

**Andrew Gammack**

President

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October 2019

Contribution Hours: 222

Events, Meetings, and Conferences Attended:

- CAUS Teleconference Call
- GOTV Game Tabling
- All Candidate Forum
- CAUS Presidents Call
- GA Refresh Presentation
- Senate Meeting
- Humans of Uleth Launch Event
- General Faculties Council
- Greek Life Council
- New Board Member Orientation
- Board of Governors Governance Committee
- Communication with Calgary Campus Representative
- Food Bank Discussion with Lauren and Jordan
- Free Expression Statement Consultation
- Advocacy Advisory Committee
- Board of Governors Meeting
- General Assembly Meeting
- Let There be Light Night
- Fall Convocation
- Strategic Planning Committee
- Minister of Advanced Education Conference Call
- Undergraduate Safety on Campus Meeting
- Fall Open House
- CAUS Teleconference Call
- Survey Management Committee

Descriptions of Notable Meetings/Events:

*All Candidate Forum*

On October 2<sup>nd</sup>, we held an all candidate forum on campus in partnership with SACPA (Southern Alberta Council of Public Affairs) and APSS (Association of Political Science Students). The event saw all Lethbridge candidates attend and have a healthy discussion around major issues on a federal level. Bailey and Trevor ended up directing the forum at the last minute and both did an excellent job. Overall, the event was a success and saw great attendance from people who wanted to learn more about the federal candidates in Lethbridge.

### *GA Refresh Training*

Within the first week of October, Kate held a training refresh for the newly elected GA members. The attendance was pretty good, with 3 of the 4 new members attending. The presentation involved some history of the ULSU, some notable faces around campus, and resources available for initiatives of GA members. We also gave them a tour of the SU building as we found not a lot of people understand the extent of what is in the building.

### *Communication with Calgary Campus Representative*

At September's GA meeting, it became clear that our form of communication with the Calgary campus representative was not adequate. Throughout this month, I worked with Joe to find a form of telecommunication that worked for both of us. After a few meetings, we eventually settled with Skype as this allows ease of both written and verbal communication while also being accessible enough for the both of us.

### *Senate Meeting*

The October Senate meeting was a historic one. For the first time, we held the meeting off campus – within the Kainai High School. This was a very cool opportunity to see the reserve and start the academic year of Senate meetings. We had multiple presentations from Indigenous leaders around their history and how post-secondary played a critical role in it. This was also the first meeting where we became official Senate members. I am happy to say that Bailey Harry, Ryan Munn, Jordan Miles, Holly Kletke, and myself are all now official voting members on Senate! There was a very warm welcome and I can say that I am really looking forward to the year ahead with the group.

### *Humans of ULeTh Launch Event*

Richard Lee Thai invited me to the official launch of his newly ratified club, Humans of ULeTh. I was very honored to be invited and had a great time meeting new people and practicing different communication games. Overall the event marked an important milestone for Richard's club and promised that we would see so much more from a club that has already done so much.

### *New Board Member Orientation*

All new board members (Jordan Miles, Lauren Zink, Jason Elliott, John Sheriff, and myself) were invited to an orientation around being a board member. This covered a lot of important areas such as conflict of interest, expectations, and current issues. It was also a great time to have an in-depth discussion around what every Vice-President in the President's Office does. I was relatively aware of what this was prior to the meeting, but admittedly this helped to bridge some of the gaps in my mind around their respective portfolios.

*Food Bank Discussion with Lauren and Jordan*

This year we are working closely with the GSA to re-launch the Campus Food Bank to be more transparent in its intentions. We discussed the name, a potential new logo, and the marketing direction that makes the most sense to take with it. More great things with the Campus Food Bank to follow!

*Free Expression Statement Consultation*

We were invited to sit down with University legal counsel and the VP Academic and Provost to discuss the statement of free expression. We talked about how it will work with our organization and the changes that may need to be made to better accommodate this policy. We look forward to working cohesively with upper administration, the government, and the university to support academic inquiry and healthy debate.

*Board of Governors Meeting*

This was my second Board of Governors meeting as a voting member. Prior to the meeting, it was great to catch up with the other Board members who I haven't seen since June. Terry Whitehead was generous enough to offer consultation advice around our new strategic plan which we appreciate to the highest extent. The meeting itself was straightforward. Unfortunately, the specific timing of the meeting was unideal as the provincial budget dropped one week after this meeting. With that being said, we look forward to continuing conversations around student accessibility in post-secondary at the next Board meeting.

*Strategic Planning Committee*

As the chair of this committee, I was happy to strike it up early in the year. We have a ton of work ahead of us. Unfortunately, there is a lot of work that needs to be done with the strategic plan. On a positive note however, I believe we have a great committee this year to do what we need to. A strategic plan is critical to an organization and we understand the responsibility required in drafting up a whole new strategic plan. Consultation with the General Assembly, General Manager, and other campus resources will be sought after throughout the process.

*Minister of Advanced Education Conference Call*

Bailey and I were invited to a call with the Minister of Advanced Education around an hour after the provincial budget was dropped. This call was also with every President of each Student Association across the province. In the call, we heard a little more about the specific details around the budget. We are working closely with our provincial advocacy group (CAUS) to move forward from this budget in a way that still supports the accessibility of Alberta Post-Secondary education. We released a joint statement around the budget which can be found here: <https://www.caus.net/news/2019/10/28/joint-statement-from-albertas-post-secondary-student-leaders>

*Undergraduate Safety on Campus Meeting*

This was another meeting around an initiative with the GSA regarding safety on campus for students. I met with institutional analysis, student services, the survey review committee chair, and the Chief Security Officer on campus to gain insight into the state of safety on our campus. Lauren with the GSA is pushing a new SafeWalk application, which would allow for greater accountability and security with students on campus.

*Survey Management Committee*

This is a committee which generally approves items through email and consequently, this was a committee which hasn't met in person since 2017. We approved a survey application with a few amendments and covered some existing policies. An interesting item that came up around policy was our ability as an organization (ULSU) to administer surveys to students. There seemed to be conflicting statements around our organization specifically, however the general direction of the meeting seemed to support our autonomy in administering surveys. I will be recommending to LRC that we create a policy around an ad-hoc internal survey review committee.

*Closing Remarks*

Speaking candidly, this was one of the toughest months in my term so far. The sheer volume of activities, responsibilities, and events was quite overwhelming at times. I want to thank everyone who helped me through this month and those who put up with some of my shortcomings over the previous few weeks. I plan on working diligently over the remainder of my term to keep my mental health in check and to continue to represent the ULSU in the best way possible.

Thank you for reading over my report. If you have any concerns, questions, or just want to have a conversation, please feel free to send me an email at [su.president@uleth.ca](mailto:su.president@uleth.ca).

Best Regards,

Andrew Gammack  
President