

## **Executive Team Update: Office of the AMS VP AUA**

*Drédyn Fontana - Report to Council, October 30th, 2024*

### **Advocating for a Student-Centred Academic Experience**

#### *Improving Accessibility of UBC Services*

- See *Expanding Tuition and Fees Consultation Process*
- Engaging with CfA, Ombuds Office, and Provost Office on logistics for possible testing center

#### *Improving the Work Experience for Co-op & Student Workers*

- See *Expanding Tuition and Fees Consultation Process*
- Attended first Co-op Council meeting
  - Discussed logistics for integration of AMS reps into conversation going forward

#### *Extending Exam Hardship Period*

- See *Improving Student Advocacy Coordination*
  - Exam Hardship policy will need to be prioritized to make proposed changes
  - This will come at the cost of other policy reviews so seeking guidance from student stakeholders to consider options

### **Developing Programs to Support Affordable Costs of Living**

#### *Increasing Amounts and Awareness of Funds, Grants & Bursaries*

- See *Expanding Tuition and Fees Consultation Process*
- Invited to sit on OER Grant Adjudication Committee
  - Separate from OER Award Adjudication
  - Used to kickstart OER projects in consultation with students

#### *Increasing Food Security Funding and Reach*

- See *Expanding Tuition and Fees Consultation Process*

#### *Securing Affordable Housing Commitments from UBC*

- Wesbrook Neighbourhood Plan PAC kickoff meeting
  - I was selected as Co-chair by the committee
  - They would like to consult with Student Leaders
    - I invited them to Advocacy Committee
    - Please let me or Ayesha know if you're interested in attending so we can book a bigger room if needed

#### *Expanding Tuition and Fees Consultation Process*

- Budget Presentation
  - Accessibility
    - Testing Centre
    - CfA

- UDL Fellows
- Lecture Capture Technology Fund
- Affordability
  - Grad Student Funding
  - Increased Needs based financial aid
  - Increased FSI Funding
  - Housing Grants and Bursaries
- Student Experience
  - Investments in career supports
  - Undergraduate Research Funding
  - Preliminary Funding for Exam Database
  - Increased Investments in Embedded Counselling Services
  - Climate Hub Funding

### **Advocating for an Inclusive Student Experience**

*Expanding Mental Health resources and Improving on the quality of services*

- See *Expanding Tuition and Fees Consultation Process*

### **Bolstering Outreach through Collaboration**

*Improving Student Advocacy Coordination*

- Expanded Academic Caucus Office Hours to include Student Senate Caucus and Advocacy Committee members
- Discussed priorities for reviews of Senate Policies at Academic Policy Committee
  - Bringing this list to Student Senate Caucus, Advocacy Committee, and Academic Caucus to help guide direction
- Set up bi-weekly meetings with SUO VP X
  - UBCO students are often underrepresented on Committees, and it would be helpful to include additional student voices

*Increasing Survey Engagement with Constituencies*

- Presented Workday Survey Results to IRP Steering Committee and Provost Office leadership
  - Will be doing a tour of faculties in collaboration with Constituencies