



Office of the ULSU

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June 2020 Report

Contribution Hours: 146

- *Black Lives Matter*
- *Budget Discussion with Nancy Walker, Erasmus Okine, and GSA Execs*
- *CAUS/ASEC Introductions*
- *CAUS Conference Calls (5 Meetings)*
- *Executive Council (4 Meetings)*
- *Food Bank Meeting with Shelley Tuff and VP OpFi*
- *Fresh Fest Committee (3 Meetings)*
- *GFC*
- *GFC Executive Committee*
- *Meeting with Susan Powers from TAO*
- *Meeting with Prestan Tilley from StudentVIP*
- *Meeting with Joe from Goosechase & VP SA*
- *University Pride Flag Raising*
- *ULSU Staff Meeting*
- *VP Advancement Search Committee*
- *Misc. Meetings and Responsibilities*

Descriptions of Notable Meetings:

Black Lives Matter

Black Lives Matter, and to be silent about this truth is to be complicit in the very act of racism itself. The ULSU condemns racism and discrimination of any kind, and we stand in solidarity with those who are organizing, protesting, donating, and educating themselves to bring forth institutional and systematic change. A full statement was put out by the ULSU Executives in regard to Black Lives Matter which can be found on our Facebook and Instagram accounts.

Of course, a public statement is not enough, and so in the coming days and months we will be reviewing our Discrimination Policy and developing a policy that is solely focused on combating racism in our community and on our campus. Of course, there are many other steps



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to take to combat racism in all its forms, and we welcome feedback from the students we represent and the greater community.

Budget Discussion with Nancy Walker, Erasmus Okine, and GSA Execs

I, Ethan Pullan, Lauren Zink, and Abrar Darda met with Nancy Walker, Erasmus Okine, and Carrie Takeyasu in order to discuss the University's budget and student representation in the making of these decisions. Last year the two student representative seats on the Budget Advisory Committee were removed, and in this meeting a commitment was made to involve the student voice more in the future.

Executive Council Meetings

The ULSU Executive Council meets every week to give reports and to discuss and act of certain items. This month the main action items voted on were the ratification of several clubs, and the passing of funding for club grants and online programming.

Food Bank Meeting with Shelley Tuff and VP Operations and Finance

Ethan and I met with Shelley Tuff, who oversees the SU's Food Bank, to discuss operations of the bank this upcoming year and methods of securing future funding.

Fresh Fest Committee Meetings

I sit on the recently formed Fresh Fest Committee due to my participation in the planning of Fresh Fest last year. Due to the announcement of the majority of classes going online in the Fall Semester, a new approach to Fresh Fest will be required this year. This committee was formed to discuss and plan that new approach.

Meeting with Susan Powers from Therapy Assistance Online

The ULSU executives and I had a meeting with Susan Powers, the dedicated TAO success manager for the ULSU. She introduced us to the recently implemented program and all of its components. TAO is already being used by Counselling Services, and I hope to help implement this program in the community even more in the future. For more information about TAO go to <https://ulsu.ca/therapy-assistance-online>

Meeting with Prestan Tilley from StudentVIP

The ULSU executives and I had a meeting with Prestan Tilley, a Communications and Brand Strategist from StudentVIP, the company that liaises between the students' union and Medavie Blue Cross. We were introduced to how the ULSU Health and Dental Plan works, and how StudentVIP helps us administer and alter said plan. For more information about the ULSU Health and Dental Plan go to <https://ulsu.ca/services>.



University Pride Flag Raising

I was invited to the University's Pride Flag raising to celebrate Pride Month. Many steps have been made in the university community as well as the wider one, but the journey is not over yet. The University of Lethbridge is an educational institution, and so what we can do as allies is to educate ourselves. Read, watch, and listen to queer media. Learn the history that got us here today, as well as the history that is happening at this very moment that will propel us forward. The ULSU is an organization that is dedicated to representing the undergraduate voice, and that includes *all* undergraduate voices. Their voices and their lives matter.

ULSU Staff Meeting

This meeting was held between the executive council and the majority of the SU's staff to discuss an eventual return to campus and what operations might look like for the upcoming year for our different businesses. The approval of our proposal is still pending approval by the University's EOC (Emergency Operations Centre).

VP Advancement Search Committee

I had a call with the search firm hired to find candidates for the next VP Advancement for the UofL and spoke to the need for greater communication between the University Admin, staff, faculty, and students. Unfortunately, due to the University's budgetary concerns, the search for VP Advancement has been put on hold. If you have any comments regarding what you would like from the next VP Advancement please feel free to reach out.



THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE
STUDENTS' UNION

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Comments:

This month saw a steadier and more consistent workflow than the first. This was primarily due to the fewer introductory/transition meetings. Projects from myself and each of the ULSU executives are being created and drafted, and we look forward to sharing them with the university community once they are developed further. I am currently looking into the Government of Alberta's 2030 Review of the province's post-secondary education system, and how that will affect the ULSU and the University of Lethbridge as a whole.

If you do have any comments or questions on anything contained within this report, please feel free to contact me at su.president@uleth.ca.

Warm Regards,

Jonathan Diaz