



Office of the ULSU

Jonathan Diaz

President
(403) 329-2221
su.president@uleth.ca

May 2020 Report

Contribution Hours: 175

- *General Faculties Council*
- *Meetings with Minister of Advanced Education, Demetrios Nicolaidis*
- *Advising Working Group (3 meetings)*
- *Arts & Science Council*
- *May General Assembly Meeting*
- *CAUS Changeover Conference*
- *Senate Executive*
- *Executive Council (4 meetings)*
- *Introductions between GSA and ULSU Executives*
- *QIP and University Budget Orientation*
- *VP Advancement Search Committee*
- *CAUS Meetings (2 meetings)*
- *Strategic Planning Committee*
- *School of Liberal Education Meeting*
- *University of Lethbridge Alumni Association Meeting*
- *CASA Foundations Conference*
- *Introductions between University upper administration and ULSU Executives*
- *Miscellaneous Tasks*

Descriptions of Notable Meetings:

May General Assembly Meeting

On May 7th, we had our first General Assembly meeting for the 2020/2021 academic year. The turnout and fulsome discussion from our GA members was fantastic and a great way to start the year, especially considering the online format. Some notable items were the passing of the budget for the ULSU for the upcoming year, which allows us the ability to carry on our services and operation, as well as the passing of a Fresh Fest budget, which has been altered in light of COVID-19.



Meetings with Adv. Education Minister Nicolaides

I met with Minister Nicolaides on two occasions. The first time was with the rest of the ULSU executives to introduce ourselves, and the second was with a number of student leaders from student associations and organizations to discuss the Government of Alberta's COVID-19 Relaunch Plan, as well as the implementation Investment Management Agreements and Performance Based Funding. At the time of writing the implementation has been delayed for at least a year, which I believe is a good step in order to allow post-secondary institutions the ability to focus on pandemic response measures.

Advising Working Group

VP Academic Liam Connel and I had the opportunity to sit on this working group. Made up of people across the university community and the various advising offices, this group was focused on analyzing the format and structure of advising at the UofL, as well as developing a new model for the future. Some preliminary work has been done, and Liam now sits on a sub-group developing our ideas further.

CAUS Changeover Conference

The Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS), is our provincial lobbying group, on which VP External Ryan Lindblad and I are the primary and secondary delegates, respectively. This conference, usually held in-person, ran over the course of four days and was a chance for the previous delegate to give training and share their advice on how to advocate on behalf of the university students across Alberta. Our Chair and Vice-Chair were also elected, and I look forward to advocating on behalf of the undergraduate students to the provincial government in the year to come. More information on CAUS can be found [here](#).

QIP & Budget Orientation Meeting

VP Operations and Finance Ethan Pullan and I had the chance to sit down with Carrie Takeyasu and Marnie Sawa in order to orient ourselves with the university's budget and the Quality Initiatives Proposal (QIP) funds. For more information on the QIP funds and how to make a proposal to the ULSU General Assembly, see <https://ulsu.ca/funding--awards>.



Office of the ULSU

VP Advancement Search Committee

This committee was one I began to sit on before I took on office as president. The position of Vice President (Advancement) is currently vacant, and this committee was struck to perform the search for someone to fill the new role. A search firm has been found, and currently conversations have been had between members of the firm and the committee members. If you have any comments on the role of the VP Advancement or questions on the process, please feel free to reach out.

CASA Foundations Conference

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) is a federal lobbying group with member student associations across Canada, the ULSU included. The Foundations Conference was a chance for the delegates from each association to meet one another online, and to receive presentations and training with different aspects of federal PSE policy and advocacy. Elections were held at the end of this conference, and I was able to get place on the Members Relations committee, which concerns itself with improving membership experience across the organization as well as recruiting new members. More information on CASA can be found [here](#)

Comments:

The first month of holding this position has certainly been incredibly interesting and different, to say the least. All of us here at the ULSU are adapting, and will continue to adapt, to working and providing our services online. More unsure times are still ahead, and I hope that I can be a strong student voice and representative in the months to come.

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,



THE UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE
STUDENTS' UNION

Office of the ULSU

Jonathan Diaz