

To: Augustana Students' Council

From: Taylor Johnson, President

Re: Report to Students' Council, Winter AGM, March 20th, 2019

Summary:

- Accomplishments
- Events / Campaigns
- Committee Membership
- Rationale for Decision Making
- Ongoing Projects

Accomplishments:

One of my accomplishments thus far that I am really happy with is the collaboration with the UASU executives and council. This was something that I ran on and I am very pleased with the amount of conversation and collaboration we have been able to have this year with them.

I am also happy to say that I have completed a second 3/11 feedback survey which was also something I ran on this year. The results of this survey will be discussed at an upcoming ASA meeting, the Winter AGM, and the April Faculty Council Meeting.

Another accomplishment to note is the implementation of the new substance use policy on campus that will be fully taking effect next academic year. Jennae and myself got to take part on the committee who drafted the new policy. This is a huge change for the school and I am very proud to have had a role in making a change that so many students wanted to see.

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:

- Casino Night
- Winter Formal

- I - Week Events
- Off Campus Supper
- Pride Week Events

Committee Membership:

- Augustana Students' Council - Chair
- Executive Council - Chair
- Council of Faculty Associations (COFA) Senior Board - Voting Member
- Sexual Violence Prevention Working Group - Voting Member
- Substance Use Framework Working Group - Voting Member
- Agenda and Priorities Committee - Voting Member
- Dean Selection Committee - Voting Member
- Faculty Council - Voting Member
- Social Science Department Council - Voting Member
- Building and Sustainability Committee - Voting Member
- Student Life Awards Planning Committee - Voting Member
- Curricular Innovation Coordinating Committee - Voting Member

COFA Senior Board: (2 hour meetings = 6 hours this semester)

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 be much more beneficial for President's 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. 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. Thus far we have met twice in the semester and there hasn't been anything substantive or relevant to Augustana.

Sexual Violence Prevention Working Group: (90 minute meetings = 3 hours this semester)

This working group was formed by Randal Nickel and is essentially a group of stakeholders from campus and the surrounding community whose goal is to continue the conversations around sexual violence prevention on campus and in the community. This group has only met a few times this term and has continued to engage in conversation about what resources we already have on campus, and how we can work to improve and expand on those resources and continue the conversation on campus around how we can prevent sexual violence and what we can do when sexual violence does occur.

Substance Use Framework Working Group (no hours this semester)

This working group was formed by Randal Nickel and also consists of a variety of campus stakeholders. This group has been tasked with proposing a new policy for substance use on campus. The need for this group was brought about by the recent legalization of cannabis and our need for a policy surrounding its use on our campus. In this semester a press release was sent out to faculty, staff, and students and the new policy will come into full effect in the next academic year. I am incredibly excited to see how this policy will play out.

Faculty Council: (2 hour meetings = 4 hours this semester)

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 student representatives as well. I won't get into much of what has happened thus far on Faculty Council content wise but I will expand on the importance of my role on this council. Essentially I approach this committee as a space for me to collect information, voice student concerns, as well I 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.

Social Science Department Council: (2 hour meetings = 4 hours this semester)

I am the only student representative on the Social Science Department Council. Department Council meets on the second Friday of every month. Again, I won't get into much of what has happened thus far content wise but I will expand on the importance of my role on this council. Essentially I approach this committee as a space for me to collect information, and voice student concerns in a department specific manner. It is very important that I consult with other students within my department as I can only speak for the History and Political Science students and I have heavily relied on the opinions of council to aid me in this role.

Building and Sustainability Committee: (2 hour meetings = 4 hours this semester)

I am one of two student representatives on this committee. We have only met twice this semester but we have been able to accomplish a few tasks. We have continued to go through the University Sustainability Plan to find areas in which our campus can better itself, have approved new and updated campus signage, and have drafted a sound policy for the forum building.

Curricular Innovation Coordinating Committee: (1 hour meetings = 8 hours this semester)

I am the only student representative on this committee and we meet every two weeks. Essentially, students would have concentrations instead of majors and minors. For example, something like language and cultural studies, ethics, life science, etc. We have begun to dive deeper into what these specific concentrations will look like as well as what a updated core could look like. We have explored the idea of a project based core in which students from multiple disciplines would be grouped together and tasked with solving a wicked problem. This would boost the interdisciplinary options for our campus and provide students with more hands on experience in different fields.

Other Time Commitments:

Executive Meetings: 2 hour minimum weekly meeting

Augustana Students' Council Meetings: 1 ½ -2 hour minimum weekly meeting

Office Hours: 7 hours weekly minimum

Meetings with the Dean: Bi-weekly 30 minute meetings

Meetings with the Executive Director: 1 hour minimum weekly meetings

APC: 1 hour minimum weekly meetings

Rationale for Decision Making:

My rationale for decision making is fairly simple. 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. I also make a point of actively remembering the privilege that I have and that I am not always the best suited person to sit on certain committees or talk to specific student issues on the committees I sit on. This is also why I tend to reach out to council, and our membership as much as possible when making decisions.

Ongoing Projects:

My main ongoing project is the 3/11 feedback survey. Just as it did last year, it takes a lot of time and input from various stakeholders on campus to ensure that it is done right and present the data in the best way. I am currently in the process of finishing up the presentation that will be made to council and Faculty Council.

Another ongoing project I have taken on with the VP Comm, Alex, is in regards to the upcoming provincial election. Politics are a huge passion of mine so I have volunteered to help organize events about the election and promote the importance of voting, etc. We have a Candidates Forum coming up on April 2nd and more passive awareness will be done up until the election on April 16th.