

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL

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Tuesday October 11, 2011

Room 304, Pavillon Lacerte, Campus Saint-Jean

## ORDER PAPER (SC 2011-12)

### 2011-12/1 SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

2011-12/1a Announcements – The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on Tuesday, Tuesday October 25, 2011

### 2011-12/2 PRESENTATIONS

2011-12/2a Physical Activity and Wellness Centre (PAW)- presented by Kyle Braithwaite. Sponsored by Rory Tighe, President.

Abstract:

The PAW Centre is a new physical activity and wellness facility that includes several program components including a fitness centre, climbing wall, enclosed concourse c/w commercial space, community/teaching kitchen, multipurpose rooms, locker room renovations, squash courts, Steadward Centre, and academic space. The project is a partnership that includes the several stakeholders including the Students Union (SU), Graduate Student Association (GSA), Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation (FPER), and the Steadward Centre.

The project is currently in Design Development and construction is anticipated to commence in the spring of 2012 with an anticipated 30 month construction schedule.

2011-12/2b Fall Reading Week- Presented by Rory Tighe, President. Sponsored by Rory Tighe, President.

Abstract:

This presentation will outline the background of the creation of a Fall Reading Week, where we are currently at with it, and some possible next steps. It will highlight the many options that exist to actually create the week.

2011-12/2c Student Union Fees Used to Spread Hate - presented by Joseph Mandelbaum. Sponsored by Scott Nicol, Councillor.

Abstract:

This presentation will demonstrate how Student Union Dedicated Fees designated for Alberta Public Interest Research Group (APIRG) are being used in

controversial events that promote hate. It will explain how these events that bash Israel cross a moral line, and that providing funding condones this message of bigotry. It will also include suggestions to make the fee opt-out process easier and to make students aware of this fee.

**2011-12/3**      **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**2011-12/3a**      Executive Committee Report

Please see document SC 11-12.01

**2011-12/4**      **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**2011-12/5**      **QUESTION PERIOD**

**2011-12/6**      **BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**2011-12/6a**      **ISKANDAR/LEPAGE FORTIN MOVES THAT** the Policy Committee recommends to Students' Council to approve Bill #9 the Political Policy, Academic Materials, in second reading based on the following principles:

1.      that the Students' Union will encourage academic material manufacturers, retail outlets, other student organizations, and the University of Alberta to engage in practices designed to lower the costs of academic materials to students;
2.      that the Students' Union will educate instructors about the costs of textbooks and about alternatives available to them;
3.      that the Students' Union will advocate for peripheral academic materials to be standardized across the institution to avoid needless expenditures;
4.      that the Students' Union will advocate the Federal Government to exempt textbooks from the GST and/or any other federal sales taxes that may be implemented in the future;
5.      that the Students' Union will advocate to the Federal Government for the elimination of the 10% and 15% prices premiums from the Book Importation Regulations;
6.      that the Students' Union will advocate that the Canadian copyright laws be constructed in a way which does no derogate from the expansion of fair dealing rights as interpreted in recent legal decisions; and
7.      that this policy will expire April 30th 2012.

Please see document SC 11-12.02

**2011-12/6b**      **ISKANDAR MOVES THAT** upon the recommendation of the Elections Review Committee, Students' Council remove the key reporting requirement from Bylaw 2000.

**2011-12/7**      **GENERAL ORDERS**

**2011-12/8**      **INFORMATION ITEMS**

- 2011-12/8a** By-election results  
Please see document SC 11-12.03
- 2011-12/8b** Susan Amer- Resignation  
Please see document SC 11-12.04
- 2011-12/8c** Kinnar Power- FACRA resignation  
Please see document SC 11-12.05
- 2011-12/8d** Colten Yamagishi, VP Student Life- Report  
Please see document SC 11-12.06
- 2011-12/8e** Conference Report- Leaders Hall  
Please see document SC 11-12.07
- 2011-12/8f** Executive Goals Update  
Please see document SC 11-12.08
- 2011-12/8g** Rory Tighe, President- Report  
Please see document SC 11-12.09
- 2011-12/8h** Andy Cheema, VP Operations and Finance- Report  
Please see document SC 11-12.10
- 2011-12/8i** Emerson Csorba, VP Academic- Report  
Please see document SC 11-12.11
- 2011-12/8j** Farid Iskandar, VP External- Report  
Please see document SC 11-12.12
- 2011-12/8k** Votes and Proceedings  
Please see document SC 11-12.13

**September 22, 2011**

TIGHE/CSORBA MOVED THAT the Executive Committee approve a Casino Capital Allocation not to exceed \$1750.00 for the purpose of buying a trade show display unit.

**4/0/0 CARRIED**

**September 29, 2011**

CHEEMA/TIGHE MOVED THAT the Executive Committee approve a budgeted expense not to exceed \$2900.00 as per the amended conference request for the Vice President (Academic) Emerson Csorba and Vice President (Student Life) for the purpose of attending the AASHE Conference from October 9-12, 2011 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

**3/0/1 CARRIED**

## **I. ACADEMIC MATERIALS**

WHEREAS the true cost of being a student is composed of many factors, such as tuition, fees, foregone wages, and academic materials;

WHEREAS the real cost of academic materials continues to rise;

WHEREAS students are increasingly required to purchase peripheral academic materials and other equipment to succeed in their courses;

WHEREAS these peripheral materials are not standardized across courses and faculties, which often leads to the mandatory purchase of several versions of the same equipment;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union will pressure academic material manufacturers, retail outlets, other student organizations, and post-secondary institutions to engage in practices designed to lower the costs of academic materials to students;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union will educate instructors about the costs of textbooks and about alternatives available to them; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union will advocate for peripheral academic materials to be standardized across the institution to avoid needless expenditures.

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## ACADEMIC MATERIALS

WHEREAS the true cost of being a student is composed of many factors, such as tuition, fees, cost of living, foregone wages, and academic materials;

WHEREAS the rate of textbook price increases have exceeded the rate of inflation over the last decade; at the University of Alberta, the average textbook price increased between 1995 and 2007 was 280%<sup>1</sup>. Over the same period, the Consumer Price Index only rose 22%<sup>2</sup>;

WHEREAS students are increasingly required to purchase peripheral academic materials and other equipment to succeed in their courses;

WHEREAS these peripheral materials are not standardized across courses and faculties, which often leads to the mandatory purchase of several versions of the same equipment;

WHEREAS the Government of Canada already has mechanisms in place for Goods and Services Tax (GST) exemptions;

WHEREAS there are no provincial sales taxes levied on books for Canadian provinces that use a Harmonized Sales Tax (HST);

WHEREAS the Book Importation Regulations approved by the Governor General in Council in July 1999 allowed book importers to charge a premium of 10% on books imported from the United States and 15% on books from any other country;

WHEREAS the use of copyrighted material for scholarship has been affirmed in both the Supreme Court of Canada's 2004 decisions *CCH Canadian Ltd. v. Law Society of Upper Canada*, and *SOCAN v. CAIP*, where the Supreme Court articulated that the rights of creators must be respected, but that user rights must be given a liberal interpretation;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union will pressure academic material manufacturers, retail outlets, other student organizations, and post-secondary institutions to engage in practices designed to lower the costs of academic materials to students;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union will educate instructors about the costs of textbooks and about alternatives available to them;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union will advocate for peripheral academic materials to be standardized across the institution to avoid needless expenditures;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union will advocate to the Federal Government to exempt textbooks from the GST and/or any other federal sales taxes that may be implemented in the future;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that the Students' Union will advocate to the Federal Government for the elimination of the 10% and 15% price premiums from the Book Importation Regulations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT that the Students' Union will advocate to the Federal Government that Canadian copyright laws be constructed in a way which does not derogate from the expansion of fair dealing rights as interpreted in recent legal decisions.

<sup>1</sup>Canadian Roundtable on Academic Materials

<sup>2</sup>Statistics Canada, Consumer Price Index (Historical Summary)



## Students' Union Elections Office

Phone: (780) 492-7102 Email: [cro@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:cro@su.ualberta.ca)

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|-----------------|--|
| <b>To:</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Mr. Michael Ross<br/>Speaker of Students' Council</li><li>➤ Mr. Emerson Csorba<br/>Vice President (Academic), Students' Union</li><li>➤ Mr. Garry Bodnar<br/>University Governance</li></ul> |
| <b>From:</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Zach Fentiman<br/>Chief Returning Officer</li></ul>  |
| <b>Subject:</b> | 2011 Students' Council and General Faculties<br>Council By-election Results  |
| <b>Date:</b>    | October 3, 2011  |

On behalf of the Students' Union, I would like to congratulate the following individuals who were elected by students in their respective faculties during the September 2011 By-Election:

### ***Students' Council***

**School of Business**      Josh Le

### ***General Faculties Council***

**Arts**      David He  
**Augustana**      Sam Whittleton  
**Native Studies**      Brianne Lovstrom  
**Nursing**      Maggie Danko

## **Statistics**\*

A full report is forthcoming. For the purposes of this report, the total number of voters in the by-election was 391 and average percentage turnout was 2.23%. An initial review of previous by-election results indicates that these figures are ordinary.

Polling stations were set-up in the following locations for both days of the election: SUB, CAB, Tory/Business Atrium, and CCIS.

We had a wonderful troupe of Poll Captains and Poll Clerks to help out manning the physical polling stations; however, future need for these stations will be assessed before the March election, as over 80% of votes cast was done at non-station computers. This result is consistent with previous years.

## **Timeline**

The following dates were presented to Students' Council during the summer and remained unchanged during the course of the by-election. The nomination deadline was extended until September 21, 2011 for those positions where no valid nominations were received after the close of day on September 19, 2011.

September 19 – Nomination Deadline & Candidates' Meeting  
September 21 – Campaign Period Begins  
September 28 – Campaign Period Ends  
September 29 & 30 – Voting Days

## **Rulings**

One request for interpretation was made over the course of the election. Please see <http://www.su.ualberta.ca/governance/committees/die/2011-2012/> for the details.

## **Expense Summaries**

Expense summaries for each candidate have been approved by the CRO and are viewable online at <http://www.su.ualberta.ca/vote>

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\* The Interdepartmental Science Students' Society (ISSS) by-election was held in conjunction with the Students' Council and GFC by-election to facilitate shared use of the SU online voting system.

Mr. Ross,

Unfortunately, I will not have the time this year to fulfil my duties as a councillor and think it's best that I resign. I wish you all the best of luck with everything!

Regards,

Susan

Dear SU executives fellow councillors:

It is my displeasure to inform you that I must resign my position as FACRA board representative due to my many other commitments in student life at North Campus and at Campus Saint-Jean. My greatest commitments at this point are 1) being involved in the student life and the student groups of my campus so that I develop relationships with my fellow "fack-ers" (CSJ students) and get to know their needs, and 2) involvement in the social justice community of North Campus to network and work for the student group of which I am president. While I am still very interested in CJSR and all that they do, I am too involved in other ways to give my position the time and energy that it deserves. As Paul McCartney said "if you gotta job to do you gotta do it well". I have come to the realization that I am not able to do my job with FACRA well and this simple fact was causing me even more stress than my busy schedule. I hope there are other councillors that are able to give the amazing organization of CSJR everything it deserves.

Best,

Kinnar Power

**Prepared by:** Colten Yamagishi, Vice President (Student Life)

**To:** Students' Council 2011/12

Well it feels like it hasn't been so long since our last council meeting but surprise, surprise, it has been almost two weeks. Time is flying by and soon I will be flying out with the VP Academic and the Director of SUSTAIN SU to attend the AASHE sustainability conference in Pittsburgh, which is taking place Sunday-Wednesday. We will try our best to Skype in for council if the American wifi allows it.

Over the past few weeks, aside from work, I have been catching up with school and have spent a fair amount of time planning for the trip to Pittsburgh.

Here is a quick summary of what I have been up to otherwise:

### **Programming**

The Programming and Venues department has been spending the last little while cleaning everything up from WOW and reconciling all of the accounts. Expect a WOW wrap-up to appear in the Gateway in the near future. They did an outstanding job decorating Dinwoodie for the IFC Toga party and received an excellent response from the attendees. Next council meeting I will give you an update on the Campus Cup, which is our next big event.

### **Fundraisers:**

This last weekend I took part in two fundraising events. The first was the Relay for Life for the Canadian Cancer Society where the VP Academic, the VP Ops Fi, and I were auctioned off to get pied. Note that the VPA and I won the bidding to pie the VP Ops Fi. Though it cost us a fair amount of money to win this honour, the satisfaction/dollar quotient was still quite high. The second was the Turkey Trot run for the United Way. Being sick and out of shape I probably should have considered running the 4km instead of the 8km but my legs managed to recover over the next three days and now I can walk down stairs like a normal person again. Overall these events were a ton of fun and I am always happy to support a great cause!

### **Media:**

I have been in front of the camera quite a bit lately. I recently did an interview for CBC on the legislation being passed to reduce the amount of caffeine in energy drinks, a Gateway story for the Free Store in Sustainability Awareness Week, a short clip to promote the UofA to students in the UAE, and I will be doing a Gateway interview on the ETS Night Ride program today.

### **Services**

Everyone in the services has settled nicely into their Fall routines now that volunteer training has finished. I attended the October services staff meeting and was happy to see that the room was still full of energy even after a busy September.

**GAC and SFAIC:**

We managed to make a number of final amendments to the new awards program and the GAC standing orders to increase the efficiency of the Access Fund program. I am very excited to see the results of our work in the near future when the new awards package rolls out.

**Campus Food Bank:**

I attended the first CFB board meeting of the fall term and we appointed Zach Fentiman (CRO and past VPOpsFi) as our newest board member. I am very excited to see Zach join the board as he brings experience and a number of crucial skills to the position.

**SUSTAIN SU:**

SUSTAIN SU is busy planning for their three SAW events including free bike checks and tune ups, the sustainability summit, and SUSTAINexchange which is a facilitated discussion on the interrelationships between self-care and sustainability.

**Health and Dental Plan:**

The VP Ops Fi, the President, and I have been kept busy answering a number of e-mails from students concerned about missing the opt-out deadline for the Health and Dental plan. Unfortunately because of the nature of reasonable timelines with the Registrar's Office we cannot have the opt-out date at the same time as the fall tuition deadline so these problems come up every year. We do make concerted efforts to inform students about the opt-out deadline through numerous forms of media and communication.

**CSD:**

The CSD completed their hiring and I would like to welcome Ann Gordon back to the team as Orientation Presentation Coordinator and welcome Dan (my apologies I don't know his last name) as the new Orientation Volunteer Coordinator. I'm sure that Ann and Dan will be a killer combo this year!

**SGS:**

We completed our first fall granting session for both the student group grants as well as the student engagement grants. We saw a number of impressive applications and I am excited to see the fruits of these grants unfold over the year.

**Advocacy****World Cafe:**

Last week I attended a planning meeting for the Registrar's Office Welcome Centre project. The Welcome Center is a future service planned to be a one-stop shop to help students with registration and all of the administrative questions that they have when they get to school in the fall. I recommended that the service have programmable space that can be used host the different campus learning events and weeks that we have including International Week, Sustainability Awareness Week, Alumni Weekend, etc.

**Residences:**

At our last RHA meeting the RHA President announced that another one of the VP's had resigned from their position so we now have open spots for VP Public Relations and VP Student Services. We are currently looking to find a replenishment mechanism for these positions. The

RHA will be approving their budget at their next meeting and will be doing a presentation to council at our next meeting on October 25<sup>th</sup>. At RBAC I brought up the issue of bedbugs in residence and was happy to hear that Residence Services is upping their efforts to tackle this issue as soon as possible. We also reviewed the fee increase for next year's residence budget. Though the aggregate revenue for rents is set to increase by CPI, Ancillary Services is looking to instate differential increases across the residences (for example 4 month fee contracts in Lister will rise by 3% while Newton contracts will see no fee increase). I raised a number of concerns with this (though it was done last year) and hopefully we will be able to come to a resolution.

### **Co-Curricular Record:**

We had a quick meeting to update everyone on what is happening with the Co-Curricular Record and how we will move forward with it in the future. The CCR is an extra-curricular transcript used to officially represent the involvement activities that students are a part of during their university career. The CCR was delayed last year to wait until after the release of Bears' Den to work on it further. We have decided to explore a number of options including how to integrate our CCR project with the Bears' Den interface.

### **Workplace Mental Health Workshop:**

Through my membership on the Health Promotion Advisory Committee I got to go to an excellent free workshop on workplace mental health. The workshop educated us on how to recognize and respond to employees who are struggling with mental health issues.

### **Sustainability:**

I am getting extremely excited for SAW and the Free Store that I will be running with APIRG and volunteers from SUSTAIN SU. The Free Store will be running from Oct. 18-21 from 10am-4pm each day on main floor SUB. Please remember to bring any items that you do not use anymore so that we can give them away and stop by the table to see if there is anything that you would like! We are also looking for additional volunteers so please let me know if you are interested.

### **Opportunities for you to get involved:**

Volunteer for the Thrift Store!

Shoot me an e-mail and I will link you to the volunteer Doodle poll.

### **Summary:**

These past two weeks have been excellent! I have been able to catch up with almost all of my work and am really looking forward to the AASHE conference. I feel like I have been working very efficiently and have been gaining solid ground on accomplishing my goals for the year. By the way, I also got this report in on time! Thanks for holding me accountable to this goal.

If you have any other questions ask during council, stop by the office, or send me an email at [vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca).

Colten Yamagishi  
780-299-3076

**Prepared by:** Colten Yamagishi, Vice President (Student Life)  
**To:** Students' Council 2011/12

From June 26-29 I attended the Leaders' Hall conference in Calgary, Alberta. The conference was hosted by the University of Calgary, SAIT, Mohawk College, and Gallivan & Associates (Health and Dental Plan company).

Leaders' Hall was comprised of a number of keynote speakers as well as sessions and workshops. There were also a number of networking events centered around meal times and nightly mixers.

Overall, I would not recommend that we send our executives to Leaders' Hall until the conference grows to the point where it can recruit executives from other large institutions. I did not find the sessions to be very applicable to my portfolio and I found it difficult to receive strong take-aways from networking with most of the executives in attendance because they were, on the most part, from much smaller institutions with different issues and resources. I did however go off on my own to take a look at the UofC and SAIT student centres to get ideas for our lower level renovations. I also toured the UofC student services office and spoke with the director of their Q Centre for Sexual and Gender Diversity to get some ideas for my own LGBTQ Centre project.

**Below I will summarize the course of events for the conference:**

**Sunday Night Beer Pairing and Mingling:**

I drove down to Calgary Sunday afternoon and checked into the Hotel Alma. The hotel (located on the UofC Campus) had a great conference rate and was quite nice. I met my roommate Bryan Tran (President of Humber College in Toronto) who was very friendly and then went to the opening social which was hosted at a venue called "The Gateway" at SAIT. The opening social was a Beer Pairing session where we learned about different kinds of beer and the best food to pair them with. During the session I met a number of student executives and spoke about their variety of executive positions and their portfolios. I found that our counterparts from the University of Saskatchewan have a very similarly structured organization to our own. I also heard a lot about the COCA national conference and all of the bands that students were busy booking for their frosh weeks. After we returned to the hotel I answered some e-mails and then hung out with some other execs.

**Monday Morning Sessions (Drew Dudley – Redefining Leadership – Yeah...that didn't work out: Leadership Reality):**

I had to miss the first Monday morning session, a keynote by Drew Dudley, because I had to Skype in for a granting meeting. In the second session by Drew Dudley we listened to his lecture about learning from mistakes and then played a game called "videri" where we had to

work together to pass around a ball very quickly (hard to explain). After this session we went to The Den (UofC bar/restaurant) for lunch. I took a number of pictures of this popular venue.

### **Monday Afternoon Sessions (Al Morrison – Leadership, is there an App for that?):**

The Monday afternoon session was cut short due to a fire alarm but it was not very useful anyway. The presentation named “Leadership, is there an App for that” was an exercise where we broke into groups and drew up designs for a hypothetical cell phone application that would display the different aspects necessary to develop leadership skills.

For the next session we broke into groups based on our executive portfolios and talked about shared problems that we face and the best way to fix them. I found this discussion to be extremely ineffective for myself for two reasons; first, the discussion had no facilitator and second, many of the problems brought up were out of the boundaries of my executive portfolio and were issues that our staff members generally take care of. For example one of the topics was about supporting the expansion of student groups. Though this topic is relevant to my portfolio, many of the students were from schools that had less than five student groups and were discussing practices that are already in place with our Student Group Services.

### **Monday Night Fun:**

Monday night we had an awesome beach volleyball outing at the beach courts on the UofC campus. This event was a lot of fun. After volleyball I returned to the hotel to do some work and then went out for a short time to a downtown pub.

### **Tuesday Morning Sessions (Dr. Loren Falkenberg – Critical Thinking and Decision Making):**

On Tuesday we traveled to SAIT for breakfast and then attended a workshop where we worked on a group exercise to determine the most dangerous individual from a group of terrorists that we received informational briefs about. Each group member received slightly different information and took notes to bring back to the group. We then met and discussed who we each thought was the most dangerous and had to come to a group decision. The result was that many of us had been given repeated information and the individual that looked the least dangerous to us individually would appear the most dangerous once all of the information was combined. The goal of the session was to show us how to make smart analytical decisions, how to reduce the effect of informational clutter and how to make objective decisions while working in groups using rationalization and avoiding groupthink.

### **Tuesday Afternoon (Kelly Hrudehy – Leadership stories and dialogue with a known leader - Dr. Patrick Finn – Details Forthcoming):**

The first session with Kelly Hrudehy was almost completely irrelevant to the conference. Kelly (a CBC sports reporter and former NHL goalie) basically told us his life story and spoke about adapting to change and making the most of out a situation. Overall, I found this talk to be quite boring.

The second session on the other hand was outstanding. Dr. Patrick Finn (UofC Professor who seemed to be a jack of all trades, master of all) spoke about the experiential learning classes that he teaches. Dr. Finn lectures on subjects like happiness, love, and other topics that he used a survey to find that students have a genuine interest in. He spoke about new ways to learn and discover the best ways that an individual can carve their impact on society. He shared his beliefs

on what true leadership development should entail. Dr. Finn was both charismatic and intelligent and provided us with an opportunity to look at life through a different, and often more profound lens.

### **Tuesday Night Networking Session and Talent Show:**

I had to miss most of the Tuesday night networking session and the evening talent show because I had to Skype in for a Students' Council meeting. For the time that I was at the networking session I met with the Chancellor of the UofC as well as a number of other distinguished guests. They were all very friendly and I was impressed with their level of interest in students.

### **Wednesday Morning Wrap Up:**

Wednesday morning we had breakfast and then engaged in a number of wrap-up presentations where we shared our take-aways from the conference. To close the conference there was a very strange presentation from the student associations apologizing for Drew Dudley's unprofessional behaviour (ask me if you want to know about this) and from Gallivan making sure that we did not feel pressured to purchase their health and dental plan during the conference (reverse psychology?)

### **Touring SAIT and the UofC:**

I was very happy to receive a tour of Macewan Hall (UofC SUB) and the UofC campus from Dylan Jones (University of Calgary SU President). Dylan showed us some of the more interesting buildings on campus as well as a number of interesting art pieces and sculptures. I was very impressed with the new Taylor Family Digital Library even though I was unable to go inside. On Sunday morning I received a tour of the UCSU services office and met up with the Director of the Q Centre. I was very impressed with their safe space and educational materials regarding sexual and gender diversity. One point that I believe the UCSU services could improve on would definitely be their location. Their services (much like our own) are currently located in a very out of the way location separated from the social hub of their student building. On my own time I took a walk through the UofC physical activity center (which is outstanding) as well as the rest of Macewan Hall. Out of all of the student centres that I have toured this year, Macewan Hall is by far the most outstanding due to its variety of services, student space, accessibility, venues, and sheer size. I took a number of photos of the campus bars, student buildings, conference center, outdoor green spaces, and physical activity centers at the UofC and SAIT that I will put in a folder in attachment to this document.

### **Summary:**

Overall, though I did not find my attendance at the conference to be beneficial, I had a great time and met lots of amazing student executives. The hospitality of the conference staff and the host students was excellent. I think that we should keep the Leaders' Hall conference on our radar and possibly send representatives in a future year if we see that the conference has grown substantially.

-Colten Yamagishi

# PRESIDENT

## 1. Support the Vice Presidents

### *Summary:*

I have been trying my best to keep this up. I have been having weekly meetings with each of the Vice Presidents, the General Manager, and the Director of Research & Political Affairs. As well, various projects on-the-go are collaborations between the other Executive members and me.

### *Tasks Completed:*

- Meet with the VPs consistently to develop and pursue their portfolio goals
- Work with the General Manager to ensure the organization is running smoothly and support the VPs in pursuing their goals.
- Work with the Director of Research & Political Affairs to ensure the VPs are supported in pursuing their goals and the department is running smoothly

### *Tasks Remaining:*

All of the completed tasks are ongoing throughout the remainder of the year.

## 2. Strengthen Our Communication Infrastructure

### *Summary:*

I am a bit behind on this goal. We are making some great progress on initiatives and planning, but the timelines on tasks will likely need to be pushed back.

### *Tasks Completed:*

- Sent campus-wide email to all students with important dates to remember
- Created an internal communications committee to discuss new initiatives
- Hired a communications coordinator
- Created a cohesive SU goals document and distributed it to members of the university community

### *Tasks Remaining:*

- Increase the number of Town Halls (First one held before October 31)
- Create a marketing document describing what the SU is (October)
- Develop a communications strategy (November)
- Create SU Branded Material (November)
- Create a prototype for Infolink Express (April)
- Secure space for SUTV and Infolink expansion (April)
- Utilize social media effectively throughout the year
- Create and distribute a regular newsletter throughout the year
- Increase grass roots communication through the use of street teams and volunteers
- Communicate central SU information with volunteers and campus groups

### **3. Support Sustainability Initiatives**

*Summary:*

This has become more of a priority for me than I originally expected. We have done quite a bit in terms of starting new initiatives and there will be some visible changes by the end of the year. I am unfortunately behind on the Sustainability Assessment, as I could not predict the amount of work and time that I have ended up putting into it.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Installed water bottle fill stations in SUB
- Worked with CSL to create a collaborative position to develop a farmer's market pilot project
- Advocated for the growth and promotion of sustainability initiatives on campus at various university governance committees
- Incorporated sustainability initiatives into Week of Welcome and Orientation
- Approved name and mandate update for SUSTAIN SU

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Finish Sustainability Assessment (October)
- Create an implementation plan for the Sustainability Assessment (October)
- Create a farmer's market pilot project (January)
- Encourage the university to install water bottle fill stations across campus
- Advocate for the creation, growth and promotion of sustainability initiatives on campus
- Incorporate more sustainable food into Students' Union retail operations and create a farmer's market pilot project (January)

### **4. Improve Mental Health on Campus**

*Summary:*

I have brought this issue up with administration many times. I am under the impression that the university will be hiring additional counselors and psychologists over the next year. We have also been working a lot on the Fall Reading Week proposal through the Fall Reading Week Task Force and are very close to having a final report ready.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Moved the Peer Support Centre to the second floor of SUB
- Encouraged the university to increase the number of student counselors
- Chaired the Fall Reading Week Task Force

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Work with the Fall Reading Week Task Force to determine the logistical requirements for implementing a Fall Reading Week and a list of recommendations (September)
- Create a Student Services Advisory Group (January)
- Work with university governance to establish a Fall Reading Week (April)
- Work with Dean of Students' Office to increase the number of student counselors on campus (April)
- Promote stress relief activities and mental health awareness on campus as much as possible

## **5. Provincial and Federal Lobbying**

### *Summary:*

This goal is steady and continual throughout the year and my role here is mainly supporting the Vice President (External). We have been fairly successful in getting our interests represented in the priorities of our provincial and federal lobby groups. As well, we have been meeting with many provincial leadership candidates. I have also had the opportunity to do multiple media interviews where I was able to speak about some of our priorities.

### *Tasks Completed:*

- Advocated for increasing non-repayable student aid in CAUS meetings
- Supported the Vice President (External) in creating a GOTV strategy for the UASU
- Hired a position to coordinate the GOTV campaign
- Had most of the UASU priorities included into CAUS and CASA lobby priorities

### *Tasks Remaining:*

- Push for the regulation on tuition to stay in place through CAUS
- Develop provincial regulations for mandatory non-instructional fees (April)
- Support the Vice President (External) with a Get Out To Vote Campaign

## **6. Support a Healthy and Effective Work Environment**

### *Summary:*

This goal consists of a collaborative, ongoing effort and is something that management as a whole is working on together. We have made progress over the past couple of years and I believe we are continuing to make the SU a great place to work.

### *Tasks Completed:*

- Created training opportunities for staff during the summer
- Staff appreciation luncheon
- Staff BBQ

### *Tasks Remaining:*

- Staff Christmas Party (Late November/Early December)
- Staff wrap-up function (April)
- Develop strategic plan implementation that allows for input from all levels of the organization (August)
- Ensure effective use of all the 2-900 office space
- Create collaborative opportunities for executives and staff to work together on initiatives
- Foster a team environment within the SU through personalized staff appreciation and recognition

## **7. Improve and Increase Student Space on Campus**

### *Summary:*

This goal is generally all long-term. We have been working on this all summer and will continue to work on it throughout the year. Finalizing the PAW Centre agreement and supporting the Vice President (Operations & Finance) on the SUB upgrade have taken up the majority of my time on this goal.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Moved the Peer Support Centre to the second floor
- Have begun discussions on the Power Plant lease
- Worked on the PAW Centre agreement with the General Manager, the GSA, and the Vice President (Operations & Finance)
- Supported the Vice President (Operations & Finance) in the SUB upgrade project

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Finalize PAW Centre Agreement (November)
- Move the Campus Food Bank to the main floor (January)
- Re-negotiate lease on the Power Plant with the university and Graduate Students' Association (January)
- Begin planning for the functioning of the Power Plant space (April)
- Find a space for the ECOS Bike Library in another building (April)
- Engage as many students as possible in space requirements planning for all of our projects
- Come up with a plan for the renovation and improvement of the space within SUB (April)

## **8. Expand Support for Student Groups and Representatives**

*Summary:*

Out of all my goals, this is the one that I still have the most progress to make on. I will put additional focus on this goal during the Fall and Winter terms.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Hired a Student Governance Officer
- Supported the Vice President (Student Life) in sustaining the Residence Halls Association
- Utilized the online student group management tool for Orientation and student group management

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Work with the university on creating and finalizing travel and alcohol policies to reduce barriers for student groups planning events (April)
- Create a long-term vision for the governance department (April)
- Increase staff support for Student Group Services (April)
- Find money to increase grants available to student groups (April)

## VICE PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)

### 1. Student Attributes

#### *Summary:*

If I had been told in May about the progress that would be made on student attributes, I would not have believed it. Since the beginning of the summer, I was appointed the co-chair of the committee leading this initiative on campus, drafted a comprehensive terms of reference and established a strong membership for the committee. Moreover, along with the Department of Research and Political Affairs, I am engaging dozens of students and university stakeholders in consultations, and am transcribing over one hundred pages of interviews for the Student Attributes Plan. There is quite a bit left to do with student attributes, and the work will take many more months, but the progress is steady and I highly enjoy every minute of it.

#### *Tasks Completed:*

- Serve as co-chair of the CLE subcommittee on attributes and competencies (May)
- Stay highly engaged as one of the student driving this project on campus
- Continue to read and share current literature regarding graduate attributes
- Advocate for the addition of a student-at-large representative on the CLE subcommittee on attributes and competencies (July)
- Develop a thorough councillor, faculty association and student services consultation plan (August)
- Create a short list of questions that can be asked to the above stakeholders, which captures the essence of graduate attributes (August)
- Clearly outline the terminology behind graduate attributes, emphasizing that attributes are overarching across the university, and skills-specific to particular disciplines (September)

#### *Tasks Remaining:*

- Clearly outline the terminology behind graduate attributes, emphasizing that attributes are overarching across the university, and skills-specific to particular disciplines (September)
- Complete a Student Attributes Plan that captures each faculty association, councillor and service's view of graduate attributes (October)
- Work with the Students' Union Marketing Department when writing the Graduate Attributes Plan (October)
- Develop a succession plan for the next VPA who will co-chair the CLE subcommittee on attributes and competencies (April)

### 2. Undergraduate Research

#### *Summary:*

I have taken consistent but gradual strides forward with the undergraduate research symposium. A 30-person team of students and professors is currently planning the symposium and a sponsorship package is nearly complete. I've only started to raise sponsorship funds for the symposium awards, so I did not reach the August self-imposed goal. However, this likely be achieved over the next month, in time for the symposium.

Once the symposium is done, the undergraduate research goals do not end. Achieving the April goals below is paramount to be able to declare this goal achieved.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Renew the SU's Research political policy (July)
- Form an SU Undergraduate Research Symposium Planning Committee (July)
- Collaborate with the university's Undergraduate Research Initiative and its advisory board
- Develop a close working relationship with the university's Vice-President (Research) and Associate Vice-President (Research)

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Work closely with the SU's DRPA to produce a sponsorship package (August)
- Raise at least \$10,000 in awards for the undergraduate research symposium, partnering with key university stakeholders in the process (September)
- Work with the SU Marketing Department for an undergraduate research awareness campaign (October)
- Hold Canada's largest student undergraduate research symposium (November)
- Write a detailed succession plan for the next VPA to facilitate planning of the next conference (March)
- Advocate for the inclusion of professor research interests on course syllabi (April)
- Develop Yaffle, which is a centralized undergraduate research database for students interested in participating in undergraduate research opportunities (April)

### **3. Student Governance**

*Summary:*

The goals listed as completed below are still in progress. I have been highly impressed thus far by the Student Governance Office's (SGO) superlative work. The SGO and I set a thorough fall schedule, highlighted by two Discovering Governance sessions, regarding how to receive good answers in meetings, as well as conflict resolution training. The GFC Student Caucus meetings have been very well attended, and the first GFC meeting of the year saw about 20 students in attendance (which was quite a good turnout).

*Tasks Completed:*

- Collaborate with the Student Governance Advisor and the Student Governance Officer
- Encourage student participation on the General Faculties Council Student Caucus
- Establish a student delegate cabinet for SU representatives (September)

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Develop a full Fall and Winter semester schedule for Discovering Governance programming (October)
- Launch a well-planned student governance recruitment strategy (March)
- Conduct exit interviews for students in university governance (April)

### **4. Faculty Associations & Council of Faculty Associations**

*Summary:*

Many of the goals listed below are vague, so it is difficult to gauge whether they have been accomplished. Up to this point, I am fairly satisfied with my work with FAs. I've managed to attend a few FA meetings consistently, and I have in turn learned quite a bit. However, the bulk of the work is only beginning: CoFA meets for the first time in early October and the three-year strategic plan committee will be established soon. My January goals document will provide a much clearer view of the progress related to FAs.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Regularly attend FA meetings throughout the academic year (ongoing)
- Develop a deeper understanding of each FA's unique culture (ongoing)

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Regularly attend FA meetings throughout the academic year
- Use CoFA to gain valuable input regarding large issues affecting students
- Enhance communication processes between the SU and FAs
- Work closely with FAs that require support from the VPA
- Develop a three-year CoFA strategic plan (March)
- Clarify reporting and financial requirements between the SU and FAs (April)

## **5. Assessment and Grading Policy Suite**

*Summary:*

Although the policy suite has been going through university governance for discussion over the last year, the real work is only about to begin. The policy suite is impressive at the moment, but governance unfortunately provides opportunity for poor revisions to be made. Once this is taken up in university governance over the next months, it will be crucial for me to ensure that the policy suite remains intact. This will take meticulous work. I will have to be more prepared than anyone else in university meetings, because even the smallest changes in wording to the policy could be significant in their implications for students.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Continue to work closely with the Provostial Fellow and SU representative on the CLE subcommittee on attributes and competencies
- Advocate in university governance for a policy suite that emphasizes assessment based on achievement of clear learning outcomes

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Maintain awareness of the continuous revisions made to the AGPS
- Prepare thoroughly for university governance meetings by collaborating closely with the SU University Governance and Advocacy Advisor
- See the university officially approve the AGPS in the Winter 2012 semester (April)

## **6. Transfer Credits**

*Summary:*

The transfer credit system is highly complex and in my opinion, just as interesting. It affects so many students, and potentially decreases many individuals' desire to study abroad, simply

because of the current system's lack of clarity. The university is fortunate that the chair of the transfer credit task force is superb, which makes my job as an advocate much easier. It looks to me like the university is making some positive steps. First, both the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science will pioneer changes to the transfer credit system, which promote consistent pre-approval for transfer credit (in other words, you know that your courses taken abroad transfer for credit at the U of A, *before* you actually go abroad). Second, the creation and online posting of a transfer credit database, so that students know which courses at foreign partner institutions historically transfer over for credit at the University of Alberta.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Regularly attend and participate actively on the university's TCTF
- Work with the SU University Governance and Advocacy Advisor to develop a more nuanced understanding of transfer credit procedures at the U of A

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Ensure that each TCTF's working group has student representation
- Ensure that the task force's final report recommends a clearer transfer credit process for students studying abroad (January)
- Ensure that the task force's final report recommends expansion of its current study abroad transfer credit precedent table (January)
- Prepare the next VPA to advocate for the creation of a more comprehensive cross-faculty study abroad transfer credit table (April)

## **7. Student Engagement**

*Summary:*

I've been satisfied with the progress made on this goal. In the 2011 executive elections, I expressed concern with the overuse of the word "engagement." I felt that too many individuals use the word without understanding what it actually means. For me, engagement means doing something that you are passionate about, and contributing in your own original way, whether this is part of the SU or not. With Orientation, we managed to include five faculty associations, as they hosted 45-80 minute sessions. Many of these FAs increased their listserv by hundreds of students, which hopefully means that more first-year students are made aware of opportunities that could set an excellent tone for their years on campus. In terms of the Academic Relations Group, it is currently being established under another name: the AcaDream Team.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Work closely with the Centre for Student Development in order to include faculty associations in Orientation (September)
- Serve on the Student Volunteer Engagement Committee as a professional development coordinator
- Collaborate with engaged councillors and students at-large throughout the year
- Work with the Student Financial Aid Information Centre to create an SU corporate team (September)
- Have a minimum of four FAs lead student sessions during orientation (September 6)

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Hold one SU corporate team event per month in order to forge a tighter bond between various SU staff and volunteers
- Lead a Student Volunteer Engagement Committee professional development session on effective recruitment strategies
- Establish an Academic Relations Group that will advise the VPA on a monthly basis (October)

## **8. Social Media**

*Summary:*

The use of social media has been decent thus far, though there is plenty of room for improvement. I've blogged about 15 times, which falls short of the ambitious goal of once per week. The use of Twitter has been consistent though. I've also attempted to post online links to VPA initiatives, like the Undergraduate Research Symposium Team, the delegate cabinet opportunities and the AcaDream Team positions. I'm starting to see students stumble upon these links and then send me e-mails for more information, which is exactly what I am aiming for.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Work closely with the SU External Communications and Media Advisor to develop sound social media practices
- Collaborate with the SU Digital Media Coordinator to post VPA-related initiatives on the SU website

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Continually brainstorm innovative ways to communicate key academic initiatives to the student body
- Write a minimum of one blog post per week for the SU executive blog
- Tweet through the VPA account at least twice per day

## **9. Sustainability**

*Summary:*

Being the first VPA to integrate sustainability into her/his platform means that there will be some bumps throughout the year. I've done a lot of thinking about how academics and sustainability relate and am starting to develop a better mental picture. I would like to host a Sustainability Awareness Week event, entitled "Sustainability and Student Attributes," and apply for Green Grant from the Office of Sustainability to fund this event. Taken together, these are small steps forward for academic sustainability on campus.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Serve on the Office of Sustainability's Academic Advisory Committee (June)
- Use the deliberative democracy process for consultations with students and university stakeholders (October)

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Collaborate with Sustain SU regarding various academic sustainability initiatives

- Advocate for sustainable academic practices for both student and faculty
- Attend the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education annual conference (October)
- Ensure that the Office of Sustainability's academic sustainability report recommends double-sided printing of examinations whenever feasible (December)
- See that the university's proposed sustainability certificate is implemented (April)

## **10. Fall Reading Week**

### *Summary:*

The summer 2011 Fall Reading Week Task Force was very effective, and we are finished the final report (which has been sent to the Provost). I chaired two meetings while the President was away, and those meetings progressed quite nicely. Still, the large majority of the work under this goal is set to begin in October. The VPA may be involved in wide consultations across the university, and I will play a role in facilitating the movement of a fall reading week discussion item through university governance.

### *Tasks Completed:*

- Work closely with the Director of Research and Political Affairs, University Governance and Advocacy Advisor and University Policy and Information Officer
- Regularly attend and participate actively on the university's FRWTF
- Serve as co-chair of the task force when required (July)
- FRWTF report to the Provost (September)

### *Tasks Remaining:*

- Consult SU services regarding the possible implementation of a "Co-Curricular Week," which would be similar to the week established at York University (October)
- See the university approve the creation of a FRW (Winter 2012)

## **11. Academic Materials**

### *Summary:*

This is the goal that has transformed the most over the last five months. With the university bowing out of the Access Copyright Agreement, and given the political climate federally, the academic materials industry will see marked change over the next months. The goals that you see listed below are limited. For the winter semester, I plan on working with the Department of Research and Political Affairs to roll out a comprehensive Be Book Smart campaign, to instruct both professors and students about textbook prices. Moreover, I plan on organizing a Canadian Roundtable on Academic Materials conference, to bring together students, bookstores and publishers to establish mutual goals pertaining to the academic materials industry.

### *Tasks Completed:*

- Stay apprised of literature regarding digital books and copyright law

### *Tasks Remaining:*

- Develop a stronger understanding of the SU past academic materials advocacy campaigns, such as "Be Book Smart"

- Work closely with the SU General Manager and Digital Media Coordinator in order to post instructional materials purchasing tips for students and instructors on the SU website
- Stay apprised of literature regarding digital books and copyright law
- Transfer previous SU textbook purchasing tips to the current SU website (September)
- Include questions regarding academic materials on the upcoming SU survey (December)

## VICE PRESIDENT (EXTERNAL)

This report is an overview of the work done on the external side of the organization in the first four months. There are two benefits for writing it: the first is for councillors to be aware of the work produced. Second, it is crucial for me to look back at my time here in order to make the most of the next eight months.

### 1. Get Out The Vote

#### *Summary:*

This goal has by far taken the most amount of time from my summer, but we're on track. If a fall provincial election is called we will be ready. The campaign will be even stronger in the spring if the election is called then. So far the number of volunteers who signed up (140+) is a good indicator. We will be doing more volunteer recruitment during the beginning of the Fall semester.

#### *Tasks Completed:*

- Council approval of budget from the Elections Reserve (July)
- Advertise the GOTV Volunteer Coordinator position (August)
- Hire GOTV Volunteer Coordinator (September)

#### *Tasks Remaining:*

- Recruit Volunteers (This is ongoing, however we're still nowhere near completed. This task was originally prepared to be complete by the end of September, however I can see it dragging into the first week of October)
- Host campaign events and debates on campus (October)
- Create a database for the signatures collected (October)
- Renew GOTV Volunteer Coordinator position (November)\*
- Council approval of a winter budget (December - January)\*
- Recruiting volunteers (January)\*
- Hosting campus events (February - March)\*

\*Contingent upon a provincial election happening in 2012 instead

### 2. Lobby Training

#### *Summary:*

I am really behind on this goal. I have yet to draft a proposal for the program.

Unfortunately, I kept pushing it back, and it has drifted from my day-to-day priorities. What I will do now in order not to repeat this omission is set up times in my schedule each week

where I only work on lobby training. So far I have a clear ideas about the format and content of the program, I just need to put all those ideas down, organize them, and turn them into a proposal. My original intention was to hold the seminar in October. It is looking less likely that this will occur. It will most likely be pushed back to November, and if a fall election is called lobby training could begin as late as January.

*Original Tasks:*

- Write a draft proposal with program details (September)
- Recruit a small pool of volunteers to help with the organization (September)
- Invite guest speakers (August - September)
- Hold the first seminar (October)
- Follow up meetings with participants (October - November)

*Updated – Tasks Remaining:*

- Write a draft proposal with program details (October)
- Recruit a small pool of volunteers to help with the organization (October)
- Invite guest speakers (October)
- Hold the first seminar (November or January)
- Follow up meetings with participants (January - February)

### **3. Regulate Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees**

*Summary:*

The work outlined in executive goals is on track. We are still trying to work out a solution with the university as we were directed to do by the provincial government. On the external side, we have brought up mandatory non-instructional fees as our biggest priority in our lobbying efforts with the Ministry of Advanced Education and Technology, two provincial party leaders, as well as two Progressive Conservative leadership candidates.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Letter to U of A Provost on a proposed solution (July)

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Meetings and ongoing negotiation with university administration (August-October)
- Lobby the provincial government through CAUS throughout the year

### **4. Improve the Elections Act**

*Summary:*

This goal is becoming more and more realistic as our lobbying efforts move forward. Of our entire provincial asks, this one has received the strongest support. The Leader of the Opposition, Raj Sherman, said that he would do it. So did two of the Progressive Conservative candidates. Although, it is harder to tell when the change will actually occur, there has not been opposition to this point.

Although it does not fall directly under this goal, I would like to express gratitude to all of the efforts the Students' Union has put towards the enumeration process. With two SU councillors and an SU staff member stepping up to be enumerators for our campus residence, I am hopeful that we will have the best enumeration turnout. We have fought

against the “tabling only” for residence enumeration strategy, and succeeded at providing both the door knocking and booth for enumeration. This would not have been possible if it was not for SU council stepping up and backing this initiative.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Lobby the Chief Electoral Officer to recommend these changes for the next election (June)
- Email students living in residence about enumeration through collaboration with Elections Alberta to (August - September)
- Inform all students about how to properly determine their ordinary residence by meeting with the RHA, Lister Council and informing Floor Coordinators (August – January)

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Lobby party leadership candidates to include reforms as part of their platforms (June – October)
- Blog regularly about the election

## **5. Increase Non-Repayable Grants**

*Summary:*

I am proud to say that both CASA and CAUS have this goal as one of their lobbying priorities. We are tackling this issue from both the provincial and federal side.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Prepare to include grants as a priority for CASA (July)

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Lobby provincial party leaders to support non-repayable grants (June - September)
- Support CAUS in its lobby training efforts throughout the year

## **6. Book Importation Tax/Copyright**

*Summary*

This was one of the riskiest goals I included in my goals document. The risk came from its dependence on CASA in achieving this goal. Rory and I succeeded by making this a top priority for CASA this year. The latest step for this goal was including it as one of three issues lobbied on in CASA's pre-budget submission.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Prepare to introduce this goal at CASA Policy and Strategy Conference (June-July)

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Lobby local MPs to remove book import premiums (August-April)
- Follow progress of the Copyright Modernization Act closely

## **7. Bylaw 2000 Renewal**

*Summary:*

The Elections Review Committee that I chair has made a lot of progress to improve bylaw

2000. I have worked on splitting bylaw 2000 into a bylaw 2X00 for the sake of brevity. The Committee will be giving a presentation on September 27 regarding the proposed changes, and we will be seeking a council motion in October. We're on track.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Define areas where Bylaw 2000 needs renewal (August)
- Draft changes through Election Review Committee (June - September)
- Council Presentation (September)

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Council Motion (October)

## **8. Remove Property Tax on Student Residence**

*Summary:*

As I said before in Council and Policy Committee meetings, this goal is a wild card, meaning I would work on it depending on how busy I am with the other goals. We have drafted the lobby document in September rather than in July when I initially hoped. I will be sent to MLAs soon. We have started the conversation on joint lobbying in August with the RHA. We have also recently discussed it with the university.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Create a lobby document with data on student residences (September)
- Work with the Residence Halls Association and the university to do joint lobbying (August - ongoing)

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Lobby government leaders throughout the year to introduce policies to eliminate this tax

## **9. International Students**

*Summary*

CASA has also picked this goal up as a lobby priority thanks to the work of Rory, Justin and me. We will keep pushing for removal of the \$150 fee for an off-campus work permit and allowing multiple entry visas after the hard effort put into this goal by CASA last year.

*Tasks Accomplished:*

- Introduce this goal at CASA Policy and Strategy Conference (July) ‘
- Meet with University of Alberta International to learn more about some of the problems faced by International Students in the workforce (June)

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Oppose any increases to differential tuition for international students
- Lobby MPs on this issue during Lobby Conference (October)

## VICE PRESIDENT (OPERATIONS & FINANCE)

### 1. Students' Union Building Renewal

#### *Summary:*

This goal has been and will continue to be my biggest focus. So far, all the pieces have come together according to plan, and we will continue to pursue thorough processes according to an active timeline. As the project evolves, different options are coming into play while others are being ruled out. This is to be expected in the conceptual phase, and it is clear that our final vision – whatever it may be – will solve many challenges.

#### *Tasks Completed:*

- Relocated Peer Support Centre to the second floor
- Relocated Governance Department into space vacated by the Peer Support Centre move
- Secured funding for capital project management and planning
- Selected a project manager and architect to produce SUB concept plan
- Started information-gathering phase of stakeholder consultations for SUB renovations
- Installed more electrical outlets throughout SUBstage seating area

#### *Tasks Remaining:*

- Reallocate space vacated by Campus Food Bank and Peer Support Centre moves (ongoing)
- Engage all stakeholders in the planning of SUB renovations (ongoing)
- Pursue options to finance renovations (ongoing)
- Relocate Campus Food Bank to main floor (January)
- Work with architects to produce a comprehensive building vision and plan for SUB (April)

### 2. Other Student Space

#### *Summary:*

This goal is an amalgam of the PAW Centre and the Power Plant, and the balance of my effort has been heavily tipped towards the PAW Centre. The building's design is on track to be routed through university governance this fall, and an agreement isn't far off either. The Power Plant discussions will gain momentum this fall as our work on the PAW Centre winds down.

#### *Tasks Completed:*

- Provided input to the PAW Centre design
- Collaborated on the PAW Centre agreement

#### *Tasks Remaining:*

- Present PAW Centre design to Students' Council (October)
- PAW Centre agreement signed with the University and GSA (January)
- Unveil PAW Centre design to student body (January)
- Secure a new lease in the Power Plant through negotiations with the university and Graduate Students' Association (January)
- Develop a long-term vision for the Power Plant (April)

### **3. Food and Beverage**

#### *Summary:*

There have been successes under this goal with the hiring of a capable chef and the implementation of a meal-plan GST exemption. Work on product development continues behind the scenes and new menus will be unveiled on an ongoing basis. I plan to put a major focus on improving the customer experience at Room At The Top.

#### *Tasks Completed:*

- Interviewed and hired a Product Development Expert
- Received approval to exempt meal-plan purchases from GST
- Reprogrammed point-of-sale machines to implement GST exemption

#### *Tasks Remaining:*

- Improve level of customer service and programming at Room At The Top (ongoing)
- Research and improvements to food and the food court (ongoing)
- Guide the creation of new menu items, including sustainable and special-needs items (April)

### **4. Retail Business Competitiveness and Value Review**

#### *Summary:*

This project picked up around the end of August and will become more systematic once the Operations & Finance Advisory Board membership is selected. Meetings with management have been valuable and I'm looking forward to implementing some positive business changes.

#### *Tasks Completed:*

- Met with management to discuss strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats
- Prepared terms of reference for the Operations & Finance Advisory Board

#### *Tasks Remaining:*

- Deploy the Operations & Finance Advisory Board (September)
- Compile feedback on businesses and communicate to management (April)
- Review recommendations are implemented (ongoing)

### **5. Awards and Grants**

#### *Summary:*

Decisions made last year paved the way for significant changes to the Students' Union Awards Program. Taking advantage of this opportunity has been more work than expected, but through the commitment of all parties we have restructured and dramatically increased the awards available.

#### *Tasks Completed:*

- Authorized the necessary financial transfers for a major awards program expansion
- Developed a set of principles to create new awards that incorporate a financial-need criterion

- Worked with GAC and SFAIC to create new awards
- Met with SGS and the Dean of Students to evaluate and update granting procedures

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Implement updates to student group granting procedures (October)
- Deliver new awards (March)

## **6. Communication**

*Summary:*

This goal has been given perhaps less attention than it deserves. Rather than trying to do everything at once, my strategy is to optimize what we do within the building before it expands beyond our walls.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Contract with design firm to revision the Infolink kiosk in SUB

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Work to install communication infrastructure at select locations on campus (ongoing)
- Expansion of communication tools (ongoing)
- Assessment and improvement of SUTV (ongoing)

## **7. Sustainability Assessment**

*Summary:*

The President has taken the lead on this project. When the Sustainability Assessment is circulated for feedback I look forward to providing my input. The final document will serve as a basis to better coordinate our approach towards sustainability initiatives.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Received BOMA BEST Level 2 certification for the Students' Union Building

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Assist President in finalizing SA recommendations (December)
- Work with President to prepare a sustainability implementation plan (April)

## **8. Strategic Planning**

*Summary:*

A lot of work has been done to refine our organization planning processes. Ideas that have been discussed will need to be formalized in preparation for this year's budget cycle.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Worked on policy governing operational planning
- Summer management retreat

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Develop and formalize an integrated strategic planning process (October)

- Incorporate the strategic plan at the level of the Budget and Finance Committee (December)
- Winter management retreat (December)
- Up-to-date department operating plans (January)
- Finalize 2012-2013 operating budget (April)

## VICE PRESIDENT (STUDENT LIFE)

### 1. Optimize Programming and Venues

*Summary:*

As it is still early in the year, there is much work to be done on this goal. Week of Welcome is the only major event that we have hosted thus far and it was extremely successful in both financial and attendance numbers. I hope that we can channel the hype and success from Week of Welcome to our other events this year.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Host a successful Week of Welcome while staying in budget
- Utilize our venues for well-attended student events like Christian Hansen and the Autistics

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Continue hosting successful student events that are well advertised and well planned to increase the fervor of student engagement on campus (ongoing)

### 2. Access Fund and Awards Program

*Summary:*

We have nearly completed the new awards program with the hard work and dedication of the SFAIC staff and the Grant Allocation Committee. We have managed to approximately triple the number of awards that our Students' Union will give out this year to deserving students. We have also been through two sessions of the Access Fund Selection Committee and Appeals and everything has gone off without a hitch.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Expand the existing awards program using funds from the Access Fund endowment
- Provide fair and proper procedure for the selection of Access Fund bursary recipients

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Finalize the awards program and pass it through GAC and Students' Council
- Attend the Access Fund Selection Committee meetings for the rest of the year when no other GAC members are available

### 3. Infolink and SUTV

*Summary:*

Over the year we plan to phase in aspects of the Infolink revitalization plan to modernize our service, making it more efficient and effective in meeting student needs now and in the future. We also plan to expand the SUTV program across campus to provide easy-access information for students.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Rebranding of Infolink tagline from Infolink: Academic and Information Services to Infolink: Your Campus Connection
- Infolink staff revitalized the Tutor Registry program
- Conducted numerous meetings with Infolink staff to discuss how we can move forward
- Gained university interest in expanding the SUTV program and have increased the number of external advertisers

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Develop an action plan to implement changes to the Infolink service based on the recommendations in the revitalization plan
- Create and sign off on an SUTV expansion plan with the university

#### **4. U-Pass**

*Summary:*

I have gained a lot of ground on my numerous U-Pass initiatives over the summer. Due to a series of successful meetings with ETS and our partner student associations throughout the city we are on track to hold a referendum question regarding the implementation of the spring/summer U-Pass this March. Our lobbying efforts for the inclusion of Spruce Grove, Stony Plain, and Fort Saskatchewan to the U-Pass program have stirred up a significant amount of attention from other parties advocating on transit issues. I have also been in support of ETS' efforts to implement SMARTcard technology into the transit system.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Meet with internal university partners to discuss the implementation of the spring/summer U-Pass
- Meet with external city and student partners to discuss the implementation of the spring/summer U-Pass
- Create a lobby document for the inclusion of the three outstanding municipalities and circulate it through the appropriate committees

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Include questions regarding the spring/summer U-Pass in the Undergraduate Student Survey
- Hold a successful spring/summer U-Pass referendum in March
- Meet with City Council to discuss our U-Pass and transit initiatives
- Lobby the outstanding municipalities to join the U-Pass program

## **5. Sexual Orientation and Gender Equity Centre**

### *Summary:*

I am quite behind on this goal as I have not had much time to formally sit down with the related student groups and build support for this idea. However, I have contacted representatives from ISMSS and Siderite to discuss their goals for the year and how they see us working together in the future. The Department of Research & Political Affairs provided me with a brief on similar services throughout Canada and I visited numerous equity centres on our trip touring universities in Ontario. I also met with the director of the Q Centre at the University of Calgary.

### *Tasks Completed:*

- Consult with members of 2/3 of the sexual orientation/equity groups on campus
- Research and visit similar services that exist at universities across Canada

### *Tasks Remaining:*

- Attend ISMSS, Sideright, and OUTreach council meetings to pitch my idea
- Write a formal document outlining my plan for the creation of a Sexual Orientation and Gender Equity service and permanent space on campus

## **6. Thrift Store**

### *Summary:*

I am very excited that we will be partnering with APIRG to run a thrift store this year during Sustainability Awareness Week from the 17-21 of October.

### *Tasks Completed:*

- Meet with APIRG to organize our collaboration on the thrift store project
- Complete an event submission for Sustainability Awareness Week

### *Tasks Remaining:*

- Create marketing materials to promote the event
- Recruit volunteers to run the thrift store
- Complete a logistical plan for the operation of the store

## **7. Alcohol Policy**

### *Summary:*

Earlier in the summer we made a lot of progress raising issues related to the alcohol policy. I attended numerous alcohol policy review meetings hosted by Risk Management as well as an alcohol policy discussion with members of the university's senior administration. I am hoping that the university will renew discussion on this topic soon. I am consulting groups that work with the alcohol policy such as Student Group Services to see what changes they would like made to the policy so that we can provide a recommendation package from the SU. The President also lead a town hall meeting at the beginning of the summer with a number of student groups and our affiliates who interact with the alcohol policy on a regular basis.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Host a town hall meeting to collect stakeholder feedback
- Attend alcohol policy review meetings
- Meet with university senior administration to raise our concerns with the current policy

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Create a recommendation document for the changes that the Students' Union would like to see made to the policy
- Renew discussion on the policy and attend regular meetings until a new draft of the policy has been completed

## **8. Food Quality, Variety, Affordability**

*Summary:*

Food is probably the number one non-academic issue on students' minds right now. Numerous external groups have approached me asking for ways that they can promote the availability of healthy, affordable, and diverse food options on campus, as well as how they can get access to more food preparation resources. We have taken the initiative to create a food policy to help direct our external advocacy efforts related to food. The policy is currently being finalized in policy committee and will soon be coming to Students' Council. I have met with groups such as the Health and Wellness Movement and the Health and Wellness Team to see how we can collaborate and improve the food situation on campus. I have advocated to the university for lower food prices and to increase the quality, affordability and variety of food on campus.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Met with external groups to discuss how we can work together to improve the food situation on campus
- Advocated to the university on food issues in RBAC, HPAC and 1-on-1 meetings
- Begin creation of an SU political policy on food
- Mentioned the creation of a university-wide student food steering committee

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Finalize the SU food policy and pass it through council
- Work with HWM and HWT to improve the availability of healthy and nutritious food on campus and to provide easily accessible nutritional information for the food products sold
- Work with the VP (Operations and Finance), the Sustainable Food Initiative and the Community Service Learning program to help with programs such as the farmers' market and helping students get access to more fresh produce

## **9. Health Centre Advisory Group**

*Summary:*

We have only had one meeting of the Health Centre Advisory Group but I was able to mention our initiative to combine the Health Centre Fee and the University Student Services

Fee to help balance program spending. We were also able to bring up the fact that the Students' Union opposes charging usage fees for mental health services.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Inform the committee of our initiative to combine the Health Center Fee and the USS Fee.
- Oppose efforts to charge a mental health services usage fee

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Follow up on efforts to combine the Health Centre Fee and the USS Fee by encouraging the committee members to research the appropriate usage and budget data necessary to make such a decision.

## **10. International Students**

*Summary:*

We have made progress on addressing international student issues by working with groups such as the International Centre and University of Alberta International to develop support programs. I met with Raymond Matthias from UAI to work on an international student group event-granting proposal. I have also been meeting with the VP (Academic) and Councillor Zinyemba to discuss the creation of an international student advocacy body or an international student association. There is much work to be done on this initiative but I believe that it could be extremely beneficial to improving international student representation in governance.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Met with Raymond Matthias to discuss international student group event granting
- Met with Brita Baron (Vice Provost International) and Doug Weir from UAI to discuss how we can work together to promote international student initiatives and support international students on campus
- Met with the VP Academic and Councillor Zinyema to discuss the creation of an international student association

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Follow up with Raymond and SGS to implement the international student group grants
- Hold stakeholder meetings with international student leaders to discuss the creation of an international student association and gain support on this initiative from the university

## **11. Mental Health**

*Summary:*

I have not been able to see many tangible results from my efforts working on this goal, but we have received a large amount of publicity from displaying information about mental health to the public. I have had a number of conversations with the Dean of Students as well as the representatives from the Health Centre about how we can improve student mental health on campus. With the successful move of the Peer Support Centre to the second floor of SUB, I think that we will see an increase in the number of students using mental health and counseling services.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Oversee the successful relocation of the Peer Support Centre to the second floor of SUB
- Stress the importance of mental health initiatives at university committees
- Communicated the results of the National College Health Association Survey (University of Alberta results) and had them published in the Globe and Mail

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Follow up with the Dean of Students' Office to ensure that their plans to introduce a counselor and dietician to residence are completed
- Review the results of the most recent NCHA survey and compare the data with previous years to see if our initiatives have made any improvements on student mental health
- Find a way to introduce more counselors to the student counseling centre

## **12. PAW Centre**

*Summary:*

We have had numerous meetings regarding the PAW Centre over the summer, but our progress has stagnated due to difficulties with the contract and delays in our design meetings. Overall, the project still seems to be in good shape and should see final approval near the beginning of the Winter term. I think that we have been doing a good job keeping up to date on our own initiatives for the facility and by advocating for the implementation of sustainable features in the building design.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Worked with the Healthnuts to get an idea of what students need in the teaching kitchen
- Worked with SUSTAIN SU to develop a design plan for the bike library

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Sign off on the final contract with the university
- Complete the design phase of the project
- Present the PAW Centre to Students' Council and pass the project fee

## **13. Residence**

*Summary:*

There have been a number of changes in residence this year and so far most of them have gone well. The restorative justice discipline system created some initial confusion when it was first implemented, but students have adapted to it quickly. Residence Services has reported that the quiet and dry floors have been a success. I have expressed my concern about the high meal prices in the new Lister servery and have received hopeful feedback that more affordable items will be added to the menu. Overall my new position chairing the Residence Halls Association has been a lot of work, but has contributed to an increased level of accountability in the organization. I hope to share some of these responsibilities with the RHA members as they become more comfortable with their positions.

*Tasks Completed:*

- New Residence Community Standards and Restorative Justice training program

- Help the RHA develop as an operable and competent governance body
- Ensure that the Lister servery renovations were completed in time for fall move-in
- Advocate to improve the food situation regarding the meal plan and the quality, affordability and variety of food provided to residents

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Create a Residence Life governance committee
- Ensure that improvements are made to HUB security
- Hold Residence Services accountable to their mandate to serve residents to the best of their ability by ensuring that new initiatives are in the best interest of residents and their respective residence associations

## **14. Sustainability**

*Summary:*

I have worked closely with the Office of Sustainability and SUSTAIN SU to promote a number of sustainable initiatives across campus and within our own SU operations. The inclusion of sustainable features in Week of Welcome and Orientation were a resounding success and helped strengthen our relationship with the OoS. I plan to include my thrift store idea as an event in Sustainability Awareness Week and we will be partnering with APIRG on the project. I plan to attend the AASHE sustainability conference in Pittsburgh in October to learn more about how I can implement sustainable initiatives on our campus.

*Tasks Completed:*

- Incorporated sustainable initiatives in WOW and Orientation
- Submitted a proposal for the thrift store in SAW
- Approved the agreement between the OoS and SUSTAIN SU
- Confirmed a space for the SUSTAIN SU bike library in the PAW Centre
- Introduced water bottle refilling stations in SUB

*Tasks Remaining:*

- Host a successful thrift store during SAW and host the event regularly if it seems to be reasonable and achievable for our operations
- Attend AASHE and write a thorough report to help implement my sustainability knowledge into our institutional memory
- Help create initiatives to complement the recommendations in the Sustainability Assessment

October 6 2011

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Council

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## **Introduction**

This has been a really busy couple of weeks mostly focused around a few issues. As such this report will be fairly brief but please ask me any questions that you may have!

## **Building Project**

The General Manager, the Vice President (Operations & Finance) and I have been meeting with different members of the University to talk about expansion opportunities for our building. These conversations need to happen very quickly as they will largely determine the scope of the renovations that we are looking at. There are a couple of different options that we are looking at that would get us space in other buildings but it is really too early to tell where the conversation will go.

## **Fall Reading Week**

I am still waiting to hear back from the Provost on the response to the Fall Reading Week Task Forces proposal. I will be giving a presentation on some of the Task Forces work at this council meeting.

## **Meeting with Councilors**

I have been meeting with the last of the Councilors and should be finished by next week. At that point I will put together a summary of what came out of the meetings and how the SU is addressing the goals.

## **Budget Advisory Committee**

The Vice President (Academic), Vice President (External), Director of Research & Political Affairs and I have begun the budget consultations with the University. The discussions have largely focused on the CoSSS fee and the possibility of regulating Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees. We have provided the University a proposal of what we would like to see the regulation look like and are awaiting a response.

## **PAW Centre**

The PAW Centre has taken up a lot of my time over the past couple of weeks. The General Manager has been working really hard on the Agreement and we have worked together to clarify all of the remaining issues. We have also been meeting regularly with the GSA and our lawyers to work out the final details and met with the Provost and Vice President (Facilities & Operations) recently to discuss how best to move forward. I think we are very close to a final agreement and I look forward to seeing it through in a timely fashion. I would like to note the amazing work of the General Manager on all of this.

**If you have any further questions, suggestions, or concerns,** please do not hesitate to follow-up with me, either in person at SUB 2-900, by phone at 780-492-4236, or by email at [president@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:president@su.ualberta.ca).

October 16, 2011

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Council

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Hello Council,

Below are the highlights since my last report.

### **Capital Project Planning**

Last week saw a series of information gathering sessions, including meetings with services staff, management, Council and student groups. The SUB Planning Steering Committee received a detailed overview of the project. We expect to receive some preliminary concepts from our architects next week, as we transition the consultations to the workshop phase.

### **PAW Centre**

We have reviewed the PAW Centre draft design development report and provided feedback. The design will be presented at this meeting of Council, prior to its submission to University governance.

### **Granting**

A successful student group granting meeting last week concluded the September granting cycle. The number and quality of applications created a higher than anticipated demand, although this was largely tempered by funds carried over from the previous session.

### **Accessibility Advisory Committee**

I attended my first meeting of the AAC, whose membership includes representative from Specialized Support and Disability Services and the Office of the University Architect. The committee focuses largely on accessible design elements in campus facilities.

### **GAC**

We met Wednesday, October 5 to work on Access Fund and Awards topics. After much discussion, several AF policy changes were codified into standing orders. We have a few other policy matters to work on at the next meeting or two. Standing Orders were also updated to reflect the new financial need component to award selection. That update represents the completion of the awards program expansion.

Should you have any questions, comments or concerns, feel free to get in touch at 780-492-4236 or [vp.finance@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:vp.finance@su.ualberta.ca). If you wish to discuss any topics in depth, I would welcome the opportunity to meet in person.

Cheers,



Andy Cheema

VPA Council Report  
Date: October 7 2011  
By: Emerson Csorba

## INTRODUCTION

The last week of September and first week of October have been quite busy. Much of my focus has been on the upcoming symposium, as well as the “Sustainability and Student Attributes” event being hosted for Sustainability Awareness Week (SAW). Please note that I will be away from October 8-13 2011 at a sustainability conference (AASHE) in Pittsburgh.

## UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Much of my time over the last weeks has been dedicated to undergraduate research. We got the website up and running, and the call for abstracts, along with the submission form, is up. The SU Marketing Department also finished the sponsorship package, which is now being shared to the URS Team, who will help with the fundraising. The Undergraduate Research Initiative, Alumni Association and Campus Saint-Jean, among others, are partners in the event. I also chaired two URS Team meetings, where we brainstormed how the symposium can effectively share students’ stories about their experiences in undergraduate research.

## STUDENT ATTRIBUTES

I’ve spent most of the last weeks prepping for the next meeting, essentially serving as the committee secretary. We also presented the finalized CLE Subcommittee on Attributes and Competencies terms of reference at CLE, which was approved. The next subcommittee meeting will likely take place on October 13/14. I apologize for taking longer than expected to return the typed interview transcripts to students that sat down for a student attributes interview. Transcribing dozens of interviews is definitely time-consuming.

## SUSTAINABILITY

Over the last two weeks, I have been gathering speakers for the October 19 SAW event, entitled “Sustainability and Student Attributes.” Dr. Susan Barker from the Faculty of Education will serve as a speaker, along with a Centre for Teaching and Learning representative and a handful of students. I hope to see you all out to the 4-5pm event, which takes place in the SUB Alumni Room. From October 8-13, I will be in Pittsburgh for the annual Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education conference. You might be wondering why the VPA is attending a sustainability conference. I chose AASHE because sustainability is one of the SU’s values in the recent strategic plan, and it is a goal in my VPA executive goals. I believe that if I am to advocate for something, that I better understand what I am talking about inside and out. I’ll be putting my nose down at this conference, and will have a thorough conference report ready for you following my return to Edmonton.

## COUNCIL OF FACULTY ASSOCIATIONS (CoFA)

I chaired the first fall meeting of CoFA on October 6. The meeting was relatively short, and the Council elected a handful of students to sit on the CoFA Strategic Planning Committee. The ISSS also led a discussion on faculty-based academic advising at the U of A. The FAs in the room agreed that the ISSS should return to the committee with a terms of reference for a CoFA Advising Committee, which would study the advising services offered by different faculties, as well as a set of recommendations.

#### HIRING COMMITTEE INTERVIEWS

I've spent the better part of a few days interviewing candidates for the Student Ombudsperson position and the new Bookstore Director. The interviews are now finished, and the successful candidates should be at work within the next month or so.

#### UNIVERSITY WRITING COMMITTEE

I attended my first ever University Writing Committee, which stems from a task force with the best acronym ever: the Writing Task Force. We discussed the potential expansion of the current writing centre. I was asked to write a paragraph to be included in the upcoming fall 2011 Writing Centre newsletter, which I did.

#### CENTRE FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

During this meeting, I successfully advocated for the inclusion of the term "research-based" in the mission statement of CTL. I am a strong proponent of evidence-based action; without the inclusion of "research-based" education in the CTL mission, it is possible that future CTL directors provide teaching support based on what works in *their* experiences, versus what works based on research/evidence. That is a crucial distinction, so I am very happy that this term was used in the mission statement.

#### UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

The beginning of a new month marks the start-up of university governance committees, so much of my time has been spent at various GFC standing committees. Academic integrity is the major discussion item in these committees, and I have repeatedly spoken in favour of recommendation #3 (the establishment of an Academic Integrity Council) and against recommendation #9 (reviewing e-resources like turnitin).

#### CONCLUSION

If you have any questions, please drop by 2-900, call me at 780.492.4236 or send off an e-mail at [vp.academic@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:vp.academic@su.ualberta.ca). I look forward to your questions!

In solidarity,

Emerson Csorba

September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011

To: Students' Council

Re: VPX Report to Council

### **Alberta's new Premier**

Alison Redford was elected leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Alberta on Saturday October 1<sup>st</sup>. The University of Alberta has met with Alison Redford in August with Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) to discuss our priorities. Alison is a strong supporter of the tuition cap to CPI. She also understands the issues surrounding Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees. Her Post Secondary Policy includes increasing Alberta's participation rates in post-secondary, something that CAUS has been lobbying on since May. Her PSE policy also includes "Developing targeted bursaries for students from rural and remote communities to ease their financial burden", which is a good step in the right direction when it comes to Student Financial Assistance. If you're interested, please read my August 10<sup>th</sup> Council report to gain knowledge regarding our Lobby meeting with Premier Designate Redford.

### **CAUS meeting in Calgary**

The Council of Alberta University Students met in Calgary on Friday September 30<sup>th</sup>. Rory, Justin Williams (Director of Research and Political Affairs), and Maura Frunza (GOTV Volunteer Coordinator) attended. We discussed the progress of GOTV on each of our campuses, U of C is leading with 4000 signatures signed. We also renewed our tuition policy, which is fairly similar to the UASU one. We discussed some timelines regarding GOTV, and what our plans are for when the writ is dropped. We also discussed our Government of Alberta 2012 Budget Submission, currently being drafted and getting better with time.

CAUS along with ACIFA (Alberta Colleges & Institutes Faculties Association), CAFA (Confederation of Alberta Faculty Associations), ASEC (Alberta Student Executives Council), and AGC (Alberta Graduate Council) are doing a poll together regarding PSE issues when the writ is getting dropped. CAUS has contributed \$1000 to the Abacus Data Poll fees.

### **Lobby Meeting with, MP for Edmonton-St. Albert, Brent Rathgeber**

Rory and I met with Member of Parliament for Edmonton-St. Albert, Brent Rathgeber on Friday September 23<sup>rd</sup>. The following were the topics that were covered:

#### Copyright

- 1) Book Importation Regulation
- 2) Digital Locks
- 3) Remove unnecessary requirements to have libraries, students and teachers destroy content within specific time periods

#### Undergraduate Research

- 1) Improve the quantity and experience of UG research by increase UG research internships / grants through the tri-agencies

#### Canada Student Grants Program

- 1) Diversify disbursement of grants to reach out to underrepresented groups
- 2) Tie grants to CPI to maintain purchasing power

### International Students

- 1) Remove the \$150 from the work visas
- 2) Reduce residency from 6 months to 3 months
- 3) Investigate Multi-Entry Visa as opposed to single entry visas

Mr. Rathgeber was generally very receptive to all our asks. He said that we weren't going to find anyone who disagrees with us with regards to Book Importation Regulation and that Mike Lake, MP for Edmonton-Mill Woods-Beaumont will be the person to talk to regarding Book Importation Regulation (we've already sent in a request for a meeting).

When it came to Copyright, we were told that there was no need to worry about keeping Education under fair dealing in the new modernization of the copyright act bill (which turned out to be true, in light of today's news). But that it is going to be hard to achieve our other asks when it comes to copyright.

Mr. Rathgeber was particularly interested in the International Students issues, and asked us to provide him with more information before he can take any action.

### **Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees**

On Monday September 26<sup>th</sup> we had another Budget Advisory Committee (BAC), with the Provost and Vice President (Academic). There's still not much progress made on behalf of the University when it comes to creating a mechanism for student approval of MNIFs, or creating a proper definition for MNIF. However the University did come up with a proposal for a process of reviewing existing MNIF. We are currently reviewing the suggested process and send them back our feedback. The summary of the Process is providing a report with the following:

- 1) Total annual revenue collected by MNIF type
- 2) Published budget of the unit(s), as per the University Data Book, that are supported in part by the MNIF
- 3) Examples of student services provided by the unit(s) that benefit from MNIF

The SU is going to look into this process and provide the University feedback before our next meeting. Please share your comments and ideas regarding this at policy.

### **Bill C-11 Modernization of the Copyright Act**

On Thursday September 29<sup>th</sup>, the Federal Government tabled the latest of the Modernization of Copyright Act Bills, Bill C-11. The Bill is apparently almost the exact same as Bill C-32 (I have not read the Bill yet, as it is not yet up on the website). Education (along with parody and satire) is included under fair dealing, which is a huge step in the right direction. The rest of our CASA asks do not seem to be included there. It is expected that the Bill will be passed by the end of this year.

*"The person who has lived the most is not the one with the most years but the one with the richest experiences." Jean Jacques Rousseau*

Cheers,  
Farid

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

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Tuesday September 27, 2011  
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (SC 2011-11)

2011-11/1

### SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

Meeting called to order at 6:15pm

2011-11/1a

Announcements – The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on Tuesday, October 11, 2011

2011-11/2

### PRESENTATIONS

2011-11/2a

The University Budget- presented by Carl Amrhein. Sponsored by Rory Tighe, President/Iskandar.

Abstract:

This presentation will highlight how the University Budgeting process works and what the budget for the upcoming year will look like. It will highlight any tuition and/or fee increases as well as some key initiatives that the University is working on over the next year.

**TIGHE/KUSMU MOVED TO** extend the presentation time to 80 Minutes

**Motion: CARRIED**

2011-11/2b

Art Student Space- Presented by Councillor Khinda and Councillor Woods. Sponsored by Emerson Csorba, VP Academic

The purpose of this short presentation is to provide information to Students' Council on the current challenges faced by Art students when it comes to designated space. We will be comparing Art space to that of other faculties, specifically in the areas which we feel the Faculty of Arts needs improvement. We will also be presenting a list of small solutions which would improve current space and make it more suitable for the average University Student.

2011-11/2c

Election Review Committee Update - Presented by Brit Luimes, and Farid Iskandar. Sponsored by Farid Iskandar, VP External/Tighe.

Abstract:

The Election Review Committee (ERC) has gone through a great deal of work

during the summer. The work includes recommendations to changes in Legislation, to the C.R.O, while some debates reached keeping the status quo. The purpose of the presentation is two-fold: first to get feedback from council on some of the proposed changes, and second to get some direction from council on some of the more contentious issues in ERC.

2011-11/7

**GENERAL ORDERS**

2011-11/7a

**YAMAGISHI/CHEEMA MOVE TO** appoint one (1) member to Students' Council to the Health Centre Advisory Committee.

**Nominations: Zhao, Zinyemba**

**Nominations Closed**

**Appointed: Zhao**

2011-11/3

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Rory Tighe, President- Oral Report

Emerson Csorba, VP Academic- Oral Report

Colten Yamagishi, VP Student Life- Oral Report

2011-11/4

**BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Kim Ferguson, CAC Chair- Oral Report

Petros Kusmu, Policy Committee Chair- Oral Report

Scott Nicol, Audit Committee Chair- Oral Report

Farid Iskandar, ERC Committee Chair- Oral Report

2011-11/5

**QUESTION PERIOD**

Question Period extended 15 Minutes

Meeting adjourned.

### Councillor Attendance Records

2010-2011

Attendance

9/13/2011 SC 11-10

9/27/2011 SC 11-11

### Council Seats (40 total) Name

#### Ex-officio Members (6 voting seats)

#### Ex-officio Members (6 voting seats)

|                                      |                       |     |   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----|---|
| President                            | Rory Tighe            | 0.5 | Y |
| VP Academic                          | Emerson Csorba        | Y   | Y |
| VP External                          | Farid Iskander        | Y   | Y |
| VP Operations & Finance              | Andy Cheema           | Y   | Y |
| VP Student Life                      | Colten Yamigishi      | Y   | Y |
| Undergraduate Board of Governors Rep | Raphael Lepage Fortin | Y   | Y |

#### Faculty Representation (32 voting seats)

|                      |                        |     |     |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----|-----|
| ALES                 | Andrew Fehr            | Y   | Y   |
| Arts                 | Petros Kusmu           | Y   | Y   |
| Arts                 | Navneet Khinda         | Y   | Y   |
| Arts                 | Adam Woods             | Y   | Y   |
| Arts                 | Brent Kelly            | Y   | Y   |
| Arts                 | Chaka Zinyemba         | Y   | Y   |
| Arts                 | Kelsey Mills           | Y   | N   |
| Augustana (Faculty)  | Nathan Sereda          | N   | N   |
| Business             | Josh Le                |     |     |
| Business             | vacant                 |     |     |
| Education            | Vanessa Johnson        | N   | N   |
| Education            | Brit Luimes            | Y   | Y   |
| Education            | Mallory McMurtrie      | Y   | N   |
| Engineering          | Aaron Eslinger         | Y   | Y   |
| Engineering          | Lyndon Crone           | Y   | Y   |
| Engineering          | Saadq Sumar            | Y   | 0.5 |
| Engineering          | Adam Gulyas            | Y   | Y   |
| Law                  | Scott Nicol            | Y   | Y   |
| Medicine & Dentistry | Rebecca Gould          | Y   | Y   |
| Native Studies       | vacant                 |     |     |
| Nursing              | Eric Bellinger         | Y   | Y   |
| Open Studies         | vacant                 |     |     |
| Pharmacy             | Sarah Zhao             | 0.5 | Y   |
| Phys Ed & Rec        | Susan Amer             | N   | N   |
| Saint-Jean (Faculty) | Kinnar Power           | Y   | Y   |
| Science              | Kim Ferguson           | Y   | Y   |
| Science              | Amelie Roberto Charron | Y   | Y   |
| Science              | Avinash Karuvelil      | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Science              | Peter West             | Y   | Y   |
| Science              | Arun Thomas            | Y   | 0.5 |
| Science              | Su Su Liang            | Y   | Y   |
| Science              | Brett MacGillivray     | Y   | Y   |
| ALES                 | Andrew Fehr            | Y   | Y   |
| Arts                 | Petros Kusmu           | Y   | Y   |

#### Ex-Officio Members (2 non-voting seats)

|                 |                |   |   |
|-----------------|----------------|---|---|
| Speaker         | Michael Ross   | Y | Y |
| General Manager | Marc Dumouchel | N | N |

Resigned:

Josh Le

Samaar Haider

Jake Archie

Elauna Boutwell