

Fourth Year Representative

Final Report

To: Augustana Students' Council

From: Ally Brigley, Fourth Year Representative

Date: March 31st, 2020

Thanks and Appreciation:

I would like to extend my greatest thanks, appreciation and admiration to all of you. I know how hectic university life is, especially right now having to adjust to the new "normal" and everyone is constantly impressing me with how much we can accomplish through ASA on top of our own academic and personal lives. You are all so understanding, supportive and patient in ways that students don't always get the opportunity to appreciate. This year on council has been a unique learning experience compared to my previous year on council and I am very proud of how far we have come. Despite all the chaos this semester has sprung on us we have been staying afloat! So, for that I thank, congratulate you all.

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Summary:

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Accomplishments, Successes and Ongoing Projects

My experience as the Fourth-Year Representative has been a continuous learning experience that has required a lot of patience and participation. I have been able to attend almost every council meeting this year, including my committee meetings. The

committees I have been lucky enough to take part in this year are the Budget and Revenue, Grad Council and Department Council.

This year, I wanted to continue advocating for the peers of my years and providing a voice for the fine arts students here at Augustana. The main project I focussed on this year to benefit the student body was my dance festival parking fee initiative. I had multiple meetings with council, Randal and Tom (the coach of the Augustana soccer teams) to discuss charging a small fee for dance participants to park in our parking lot. The idea behind this initiative was to provide our student athletes and other willing students with volunteer experience, to help decrease the parking competition for students who pay for year round parking, and to raise money for the ASA and soccer program. I decided to seek out the soccer team because I was aware they were seeking funding and it would provide the initiative with reliable volunteers. Unfortunately, this initiative was not successful as the Lougheed did not want to lose their plug for free parking when advertising the space for festivals to be held. It was unfortunate news that we did not receive until early February due to delay in meetings with the Lougheed center, which resulted in a lot of work and time not evolving into anything. Nevertheless, it was a good experience and I established positive connections with Randal and Tom.

I have continuously made efforts to advocate for the Fine Arts on campus throughout my two years on council. I am the president of the Fine Arts Clubs and have paired with the ASA to host paint nights during the bi-annual Wellness Weeks. I also bring events to the attention of the ASA when there are possibly conflicts or double bookings.

Events and Campaigns

I have volunteered with Beer and Bands on the Quad, First Class Bash set up, working ticket shifts, and helping clean up. I also helped out with the Remembrance Day Ceremony by organizing The Augustana Choir to sing O'Canada. I also was a dealer at Casino Night, and participated alongside council with decorating and working for the Winter Formal.

Committee Membership

As I mentioned above, I am the Fine Arts and Humanities Student Representative on the Fine Arts and Humanities Department Council. I am also a part of the Grad council. Through these committees, I have voiced any questions when necessary in regards to student affiliations or concerns and reported back to the ASA about discussions that have taken place.

I am a part of the ASA Budget and Revenue Committee. This year we have done work on the budget, student spaces (possible pub) and working on distributing free menstrual products. I enjoyed working with Richard and Joel and thought we made good progress in preparing for the future ASA and disastrous measures.

Decision Process

Any decisions I make, or have been a part of making, focus on student need. I listen and analyse student concerns and then make every effort to address them and find a solution. I also work hard to consult other council members as needed.

Obstacles Encountered

I would not say that I encountered any obstacles, but I came across opinions and angles that I had not considered that I then needed to account for. This happened mainly in scheduling meetings amongst busy schedules and discussing heated topics, specifically this semester.

Future Recommendations

In the future, I hope that the ASA can continue to grow and thrive on the foundation we have built and stick to our roots to allow for greater success. There has been a lot of changes to Augustana and the council lately and we constantly have new members coming and going. As individual members and council, I believe that we can become something great and make students' time at Augustana a positive, fun, well informed, and positive experience.

Final Send Off

I think the biggest success for this year was my own self-discovery whilst being on council. I have built connections and learned skills that I would not have otherwise. I also continue to work on balancing my personal life and complications while fulfilling school and council responsibilities. I think we as a council work very well together and have not encountered any major obstacles that we were not able to tackle. I wish remaining council members the best of luck next year, and to those moving on, I wish you my best! I will miss you all and forever remember the experiences I have shared with you all.

Kindest regards,

Ally Brigley, Fourth Year Representative