administrative tasks. Sometimes I have only an hour, or half an hour break between meetings to do things like writing committee ToR's, press releases,

reading the AB2030 report, writing my own report, responding to emails, etc. So I think I need to re-wire my brain to assure myself that yes, in fact, I can do things in between meetings.

Goals for Next Month:

Strike up Inclusion Ad-hoc committee

The Students' Union will be striking an ad-hoc committee this year to address ideas, initiatives, and practices that can further our commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion, accessibility, and justice. We will be having our first meeting in June to elect a chair, name the committee, accept the terms of reference and get started with our ideas! Any students at large are allowed to join, and we will be reaching out to different student groups to engage them in this committee.

Publish Executive Action Plan

The Executive team this year have decided to publish an Executive Action plan, which will succinctly summarize our overarching plans, goals, and priorities for our terms. We will publish this on our website by the end of June/early July!

Become a Registered Parliamentarian:

Another goal of mine for next month is to become a Registered Parliamentarian with the National Association of Parliamentarians. A Parliamentarian is someone who knows all of the rules and procedures of governance as outlined in Robert's Rules of Procedure. Robert's Rules is the governing set of rules that dictates the procedures that organizations, institutions, and other groups must follow to govern themselves. Becoming a registered parliamentarian will help me chair meetings more efficiently, and also will help me maintain professionalism in attending external meetings.

Thank you for taking the time to read my report. I am available via email for questions or concerns.

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