

Jonah Pickle - ULSU Arts and Science Representative
Monthly Report - Sep

Attendance:

1. Arts and Science Executive Meeting: I attended one AS Executive meeting this month. These meetings serve to prepare agendas for meetings of the Arts and Science Council, to receive submissions from committees and individuals for consideration by the Arts and Science council, to approve graduands and awards, and to act on behalf of the Arts and Science council for smaller matters, when deemed appropriate.
2. Student Union Representatives & Dean's Team: This was this year's first meeting between the Arts and Science representatives and the deans. Being the first of the year, this was an opportunity for the new reps to meet and become comfortable with the deans. We discussed what's ongoing on campus, and representatives voiced their concerns as well as what we've heard from our constituents. We talked about affordability, class scheduling, food availability problems, and the upcoming west campus development. This meeting will occur again later into the semester when we've had the chance to hear more of the students' ideas and concerns.

Internal:

1. September General Assembly / Annual General Meeting (GA/AGM): I attended September's GA/AGM meeting. This meeting was open to all students to attend and snacks and food were provided. We elected our first-year representative, and I engaged in an interesting discussion regarding committee composition and committee selection processes. The purpose of the general assembly is to uphold the objectives of the ULSU, approve expenditure, authorize changes to the budget, and to serve as a check and balance to the Executive Council. Within these meetings we also often discuss issues, current happenings, and propose and approve initiatives for the student body. The minutes to these meetings are available online.

Other:

1. Fresh Fest Volunteering: I spent some hours volunteering at this year's Fresh Fesh. I did street-teaming, handing out flyers across campus, and knocking doors within residence to promote the event. On the night of the jamboree, I spent some time handing out wristbands, and doing other random running around.
2. Coffee with Dr. Paul Vasey: I had the opportunity to sit down for a coffee and have a discussion with Dr. Paul Vasey. We discussed the political culture on campus and how this is affecting research and free expression, the personal mentorship that modern students are missing out on, and the pressure that academics face to back down, in certain disciplines, from following evidence that may lead to unsavory conclusions. We discussed not only these issues, but also what changes would have to take place to combat them.