# University of Alberta Students' Union STUDENTS' COUNCIL

### Tuesday May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 TELUS 134

We would like to acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Cree, Saulteaux, Métis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux territory; specifically the ancestral space of the Papaschase Cree. These Nations are our family, friends, faculty, staff, students, and peers. As members of the University of Alberta Students' Union we honour the nation-to-nation treaty relationship. We aspire for our learning, research, teaching, and governance to acknowledge continuing colonial violence and respect Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

### ORDER PAPER (SC 2014-02)

#### 2014-02/1 SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

- **2014-02/1a** Announcements The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014
- 2014-02/2 PRESENTATIONS

#### 2014-02/2a Students' Council Engagement Task Force (SCET) Recommendations

SCET was created in the 2013-2014 year and was tasked with examining ways in which Council's visibility, inclusivity, and connection with the students may be enhanced. At the end of its term, SCET proposed a series of recommendations to Council. This presentation will outline the recommendations made by SCET and will offer members of Council the opportunity to ask questions and voice their comments on the document.

Please see document SC14-02.01

- 2014-02/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
- 2014-02/4 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS
- 2014-02/5 QUESTION PERIOD
- **2014-02/5a** To Nicholas Diaz VP Student Life from Natalia Binczyk

What are your thoughts on the SCET's Recommendations document? Are there

| AGENDA SC 14 | -02 May 20, 2014  | Page 2   |
|--------------|---|--|
|              | any recommendations you are particularly interested in impleme  | enting?  |
| 2014-02/5b   | To Cory Hodgson VP Operations and Finance from Natalia Bincz  | yk   |
|              | Are there any updates on CAC's budget? What is the amount of a Outreach Fund?   | the Council  |
| 2014-02/5c   | To Cory Hodgson VP Operations and Finance from Natalia Bincz  | yk   |
|              | What is the progress of your inquiry into expanding parking hou Councillors considering that CAC meetings may start as early as a Council Tuesdays?   | rs for<br>4:30 PM on                                       |
| 2014-02/5d   | To William Lau President from Natalia Binczyk   |  |
|              | Which of your experiences as the President would you consider a   | ı highlight?   |
|              | Response  |  |
|              | Thanks for the question Councillor Binczyk!   |  |
|              | The May 9th Board of Governors meeting would be considered a<br>appreciate the ambition around the table to become one of the v<br>universities, and I hope to engage with different board members<br>summer to learn more about each other's visions of what a world<br>university looks like to each individual. There is so much potentia<br>the institution; I will try my best to align our goals with as many<br>as possible. | world's best<br>over the<br>d-class<br>al at this level of |
| 2014-02/5e   | To Councillor Zeineddine from William Lau President   |  |
|              | I hear you are working closely with the University Architect to ex<br>space on campus - has there been any positive movement?   | xpand prayer   |
| 2014-02/6    | BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS  |  |
| 2014-02/6a   | BINCZYK MOVES THAT Students' Council, upon the recommended the CRO Selection Committee appoint Brandon Christensen Returning Officer for the 2014/2015 term.  |  |
| 2014-02/7    | GENERAL ORDERS  |  |
| 2014-02/7a   | LAU/ORYDZUK MOVE to appoint one member of Students' Cour<br>Reading Week Programming Task Force.  | ncil to the Fall   |
|              | Please see document SC14-02.02  |  |
| 2014-02/8    | INFORMATION ITEMS   |  |
| 2014-02/8a   | CAC Summary Report to Council   |  |
|              | Please see document SC14-02.03  |  |
| 2014-02/8b   | GAC Summary Report to Council   |  |
|              | Please see document SC14-02.04  |  |
|              |   |  |

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| 2014-02/8c   | Bylaw Committee Summary Report to Council        |        |
|              | Please see document SC14-02.05                   |        |
| 2014-02/8d   | Policy Committee Summary Report to Council       |        |
|              | Please see document SC14-02.06                   |        |
| 2014-02/8e   | ERC Summary Report to Council                    |        |
|              | Please see document SC14-02.07                   |        |
| 2014-02/8f   | Kathryn Orydzuk, VP Academic - Report            |        |
|              | Please see document SC14-02.08                   |        |
| 2014-02/8g   | Cory Hodgson, VP Operations and Finance - Report |        |
|              | Please see document SC14-02.09                   |        |
| 2014-02/8h   | Nicholas Diaz, VP Student Life - Report          |        |
|              | Please see document SC14-02.10                   |        |
| 2014-02/8i   | William Lau, President - Report                  |        |
|              | Please see document SC14-02.11                   |        |
| 2014-02/8j   | Navneet Khinda, VP External - Report             |        |
|              | Please see document SC14-02.12                   |        |

Date: May 14, 2014

To: Students' Council 2014-2015

Re: Students' Council Engagement Task Force (SCET) Recommendations

Dear Students' Council,

On behalf of the Students' Council Engagement Task Force (SCET), I am pleased to provide you with the SCET Recommendations Document.

The following document was created with the help of SCET members: Petros Kusmu, Jessica Nguyen, Kelsey Mills, Marina Banister, Dawson Zeng, Lok To, Fabian Gonzalez, and Seamus Wu.

Over the span of six meetings, SCET drafted nine recommendations. These recommendations were consulted with the Students' Council, SU's General Manager, and Discover Governance. The draft of the document was also made available to the Faculty Associations' VPAs.

It is SCET's hope that the individuals listed in the "Summary of Recommended Steps" section will pursue the outlined recommendations.

Thank you,

Matalia Bincyk

Natalia Binczyk Students' Council Engagement Task Force Chair

# Students' Council Engagement Task Force (SCET) Recommendations to Students' Council

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### Introduction

As stated in the Students' Council Engagement Task Force (SCET) Terms of Reference (Appendix 1), SCET was tasked with examining "ways for Students' Council to be more engaging". The scope of SCET's work included a "review of Students' Council's bylaws, standing orders, and its general practices to increase Council's visibility to the greater student population, mak[ing] Council more inclusive to traditionally underrepresented demographics, and empower[ing] members of Council to better connect with their constituents".

SCET's recommendations to Students' Council (SC) are organized into *Problems, Solutions,* and *Recommended Steps.* None of these recommendations are mandatory. The intention behind this document is to identify problem areas and propose solutions, thus enabling SC to enhance its visibility, inclusivity, and connection with students.

Upon reading the document, it will become apparent that many responsibilities associated with most recommendations fall on the Chair of the Council Administration Committee (CAC). It is advised that future CAC Chairs offer Council members the opportunity to lead certain initiatives. This will result in a more engaged Council and a more manageable workload for the CAC Chair.

In order to ensure continuity for the outlined initiatives, it is recommended that Committee Chairs also include these recommendations in their transition documents.

## **Summary of Recommendations**

The document identifies problem areas and recommends solutions in order to improve SC's visibility, inclusivity, and connection with the students. Recommendations are sectioned as follows:

#### A. Connecting Councillors with their Electorate

It is recommended that Councillors attend campus-wide events. The Event Calendar will aid Councillors with incorporating the events into their schedules. Class talks will offer quick updates on SC and will allow better recognition of SU representatives by the electorate. It is also recommended that clothing specific to SC be ordered following the elections and Councillor portraits be displayed in a public place such as SUB.

#### **B. Enhancing collaboration between SC and Faculty Associations**

It is advised that the VPA encourage FAs to request a Council delegate to sit on their boards. The Council representative would have the option to report to Council under the Board and Committee reports and would be required to report to CAC each trimester. The delegate would be key to debriefing on the state of the respective FA should Council be making a decision that could potentially impact the FA.

#### C. Enhancing Collaboration between SC and International Students

It is recommended that the VPSL advocate for the ISA to request a Council representative to sit on its board. Council representation on the ISA would occur on the same basis as Council representation on FAs. The delegate would be strongly encouraged to give at least one presentation to the ISA on the SC, the SU, and the SU elections.

#### D. Defining Council Goals

It is recommended that Standing Committees and individual Councillors create annual Goal Documents. These documents would be uploaded onto the website. The intention behind the document upload is to enhance accountability of Councillors to their electorate and to provide a ground for augmented collaboration between Councillors with similar aspirations. Pre-determined goals will also improve the efficiency of collaborative Council goal planning sessions.

#### E. Enhancing collaboration between Councillors and Executives

It is recommended that Councillors with goals that fall under an Executive portfolio commence collaborative efforts with the respective Executive. It is also advised that all Executives host at least one job shadow day to allow Councillors a more intimate view of their areas of expertise.

#### F. Increasing SC Presence on Facebook

It is recommended that CAC work with the Speaker and the Administrative Assistant towards the establishment of the SC Facebook page. The intention behind the page is to provide students with quick updates on SC and to facilitate discussions between the students and their representatives.

#### **<u>G. Improving SC's Presence on the SU website</u>**

In order to increase the students' knowledge of their representatives, it is recommended that Councillor biographies and portraits be uploaded onto the SU website. Furthermore, it is advised that a Councillor job description be created and uploaded onto the website.

#### H. Ensuring SC's Efficiency

It is recommended that SC administer intro and outro interviews for all Councillors. It is advised that the interviews occur via surveys. Survey results should be analyzed by DG and presented to Council in order to identify ways to consistently improve SC.

#### I. Enhancing Professional Development Opportunities for Councillors

It is recommended that professional development opportunities for Councilors be explored. Enhanced development opportunities might provide an additional incentive for students to contest a representative position on Council.

## **Summary of Recommended Steps**

#### A. Connecting Councillors with their Electorate

1. Increase Council's involvement in campus-wide events

- *Programming and Venues (PnV)* With the assistance of the VP Student Life, PnV will find ways to maximize SC's presence in its various events and the VP Student Life will communicate these opportunities to CAC.
- *VP Student Life and VP Operations and Finance* With the assistance of the SU staff, create an SU Event Calendar.
- *VP Academic* With the assistance of Discover Governance (DG), through the Council of Faculty Associations (COFA), the VP Academic will encourage Faculty Associations (FA) to populate the SU Event Calendar.
- *VP Student Life* With the assistance of Student Group Services (SGS), the VP Student Life will encourage student groups to populate the SU Event Calendar.
- 2. Encourage Council's involvement in Class Talk presentations
  - *DG* With the assistance of the SU President and the Chief Returning Officer, DG will collect listing of classes from the Registrar's Office, organize the list, and share it with CAC.
  - *CAC* Will create a monthly PowerPoint based off the Students' Union's monthly Newsletter and share it with SC.
- 3. Enhance Council's presence through visual means
  - *CAC* Order SC clothes within the first six months of SC. Amend CAC's Standing Orders by adding in a "Council Clothing" section and legislate that it must occur within the first six months of SC.
  - *DG* With the assistance of the President and the SU's Marketing Department, DG will arrange to display Councillor Portraits.

#### **B. Enhancing collaboration between SC and Faculty Associations**

- *CAC* Amend SC's Standing Orders by amending Section 2(1) and including an Order of Business entitled "Trimester Councillor Reports".
- *VP Academic* Work with SC members in advocating FAs to have at least one non-voting member seat on their Council.

#### C. Enhancing Collaboration between SC and International Students

• *VP Student Life* – Ensure the ISA's Bylaws allow for at least one member of SC to be a part of its structure.

#### D. Defining Council Goals

- *Standing Committees* Amend Standing Orders to include "Committee Plans" section with deadlines that are concurrent with the "Executive Plans".
- *Councillors* Follow deadlines for Committee Plans while submitting Individual Goals Documents.
- *DG* Work with CAC and the SU's Marketing Department in developing

templates for the documents and ensuring that Goals Documents are uploaded online.

#### E. Enhancing collaboration between Councillors and Executives

• *President* – With the assistance of DG and the cooperation of the Executive Committee, establish at least one job shadow day in all executive portfolios.

#### F. Increasing SC Presence on Facebook

• *CAC* – With the assistance of the President and the SU's Marketing Department, create a Facebook page for SC.

#### **G. Improving SC's Presence on the SU website**

• *Discover Governance* – Work with the President and the SU's Marketing Department to ensure that Councillor photos, biographies, goals documents, and email addresses are online and up-to-date. Work with CAC to develop and publish a Councillor job description.

#### H. Ensuring SC's Efficiency

- *Discover Governance* With the assistance of the President and CAC, DG will develop the interview surveys and analyze the survey results. DG will present survey results to the newly elected SC.
- *CAC* Amend CAC's Standing Orders by adding in an "Intro and Exit Interviews" section.

#### I. Enhance Professional Development Opportunities for Councillors

• *Discover Governance* –With the assistance of GM, CAC, and the President, DG will explore professional development opportunities for Councillors.

## Recommendations

#### A. Connecting Councillors with their Electorate

#### Problem:

Council's presence is apparent primarily during elections. Candidates often connect with the students through posters, banners, class talks, and social media. Once the elections are over, Council's presence on campus decreases dramatically. Minimized Councillor and student interaction is reflected in the decreased knowledge on SC's business among the students. Although all information about SC is available online, this method of searching for SC updates is the most time consuming. One-to-one conversations or class presentations on SC require only a fraction of this time. Minimized knowledge on SC results in fewer students interested in attending SC meetings, running in elections, and voting in the SU elections. Therefore, increasing SC's presence on campus may improve student interest in Council as seen through the number of students attending SC meetings and running or voting in the SU elections. There are three main recommendations for connecting Councillors with their electorate.

#### Solutions:

**1. Increase Council's involvement in campus-wide events.** Although some Councillors already attend University events, they often attend these events as students, not as Council representatives. According to an informal poll during one of this year's SC meetings, the main barriers preventing Councillors from attending University events are: keeping track of what's going on, short notice, lack of interest, and lack of time. An Event Calendar, created by the SU staff, will help Councillors to stay up-to-date with upcoming events. Councillors will be able to access the calendar at any time during the year and incorporate the events into their schedules in advance.

**2. Encourage Council's involvement in Class Talk presentations.** Class talks may take between 1-2 minutes and should occur right before commencement of a lecture. It is imperative that Councillors request permission from professors prior to conducting class talks. Creation of a Class Talk PowerPoint takes approximately 15-20 minutes, and can be based upon the monthly SU newsletters. It is recommended that a CAC member create the monthly PowerPoint. Should all of the CAC members lack the time to fulfill this responsibility, it is recommended that a SC volunteer creates the PowerPoint and distributes it to Council members. It is essential that Councillors conducting class talks sign up on a class list in order to avoid duplication of efforts.

**3. Enhance Council's presence through visual means.** It is recommended that any Council-specific clothing items be ordered shortly after the elections, instead of towards the end of the term. When seeing individuals wearing SC clothing, students will be more likely to recognize their representatives and start a conversation. Furthermore, it is recommended for portraits of Councillors to be displayed in a

public place such as SUB in order to enhance recognition of representatives by their constituents.

#### Recommended Steps:

1. It is recommended that VPSL and VPOF, with the assistance of the SU staff, create the SU Event Calendar. It is advised that VPSL and VPA encourage student groups and Faculty Associations, respectively, to populate the SU Event Calendar. It is also recommended that VPSL collaborate with Programming and Venues (PnV) in order to further examine opportunities for Councillors to become involved in campuswide events.

2. It is advised that Discover Governance (DG) collect class listing from the Registrar Office. Furthermore, it is recommended that DG organize the class listing by Faculty, or any other method that DG deems appropriate. Creation of the monthly PowerPoint should fall on a CAC volunteer. Should no CAC volunteers be able to take on these responsibilities, an opportunity to complete the described tasks should be opened up to all members of Council.

3. It is recommended that DG collaborate with the President and the SU's Marketing Department to arrange display of Councillor photos in public places such as SUB. It is advised that CAC amend its Standing Orders by adding a section relevant to Council Clothing and legislate that clothing items must be ordered within the first six months of SC.

#### **B. Enhancing collaboration between SC and Faculty Associations**

#### Problem:

Currently, there are no systematic, direct communications between Council and Faculty Associations (FAs). During the decision making process, Council may not always be aware of the state of each FA.

#### Solutions:

Due to the large number of students associated with each FA, it is essential for Councillors to bear in mind the state of FAs while making decisions. It is recommended that each FA create a non-voting seat for a Council representative. The Council representative will have an option to give written or oral reports to Council, which will appear under the Board and Committee reports. Council delegates would also be responsible for debriefing on the state of their respective FA should Council be making a decision that may impact this FA. This representative structure is inspired by the Council of the Collective Body for Arts Students, which requests that a Council representative, who also is an Arts student, sit on its Council. Council representatives on FAs would be treated similar to SU Standing Committee Chairs in that they would be expected to formally report to CAC every trimester.

#### Recommended Steps:

It is recommended that the Vice President Academic (VPA) work with FAs towards creation of a non-voting seat for a Council representative on the various FA Councils

or their equivalent body, wherever possible. It is recommended that the FA request a SC representative instead of SC request a seat on a FA Council or equivalent. Once an FA requests a SC representative, representatives from respective faculties will be elected via the same process as for electing SC representatives to SU Boards and Committees. It is also recommended that CAC amend its Standing Orders by amending Section 2(1) and including an Order of Business pertaining to Trimester Councillor Reports.

#### C. Enhancing collaboration between SC and International Students

#### Problem:

As stated on the UAlberta website, over 6,000 international students study at the University of Alberta (University of Alberta, n.d., International Undergraduate Students section). Unfortunately, many international students are unaware of SC's actions and mandates, and their right to vote or run in the elections. Current efforts to create an International Students' Association (ISA) generate the opportunity for Council to reach out to international students in an organized and strategic manner.

#### Solutions:

The ISA's developmental stage increases the possibility for a Council representative to sit on its board. It is recommended for the VPSL, who is engaged in the creation of the Association, to advocate that the ISA request a Council representative to become a member of ISA's governing body. Council representation on the ISA would occur on the same basis as Council representation on FAs. The ISA is compared to an FA due to the exceptionally large number of its members. It will be strongly encouraged for the Council representative to give at least one presentation to the ISA on Council's role at the University, the SU, and the SU elections. The information is then expected to trickle down to all international students. As with the Council representatives on FAs, the Council delegate will be able to give optional oral and written reports to Council and will be expected to report to CAC each trimester.

#### Recommended Steps:

It is recommended that the Executive overseeing the development of the ISA, the VPSL, encourage its founders to form the ISA's Bylaws such that a Council representative is requested to sit on its board. It is recommended for the ISA to specify whether the Council representative should also be an international student and whether he or she would be a voting member. Selection of the delegate will occur through voting at Council.

#### D. Defining Council Goals

#### Problems:

Although Council often sets multiple goals during Council goal planning sessions at the retreats and throughout the year, there often is no sense of direct responsibility for these goals. Council sets goals as the collective, without specifying parties that would be responsible for pursuing particular initiatives. Furthermore, there is no document specifying Council's annual goals, which makes it more challenging for constituents to hold their representatives accountable. Reasons for the lack of a Council goals document includes lack of a person responsible to creating this document and no definite agreement on which goals will be pursued.

#### Solutions:

It is recommended that SC's Standing Committees create annual Goal Documents. Councillors would have an opportunity to create Individual Goal Documents. These documents would be uploaded onto the SU website and made available to all students. Creation and publication of the goals documents opens a door for better collaboration between Councillors with similar aspirations. Once everyone's goals are determined and clearly stated, Councillors may begin to team up in order to pursue certain initiatives. Creation of Committee and Individual goals will allow fellow Councillors and the students to question representatives about the progress of their intended actions. It is not recommended for the collaborative goal setting sessions to be eliminated. Pre-determined individual goals will contribute to more efficient Council goal planning sessions.

#### Recommended Steps:

It is recommended that each Committee amends its Standing Orders to include "Committee Plans" section with deadlines that are concurrent with the "Executive Plans" (specified in bylaw 4000, Sections 8-11). If an individual Councillor would like to publish his/her goals, the Committee Goal Documents submission deadlines should be followed. It is recommended that DG work with CAC and the SU's Marketing Department in developing templates for the documents and ensuring that the Goal Documents are uploaded online.

#### E. Enhancing Collaboration between Councillors and Executives

#### Problem:

Councillors often have ideas and projects, which they would like to implement. However, the primary role of a Councillor is to simply set a vision for the SU. It is then a role of the Executive to do the 'leg work' and to implement this vision into the SU's actions. As a result, the Executives are often more informed of the nuances associated with leading a project.

#### Solution:

It is recommended that Councillors with goals that parallel Executive portfolios reach out the Executives in order to commence collaborative efforts. It is also recommended that each Executive host at least one job shadow day per year in order to allow Councillors a closer look at their areas of expertise. Once more Councillors have an intimate knowledge of the work done by the Executive, there may also be an increased number of candidates for the Executive positions.

#### Recommended Steps:

It is recommended that Councillors set their goals by mid-summer and commence

collaboration with the respective Executives. Furthermore, it is recommended that Executives plan and host at least one job shadow day per year.

#### F. Increasing SC Presence on Facebook

#### Problem:

In the face of increased dependence on technology, students are often searching for quick updates on events, issues, and news. Currently, the main resource where students can find out about SC updates is the SU website. Documents posted on the website are often lengthy and require a significant amount of time to examine. There is a need for a resource where students could receive quick updates on SC.

#### Solution:

SC Facebook (FB) page would allow students to see brief updates as well as links to Agendas and Minutes on their Newsfeed. The creation of a SC social network page gives rise to a number of questions, which will be addressed individually.

1. Who is able to post on the page?

Only Councillors and the Administrative Assistant for SC would be able to post on the page. Students will be able to comment on the posts. This will minimize the possibility of inappropriate/irrelevant posts.

2. Will there be new accounts created for Councillors?

Councillors would be using their personal accounts. Creation of a new account would lead to significant administrative work, which can easily be avoided. It is Councillors' responsibility to be mindful of their privacy settings and the content on their FB profiles.

3. Who will ensure that there are posts on the page?

The Administrative Assistant for SC will regularly post links to Agendas and Minutes.

4. Who will set up the FB page?

The Speaker will do set up of the page, as long as the Speaker feels that his/her skills are sufficient for such a task. Set up of the page should include: rules of the page (which may be similar to the rules on the SU FB page), Administrator settings, and graphics. It is recommended that CAC reviews the rules and approves the FB page before it becomes public.

5. Who will oversee the FB page?

It is recommended for the CAC Chair to coordinate the set up and maintenance of the page with the Speaker and the Administrative Assistant. The CAC Chair would also be expected to regularly examine the page for any inappropriate/irrelevant posts.

6. How can we ensure that questions/concerns from students are answered? It is recommended that Councillors visit the page regularly and address questions to the best of their abilities. If a Councillor is unable to accurately answer a given question, it is recommended for the Councillor to tag an Executive or a committee Chair under whose portfolio the question falls.

7. How will the page be promoted?

The SC FB page may be promoted via posts on the SU FB page and the SU website. Councillors and Executives may also promote the page on their personal social media accounts, through word of mouth, presentations, etc..

#### Steps to be taken:

It is recommended that the CAC Chair initiate the creation of the FB page with the assistance of the President, SU's Marketing Department, the Speaker, and the Administrative Assistant. The CAC Chair should then inform Council members of the page activation date and any rules associated with using the page.

#### **<u>G. Improving SC's Presence on the SU website</u>**

#### Problem:

The SU website offers minimum information about Councillors compared to the information offered about the Executives. Lack of information about Councillors contributes to the students' scarce knowledge about their representatives.

#### Solutions:

It is recommended for Council biographies and pictures be uploaded onto the SU website. It is advised that a Councillor job explanation be created and published on the SU website. It is hoped that the job explanation will increase the students' knowledge of the work done by their representatives.

#### Recommended Steps:

It is recommended that DG work with the President and the SU's Marketing Department to ensure that Councillor photos and biographies are uploaded onto the website. It is advised that the CAC Chair encourage submission of the outlined files and send out remainders pertaining to these items. It is recommended that DG collaborate with CAC to create a Councillor job explanation and upload it onto the SU website.

#### H. Ensuring SC's Efficiency

#### Problem:

The Students' Council does not have a regulated feedback mechanism that would evaluate SC's overall efficiency on regular basis.

#### Solutions:

It is recommended that Students' Council implement annual intro and exit interviews for all Councillors. It is advised for the interviews to occur in a form of a survey. Survey results from the outgoing Council and the results of the intro survey administered to the incoming Council should be analyzed in order to explore ways for the improvement of SC. Survey results and corresponding recommendations for improvement should be presented to SC.

Recommended Steps:

It is recommended that DG work with the President and CAC to develop the intro and outro surveys and to analyze the survey results. It is advised that DG present the annual survey results and recommendations for improvement to SC. In order to institutionalize this recommendation, it is advised that CAC amends its Standing Orders by adding in an "Intro and Exit Interviews" section.

#### I. Enhancing Professional Development Opportunities for Councillors

#### Problems:

Currently, there are limited incentives for students to contest a representative position on Council. Besides the two annual retreats, Councillors are not provided with significant professional development opportunities.

#### Solutions/Recommended Steps:

It is recommended that DG work with GM, CAC, and the President to explore professional development opportunities for Councillors.

## **Appendix 1**

#### Students' Union Council Engagement Task Force Terms of Reference

#### Purpose

Engagement with the student body and Good Governance of the Students' Union are critical success factors outlined in the SU's Strategic Plan. Furthermore, the continuous review of the SU and its practices is another principle outlined in its Strategic Plan.

The SU Council Engagement Task Force will examine ways for Students' Council to be more engaging. This will involve a systematic review of Students' Council's bylaws, standing orders, and its general practices to increase Council's visibility to the greater student population, make Council more inclusive to traditionally underrepresented demographics, and empower members of Council to better connect with their constituents.

#### Scope

The task force will provide recommendations to the Students' Council before January 31, 2014 that will seek to address the following issues:

- **Visibility** How can Students' Council increase its visibility to the greater student population?
- **Inclusivity** How can Students' Council eliminate barriers to participation and expand opportunities for involvement with Students' Council?
- **Connection –** How can Students' Council better connect with its representatives and further empower its Councillors?

#### Meetings

Meetings will be held biweekly until the end of January 2014.

#### Membership

- 1 Students' Union Executives;
- 1 Representative of the permanent members of Students' Union Council Administration Committee;
- 1 Representative of the Students' Union Elections Review Committee;
- 1 Representative of the Students' Union Bylaw Committee;
- 2 Representative from Students' Council who are not members of the Executive Committee, the Elections Review Committee, or permanent members of the Council Administration Committee; and
- 3 Student-at-Large positions selected by the aforementioned members.

#### Resource Personnel

- Chief Returning Officer
- Speaker of the SU
- Discover Governance
- Department of Research and Political Affairs

### Fall Reading Week Programming Task Force

**Terms of Reference** 

In 2015, the University of Alberta will have the first Fall Reading Week for students in most Faculties. Concurrent with the Remembrance Day long weekend, this 9-day break from classes creates an opportunity for the University to intentionally focus on student success.

#### Mandate

The Fall Reading Week Programming Task Force (FRWPTF) will:

- 1. Collaborate, brainstorm, and seek feedback on SU and University-led programming during a Fall Reading Week.
- 2. Review proposed program plans to ensure that they maintain student engagement and support student success during a Fall Reading Week
- 3. Identify at-risk populations and discuss ways to develop programming or supports for them to be held during FRW.
- 4. Collectively advocate for the resources needed for an optimal FRW.
- 5. Discuss a communications plan for any programming offered during FRW
- 6. Identify measures to evaluate the success of programming offered during FRW to support ongoing improvement.

#### Membership

The FRWPTF will consist of:

- William Lau The SU President (co-chair)
- A representative from the Dean of Students' office (co-chair)
- Brock Richardson A representative from Residence Services
- A representative from the Residence Halls Association
- A representative from International Student Services
- A representative from the AASUA
- A representative from the Student Success Centre
- A representative from the Aboriginal Student Services Centre
- Tim Ira A representative from the Centre for Student Development
- Brennan Murphy A representative from SU Programming and Venues
- A representative from the International Students' Association
- Danielle Leclerc A representative from Campus St. Jean Student Services
- A representative from Students' Council

#### Meetings

The FRWPTF will meet monthly starting in June 2014. Administrative support will be provided by the Students' Union. End date to be decided at the first meeting.



# Council Administration Committee (CAC) MEETING

SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

| Dat | te: May 6, 2014                             | Time: 5:00 PM                     |              | 2014              | – 2015 <b>MEETING #2</b> |
|-----|---|-----------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Мо  | Notions                                     |                                   |              |                   |                          |
| 1.  | <i>Councillor Mohamed</i> m <i>tabled</i> . | noved that <i>May 6, 2014 Ag</i>  | genda be ap  | proved as         | CARRIED<br>6/0/0         |
| 2.  | Councillor Hwang mov                        | ed that <i>April 29, 2014 Mi</i>  | nutes be app | proved as tabled. | CARRIED<br>6/0/0         |
| 3.  | Councillor Hwang mov                        | ed that <i>the meeting be adj</i> | iourned.     |                   | CARRIED<br>6/0/0         |



### GRANT ALLOCATION COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

| Da | te: Monday, April 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2014 | Time: 6:07 pm                   | 2014 – 2015 <b>MEETING 1</b> |
|----|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Мо | otions                                    |                                 |                              |
| 1. | HODGSON moved that the me                 | eting agenda be approved.       | CARRIED<br>6/0/0             |
| 2. | HWANG is declared Chair of t              | he Committee.                   |                              |
| 3. | HODGSON moved that the Co                 | mmittee Standing Orders be adop | pted. CARRIED 6/0/0          |
| 4. | SUMAR declared that the meet              | ing is adjourned at 6:25 pm.    |                              |



### GRANT ALLOCATION COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

| Da | te: Wednesday, May 7th Time: 6:03 pm 2014  | 4 – 2015 <b>MEETING 2</b> |  |
|----|--|---------------------------|--|
| Мс | Motions  |                           |  |
| 1. | <b>CROUTZE</b> moved that <i>meeting agenda be approved</i> .  | CARRIED<br>6/0/0          |  |
| 2. | HWANG moved that the meeting minutes of the last meeting be approved.  | CARRIED<br>6/0/0          |  |
| 3. | <b>CROUTZE</b> moved that <b>HODGSON</b> be appointed as the interim minute-<br>taker.                                     | CARRIED<br>6/0/0          |  |
| 4. | <b>DIAZ</b> moved that <b>CHEN</b> and <b>HODGSON</b> be appointed to the SFAIC Access<br>Fund Spring Selection Committee. | CARRIED<br>6/0/0          |  |
| 5. | <b>CROUTZE</b> moved that <b>CHEN</b> and <b>HWANG</b> be appointed to the Student<br>Group Granting Committee.            | CARRIED<br>6/0/0          |  |
| 6. | HODGSON moved that the meeting be adjourned at 6:47 pm.  | CARRIED<br>6/0/0          |  |



## BYLAW COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

 Date: Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014
 Time: 6:08 pm
 2014 - 2015 MEETING 1

| Мо | tions   |                  |
|----|---|------------------|
| 1. | HWANG moved that the meeting agenda be approved.                  | CARRIED<br>6/0/0 |
| 2. | HWANG is declared the Chair of the Committee.                     |                  |
| 3. | FAROOQ moved that the Bylaw Committee Standing Orders be adopted. | CARRIED<br>6/0/0 |
| 4. | SUMAR declared that the meeting is adjourned at 6:20 pm.          |                  |



## BYLAW COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

 Date: Tuesday, May 13th
 Time: 5:37 pm
 2014 - 2015 MEETING 2

| Мо | Motions  |         |
|----|--|---------|
| 1  | MOHAMED moved that the agenda be approved.                                     | CARRIED |
| 1. | Momminul moved that the agenda be approved.                                    | 4/0/0   |
| 2. | HUDSON moved that the minutes of the last meeting be approved.                 | CARRIED |
| 2. | <b>HODSON</b> moved that the minutes of the tast meeting be approved.          | 4/0/0   |
| 3. | <b>ZHANG</b> moved that <b>HUDSON</b> be appointed as an interim minute-taker. | CARRIED |
| 5. | ZHANG moved that HODSON be appointed as an interim minute-taker.               | 5/0/0   |
| 4. | HUDSON moved that the meeting be adjourned.                                    | CARRIED |
| 4. | <b>HUDSON</b> moved that <i>the meeting be aujournea</i> .                     | 5/0/0   |



### POLICY COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

| Date: May 13, 2013 | Time: 6:30 pm | 2014-2015 <b>MEETING #02</b> |
|--------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
|                    |               |                              |

| Мо | Motions  |         |
|----|--|---------|
| 1. | Zhang moved that the May 13 <sup>th</sup> agenda be approved as tabled.    | CARRIED |
|    |  | 6/0/1   |
| 2  | Zhang moved that the April 28 <sup>th</sup> minutes be approved as tabled. | CARRIED |
| ۷. | Zhang moved that the April 28 minutes be approved as tabled.               | 6/0/1   |
| 3  | Champagne moved that the meeting be adjourned.                             | CARRIED |
| 5. | Champagne moved that the meeting be aujourned.                             | 6/0/1   |



## ELECTIONS REVIEW COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

 Date: May 14, 2014
 Time: 5:30 pm
 2014-2015 MEETING #02

| Мо | tions  |         |
|----|--|---------|
| 1  | Morris moved that the March 14 <sup>th</sup> agend be approved as tabled.    | CARRIED |
| 1. | Morris moved that the March 14 agena be approved as labled.                  | 4/0/2   |
| 2  | Fedoski moved that the April 29 <sup>th</sup> minutes be approved as tabled. | CARRIED |
| 2. | Teuoski moved mat me April 27 minules de approved as labieu.                 | 4/0/2   |
| 3  | Morris moved that the meeting be adjourned.                                  | CARRIED |
| 5. | Morris moved that the meeting be aujourned.                                  | 4/0/2   |



May 20, 2014 To: Council Re: VPA Report

#### Hi Councilors,

I hope you're all doing well and enjoying the (finally) nice weather. The past two weeks in office have been crazy and amazing. For the most part, my days consist of attending various committee meetings, for example, this past week I attended Academic Planning Committee, which is one of the larger standing committees of GFC, as well as another Leadership College Meeting, and another Presidential Search Committee meeting, to name a few.

Aside from representing undergraduates on university committees, the past two weeks have been all about the student representatives. Cory and I have begun work on ensuring that Faculty Associations have a designated financial reviewer. The principle behind this is based in my belief that student representative associations should be given the resources to complete a task before being asked to complete it. The Students' Union requires financial reporting from faculty and campus associations, and getting a financial reviewer is the thing that the associations struggle with the most. Therefore, we should help them with it. As of now we have planned a timeline and a consultation structure. I am in the process of drafting a long-term visioning document as well as setting up meetings with individual Faculty Associations and Campus Associations to discuss their ideas, needs and concerns with the project.

Also concerning faculty associations is another project I've been hashing out these past two weeks. I hope to create another working group of Council of Faculty Associations (COFA); the Council of Campus Associations (COCA). The principle behind the formation of this new working group is to create a space to address concerns specific to campus associations, as well as identify the sources of success of a couple of the most consistently strong associations on campus, with the intention of sharing best practices with other associations. Thus far, I have worked with Discover Governance to draft terms of reference for COCA and I have sent those to the CAs for review in advance of the meetings I have set up with them. After meeting with the CAs and discussing the terms of reference, I will redraft the terms of reference to take their changes into account. I will check back with the CAs to make sure that my redraft adequately reflects what they told me, then I will bring it to COFA Senior Board for deliberation.

Student representative association executives are not the only representatives that I oversee. I also am tasked with chairing GFC Student Caucus. The purpose of GFC Student Caucus (GFC SC) as I see it, is to ensure that students who sit on GFC understand everything that is happening at the committee and understand how the processes work. In the past, attendance and engagement at GFC SC has been pretty low, so in collaboration with Discover Governance (again), I have begun the process of revamping GFC SC to make it more attractive and useful to student representatives, which will hopefully further reduce barriers to student attendance and participation in GFC. Student attendance and participation in GFC is important because it is a matter of good governance for a strong student



voice to be represented on GFC, and this is important because students are an important stakeholder of the university.

I am also in the process of assembling Academic Relations Group (ARG). ARG is a great opportunity for interested students to gain committee experience, learn more about topics they are interested in, and make meaningful contributions to university governance. It's also a good access point into student governance, so it can be a great student engagement tool. Interviews are being conducted this week.

For councilors, the Govcamp schedule is finalized and online at

<u>http://su.ualberta.ca/governance/discover/</u>. If you've missed the application deadline, have no fear, just shoot Rebecca Taylor and email (<u>sga@su.ualberta.ca</u>) asking if there are still spots available and if you can still register. Govcamp will run from May 23 until May 25, and I hope to see you there!

All the best, Kathryn



May 15, 2014 To: Students' Council Re: Report to Students' Council

#### Hello Council,

Well the first two weeks in office have definitely been exciting. Everyday something new happens and I've had to learn a lot very quickly. I'll be following the same format to reports that Josh had, as I found I useful as Councilor, but let me know if you have any feedback.

#### Retreat

Retreat was fantastic and I learned a lot about a lot of different things. The days were jam packed with information and presentations. Who would have known we did so much?

#### Audit Transition

I had a great transition meeting with Councilor Farooq on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### The Gateway Student Journalism Society (GSJS)

The GSJS had their first board meeting of the year where we approved the contracts for their business unit.

#### North Power Plant

This has been my main focus my first two weeks and I've done a considerable amount of reading on it. I had a great meeting with Ben Louie on May 15 and have some individuals on campus to follow up with.

#### Student Involvement Endowment Fund (SIEF)

SIEF is the fund we use to fund the majority of the Students' Union Awards and it's actually a separate fully incorporated society. Our lawyers rewrote the bylaws for SIEF for some modernization and streamlining, as well as to allow SIEF to make loans at fair market rate to the SU. The meeting to change the bylaws will take place sometime next month, but I familiarized myself with the current bylaws and the proposed new ones.

#### **Business Advisory Group**

I plan to continue the Business Advisory Group, although in a different format and likely under a different name. I am currently in a consultation process with mangers about what this group will look like and how it will work. I hope to have something more concrete soon.



#### **DFU Task Force**

I've emailed all the DFUs asking if they would like to propose a representative for the task force, and gave a deadline of May 16<sup>th</sup> to respond. I'll be following up with each DFU individually as well to be sure they are aware of the process and exactly what the task force is trying to accomplish, should they have any concerns.

#### UPASS

I've attended a Joint UPASS Advisory Committee comprising of representatives from NAIT, Grant MacEwan, NorQuest, ETS and the U of A where we had a presentations on the new SmartFare proposal from ETS, which is still in it's preliminary phases

I also attended an internal UPASS meeting with University where we discussed Spring/Summer uptake rates.

#### **Operating Policy Review**

I've been reading Operating Policy with long term goal of doing a review. This will be an ongoing process.

Cheers,

Cory Hodgson

(electronically submitted)



May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 To: University of Alberta Students' Council 2014/2015 Re: Vice President Student Life Council Report

"The world is your neighbourhood now. You're in their hearts, you're in their brains."

Welcome, Council!

It feels I've been going 12 hours a day since April 30th when we left on our Executive Retreat! It has been a wonderful experience settling into my role and getting the year off on the right foot.

VP Hodgson and I will not be available for our May 20<sup>th</sup> council meeting as we will be in Montréal for the annual StudentCare stakeholder conference, meeting with other student leaders to deliberate on healthcare issues, approaches, and tactics. Now, to let you know what I've been up to:

#### **Executive Goals**

Even with President Lau and VP Khinda's time away at CAUS and CASA, and with VP Hodgson and I's departure for this week, we have made great strides on refining our combined goals document. Through additional collaboration, we should be able to present this to council sometime in the near future.

#### Administrative

It took many long nights, and much help from our administrative staff, but the VP Student Life filing cabinet has been sorted after several years. It is amazing how satisfying organizing six years of filing into a beautiful, colour-coded system is. The office is looking pretty sharp, too!

#### **Council Committees**

GAC: At our last committee meeting, I made a motion to appoint two GAC members to the Student Group Granting Committee. Congratulations to **Councilor Chen** and **Councilor Hwang**.

Policy Committee: With **Councilor Gruhlke** as our chair, we jumped right to work. We have a list of policies that expire this year that we will need to revisit and bring to council throughout the year, a list of policies and that were worked on last year that we need to work through and decide on a course of action. I am very excited for the huge potential we have before us. Next council report, I expect to be able to inform council which policies I will be taking on.

#### Transportation

There are exciting developments in the works for our U-Pass. **Fort Saskatchewan** is running a pilot program until December 31, 2015, that lets you ride route 198 one-way to and from Fort Saskatchewan for \$1.00, as well as ride in Fort Saskatchewan for free. We are also in conversations with all transit stakeholders about how a **SmartFare** fare implementation would look!



#### Gender and Sexuality Diversity Centre (GSDC)

We have now shortlisted, and chosen a candidate for a **GSDC Program Coordinator**. Over the summer months, they will: develop a governance model, programming schedule, and fund development strategy. I will be working on this in conjunction with our Senior Manager Student Services, the Gender Based Violence Prevention Project, and my fellow Project Lead that worked with me on the research that led to this hire. We hope to launch the centre in September.

#### **International Students Association (ISA)**

Thank you Councillor Chen for reaching out to the executive to participate in your ISA photoshoot!

#### Winter Programming

Conversations have been started regarding potential collaboration with Alumni Affairs for their centennial celebration in 2016.

#### **Student Life Working Group**

I am hoping to find time soon to discuss with you all about your interest in VP Student Life issues. I am looking to convene a **Student Life Working Group** (name pending), consisting of councilors and constituents alike, wherein we can work collaboratively towards common goals.

Here ends my first written council report. Hope you have a wonderful day, and I'll see you soon!

Nicholas Diaz Vice President Student Life 2014-2015



May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014

To: University of Alberta Students' Union Students' Council 2014-2015
From: William Lau, President 2014-2015
Re: Report to Students' Council (for May 20<sup>th</sup>, Meeting)

#### Hello Council!

I hope all of you are enjoying the lovely Spring weather that has been long overdue. For those of you on campus throughout the day, feel free to stop by SUB 2-900 and ask me to take a break to play some Frisbee in quad.

Time always flies by, and it seems like the past two weeks have been carried with the wind. I experienced my first Board of Governors Meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup>, where we voted in favour of the Athletics and Recreation Fee brought forward by the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation as directed by last year's Council after extensive discussion. With its approval, promoting free varsity games will be something on our radar and our team will soon connect with the Department of Athletics to have this conversation. We also approved the 2014-2015 fees for both the Students' Union and the Graduate Students' Association. The Board of Governors meeting started with an elaborate 1.5 hour report from President Samarasekera on the progress of her team of Vice Presidents. Throughout the board meeting, the board's vision is constantly projected on the wall to ensure that discussion and decisions align with the board's goal to build the University of Alberta as one of the best post-secondary institutions. I strongly suggest all of you to attend a board meeting sometime in the future to see how they are run.

Immediately after the board meeting, I left to Ottawa to participate in transitions with our federal lobby group, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA). The four-day transition was a great way to converse with 21 other student unions/associations across Canada. Not only did VP Khinda and I learn about CASA as an organization, but also learned about the responsibilities of the federal government relevant to post-secondary education. From here, we also had a variety of speakers help us through advocacy strategies, media encounters, and writing policy. If you have an interest in any of these areas, I



would love to share my notes with you. The top three "wins" over the past year for CASA were multientry visas for international students, exempting vehicles in federal student loan calculations, and ensuring that research funded by the government would be available as "open resources", aka free.

Our executive team has been putting a lot of effort into writing our goals this year, but we are interested in trying something totally different, which may require us to stretch our timeline. Rather than writing our goals document within the executive committee, we are making it a priority to consult our staff. Your first exposure to our goals will be at Govcamp this coming weekend, where we will present to you our principles and concerns. After that, the executive will present them to our Senior Managers for feedback, and work with them to write up "means" to meet out "ends", or possible next steps. We hope that this will allow us to better use the SU's resources in achieving executive goals, and also build on the relationship between the executives and the rest of our organization.

By the time you read this council report, I will be in Canmore participating in transitions with our provincial lobby group, the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS), but will hopefully be back for the next Council meeting!

P.S. The next board meeting is on Friday, June 20th at 8AM! Let me know if you want to observe!

All the best,

#### William Lau

President 2014-2015 | <u>University of Alberta Students' Union (UASU)</u> Governor | <u>University of Alberta Board of Governors</u>

P: (780) 492-4236 | F: (780) 492-4643 | E: president@su.ualberta.ca Address: 2-900 Students' Union Building (SUB); Edmonton, AB T6G 2J7 Twitter: @UASUpresident LinkedIn: ca.linkedin.com/in/whlau



May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014

To: Students' Council

**Re:** Report to Council (for May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting)

#### Introduction

Hello Council!

As the final remnants of winter leave us, I hope you're all taking time to enjoy what is hopefully the start of summer. Similarly, I hope you're settling in well to your role as Students' Union Councilor!

It's been well over two weeks since my official start as Vice President External, and I must say – it's been a whirlwind! For the VPX and the President, much of May is spent out of town, and for good reason! I write this to you on my second day actually sitting in my office!

Most of my time this month will be spent out of town with various transitions and retreats. William and I just returned from the <u>Canadian Alliance of Student Associations</u> (CASA) Foundations Conference in Ottawa. On Friday morning, we will be leaving to attend the changeover for the <u>Council of Alberta University Students</u> (CAUS) in Canmore. Below you can read about what happened in Ottawa, but first, I thought I'd give you an overview of the context regarding post-secondary education (PSE) and the various levels of government.

#### Government and PSE

Not everyone knows the ins and outs of Canadian federalism and how PSE is regulated in Canada, which is why I'll give you a cursory overview here.

There's really interesting history behind this, but essentially, there is a constitutional division of powers in Canada between the federal and provincial governments. The division of powers defines the scope of power of each level of government – they have responsibilities that are either exclusive to their jurisdiction or shared between both. For example, the national government has the power to regulate trade and commerce<sup>1</sup> as well as criminal law.<sup>2</sup> The provincial governments have legislative control over property and civil rights<sup>3</sup> as well as matters of a local or private nature within the province (such as traffic, littering, etc.).

#### What does this have to do with post-secondary education?

Section 93 of The Constitution Act grants the provinces exclusive jurisdiction over education, allowing provincial governments to structure and manage their own education systems.

Before the 1960s, much of the funding for PSE came from the federal government. However, 1959 signaled a shift. Rather than increasing funding directly to PSE institutions, grants would go to the provincial treasuries instead.<sup>4</sup> The years after World War Two up until the 1960s showed an increase in federal involvement due to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Constitution Act, 1867, s 91(2), http://www.canlii.org/en/ca/laws/stat/30---31-vict-c-3/#sec91.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Constitution Act, 1867, s 91(27) http://www.canlii.org/en/ca/laws/stat/30---31-vict-c-3/#sec91.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Constitution Act, 1867, s 92(13), http://www.canlii.org/en/ca/laws/stat/30---31-vict-c-3/#sec92.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Cameron, David. 2004. "Collaborative Federalism and Post-secondary Education: Be Careful What You Wish For". John Deutsch Institute for the Study of Economic Policy. Queen's University. February 13, 2004. Pg. 4.





the influence of external political events and internal changes. The 1960s, in general, marked the start of provincial coordination in higher education, which meant greater balancing between federal and provincial governments to maintain their respective jurisdictions.

A major paradox is as follows: on one hand, provinces have the constitutionally derived responsibility for social welfare, health, and education. On the other, federal responsibility is concerned with the national interest, economic development, and Aboriginal affairs. This paradox has led to a major line of tension in federal-provincial relations as each jurisdiction attempts to fulfill these responsibilities.<sup>5</sup> Therefore, federal support and involvement in the PSE sector is a result of historical events, politics, and the spirit of federalism.

Even though authority over education is exclusively the purview of the provinces, it doesn't mean the **federal government** can't play a role. In fact, they have a very large *indirect* role to play:

- Raising money through taxation, nationally;
  - Taxation and spending powers the Canada Health Transfer and the Canada Social Transfer are administered through the Department of Finance. A portion of that money goes to PSE.
- Regulation of trade and commerce;
- The Census and statistics;
- Intellectual property;
- First Nations issues;
- Immigration;
  - International students! Citizenship and immigration issues regarding visas allowing study, work, and travel in Canada.
- Research and Granting Agencies
  - o CIHR
  - o NSERC
  - o SSHRC

Federally, indirectly and directly, they provide about \$20 billion in support for PSE. You may be familiar with programs such as the Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP), Canada Student Grant Program (CSGP), and the various Education tax credits.

The Alberta Provincial Government has a direct role to play in our PSE institutions. They:

- Regulate tuition and fees;
- Provide core operating funding for PSE institutions;
- Provide student financial aid in the form of loans, grants, scholarships;
- Can be responsible for the creation of internships and work programs;
- Control legislation regarding residences.

Because both levels of government have an impact on post-secondary institutions and students, Students' Unions across the country advocate to our respective provincial governments and the national government. We do this through our lobby groups. UASU does this through CASA and CAUS!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Fisher, Donald; Rubenson, Kjell; Bernatchez, Jean; Clift, Robert; Jones, Glen; Lee, Jacy; Maclvor, Madeleine; Meredith, John; Shanahan, Theresa; Trottier, Claude. 2006. "Canadian Federal Policy and Postsecondary Education". The Centre for Policy Studies in Higher Education and Training (CHET). Faculty of Education, University of British Columbia. Pg. 1.



#### CASA:

The CASA Foundations conference (May 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>) was an excellent opportunity to interact with other SU executives from across the country and it was also a great learning experience when it comes to policy and advocacy. Though I had a good understanding of our federal lobby organization before, this conference really strengthened my knowledge of the organization and the potential we have if used well. The purpose of this conference was not to set any policy or advocacy goals (that comes later, during our July conference). Rather, this was to provide us with a foundation of how we can excel at federal advocacy. On the final day, the new Board Chair and Board Members were elected, as well as members to various committees.

There are a few key issues that I personally want to focus on federally, which you'll hear more about later. I'm very interesting in developing strong research-based policies. A few of the issues I want to work on include creating a policy on the federal Education and Textbook Tax Credits. Simply put, they are an inefficient use of public funding and can be better allocated towards other means of student financial assistance. I'm also interested in discussing international students and their concerns as well as looking at programs to strengthen assistance for Aboriginal students, such as the Post-Secondary Student Support Program (PSSSP). As such, I was elected to sit on CASA's policy committee!

In short, Ottawa was awesome!

#### CAUS

As you read this report, I will have returned from our changeover retreat! Please ask me questions in Council for updates regarding CAUS.

#### Conclusion

That's it for now folks! If you went through this entire report, congrats and thanks for reading! I'll try and keep them shorter in the future, but don't mind if I add some external knowledge here and there.

Thank you for your time,

Navneet Khinda Vice President External 2014-2015 // University of Alberta Students' Union

Phone: (780) 492-4236 // E: vp.external@su.ualberta.ca Twitter: @uasuvpexternal

P.S. -- Feel free to reach me via Facebook or give me a call/text on my cellphone!

# University of Alberta Students' Union STUDENTS' COUNCIL VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

### Tuesday May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014 TELUS 134

#### VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (SC 2013-01)

#### SPEAKER'S BUSINESS 2013-01/1

#### 2013-01/1a Installation Ceremony

I am not here for me.

- I am here for the people that lent me their power in exchange for a promise. I will keep that promise to make decisions with their interest in mind. I will vote after knowing the facts, not before. I will use Robert's rules for their purpose, not my own. I will oppose ideas, not people. I will think before I speak, not speak just to think. I will take the job seriously or not take the job at all.

- I will represent my students interests, not my own.
- I am not here for me.
- Announcements The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on 2014-02/1a Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014

#### PRESENTATIONS 2014-02/2

BINCZYK/MOHAMED MOVED TO Suspend Standing orders to move item 2014-2/2b on to the main agenda

DIAZ/GRUHLKE Called to question

Motion: CARRIED

Motion: FAILED

MOHAMED/GRUHLKE MOVED TO Suspend Standing orders to move item 2014-2/2d to the main agenda

MALIK/GUAR Called to question

Motion: CARRIED

#### Motion: CARRIED

WUSC presentation who we are and where we want to go. Sponsored by 2014-01/2d Councillor Mohamed/Gaur Not many councillors know what WUSC is. It is a program that brings refugees to study at the U of A. this presentation will serve as an information session

VOTES SC 14-01 TUESDAY MAY 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2014 PAGE 2 along with an update from the group to ensure that they are fulfilling their mandate.

#### 2014-01/2C GovCamp- Hodgson/Lau GovCamp is a professional development retreat for new student representatives. All Councilors and Faculty Association executives are invited. Please return a completed registration form to Discover Governance by May 16 if you wish to attend.

2014-02a Robert's Rules of Order- Presented by Saadiq Sumar, Speaker. Sponsored by Cory Hodgson, VP Operations and Finance/Hansra

> The purpose of this presentation is to provide information to Students' Council on Robert's Rules of Order and allow councillors to become more familiar with them. It will also allow councillors to gain more confidence in their knowledge and understanding of Robert's Rules.

- 2014-02/7 GENERAL ORDERS
- **2014-02/7a** HODGSON/LAU MOVES TO appoint one (1) member of Students' Council to the First Alberta Campus Radio Association (FACRA) Board of Directors.

Nominations: Farooq, Champagne

Nominations Closed

Appointed: Champagne

Automatic Recess at 7:45 pm

Meeting called back to order at 8:00pm

2014-02/7b HODGSON/LAU MOVES TO appoint one (1) member of Students' Council to the Gateway Student Journalism Society (GSJS) Board of Directors.

Nominations: Hansra, Farooq

Nominations Closed

Appointed: Farooq

2014-02/7C HODGSON/LAU MOVES TO appoint one (1) member of Students' Council to the Alberta Public Interest Research Group (APIRG) Board of Directors.

Nominations: Peak, Zeineddine

Nominations Closed

Appointed: Zeineddine

VOTES SC 14-01

TUESDAY MAY 6TH, 2014

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2014-02/7d HODGSON/LAU MOVES TO appoint two (2) member of Students' Council to the World University Services Canada (WUSC) Board of Directors.

**MOHHMAED/GRUHLKE MOVED TO** Suspend the relevant standing orders to allow for item 2014-02/2d and 2014-02/7d to occur in the same meeting

#### Motion: CARRIED

Nominations: Banister, Babatunde, Chen

Nominations Closed

Appointed: Babatunde, Chen

**2014-02/7e** HODGSON/LAU MOVES TO appoint one (1) member of Students' Council to the Student Legal Services Board of Directors.

Nominations: Khan, Banister

Nominations Closed

Appointed: Khan

**2014-02/7f** HODGSON/LAU MOVES TO appoint two (2) member of Students' Council to the Health Centre Advisory Group (HCAG) Board of Directors.

> LAU MOVED TO amend the motion to read: HODGSON/LAU MOVES TO appoint two (2) member of Students' Council to the Health Centre Advisory Group (HCAG).

Motion (friendly): CARRIED

Nominations: Kwan, Peak, Farooq, Hudson, Champagne, Banister

Nominations Closed

Appointed: Kwan, Hudson

**2014-02/79** HODGSON/LAU MOVES TO appoint one (1) member of Students' Council to the Athletics and Recreation Fee Advisory Committee (ARFAC).

Nominations: Hooper, Mohamed

Nominations Closed

Appointed: Hooper

2014-01/7k Nominating committee (5)

Nominations: Peak, Zeineddine

Nominations Closed

Appointed: Peak, Zeineddine

#### 2014-01/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

William Lau, President- Report

Kathryn Orydzuk, VP Academic- Report

Navneet Khinda, VP External- Report

Cory Hodgson, VP Operations and Finance- Report

Nicholas Diaz, VP Student Life- Report

#### 2014-02/4 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Natalia Binczyk, CAC Chair- Report

Sangram Hansra, BoG Rep- Report

James Hwang, GAC Chair- Report

#### 2014-02/5 QUESTION PERIOD

Question period extended 15 minutes

#### 2014-02/7 GENERAL ORDERS

**2014-02/7h HODGSON/FAROOQ MOVES TO** create the Dedicated Fee Unit Task Force based on the attached Terms of Reference.

**BINCZYK MOVED TO** suspend standing orders to not take an automatic recess

Motion: CARRIED

MOHAMED Called for division Lau- Y Orydzuk- Y Khinda- Y Hodgson- Y Diaz- Y Hansra- Y Chen- Y Mohamed- N Zhang- Y Jaddock- Y Babatinde- Y Horvat- Y Fedoski- Y Malik- Y Wong- Y Gaur- Y Madamin-Shawanda- Y Binczyk- Y Zeineddine- Y Kwan- Y Peak- Y Hwang- Y Farroq- Y

**2014-20/7i HODGSON/LAU MOVES TO** appoint two members of council to the Dedicated Fee Unit Task Force.

Nominations: Mohamed, Hwang

Nominations Closed

Appointed: Mohamed, Hwang

**2014-01/7***j* **GRUHLKE/HANSRA MOVES** to approve Students' Council Standing Orders.

Motion: CARRIED

Meeting adjourned

| 2014 2015                            | Records           |          |                   |         |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|---------|
| 2014-2015                            |                   | Attendar | ice               | ,       |
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| Council Seats (40 total              | Name              |          | / 🕅               | /       |
|                                      |                   | ``       | <u> </u>          |         |
| Ex-officio Members (6 voting se      | 1                 |          |                   |         |
| President                            | William Lau       | · ·      |                   |         |
| VP Academic                          | Kathryn Orydzuk   | 0.5      | Y                 |         |
| VP External                          | Navneet Khinda    | Y        | Y                 |         |
| VP Operations & Finance              | Cory Hodgson      | Y        | Y                 |         |
| VP Student Life                      | Nicholas Diaz     | Y        | Y                 |         |
| Undergraduate Board of Governors Rep | Sangram Hansra    | 0.5      | Y                 |         |
|                                      |                   |          |                   |         |
| Faculty Representation (32 vot       | 1                 |          |                   |         |
| ALES                                 | Justis Allard     | Y        | 0.5(p)            |         |
| Arts                                 | Zhaoyi Chen       | Y        | Y                 |         |
| Arts                                 | Marina Banister   | Y        | N                 |         |
| Arts                                 | Bashir Mohamed    | Y        | Y                 |         |
| Arts                                 | Samer Sleiman     | Y        | Y                 |         |
| Arts                                 | Bo Zhang          | Y        | Y                 |         |
| Arts                                 | Tymothy Jaddock   | Y        | Y                 |         |
| Augustana (Faculty)                  | Stephanie Gruhlke | N        | Y                 |         |
| Business                             | Brittany Bryce    | N        | N                 |         |
| Business                             | Sade Babatunde    | 0.5      | Y                 |         |
| Education                            | Katie Horvat      | 0.5      | Y                 |         |
| Education                            | Brendan Fedoski   | Y        | Y                 |         |
| Education                            | Vacant            |          |                   |         |
| Engineering                          | Kevin Jacobson    | Y        | Y(p)              |         |
| Engineering                          | Andy Wong         | Y        | Y                 |         |
| Engineering                          | Shubham Garg      | Y        | N                 |         |
| Engineering                          | Shubham Gaur      | Y        | Y                 |         |
| Law                                  | Azhar Khan        | Y        | N                 |         |
| Medicine & Dentistry                 | Roger Croutze     | Y        | N<br>X(r)         |         |
| Native Studies                       | Harley Morris     | Y        | Y(p)              |         |
| Nursing                              | Vacant<br>Vacant  |          |                   |         |
| Nursing<br>Open Studies              | Humza Makhdoom    | v        | N                 |         |
| Pharmacy                             | Surya Bhatia      | Y        | N                 |         |
| Phys Ed & Rec                        | Bridget Hooper    | Y        | 0.5               |         |
| Saint-Jean (Faculty)                 | Colin Champagne   | 0.5      | 0.5               |         |
| Science                              | Natalia Binczyk   | 0.5      | 0.5<br>Y          |         |
| Science                              | Aiman Zeineddine  | 0.3<br>Y | Y                 |         |
| Science                              | Vivian Kwan       | Y        | Y                 |         |
| Science                              | Insung Peak       | N        | Y                 |         |
| Science                              | James Hwang       | Y        | Y                 |         |
| Science                              | Umer Faroog       | Y        | Y                 |         |
| Science                              | Jamie Hudson      | Ý        | Y                 |         |
|                                      |                   |          | + ·               |         |
| Ex-Officio Members (2 non-           |                   |          |                   |         |
| Speaker                              | Saadiq Sumar      | Y        | Y                 |         |
| General Manager                      | Marc Dumouchel    | N        | N                 |         |
| ~ ~                                  |                   |          |                   |         |