

To: Augustana Student Population

From: Philip Miheso

Re: Report to Students' Council, Fall AGM, November 29th, 2019

Summary:

- ★ Accomplishments
- ★ Events / Campaigns
- ★ Committee Membership
- ★ The rationale for Decision Making
- ★ Ongoing Projects

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

I am proud to announce that this year I have successfully completed a goal that my campaign was founded upon. Accountability and Transparency. Through continuous consultations with club executives, student services, Vikings Athletics, Chaplaincy and student academic spheres, the ASA has been able to connect with more spheres of the school to gain feedback, concerns, suggestions and recommendations on how students have taken this transformational semester into their stride. Formation of a Vikings Athletics Advisory Council has allowed the ASA to step into a new sphere of student engagement with a large stratum of the school. This year the ASA has greatly increased its media presence as well as inter-personal relationships by simple one on one policies. Furthermore, a platform point from my manifesto that I have been successful at is increasing student engagement in student governance. By appointing members from Augustana's general population that is external to the Augustana Students' Council has allowed us to have a different sphere of student leadership. I greatly feel this will positively increase involvement and knowledge on matters relating to students on campus.

EVENTS / CAMPAIGNS:

I have not personally planned any events or campaigns, though I have proudly participated in several activities and campaigns this semester including, but not limited to:

- Beer and Bands
- O-Team
- First Class Bash
- First Year Bowling
- Mission Impossible
- Preview Day
- Off-Campus Supper
- Tricks For Eats
- AGT
- Remembrance Day Ceremony
- Governance Camp
- Tuition and Climate Strike

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

- ASA Executive Council - Chair
- Augustana Student Council - Chair
- Vikings Athletics Advisory Council - Voting Member
- Council of Faculty Association Senior Board - Voting Member
- Academic Planning Committee - Voting Member
- Curriculum Committee - Voting Member
- International Student Experience Committee - Voting Member
- Faculty Council - Voting Member
- ASA Internal Committees (APC, BRC, Awareness, Activities) - Voting Member

Vikings Athletics Advisory Council:

As formed on my platform points, I formed this council to be able to get the athletes more involved in the decision making spheres of the school as well as the student engagement platform. It has been an overly successful council as seen by great involvement by the players and great involvement by the players involved. This also allows us to feed feedback to the Athletics Department to better services to the teams.

COFA Senior Board:

COFA meets roughly monthly and is a committee based from North Campus. Essentially, this committee does not take on many action items but is a space for the President's of all the Faculty Associations to get together and give updates on projects and goals their respective associations are taking on. It allows for collaboration, and advice to be shared between all of the members attending. It seems to usually be much more beneficial for Presidents of FA's located on North Campus because it is much easier for them to collaborate than it is obviously for me to take part in this, but this year we have had more input and engagement from the Chair of this Board who has made a point to ensure we are served well. Overall, if nothing else this board provides me an opportunity to keep in touch with some familiar North Campus faces and see if there are initiatives coming from other FA's that could be beneficial for us to collaborate on.

Academic Planning Committee:

This committee was formed by the dean who wants us to create a new strategic plan for the school to be able to use as a charter for its plans in the future. It comprises of two student representatives as well as members of staff and faculty. With almost bi-weekly meetings, the council would like to complete its mandate as soon as the academic year is completed.

Curriculum Committee:

This committee has been tasked with overseeing the smooth creation of programs and concentrations that will link very well into the school's new concentration cores that are being rolled out in 2020/2021 as well as approving

any program amendments and developments. Chaired by Associate Dean Karsten Mundel, it comprises of two student representatives and a greater faculty representation. This committee meets once a month for 90 minutes

Faculty Council:

I sit on Faculty Council automatically as the President. Faculty Council meets on the first Friday of every month and we have met twice this semester. Faculty Council is essentially the biggest governing body of the university. It includes all faculty members, members of support staff, F&O representatives, administration, and excellent student representatives as well. Essentially I approach this committee as space for me to collect information, voice student concerns, as well have space on every agenda to give an update from the ASA. I think having a seat on this council is a huge benefit to us as an organization to collect information and provide insight and I look forward to being a part of this council for the next term.

RATIONALE FOR DECISION MAKING:

My goal in every committee that I enter into is to ensure that the decisions made are in the best interest of students. I make a point of conversing with students about the committees that I sit on because I personally believe that decision making needs to be as collaborative as possible. My goal is to actively be aware of the privilege that I have to be a part of as much as I do. More often than not, I am not always the best-suited person to sit on certain committees or talk on specific student issues on the committees I sit on. For this reason, I have divulged student participation on as many committees as possible to be able to achieve this.

ONGOING PROJECTS:

- ★ A lot of the projects I am taking on are laying the foundations for the future and placing plans in place for the success of whoever comes after me.

Radio-Show Collaboration:

Through continued conversations, the ASA and New Country Radio is investigating the possibility of having students collaborate on a radio show. This will allow for a new sphere of opportunities for students to go at in terms of deciding their career paths as well as allow the Augustana community to be more involved in the Camrose community. This process is still in the planning phases and will enter deeper into the phases of student outreach next semester

A Multi-Use Recreational Space

With possible legislation changes by the government, we are looking to bring in a new source of funding for the association. In collaboration with the VP Finance, we have now onset discussions about creating a multi-use recreational space. This is also in its early stages of planning and evaluating. This project will not only help the ASA survive, but it will also allow for the ASA to increase student engagement and services offered to the school. This project will see students have greater options in terms of food, recreational space as well as relaxational space.

Vikings Pep rally

My platform was built around increasing student engagement with as many stakeholders as possible on campus. One way is by building school spirit. By putting in place a pep rally, in collaboration with the Athletics Department and the athletes, we would be able to celebrate our athletes, their contribution to our community and their hard work. This is essential in building morale for the players as well as build a greater pride in Vikings athletics generally.

Brand Recreation

Over the last couple of years, the ASA had developed a rapport for being just party planners. This, unfortunately, is not the case. In collaboration with the entirety of the Augustana Students' council, we are working hard to ensure that we as an association let our students know what we do, why we do them and how it benefits or affects them. In so doing, we strive to able to make student governance attractive in the school as well as incorporate more

students in our processes. This will be re-evaluated at the end of this year at the Winter General Meeting. Thank you for reading and have a good day!