GSA VICE-PRESIDENT STUDENT SERVICES
REPORT TO COUNCIL FOR SEPTEMBER 26, 2011

To: Council Colleagues
From: SAGAR N. LUNAWAT, GSA VP STUDENT SERVICES
Date: September 11, 2011

Dear Colleagues,

Listening to the summer chimes,
of summer sounds of summer time,
Bringing all that nature is,
That shows and sounds like, Summer chimes.

I hope you are doing really well and enjoying last few days of summer. I really enjoyed my first summer in Canada and am still enjoying the last few days. The fall semester started with lots of new students on campus and the Graduate Students' Association's **Fall Orientation** was a success and full of fun and enthusiasm with all GSA staff and elected officials participating. The last few weeks have been very busy at the GSA with September kick-offs and we were all busy, as well, with Departmental Orientations. I am really pleased to write that departments were happy to have a GSA representative at their Departmental Orientation to conduct a GSA presentation and to answer questions. I really enjoyed my several presentations -- lots of discussion and questions from graduate students.

There are many things going on currently, but the most important is PAW. I attended the PAW Centre design overview meeting and was amazed with the 3D design and structure for the new PAW Centre. We had a computerized 3D "fly through" of the new PAW facility that really gave us a realistic idea about the facilities in the new design. The **PAW Centre design work** is currently going through extensive discussion and we had the Steering Committee meeting to review all the data room sheets. This entailed discussion of each and every detail: furniture, equipment, other fittings, and how each room can be made perfect for all intended uses. I am really looking forward to the new PAW Centre with its many new facilities for students. I am encouraging all graduate students to come and visit the PAW floor plans placed in the Board Room at Triffo Hall and to ask questions and submit suggestions if they have any.

GSA has been involved in efforts to make graduate students' experiences and life better at U of A, and one of the initiatives is **Spring/Summer U-Pass**. The Spring/Summer 2011 U-Pass was really a success and graduate students supported it. A story about Spring/Summer U-Pass was published in *Gateway.*

After waiting for a long time for a tour guide, GSA elected officials finally had a **tour through the Power Plant** to have a look through our old office space. We discussed various issues about its use.

For the first time in my portfolio, I had a meeting with **University Protective Services**. I was amazed with the efforts they are taking to make U of A a safer place for students. Protective Services is considering many possible new initiatives for students.

So these are the current happenings in my portfolio as well as a summary of the beginning of fall semester. I am looking forward for some more new committees and working with all new people at University.

If you have any questions, you can write them to me at gsavpsse@ualberta.ca and I will be happy to answer them.

Sagar Lunawat

(GSA – VPSS)

Vice-President Student Services Meetings

August 11, 2011	PAW centre design overview
August 17, 2011	GSA Board meeting (Cancelled)
August 18, 2011	U-pass admin meeting
August 22, 2011	GSA Council meeting
August 23, 2011	PAW steering committee
August 23, 2011	F and O lunch
August 24, 2011	Departmental orientation – Physical Therapy
August 24, 2011	GSA Board meeting
August 25, 2011	GFC FDC (Cancelled)
August 26, 2011	SU-GSA breakfast
August 30, 2011	Power plant tour
August 31, 2011	GSA Board meeting
August 31, 2011	GSA Fall Orientation
September 1, 2011	Protective Services advisory committee meeting
September 2, 2011	Departmental Orientation – Music
September 6, 2011	Departmental Orientation – Sociology
September 6, 2011	Departmental Orientation – Elementary Education
September 6, 2011	Departmental Orientation – Lab Medicine
September 7, 2011	GSA Board meeting
September 8, 2011	Departmental Orientation – Drama
September 9, 2011	Meeting with SU - Space