



Fall Annual General
First Year Representative
Pia Vij
November 24th, 2020

To: Augustana Students' Council

From: Pia Vij

Summery

Hi everyone, I'm so excited to submit my first AGM report. Thank you all for making my first semester in the ASA so welcoming. I'm so glad to be a part of such a great group of people, I have had so much fun learning about the council and seeing all the amazing work that is put into our events. This semester has gone by in the blink of an eye. I know it's been tough getting used to this new way of communicating and meeting people but overall it has been great to see everyone including the council and our student body adapt to this change and create an amazing environment where our student body feels welcome. I can't wait to see what the next semester brings for us.

Events

- Wellness Week Virtual Bake Night (Friday, 26 November) ((volunteering)
- Other than that I unfortunately have been unable to create any events of my own this semester.

Campaign

- No campaigns have been done this year.

Committee Membership

- Augustana Students' Association: First Year Representative and Voting Member
- Augustana Students Association: Agenda and Priorities Committee

Meeting Attendance

- Agenda and Priorities Committee Weekly Meeting (1 Hour)
- Augustana Students Association Weekly Council Meeting (1-2 Hours)
- Weekly Office Hours (1 Hour)

Other Commitments

- Team Up Science - Treasurer/VP finance (2-3 hours Weekly)
- Harry Potter Club- Media Director (30mins- 1 hour Weekly)
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Rationale Behind Decision Making

While making decisions as a council member and voting on actions I make sure that I am informed on the topic and have familiarized myself with resources available to me on the action item. I then go on to analyze whether voting for this action would be beneficial or harmful to the student body that I represent, often this isn't black and white and it takes a lot of careful deliberation for me to come to a decision that I think would be most beneficial to the student body.

Ongoing Projects

As a First Year Representative I've had a hard time this year (due to covid) finding ways to communicate with the first year student body so that I can understand their concerns and wants and represent them to the best of my ability. Although the office hours are helpful in this regard, some students can't make it to them or in all honesty prefer a different approach to voicing their

concerns and wants. Taking this into account I hope to create a form of some sort that is open 24/7 and easily accessible (hopefully through our Instagram) where first year students can voice their concerns and questions directly to their first year representatives. This will help us build a better relationship with our student body. I also plan on working with Sarah to enhance our First Year representatives Instagram page to get better feedback for the students and to better understand their concerns and the types of events, activities they would like in the next term.

Obstacles Encountered

Throughout this term I have had a difficult time adjusting to university life in terms of academics and work load, luckily I am finally getting the hang of it all and hope that my better time management skills can be of use so I have more time to plan events and connect with the first year students especially in the online environment that we are all slowly adapting to.

Organizational Goals- Completed/Ongoing

I know that we all knew walking into this year that connecting with students in a virtual environment would be an obstacle, but I think we have all really stepped up to the challenge and have done a great job understanding the needs of our student body and restructuring events throughout this semester that help us better this new online environment for all of us.

Future Recommendations

I have thoroughly enjoyed this semester on council and hope that the next continues to teach me just as much. With that said I would recommend that people not be afraid to ask for help i've learned through this semester that it's okay not to be able to handle everything by yourself and that asking for help isn't bad it ensures that everything is done in a good manner and that you don't overwork yourself so I hope that we can all keep that in mind for next semester and make sure that we are taking care of our mental health.