

Gage Desteur

Vice-President Academic

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Report: May 2022

The month of May 2022 had been a busy one. The Executive Council and the other GFC members started out of the gate with a lengthy GFC meeting on May 2nd. My priority has been getting set up and organized so the rest of the year can go as smoothly as possible, at least in terms of the Academic Portfolio.

University of Lethbridge Committees

My first task as the incoming VP of Academic was to assign external committee seats to the General Assembly. This process went incredibly well considering the size and scale of student representation on some of these committees. Committee assignments had a few small hiccups, like wrong emails or names, these hiccups have since been resolved. Collectively the ULSU General Assembly holds over 70 seats, as voting members, on the University of Lethbridge Committees.

During the month of May I personally attend The following committee meetings:

- General Faculties Council (GFC) - *May 2, 2022*
- GFC: Academic Quality Assurance Committee - *May 26, 2022*
- GFC: Admission Standards Committee - *May 17, 2022*
- Senate Appreciation Night - *May 18, 2022*
- GFC: Curriculum Coordinating Committee - *May 9, 2022*
- Teaching Centre Advisory Council - *May 13, 2022*
- Library Curriculum Coordinating Committee - *May 16, 2022*
- Arts & Science Faculty Council - *May 26, 2022*
- Excellence in Teaching Award Committee - *May 30, 2022*
- Board of Governors (Open Session) - *May 30, 2022*

Meeting with Students

I have met with 3 students for academic help to date. As the VP Academic, I am the student's official advocate for Grade Appeals at the faculty and GFC levels. I have also met with a few students about Mental Health and the programs we offer through the Students' Union and the University. I'm looking forward to meeting more with students when the majority of our campus returns in the Fall.

Notable Events/Meetings and Description

- GA Member Advocacy Meetings - Ongoing through May & June
Along with the VP External Samantha, I will be meeting with every GA member to get a strong sense of their priorities in office so the Executive Council can help the GA execute their goals and visions.
- Introduction Meeting with Accommodated Learning Centre (ALC) - May 5, 2022
I have met with Dawn Vickers (ALC Manager) about the services that the ALC provides our students. This was a meeting that the entire EC attended but was most relevant to the Academic portfolio.
- ULSU Executive Council Meetings - May 18, 2022, & May 25, 2022
The EC has met twice in the month of May. So far the EC has dealt with general administrative functions such as approving Travel Grants and Emergency Grants.
- Meeting with Kathleen Massey & Natasha Buis Deering - May 16, 2022
I met with Kathleen Massey, Associate VP (Students) and Natasha Buis Deering, University Registrar in regard to centralizing student services, supports, and resources onto one single hub/portal. This is my big project for the year. I hope to have a working prototype of the hub/portal by Spring 2023.
- Work Integrated Learning Press Conference - May 17, 2022
The Alberta Ministry of Advanced Education announced a sizable grant to allow Southern Alberta post-secondary institutions to increase the number of seats offered in select programs. This will help the University of Lethbridge increase our metrics in terms of Work Integrated Learning.
- Mental Health Programming Meeting with Michaela - May 18, 2022
I have met with Michaela Crump to discuss the Mental Health events and programs that the ULSU host this Academic Year.
- Agility Innovation Zone Introduction Meeting - May 18, 2022
On May 18th I met with Dave Hinger and Rob Horlacher at the Agility Innovation Zone to discuss the Teaching Centre and Agility. The purpose of this meeting is to find ways the work together to promote both the Students' Union & Agility this Fall.
- Meeting Erasmus Okine & Michelle Hellstien about the Universities Internationalization Strategy - May 20, 2022
On May 20th I met with Erasmus Okine (Provost & VP Academic) and Michelle Hellstein (Vice-Provost & VP Academic) to discuss the University Internationalization Strategy and pathways companies that would facilitate the entrance of international students at the UofL. I shared my concerns with Erasmus and Michelle and together we made a commitment to work together to find the best path forward for the UofL.

- ULSU General Assembly Meeting - May 27, 2022
This was a standard GA meeting. The GA approved administrative items such as the 2022/2023 Operations Budget for the ULSU.
- Meeting with Mental Health Care Provider - May 31, 2022
I met with Compass on May 31st with Juanita (VP of Student Affairs) to discuss the potential of bringing on another service to the current portfolio of Mental Health Supports and resources.

If you have any questions or concerns about this report please feel free to reach out to me via email at su.academic@uleth.ca.

Kind Regards,

Gage Desteur