



Fall Annual General Meeting

First Year Representative

Sarah Nagel

November 23, 2020

To: Augustana Students' Council:

From: Sarah Nagel

Summary

Happy Wednesday everyone!

This term has gone by quickly, it is hard to believe that it is almost final exam season! Although this is an odd year, I find that all Association members have adapted quite well to our new virtual situation. From Council meetings over Zoom to online game nights for the student body, I am proud to be a part of this age of innovation within the Augustana Students' Association. I have had so much fun planning events and listening to what other council and executive members have been spearheading. I am excited to submit my first ever ASA report!

Events:

- *Helped plan events for Wellness Week*
- *Hosting the Wellness Week Just Dance Party on Wednesday, November 25th (after the General Meeting)*

Campaign:

No campaigns have been done this year.

Committee Membership:

- *Augustana Students' Association: First Year Representative and Voting Member*
- *Awareness Committee*

Meeting Attendance:

- *Augustana Students' Association Meeting: 1 ½ - 2 hours minimum weekly meeting*
- *Awareness Committee Meeting: 30 - 60 minute meeting weekly*

I have attended every Association and Awareness Committee meeting thus far.

Other Commitments:

- *ASA Student Lounge: 1 hour per week*
- *Office Hours: 1 hour per week*

Note: First Year Representative Office Hours are held during the Student Lounge

Rationale for Decision Making Process:

The first thing I do before voting on any action items is to make sure that I have read all of the information sent to me about said item. I want to be fully informed before I start making decisions, so this also means listening to any additional information given verbally during meetings and asking questions if I do not understand. Next, I consider how the decision will have an effect on the student body of Augustana, since the results will affect all students and not just myself. If I believe that the action item in question will be beneficial to all students, then I will be comfortable voting in favour of the decision.

Ongoing Projects:

My current project is running the First Year Representative Instagram page. I started it from scratch near the end of October (along with creating a First Year Representative Gmail account). Both the Instagram and Gmail accounts are able to be passed on to future First Year Representatives. Since our constituents are unable to ask us questions in person, the Instagram page has two different ways for first year students to get in contact with their Representatives (Gmail and Direct Messaging), as well as containing information about our weekly Office Hours. The purpose of this Instagram account is to connect first year students who cannot currently meet their peers in person. In order to accomplish this goal, I am brainstorming future projects and first-years-only events, such as game nights, contests, movie nights, and a possible Meet Your First Year Peers project on the First Year Representatives Instagram page.

Obstacles Encountered:

I have faced two challenges during my time as a First Year Representative. First, virtual learning has made it quite difficult to contact and connect with my peers and constituents alike. Second, it can sometimes be difficult to balance Council projects with school work, since I am not quite used to the difference between high school and university course loads yet. Despite these difficulties, I have continued to work hard and be optimistic!

Organizational Goals- Completed/Ongoing:

One of Council's goals that we agreed upon during Governance Training was to adapt well to an online environment and to continue to provide students with (virtual) events and information. Since we finished our training session, I believe that we have all done a great job in achieving this goal. We have been able to convert many of our services and activities into an electronic format in a short amount of time, and I admire the hard work we have all put into our goals in order to make them a reality.

Future Recommendations:

My advice would be to not be afraid to ask other council members for help. I have already had a few moments where I have felt overwhelmed, so I cannot imagine how some of the executive members have felt balancing all of their duties with their second/third/fourth year courses. That being said, if any of you do feel stressed and overwhelmed, do not be afraid to ask for help and make your feelings known; none of us will judge you for needing a little bit of assistance, so there is no harm in asking.