



Fall Annual General Meeting

Councillor at Large

Muskan Aggarwal

November 22nd, 2020

To: Augustana Students' Council:

From: Muskan Aggarwal

Summary

Hey everyone, it's crazy how finals are only a couple of weeks away and we only have two more weeks of classes left! Writing my first ASA report definitely is an experience I was looking forward to and a privilege of being an active member of council. This semester has been crazy but not as crazy as the last. In all honesty I love that I can wear pjs and attend lectures and no one will ever know. This role has given me the opportunity to interact with constituents that reside on campus but due to differing time zones and locations I have struggled to interact with my international constituents. But one thing I've seen through ASA is that despite these hurdles we still put events on to connect with as many students as we can get, which is what we need in these difficult times.

Events:

- Helped out with Harry Potter Trivia Night
- Helped plan ASA Halloween movie night
- Helped out with Friends Trivia Night
- Currently helping to plan ASA Christmas movie night in December
- Planning to help out with AGT next semester
- Helping ASA with wellness week

Campaigns

No campaigns have been run this year.

Committee Membership:

- Augustana Student Council- Councillor at Large
- Activities Committee

Meeting Attendance:

- Augustana Student Council Meeting: 1 1/2 -2 hour minimum weekly meeting
- Activities Committee Meeting: weekly 30 minute meeting

Other Commitments:

- Office Hours: 2 hours/week
- President of Harry Potter Club 3 hours/week
- Vice-President of Asian Pacific Club 1 hour/week
- Secretary/ Media Manager of Wildlife Society 1 hour/week
- Augustana Ambassadors 30 min/week

Note: I send zoom links out once during the day and once during the night so students in opposing time zones have access to my office hours. Zoom links are sent out on the Ualberta app.

Rationale for Decision Making Process:

In general whether it was pre-covid or now, in regards to events I try to make it as inclusive as possible. This is so that whatever decision I make feels more welcoming and approachable for students. Due to covid most of my decisions are based around how to be able to reach out to the most students due to time differences. Therefore, as seen in my office hours I like to split times so that the majority can have access to my time and help. When making a decision I generally take myself or opinions out of the equation because as a councillor at large I speak for the entire student body, they elected me and I often think about what a privilege that is, one that mustn't be taken lightly. I make sure to contemplate every possible error in a choice as well as the positive effects short term as well as long term wise.

Ongoing Projects:

My main ongoing project is simply being able to reach out to as many students as I can. I'd also like to create a buddy program where on campus students befriend an international student and show them around campus, help them get involved in a club and create ties with one another. Students on campus feel like they are making a difference for helping their international peers out and for international students to feel closer and more connected to campus now that they know someone living there that they have become

friends with. Each party will also be able to showcase what their life is like in their respective countries; sharing cultures, differing experiences and ideas is what Augustana is constantly encouraging.

Obstacles Encountered:

My response will mirror a lot of my fellow council members when I say that online is the biggest obstacle that I am facing. The only way to really overcome it is hope that you are able to accommodate as many people as you can as well as make people forget about this whole nasty covid business even if it's just for an hour or so.

Organizational Goals- Completed/Ongoing:

Covid has definitely pushed the ASA's creativity buttons as we have had to think of innovative ways and activities to keep students engaged. Although I was not able to attend I really enjoyed making the Harry Potter trivia and helping with the Marvel trivia. I look forward to the Friends Trivia night as I wrote most of the questions because I am a huge fan. I think the ASA is doing a great job in gathering feedback from students as well as its council members and I look forward to helping the ASA to reach its future goals.

Future Recommendations:

My only recommendations would be to encourage members to speak up more and voice their concerns and opinions about anything they feel. I also hope that we have more team bonding throughout the year, such as game nights between execs just to relieve stress and build better bonds with each other.