

Item: Report to Board**Author: Eddy Avila, USC President****Purpose: For Information****September 25th, 2016****Completed:****SUDS**

- This conference was centred around “best practice sharing”. It allowed our team to collect information from student unions across the nation, topics ranging from mental health resources to effective club systems.
- Created relationships with executives from different student unions which was especially useful for our Federal Advocacy initiatives

USC Town Hall

- Helped Kathy Burns, COO, facilitate a staff town hall to explain the transition from a GM to COO, highlighting the importance of student leadership
- During this town hall, we presented the outline of the strategic plan and invited the staff to understand the importance of strategic vision

Orientation Week

- A big shoutout to Allie Adamo, Student Programs Officer, and her team who were able to execute a flawless Orientation Week
- Balanced between continuing full-time executive roles during the day and supporting Orientation where require
- Highlight: the ability to connect to many first years students, involve them in USC conversations and work as an Executive to become as accessibility as possible

USC-Western Administration Priority meeting

- USC Executive met with Dr. Chakma, Provost, Vice-Presidents, and Associate Vice-Presidents of the University to discuss USC Priorities
- This annual meeting shows the commitment the University has to strengthening their relationship with the USC
- We created a brief that outlined three priorities:
 - Increased Student Space through a New Building
 - Improved Academic Counselling through Online System
 - Advocating for an Extended Fall Break
- Meeting occurred early in the year, allowing these recommendations to be considered for the budgeting process to happen throughout first semester

Faculty and Affiliate Council visits

- Began meeting with Faculty and Affiliate Councils to explain the USC and how we can support Constituency councils throughout the year

Current:

Reunion Weekend

- Guided by the direction of Council, we have created a program, in collaboration with House, on Oct 1st called Fall Festival that will be dry, day-time programming on UC Hill
 - Hot air balloon, inflatables, carnival games, free food, food trucks, and a concert stage for local talent
- Guided by the direction of Council, have also programmed wet programming at the Spoke with music and Ricks performing at 3:00PM

Homecoming Weekend

- Continuing the planning process for a successful, downtown festival in collaboration with University Administration and Premier Life
- Marketing, promotions and ticket sales to be released very soon
- Looking at the holistic day of programming and collaborating to ensure that all are successful: student programs, alumni programs, football game, tuition draw at TD
- Looking to get even more student leaders and student groups involved in this event

Racism and Diversity on Campus

- Have been working with different stakeholders across campus to form a committee to discuss Racism on Campus and then branch into discussion of the pillars of Equity and Intersectionality
- Challenge: creating a committee comprised of individuals with lived-experiences, diverse backgrounds, administrative power and student representation
- Attended Forum on Racism in London. Showed some best practices and potential speakers and facilitators for on-campus programming
- Looking to support independent student groups tackling similar issues on campus

Federal Advocacy

- Working with STU15 group
- Finalized priorities:
 - Increase research opportunities for undergraduate students and improved data collection with regards to undergraduate research
 - Increased funding for the Post-Secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP), which supports access to education and skills development opportunities to First Nation and eligible Inuit students
- Reaching out to MPs, ministers and other stakeholders to schedule meetings during our lobby week, November 14-17th
- Looking to improve promotion of these advocacy efforts as the lobby week approaches

Strategic Plan

- Have engaged the Exec, Council, Staff and the Board on the process thus far
- During our strategic planning summit, there were requests to get more student-wide input on specific student needs to best inform our strategic plan group

- This has changed the overall process of the Strategic Plan, but will also ensure that we are making the most informed decisions and strategic moves possible

To Come:

Affiliate Agreement Negotiations

- Started initial conversations with the Affiliate President regarding the Affiliate Agreement
- The priority is to work with them to outline a process, which we can all stand behind and then begin creating a list of constituency specific “needs” that will be requested during the negotiation of the agreement

USC Budget Submission to Western’s Budget

- In addition to the priorities presented to Western Administration at our PVP meeting, our Executive is creating a budget submission, for Western Administration to consider
- It is important to outline the importance of having a student-centric budgeting process and we are working to ensure Administration considers our budget submission