



Fall Annual General Meeting

Vice President Student Life

Jennae Matzner

November 25th, 2019

To: Augustana Students' Council:

From: Jennae Matzner

Accomplishments/Successes:

I believe each event that I have done this semester has been a great success. They have all gone on with no major problems, and student turn-out for them has been great. My biggest accomplishment was Beer and Bands, because I heard a lot of great things about it from students and I thought the event was a great way to kick off the academic year. I also found Augustana's Got Talent to be a great event, with around 250-350 students who came.

Events:

- **O-Team:**

O-Team is an annual event that helps first year students move into dorms. This year for O-Team, I created split shifts so students wouldn't have to work the entire day as O-Team can be physically demanding. I believe this worked well, however we had the lowest volunteer turnout this year with only 25 people compared to the usual 35-50. This made it difficult for me to ensure we were moving students in at a quick pace, but I was lucky

enough to have some student volunteers stay longer than they signed up. This year we had no major issues, but I do recommend advertising sign-up sheets earlier and heavily promoting it. I also recommend doing the split shift again for next year.

- **Mission Impossible:**

Mission Impossible is an intense game of tag where councillors are snipers, and students have to find executive members without being caught by the snipers. Prizes can be won by students by getting as much signatures from the executives. This event went well, with about 40 students who participated.

- **First Year Bowling:**

First Year Bowling is an annual event for first years that allows them to get to know one another through a social outing at Tabb Lanes. We decided to cancel this event last year because it did not feel beneficial to off campus students, however this year we received an off campus student list that allowed us to invite off-campus via email. We had around 20 off campus students who attended, compared to the 4 who came last year. This needs to continue into next year, and I recommend adding the off-campus students to the first hour to bowl with 1st West and 1st East floors to encourage better socializing among all of 1st years.

- **Beer and Bands:**

This event happens on the first day of classes, and allows students to celebrate by socializing with their friends or meeting new ones. We sell beer, and have local bands play music as well as student performers. This event is one of my favourites each year, because students get to spend time with each other while enjoying some music and drinks. We had a great turnout this year, and the weather was on our side so we were able to start the semester

strong.

- **First Class Bash:**

First Class Bash was on September 27th, and it is an annual event that allows students to get out and have some fun. This year's theme was a glow party, so students were invited to wear their brightest clothes. We had around 250-300 students who came out. Two issues occurred throughout the night, with our black-lights being less than satisfactory and we had one student who was overly intoxicated. To solve these issues, we rented some more black lights from Old Cinema's, and we called an ambulance for the girl to ensure she was properly taken care of for the evening.

- **Club Fair:**

Club fair went over well, and we did the same improvements as last year with adding music, popcorn, refreshments, and a passport challenge. The passport challenge allows students to receive club signatures after interacting with each club table. After the passport was filled, they handed it back to me and were entered into a draw to win a \$100 gift card to the bookstore. I recommend all these changes for next year.

- **Augustana's Got Talent:**

AGT happened November 22nd, and the event was a great success with no issues or concerns. This year, we hired Ethan Van Vaals from the local radio station to emcee, and he did a wonderful job. We had 14 performers, and around 250-350 students who showed up to the event. We were also able to apply for a no-fee event, and were successful in our application.

Campaigns:

I have held no campaigns as of yet.

Committee Membership:

- Internal Committees:
 - Activities Committee - Chair (1 hour per week)
 - ASA Executive Council - Voting Member (1-2 hours per week)
 - ASA Council - Voting Member (1-2 hours per week)

- External Committees:
 - Student Activities Coordinating Committee (SACC) - Chair (Twice a month)
 - Club Budget Committee (CBC) - Chair (Twice a semester)
 - Student Experience Advisory Committee - Voting Member (Every 6 weeks)
 - Student Orientation Working Group - Voting Member (2-3 meetings a year)
 - PRIDE Committee - Voting Member (4-5 an academic year)
 - Department Council (Social Sciences) - Voting Member (2-3 meetings a semester)
 - Grants Committee - Voting Member (ongoing basis)

Decision Process:

All decisions I make on the ASA are followed by the ASA policies and bylaws, and also through consulting with our Executive Director, Cindy Roose. During my decision process, I also encourage student feedback and involvement as our events are for the students. I also try to encourage the Activities to help along the decision process so I am not the sole person making

decisions about the events I put on.

Ongoing Projects:

- **Casino Night** - Casino night is held in the 3rd week of January. We invite students to come out and play some casino games and have a bite to eat. We have alcohol for purchase as well. I am in the planning stages of this event, and will be submitting a bearsden soon, followed by renting our gear from River City Events and getting food served from the cafeteria.
- **Winter Formal** - Winter Formal is on February 1st. This year, we are planning on hiring a professional illusionist to be our entertainment for the evening. We may be having a magic theme, but I would like to consult students and council before I make that final decision. Besides this, I will begin the planning process for this event before the end of the semester.
- **PRIDE Week** - This event is being planned through the pride committee, which consists of myself, Cindy Roose, Rebecca Nicholson, and AQUA Executives. We have had a few meetings, and are currently finalizing our schedule for February. I'm very excited to be apart of the planning process for this.
- **VP Student Life Transition Materials** - This is an ongoing project that I need to finish before April 2020. In the past, the VP Student Life transition materials have been in a binder. But these materials need to be updated, and I am going to create online versions of them for the next VP Student Life.
- **Coffee with a Cop** - As per my platform, I want to work harder on campus safety this year. There were some events last year that allowed students to have an open

conversation with the police over coffee and snacks. I would like to host something similar, but I first want to be in contact with those who hosted it in past years.

Obstacles Encountered:

The biggest obstacle I have come across this year is issues with submitting bearsdens and being able to promote events on time. When doing bearsdens, you need to have an approved event status in order to promote events. Due to this process taking more time than it had in previous years, a lot of my events were not approved until a few days before the actual event, making it hard to advertise to students which then creates low student turnout. I am hoping to attend a meeting in January with different student offices at North Campus to bring these concerns up.

Organizational Goals- Completed/Ongoing:

The main goal I wanted to do this semester was informing new students on our safety protocols on campus, in case an incident does arise. I created a little print out for students that was put in the orientation bags. I also am hoping to plan a coffee with a cop or something similar for students to attend to have an open conversation with UAPS and police officers in Camrose.

I also wanted to continue to encourage stronger relationships between my position and clubs, and one new thing I did this year was that I created a google form where clubs submit monthly reports. I added a question about feedback/concerns the club may want to share with myself, and I make it a goal to respond to each of their concerns to ensure they are having the best club experience possible. I believe this has created a stronger relationship between myself and clubs, and I am now better able to get feedback and problem solve with clubs.