



## Office of the VICE-PRESIDENT ACADEMIC

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Monthly Report - August, 2017

Contribution Hours:  
183.25

- Student Union Development Summit*
- Calgary Campus NSO*
- Academic Speaker Series Planning*
- Grade Appeals*
- Homecoming Weekend: Last Lecture Planning*

### Student Union Development Summit

Between August 18th-20th we were able to participate in the Student Union Development Summit (SUDS) 2017 Conference at UBC as an entire executive. This conference allowed for excellent networking and exchange of ideas between student leaders from across the country, and I brought back a large amount of knowledge and ideas from both the sessional portions and networking portions of the conference. The highlight of the weekend for me was a session on OERs. This session explained why open education resources are important, and the impact that they can have on the lives of students. I knew that OERs were important, and would help students with their expenses but this session really highlighted the actual impact that OERs have on students. It also highlighted how and why OERs should also be appealing to institutions. This conference was timed well as we had enough knowledge of the position under our belts to be able to have meaningful conversations about topics relating to post-secondary education, but we were also able to bring back a large amount of knowledge going into the fall semester, when we will be faced with students on campus for the first time in our terms.

### Calgary Campus New Student Orientation

On August 31st, the entire executive drove up to Calgary to ensure the students at the Calgary campus were aware of the Students' Union and the services we provide. We met up with our Calgary representative, presented on what the ULSU is and engaged students at our table by handing out swag and talking about the services that the Students' Union offers. This was also a great way for us to hear first hand some of the issues that students at our northern campus are facing. We feel very confident in our Calgary campus ULSU Representative and are looking forward to working with him over the year to expand our presence and services up North.

### Academic Speaker Series Planning



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I have spent a lot of time this month planning for our Academic Speaker Series. We have decided on a speaker that we would very much like to see, but are keeping the details of this confidential until we have a signed contract. It is my hope to keep the excitement round this event going and ensure that it is successful for years to come, as I believe that it can be a really beneficial experience for our students. More details will follow in the later months as I continue to work on this.

### Grade Appeals

This month I served on another grade appeal committee. The meetings are confidential and I cannot speak much further to them. However, I would like to emphasize that I really enjoy helping students especially when they feel as though they have been treated unfairly.

### Homecoming Weekend: Last Lecture

This year we are hosting a special addition Last Lecture for Homecoming weekend. We are working in conjunction with the Advancement department and Alumni Association. I'm very excited to see the speakers, Joe Rasmussen and Sonia von Heyking, give a talk about what their parting words to their students would be if it was their last time to impart wisdom.

### Committees/Meetings, etc., attended in August:

*ULSU Executive Council - August 16<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>*  
*Fresh Fest Planning Committee - August 3<sup>rd</sup>*  
*Open Access meeting with Library - August 24<sup>th</sup>*  
*Meeting with Student Success Center about Mental Health Initiatives - August 3<sup>rd</sup>*  
*ULSU presentation at ORS Training Week - August 29<sup>th</sup>*  
*Student Union Development Summit – August 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>*  
*Calgary Campus NSO- August 31<sup>st</sup>*  
*Grade Appeal Meeting- August 2*  
*Events Meeting with Executives- August 3<sup>rd</sup>*  
*General Assembly Meeting- August 3<sup>rd</sup>*  
*Meeting with Bookstore for Games night – August 16<sup>th</sup>*  
*Executive Action Plan Meeting- August 21<sup>st</sup>*  
*Dean of Liberal Education Meeting- August 22<sup>nd</sup>*  
*Convocation Working Group - Conferral of Degrees*  
*Luncheon with Associate Vice President Students- August 30<sup>th</sup>*  
*U of L OER Working Group Fall Briefing- August 31<sup>st</sup>*



THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE  
STUDENTS' UNION

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Thanks for reading, and feel free to get in touch with me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Sandeep Parmar  
Vice-President Academic