

STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

Tuesday January 7th, 2014
TELUS 134

LATE ADDITIONS (SC 2013-17)

2013-17/1 SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

2013-17/2 PRESENTATIONS

2013-17/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

2013-17/4 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

2013-17/4a DIE Board Ruling 2013-01

Please see document LA 13-17.01

2013-17/5 QUESTION PERIOD

2013-17/5a To Josh Le, VP Operations and Finance from Councillor Mohamed

"The current joke edition of the Gateway has crude pictures, a penis, and a pile of manure on the front page. These papers stay around campus and extremely visible from mid-December to mid-January. The U of A gets plenty of traffic during that period of time and I fear that it creates a negative perception for the University of Alberta and the Students Union. What if your view on this? And do you believe in limiting the times joke editions can appear on shelves."

2013-17/6 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2013-17/7 GENERAL ORDERS

2013-17/8 INFORMATION ITEMS

2013-17/8d LSA FAMF Proposal

Please see document LA 13-17.02

2013-17/8e Petros Kusmu, President- Report

Please see document LA 13-17.03

2013-17/8f Josh Le, VP Operations and Finance- Report

Please see document LA 13-17.04

2013-17/8g Adam Woods, VP External- Report
Please see document LA 13-17.05

2013-17/8h Brent Kelly, BoG Rep- Report
Please see document LA 13-17.06

DIE BOARD RULING 2013-01

HEARING DETAILS:

Style of Cause: Chelen re: Bylaw 8100

Hearing Date: January 3rd, 2014

Hearing Number: Ruling #01 2013/2014

DIE Board Panel Members: Cian Hackett, Associate Chief Tribune, Chair
Harvir Mann, Associate Chief Tribune
Catherine Fan, Tribune

Appearing for the Applicant: Dustin Chelen, Students' Union Vice President, Academic

Appearing for the Respondent: N/A

BACKGROUND:

In July, 2012, the Nursing Undergraduate Association (NUA) was placed on probationary status by the Students' Union according to Bylaw 8100. This probationary status was extended on July 10, 2013 according to Bylaw 8100. Bylaw 8100, Section 27 subsection b states that a probationary status may be extended for up to six months, and the NUA's probationary status is reaching the limit of this six month extension on January 10, 2014. Other than the ratification of a revised constitution at a general meeting, the Students' Union has no reason to believe that the Conditions of Probation will not be met by January 10, 2014.

Mr. Chelen made this application to seek clarification of Students' Union Bylaw 8100 Section 27 subsection b. The panel was asked to rule on the process after the probationary period had already been extended by six months, as the bylaw is not clear.

Mr. Chelen indicated he was the author of Bylaw 8100, Section 27 subsection b and expressed that the intent of the bylaw was to give reasonable and clear deadlines to Faculty Associations to meet their Conditions of Probation without dragging on the process.

ISSUES:

[1] What are the Students' Union's options after a probationary period has been extended to a maximum of six months according to Bylaw 8100, section 27 subsection b?

[2] Can the Students' Union extend the probationary period repeatedly after the maximum of six months if it believes the Conditions of Probation will be met during the subsequent extension?

RELEVANT BYLAWS:

[3] **From Bylaw 8100, Section 14:**

14. All determinations by the Students' Union required by this bylaw shall be made by the Vice President (Academic) in consultation with the Student Governance Advisor, the Manager of Student Group Services and the following:

- a. The Chief Returning Officer on all matters pertaining to Association elections, plebiscites and referenda;
- b. The Chair of Audit Committee on all matters pertaining to Association finances; and
- c. The Dean of Students and the Dean of all affected faculties on all matters pertaining to Association recognition, probation or derecognition.

[4] **From Bylaw 8100, Section 19:**

19. The Students' Union may derecognize an Association, thus leaving an unrepresented constituency if:

- a. The Association applies for derecognition;
- b. A majority of the students which the Association represents petition for derecognition; or
- c. An Association is found to be in gross violation of its conditions of probation.
- d. A probationary Association does not meet its conditions of probation in accordance with the timelines set out in section 26.

[5] **From Bylaw 8100, Section 24:**

24. Any decisions made pertaining to an Association's status must include thorough investigation, consultation, transparency, and adherence to the principles of natural justice

[6] **From Bylaw 8100, Section 25:**

25. The Students' Union may recognize an Association as having probationary status if:

- a. Multiple significant issues, including but not limiting the generality of the foregoing: financial misrepresentation, constitutional violations, alleged violations of the Code of Student Behaviour, or failure to adhere to basic standards of democratic accountability or administrative and financial transparency, arise out of the annual recognition process, notwithstanding Section 14.d of this bylaw;
- b. The Association applies for probation; or

[7] **From Bylaw 8100, Section 26:**

26. The Students' Union and the Association, having probationary status, shall agree to and sign Conditions of Probation, which shall govern the Association while it retains its probationary status.

[8] **From Bylaw 8100, Section 27:**

27. After three calendar months and before one calendar year of an Association being recognized as having probationary status, the Students' Union shall ;

- a. recognize the as no longer having probationary status and no longer being subject to their conditions of probation, if the Association has met their conditions of probation;
- b. extend the probationary period of an Association for up to six months, if all parties to the conditions of probation consent to the extension or if the Students' Union has reason to believe that the conditions of probation will be met during the period of extension; or
- c. derecognize the Association, if the conditions of probation are not met and the Students' Union has no reason to believe that the conditions of probation will be met during the period of extension.

DECISION:

The following decision was made unanimously.

[9] The panel finds that Bylaw 8100 is silent with respect to the Students' Union's options after a probationary period has been extended for six months. Bylaw 8100, Section 19 implies with the word "may" that there are options other than derecognition if an Association does not meet its Conditions of Probation.

[10] The panel rules that Bylaw 8100, Section 14 gives the Students' Union Vice President, Academic discretion over the probationary status of the group where the bylaw is silent.

[11] The panel accepts the interpretation of the intent of Bylaw 8100, Section 27, given by Mr. Chelen, to be reasonable.

[12] The panel recommends that the Students' Union's Bylaw Committee clarify Bylaw 8100, Section 27 to provide clear guidance on the Students' Union's options after a probationary period has already been extended for six months. In the absence of changes, as stated in [10], the Students' Union Vice President, Academic shall have the power to make reasonable decisions based on the principles outlined in Bylaw 8100, Section 24 and in accordance with the procedures outlined in Bylaw 8100, Section 14.

Law Students' Association **Faculty Association Membership Fee ("FAMF") Proposal**

General Introduction to the Law Students' Association ("LSA")

We are the many voices of the student population at the University of Alberta – Faculty of Law, all rolled up into one elected executive, responsible for coordinating and maintaining the numerous academic, professional, athletic, social, and extracurricular activities at UofA Law. We act as the liaison between all registered law students and the university & law faculty's administration. We provide a multitude of services to our members that include Condensed Annotated Notes (CANs), lockers for all of our members, general upkeep and access to our student lounge (the Gavel), a student directory ("Who's Who"), and eligibility to compete on the various intramural law sports teams offered by Campus Recreation.

This year, along with the unveiling our new website, we are offering CANs online (and free) for the first time ever in the history of our school. This was a momentous and proud occasion for many of us, and we are inviting all of our students to help themselves to this sizeable database of notes. The ability of the Executive to provide such a service for free can be maintained long-term, but requires prudent financial planning moving forward.

A. The purpose of the fee;

Practicality is the ultimate goal in pursuing a Faculty Association Membership Fee, the purpose of which is twofold. First, an automatic fee would reduce the time and effort it takes to sign up all our students during the first week of school, and would alternatively provide all students with the ability to enjoy the benefits of membership without worrying about attending the membership drive during such a small window of opportunity. Our membership consists of nearly 80% of our student population. We feel it would be even higher given that a number of students are on exchange during the first semester, participating in training for clinical courses, or are student leaders in the school and are simply busy with other commitments during the first week.

Second, to ensure a steady and consistent stream of revenue, which the Executive can use to plan membership benefits and the year's activities in advance. As it stands now, so much of the LSA's operating budget depends on the membership drive in September, and part of our big sales pitch is that only LSA members could purchase CANs under the old financial model (the revenue from CANs sales accounted for approximately \$6000 of the LSA's operating budget). Furthermore, a tremendous effort was made during the summer of 2013 to increase sponsorship by nearly 50% in order to fund one year's worth of free online CANs. This can be maintained every year, theoretically. However, the LSA Executive would like to ensure that the revenue used to provide free online CANs remains consistent every year, should the Executive be unable to procure similar sponsorship numbers every year. It is absolutely unfeasible to require the Executive to wait and determine whether or not providing CANs, in tandem with sponsorship efforts over the summer, will or will not cause significant financial issues for the LSA, only once membership numbers are in.

B. The amount, per student per term, of the fee;

\$50 will be collected annually. (\$50 Fall/0\$ Winter/0\$ Spring & Summer)

C. The scope of membership of the fee;

Currently the LSA has two categories of membership: Base and Privileged. Base membership includes, and will continue to include, all undergraduate students enrolled in the Faculty of Law. Benefits of base membership includes advocacy and representation before the Faculty of Law. Privileged membership includes greater access to services (including "who's who" and locker rentals) and social programming.



Law Students' Association
Law Centre 157A
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB T6G 2H5
T: (780) 803-7869
E: lsa@ualberta.ca

The scope of this FAMF is to expand privileged membership to all students enrolled at the University of Alberta - Faculty of Law (subject to opt-outs). The increase in scope is significant for all the reasons outlined above. Currently 428 students already pay \$55 towards purchasing an LSA membership fee.

D. The dates the fee is to begin and cease being collected;

From the payment of the enrollment confirmation fee in July, to the first day of classes in September. This FAMF fee will cease being collected June 1, 2019.

E. The refund mechanism of the fee;

A two-week opt-out window will be presented after classes commence in September, during which students can choose not to participate as members of the Law Students Association. A student will not have to provide reasoning for their decision to opt-out of the FAMF. After the two-week period has closed, upon receiving final numbers, the VP Finance and President will sign cheques refunding the membership to all students who have chosen to opt-out.

Please see Schedule IV for the proposed LSA Membership Fee Reimbursement Form.

F. The allocation of the fee;

The fee is to be allocated in the same manner in which it is currently. The fee is allocated to the LSA's annual operating budget, as set by the VP Finance and President well in advance of the first Executive meeting in September, where it is voted on and passed by the Executive. All major projects pursued by the Executive are then decided on as a group throughout the year.

Please see Schedule I for the LSA's current Budget numbers.

G. The financial oversight of the fee;

The fee is subject to the same financial oversight expected of membership fees currently paid by LSA members; an audit of the LSA's operating budget by an independent third party, presentation of said budget and audit at the Annual General Meeting in March, and the University of Alberta Student Union Financial Reporting Guidelines.

Please see Schedule II for the constitutional provisions currently in place to ensure proper financial oversight of LSA revenue.

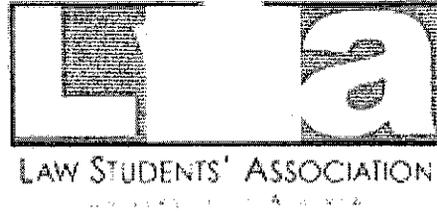
H. Proof of consultation as required by Section 14 of this bylaw; and

On November 26, 2013, 1:00-2:00, Law Centre Room #201, the Law Students Association' convened a general meeting to consult with our student body about our proposal to collect a FAMF.

Please see Schedule III for the list of people that attended this general meeting.

I. Endorsement of the fee by the Association.

On November 18, 2013, the Law Students Association' executive endorsed this proposal to collect our membership fees through a FAMF. This proposal is believed to be in accordance with *Bylaw 8200- A - Bylaw Respecting Faculty Association and Campus Association Finances*



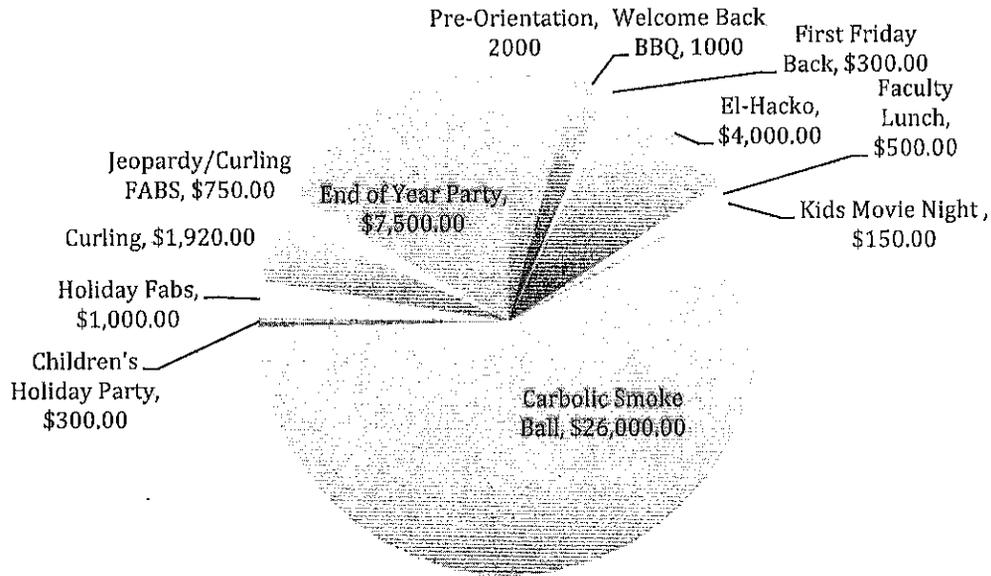
Schedule I

Current Budget Figures

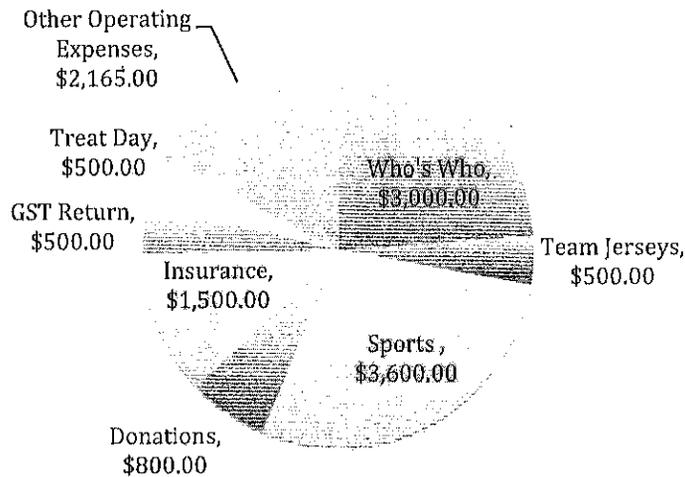
Law Students' Association 2013-2014 Budget			
Item		2013-2104 Budgeted	
Events	Revenue	\$	35,070.00
	Expenses	\$	(45,420.00)
	Net Events	\$	(10,350.00)
Projects	Revenue	\$	8,600.00
	Expenses	\$	(5,547.19)
	Net Projects	\$	3,052.81
Operations	Revenue	\$	27,400.00
	Expenses	\$	(9,565.00)
	Net Operations	\$	17,835.00
Net Income		\$	10,537.81

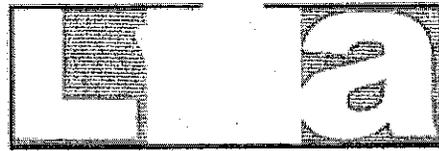
Predicted Expenses for the 2014/2015 School year

2014/15 Predicted Expenses for Events



2014/15 Predicted Expenses for Projects and Operations





LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Schedule II
Financial Oversight
and the LSA
Constitution
(Relevant
Constitutional
Provisions)

Financial Oversight and the LSA Constitution (Relevant Constitutional Provisions)

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9.6 The duties of the Vice-President Finance shall include:

- (a) keeping full and accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements of the Association in proper books of account;
- (b) receiving and depositing all monies of the Association in such bank or banks designated by the Executive;
- (c) only disbursing monies of the Association upon authorization of a resolution of the Executive;
- (a) rendering to the members of the Association at the general meetings an account of all his or her transactions as Vice-President Finance and of the financial position of the Association; and
- (b) make a financial report to the Students' Union within six months of the end of the fiscal year's end
- (a) The duties of the Vice-President External shall include: monitoring all external affairs of Law Students;
- (b) keeping the Law Students' Association website up-to-date and accurate
- (c) giving regular updates from the General Faculty Council Law representative;
- (d) giving regular updates from the Law Students Union Councillor;
- (e) in the event that the LSA wishes to advocate for a policy that is contrary to Students' Union political policy, students union policy mandates a presentation be made to council. The presentation may be made by the VP External in this event.
- (f) providing contact information to the Students' Union each year; and
- (g) providing such services as the Executive considers appropriate.

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ARTICLE X – BORROWING POWER

- 10.1 For the purpose of carrying out the objects of the Association, the Executive, by way of Executive Resolution, may cause the Association to borrow or raise or secure the payment of money in any manner the Executive thinks fit, except that in no case shall a

- general security agreement, mortgage or other security document be executed without the sanction of a Special Resolution.
- 10.2 For the purpose of carrying out the objects of the Association, the Executive, by way of Executive Resolution, may cause the Association to draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, execute and issue promissory notes, bills of exchange and other negotiable or transferable instruments.
- 10.3 All cheques or other orders of payment of money issued in the name of the Association shall be signed by the Vice-President Finance or the President and any other Executive member who is approved by the majority of the Executive.

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ARTICLE XII – AUDITORS

- 12.1 The Association shall have an independent body audit the Financial Statements and ensure that the budget and financial administration rules are accountable.
- 12.2 No Executive of the Association shall hold the position of auditor or audit the Financial Statements of the Association.
- 12.3 The membership of the Association shall, at the time of each Executive Election, appoint an auditor or auditors who will audit the books of the out-going Executive.
- 12.4 The remuneration of the auditor or auditors, if any, shall be paid by the Association.
- 12.5 The books, accounts and records of the Association shall be audited at least once each year by a duly qualified chartered accountant or accountants. A complete and proper statement of the standing of the books for the previous year shall be submitted by such auditor or auditors at the annual general meeting of the Association.
- 12.6 The fiscal year end of the Association in each year shall be April 30.

ARTICLE XIII – INSPECTION

- 13.1 The Executive shall allow any member to inspect the books, records and accounts of the Association at the registered office of the Association within seventy-two (72) hours of that member delivering a written request to the Executive of his or her intention to inspect the books, records and accounts of the Association.

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LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

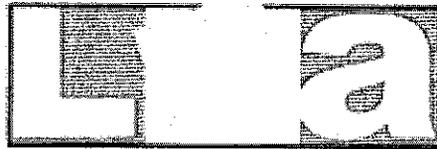
Schedule III

FAMF Consultation Sign-In Sheets

GENERAL MEETING

Attendee Sign-In Sheet

Name (please print)	Signature/Initials
Sara Tebbutt	[Redacted]
Kelsey Sinclair	[Redacted]
Ananda Meyer	[Redacted]
Kate Kenny	[Redacted]
Amir Keshet	[Redacted]
Paul Kelick	[Redacted]
Avril Fisher	[Redacted]
Catherine Scott	[Redacted]
Cardice Uinal	[Redacted]
Nick Williams	[Redacted]
Alex Camenzind	[Redacted]
Taylor Watts	[Redacted]
Dan Pilon	[Redacted]
Rodney Perkins	[Redacted]
Lindsay Butlin	[Redacted]
Steven Hoare	[Redacted]
Michael Aylward	[Redacted]
Alexander Mandala	[Redacted]
Sam Stokes	[Redacted]
Ariel Lelas	[Redacted]
Brett Colman	[Redacted]
Sharon Dutton	[Redacted]
Daniel Williams	[Redacted]



LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Schedule IV

LSA Membership

Fee

Reimbursement

Form



Law Students' Association
Law Centre 157A
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB T6G 2H5
T: (780) 803-7869
E: lsa@ualberta.ca

LSA Membership Fee Reimbursement Form

In order to receive an LSA Membership Fee reimbursement, you must:

1. Be registered in the Faculty of Law as an undergraduate student in the current academic year.
2. You must have paid the LSA Membership fee as part of your tuition, as collected by the Office of the Registrar and the Students' Union.

Reimbursements will not be granted two weeks after classes commence in September.

I, _____ (____@ualberta.ca), request to be refunded the LSA membership fee for the _____ academic year.

I give the LSA permission to retain a record of my information for the purposes of confirming my registration with the Faculty of Law.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Received by:	
Date:	

January 6th, 2014

To: Students' Council

From: Petros Kusmu, President 2013-2014

Re: Report to Students' Council (for January 7th, Meeting)

Hello Council!

I hope all is well on your end and that you found the holidays a restful time. The Executive and I are excited for the 81 (working) days we have left in office. So many things to do but so little time!

Anyways, here's a brief update on what I've been up to since November 15th.

- **International Students' Tuition Increase**

Most of what I did in mid-/late-November and December was advocate against the international students tuition increase and (in the event that a tuition increase goes through) advocate for increased international student services and financial assistance. Besides the two Board members that did not get back to me, I met with all of the Board members individually, the Board Chair multiple times, and countless meetings with a variety of University administrators. At the Board, I made a motion to amend the institution's tuition proposal increase so that international undergraduate students tuition would only increase by 3.65 percent instead of 5 percent. Why? A lot of Board members expressed to me that they'd be significantly more willing to vote for a more reasonable increase than no increase at all for international students. Why 3.65 percent? The institution cited that salaries, wages, and benefits – which is approximately 80 percent of the University's budget – increases by 3.65 percent each year. However, the institution failed to clearly account for the additional 1.35 percent they sought after.

My motion, unfortunately, failed. However, it was a close 7 to 10 vote (meaning that non-student Board members supported the motion) – the closest a student on the Board has ever gotten in recent memory to amend the institution's tuition and fee increases. But, with that being said, there are a couple of major wins. First, Board members and the institution's administrators are paying a great amount of attention to the international student experience now – especially after the tuition increase. This heightened attention has resulted in President Samarasekera making a commitment that by the March Board of Governor's meeting her team will create an update report on international student services and support resources. Furthermore, Board Chair Doug Goss repeatedly called on the Board to "Hold us accountable," on ensuring improved services and financial assistance.

Second, the institution promised to increase bursary funding for international students by \$150,000 and, if it is over subscribed, they are willing to put more funding into it. While this is a major positive step, the President Samarasekera and her team didn't have an answer to my counter-argument: great news but in 2013 the institution slashed nearly \$300,000 from continuing awards to international undergraduate students.

Third, the level of student engagement on this issue was overwhelming and inspiring. On an incredibly early Friday morning during exams, I believe we had somewhere around 100 students protesting outside of the Board of Governors meeting. (Only a handful of them were permitted to actually sit in the meeting due to limited space.) Their presence made me all the more emotional during and after the

Board meeting. (Ya, I ended up shedding a couple of tears.)

However, we have a big challenge ahead of us. First, we need to keep the momentum alive on having international students involved in governance. An International Students' Association has never been timelier. Second, we need to reverse the perverse stereotypes that exist among Board members, academic staff, university administrators, and even students that all international students come from "affluent" families and therefore have the necessary means to pay whatever amount the university charges them. Third, we need to make sure that we keep the institution accountable on actually increasing services and financial assistance for international students.

That's it for now. Thank you to all of the students that came out to the Board meeting and to those that were invested in the mobilization efforts. Thank you to the Students' Union's staff for their excellent work. (Nav Thind, the Students' Union's new Advocacy and Outreach Campaigns Officer, deserves a special shout out!) Thank you to all of the Board members that supported my amendment and raised your concerns with the original motion. Thank you to the University administrators that were helpful in all of this. And a final thank you to the amazing executive team and Council I have for all of your devoted support.

- **Fall Reading Week**

The next big thing on my plate is wrapping up the Fall Reading Week (FRW). Dustin and I have been working tirelessly on this file for the past 8 months. What was supposed to be wrapped in the summer has now consumed a lot of my Presidency due to various roadblocks, which were out of our control, being thrown in front of us.

The current plan is as follows: present the FRW plan to Deans' Council on January 8th for discussion, General Faculties Council Executive on January 13th for recommendation, and General Faculties Council on February 3rd for discussion. The final approver will be the Provost and his decision will essentially be based on how smooth things go at all of the aforementioned governance "check stops".

So far, I'm feeling extremely positive with how everything is progressing. What's interesting is how Martin Ferguson-Pell will cease to be the Acting Provost on January 31st and Carl Amrhein will reclaim his position as Provost on February 1st. Luckily for us, we've met with Provost Amrhein we've already updated him on where we were at and we have indications that he's tremendously supportive of the proposal. If all goes smoothly, by early February we'll know if we'll have a FRW for Fall 2015 or not. (Why Fall 2015? Adjusting the academic schedule for Fall 2014 in February is too late for the institution. Dustin and I fought incredibly hard to have this approved earlier but, again, it was another roadblock that was outside of our control.)

- **Leadership College**

The Leadership College is kind of a mixed bag of sorts. While we're seeing some progress in the discussions at the institution's Leadership Academic Coordination Committee (LACC), there is still a fair amount of confusion and ambiguity with the entire project – and this isn't just an opinion from the student representatives. It seems as though academic staff and other university administrators are also frustrated. However, there is some hope. Dustin and I met with Provost Carl Amrhein and he gave us an overview of the thoughts him and Acting Provost Martin Ferguson-Pell had, which includes a significantly larger enrollment size (beyond 144). This departure from the original proposal is a start.

- **External Federal Advocacy**

Here are some of the results of the Canadian Alliance of Student Association's Advocacy Week that Adam and I attended in mid-/late-November: "The House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance has recommended that the federal government explore the feasibility of exempting additional in-study income from the Canada Student Loans Program's assessment. The recommendation is part of the finance committee's report following consultations on the 2014 Budget. Under the current policy, those who work while studying have their financial assistance lessened for any amount earned over \$100 per week. The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) has welcomed the recommendation, saying the policy change 'would help in the generation and transition of experienced graduates to Canada's economy.'" (Academica Top Ten – Mon Dec 16, 2013)

- **Fostering Student Entrepreneurship on Campus and Block Week Courses**

Since the FRW took up a lot more time than originally planned and issues, like the Leadership College and International Student Tuition increases, demanded a lot of my time, I haven't been able to move forward on these initiatives earlier than I thought would. However, there is still a tremendous amount of progress behind them.

For student entrepreneurship file, I think it's safe for me to say that I've completed my fact-finding mission and I've compiled enough data and sources for me to start compiling a white paper on student entrepreneurship and how the Students' Union can foster it on campus.

As for Block Weeks, the Students' Union's Advocacy department has completed their extensive research on it. They're just awaiting feedback from the team and I on how to move forward. I'm hoping that in a couple of weeks we can have this report distributed to Council and a draft political policy be in the works.

- **Executive Goals Update**

As per Bylaw 4000, the Executive Committee will provide Students' Council a midterm goals review by January 15th. Expect an email from us then. We're hoping to do a very brief presentation in Council on January 21st to accompany our goals review.

That's it for now folks. Till next time!

Signing off,



Petros Kusmu

[President](#) 2013-2014 | [University of Alberta Students' Union \(UASU\)](#)
Governor | [University of Alberta Board of Governors](#)

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LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/pub/petros-kusmu/34/b50/605>

January 7, 2014

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Students' Council

Hello Council,

Happy New Year! Welcome back to our last four months together as the 2013/2014 University of Alberta Students' Council. The past 8 months have gone quickly and it's been a pleasure serving as your VPOF. Let's make these last 4 months memorable!

SUB Renovation

We are waiting to award the next set of contracts for the construction in the next few weeks. Our team is exploring furnishing options with different interior design companies for our renovated spaces.

GM Marc Dumouchel will make a presentation within the next couple Council meetings with a more comprehensive update.

PAW Centre

GM Marc Dumouchel and I are working to prepare the Request For Proposal (RFP) packages for PAW. We have (1) retail and (1) food/beverage space that will be jointly owned by the SU and the GSA We are currently assessing the needs and ideal occupants for the space.

There is another opportunity to work with the proposed wayfinding kiosk in PAW, but we are awaiting details before we determine any type of collaboration with InfoLink and their needs.

North Power Plant

The reworked visioning document is in the works and I am soliciting feedback internally to reshape the document before presenting it to the Executive team. Once we are satisfied with our visioning document, we will present it around to different campus stakeholders.

The Daily Grind

The goal is near complete. Last piece is to have a grand opening celebration for The Daily Grind to solidify our presence on campus. The P&L statements for the Fall semester are very healthy and encouraging.

Room At The Top

I had a very encouraging meeting with the Senior Manager of Food & Beverage and the RATT manager on the first day back to work about areas of opportunity in RATT.

Two major takeaways is the success of the monthly promotions and the tiered price options for burgers. January's special is a vegetarian quesadilla with a salad for \$5 from 11AM-2PM on weekdays. The tiered price on burgers is made possible with a different patty size to make a more affordable option.

Business Advisory Group

The Terms of Reference are complete and applications will open shortly. I will send an email to Councillors to share with their networks once it's open.

DFU Task Force

The DFU TF continues to meet. One of our Information Officers is researching DFU structures and bylaws at the UASU and comparing ours with Students' Unions across the country. We still aim to have a document produced by the end of the semester with recommendations on how to proceed.

Communications Strategic Plan

I aim to have a draft of this document by the end of the month in order to solicit feedback and implement changes before my term ends in order to see improvements on the SU's communications internally and externally to students and stakeholders.

Financial Reporting

This goal needs to be revisited through discussions at BFC. I will keep Council updated as BFC meets in the next couple of weeks. We are at the helm of budget season, so this area will be highlighted more heavily.

Operating Policy Review

The Operating Policy is a lower priority topic among the rest of my goals, but I aim to begin a formal updating process in March. In the meantime, I am jotting down notes as areas of improvement arise.

Inter-SU VPOF Collaboration

This goal is on its last breath. I will attempt one more push to seek feedback before closing this goal for the year. The big improvement for future VPOFs is to start this process earlier in the year. I spent too long talking to individual VPOFs across the country without crystal clear objectives for the collaboration before uniting everyone. I feel it was too late by the time I contacted them all in September. While I continue to correspond informally with my counterparts across the country, no formal countrywide group will likely exist for the remainder of this term.

Feel free to get in touch with me at 780-492-4236 or vp.finance@su.ualberta.ca if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. I am happy to meet with you if you would like to discuss any VPOF topics in detail.

Cheerio,

Josh Le

(electronically submitted)

January 7, 2014

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Council (for January 7th meeting)

Introduction

Hello Council. My apologies for the late report, however I felt that given my minimal time in the office due to the break I would write my report for the late additions in order to update Councilors on as much as possible. Largely I still do not have vast amounts to report, given that we are currently in the build up on a number of projects that will be starting up in the very near future.

Mandatory Non Instructional Fee Awareness Campaign:

This week I've been working with the Department of Research and Political Affairs in order to run the SU's first ever awareness campaign surrounding the non instructional fees that we pay to the University. This is ideal timing given that this is the time when students are currently being charged these fees. The campaign will simply focus on raising awareness around campus about what the University currently charges students, and why its important to pay attention how the institution is assessing our tuition.

We are hopeful that this campaign will work to further the discussion of MNIF's with both our student population and with the University. This campaign is slated to start on the 3rd week of January. I am very much looking forward to the launch of the campaign, and hopefully building awareness will help to improve the status of MNIF's on campus.

Job Shadow Day:

Something I campaigned on during the last election was bringing students to lobby meetings. While this particular project hasn't had much work done on it due to the large amount of mayhem occurring in my particular portfolio over the past semester, with things starting to calm down a bit I am optimistic that it will come to fruition shortly. The goal will be to hold two lobby training sessions throughout late January and early February, and once that has been completed, those interested may join me in the near future for a job shadow day. Hopefully I will be able to land some interesting meetings for students to partake in.

At this point that is all I have to report.

Thank you for your time,





Office of the VICE PRESIDENT (EXTERNAL)

Adam Woods

Vice President External 2013-2014 | [University of Alberta Students' Union](#)

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January 7th, 2013

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Council

Hey Council,

Before I proceed with my report, I would like to acknowledge that our university and our Students' Union are on Indigenous land. Specifically: Cree, Saulteaux, Metis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Siou.

They are faculty, staff, students, family, and friends, and they are still here. I acknowledge that we meet on treaty 6 territory. That treaty governs the relationship between first-nations and non-first nations citizens. I am thankful for this opportunity for us to meet on this land today. This statement will be included at the front of my report to council until either the time that my term ends, or Council moves to makes a similar statement available for public viewing.

Hope everyone had a restful holiday break! I certainly did, and am looking forward to getting back into the swing of things in Council and on the Board. I attended to important meetings since my last report: the December 12th Holiday Dinner at Lister Centre, and the December 13th meeting of the Board. I'll discuss both in this report.

Holiday Dinner

The dinner was a good opportunity to meet with other members of the board in a more casual environment. It was also a good opportunity to gauge members' opinions on the upcoming tuition and fee proposals. Some members expressed reservations with the proposals, while others were generally in favour. Overall, I got the impression that most members were not terribly happy to be raising tuition (both domestic and international) but they weren't sure how else to deal with the ongoing budgetary crisis at the U of A.

December 13th Board Meeting

The following morning was the last board meeting of 2013. Many important items were on the agenda, including the massive international tuition differential fee (IDF) increase and regular tuition increases. President Kusmu, GSA President Epperson, and myself all spoke in opposition to the international differential increases, as well as other fee increases. President Kusmu provided what I felt was an excellent alternative to the initial IDF proposal. The centre point of his proposal was a scaled-back fee increase that nevertheless saw substantial additional revenues for the University. Unfortunately, the majority of the board did not vote in favour of Kusmu's proposal, and we ultimately ended up voting on the original proposed fee increase.

Kusmu, Epperson, and I spoke against the resolution. In an excellent show of solidarity, academic staff association representative and law professor Wayne Renke also spoke and voted against the resolution. Arguments were varied but centered on a common theme: such an increase is fundamentally unfair to current and prospective international students, and likely to harm our international reputation in the short- and long-run.

One concession we did manage to win was a guarantee from board chair Doug Goss that emergency funding for international students would be bolstered significantly to account for any new financial hardship that may arise subsequent to the IDF increase. I pointed out, however, that regardless of this guarantee, there will still be many international students who will not be able to attend the University of Alberta following this increase. Despite our best efforts, the various tuition and fee increase proposals ultimately passed.

Despite the fact that our attempts to stop the increase were ultimately unsuccessful, we did manage to secure a small victory in the emergency funding increase. Moreover, several important lessons can be learned from this incident. Some of these lessons include:

1. The SU can be an extremely effective catalyst in organizing the student body around an

issue. There was a very large presence of students outside the meeting of the Board on December 13th, and I think this demonstration lent a strong air of legitimacy to the arguments that myself, Epperson, and Kusmu were making. I think it's reasonable to assume that the number of students present at the meeting did much to encourage members to think twice before voting in favour of IDF and other increases.

2. Kusmu did an exceptional amount of work prior to the meeting – contacting members individually to discuss the proposed IDF increase with them. Despite the fact that we were ultimately unsuccessful, I could tell that his efforts were not in vain. At the holiday dinner previous to the meeting on the 13th, it was clear to me that members had a much more nuanced perspective than they might have ordinarily had. I also contacted each of the board members regarding the issue. From the responses I received, I'm confident that our efforts encouraged board members to spend more time than they would usually spend considering the issue.
3. The administration might think twice before proposing such a drastic IDF increase. This is because we were able to organize effective opposition to the proposal both on the board and in the larger university community.

Despite these lessons, I remain disappointed that the majority of the members of the board voted in favour of this increase. However there's no use in dwelling on the matter; I have many more board meetings to attend before my second term finishes. Should you have any questions about the December 13th, 2013 meeting of the board, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

In Solidarity,

Brent Kelly

Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative 2013-2014 | University of Alberta Students' Union
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