

DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINE, INTERPRETATION,  
AND ENFORCEMENT BOARD

**REQUEST FOR INTERPRETATION**

**DATE:**

Sunday December 1, 2002

**D.I.E. BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chris Samuel, Chair

Lucas Lau

William McBeath

Deborah Philips

Jason Tobias

**INTERPRETATION SOUGHT BY:**

Steve Smith, VP Operations and Finance

**ISSUE:**

Does the Students' Union's political policy on *National Organization of Students* bind the Students' Union to remain a member of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA)?

**DECISION:**

Yes- the Students' Union's political policy on *National Organization of Students* binds the Students' Union to remain a member of the Canadian Alliance of Students Associations.

This decision is based on the last sentence of the political policy *National Organization of Students*: Be it further resolved that the University of Alberta Students' Union continue to support CASA. The phrase "continue to support" implies that the Students' Union will provide, for future sake, the same level of commitment, be it financial or otherwise, to the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations that they have in the past. Since the Students' Union is a member of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, this phrase then implies that the Students' Union must remain a member in order to "continue to support CASA".

Furthermore, the D.I.E. Board determined that an adequate definition of support, in this instance, must also include active membership in the organization.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

In order to avoid this confusion in the future, the D.I.E. Board recommends the following revision to the last sentence of the political policy *National Organization of Students*:

Be it further resolved that the University of Alberta Students' Union continue to support, through membership, CASA- an organization that represents the interests of Canadian university students in an affordable and effective manner, and is

compatible with the goals and policies of the University of Alberta Students' Union.