

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

---

Tuesday March 23, 2004 – 6:00 pm  
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

2003-24/6

## QUESTION PERIOD

2003-24/6a

**SMITH** - With regards to the merger of the U of A and Augustana, there are a number of legislative issues posed to the Students' Union, including issues surrounding dedicated fees. My questions:

1. Has the Executive Committee been addressing any of these issues?
2. If so, when will these issues come to Students' Council?
3. If so, has the Executive Committee committed anything to any party that it cannot deliver without an act of Students' Council?

Please see document LA 03-24.01

2003-24/10

## LEGISLATION

2003-24/10n

**PANDYA MOVES THAT** Students Council amend By-Law 100 Part V Section 11 as follows:

1. The existing sanctions respecting councilors in violation of attendance provisions are rescinded.
2. When a councilor is in violation of attendance provisions, Council will in a campus wide publication, advertise both:
  - a) the violation; and
  - b) the procedure by which a constituent may remove the Councilor.
3. The offending Councilor will be removed from Students' Council following the submission of a petition to Council demanding the resignation of said Councilor.
4. The petition to remove a councilor must carry a minimum of 50 of the Councilor's constituents' signatures.

2003-24/12

## REPORTS

2003-24/12a

Janet Lo, Vice President Academic

Please see document LA 03-24.02

2003-24/12b

Chris Samuel, Vice President External

Please see document LA 03-24.03

**2003-24/12c**

Tyler Botten, Vice President Operations & Finance

Please see document LA 03-24.04

**2003-24/12d**

Jadene Mah, Vice President Student Life

Please see document LA 03-24.05

**2003-24/12e**

Student Activities Coordinator Report

Please see document LA 03-24.06

## Answers to Written Questions

Submitted by Tyler Botten, Vice President Operations and Finance in response to Councillor Smith's Questions

*SMITH - With regards to the merger of the U of A and Augustana, there are a number of legislative issues posed to the Students' Union, including issues surrounding dedicated fees. My questions:*

*1. Has the Executive Committee been addressing any of these issues?*

The issue with the Augustana merger is still somewhat up in the air, as the University awaits the numbers coming from the Provincial Government in their budget (which, in turn, is waiting on the numbers from the Federal budget) before the merger item goes forward officially at APC this Wednesday. At that time, we will be able to say with absolute certainty that the merger is going to happen.

If the merger does go through, then beginning in the Fall 2004 Term, students at Augustana University College will be considered students of the University of Alberta, in name if not in practice. The existing systems at Augustana will remain in place as the University of Alberta takes the twelve-month window to evaluate what changes need to be made. As such, there will be no new fees assessed by the UofA for students at Augustana.

Seeing as there will be twelve months for evaluation of changes, nothing needs to be decided at this time, however the Executive Committee thought it would be prudent to meet with the Executive of the Augustana Students' Association in preparation for the impending merger. The issues that were raised in that meeting that deal directly with our very own Students' Union include:

1. provision of student services;
2. incorporation into existing SU legislative structure; and
3. assessment of SU membership and dedicated fees.

To the Councilor's point – if by “addressing” he is referring to *identifying* the key legislative issues to be considered as part of the merger with the Students' Union, then the answer to the question would be *yes*.

If, however, the Councilor defines “addressing” as *making decisions* on the same legislative issues, then the answer to the question would be *no*.

It should also be noted that General Faculties Council has yet to make any decisions on legislative issues pertaining to the merger, particularly in the governance realm, and it would only be prudent of the Students' Union to follow suit once GFC has made its decisions.

*2. If so, when will these issues come to Students' Council?*

Nothing is likely to be brought before Students' Council in this term, partially because there are yet many questions that must be answered with respect to the UofA Administration's handling of the merger, and beyond that, there is a 12-month period to finalize all details and it is most likely that this entire matter will be dealt with by the incoming Council.

*3. If so, has the Executive Committee committed anything to any party that it cannot deliver without an act of Students' Council?*

The Executive Committee has not committed anything at all – be it something that could be delivered with *or* without an act of Students' Council, and Students' Council will be apprised of any future developments on this ongoing charade.

## ☞ University Meetings

### ☞ *Undergraduate Award Policy Meeting*

- ☞ Subcommittee to discuss standards surrounding different awards on campus.
- ☞ Discussion ensued surrounding what "financial need" is defined as, and how documentation is required from an applicant to determine his or her financial need for an award.
- ☞ Discussion also ensued on how corporate and private donations were secured for these awards.

### ☞ *GFC Student Replenishment Nomination Committee*

- ☞ Congratulations to the students who have been (tentatively) selected by the Nomination Committee for GFC committees next year.

### ☞ *General Faculties Council*

- ☞ Lowest undergraduate student turnout all year.
- ☞ Saw two presentations: one by VP Research Gary Kachanoski on the Teaching & Research Working Group, and a second one by VP Facilities & Operations Don Hickey on Campus Sector Planning, specifically for Sectors 3, 4, and 8.

☞ **Congratulations, Lisa!** She's gonna be great, and I'm nothing short of excited for her! Congratulations to the incoming Executive, returning BoG, and successful referenda, and good show to all the 03/04 campaigns... kudos to you for the highest voter turnout in SU history!

## ☞ Stuff I Worked On

- ☞ Drafted a **Faculty Association Bylaw**, which was rewritten in fine fashion by Chris Jones and IRB.
- ☞ Presentation with Vice-Provost Gretchen Hess explaining the situation with **Fall 2003 grades** to student representatives across campus (Faculty Associations and Council). Next one: Wed 24 Mar 2004, for any interested student, 5-7 pm, Alumni Room.
- ☞ **Awards Night** is fast approaching, and with the work of a trusty Academic Affairs Coordinator, and an Admin Team that's on the ball, we're "getting there"... tying up loose ends and getting psyched. The search is still on for a Keynote Speaker though...
- ☞ **FA Transitions**. Planning the sessions and booking the location. Trying to get Faculty Associations to commit to coming.
- ☞ In general, I know I worked a lot, but a lot of it was little odds and ends, proofs here, e-mails there, reading agendas here, going to a meeting there. The last few weeks are a pretty big Academic <BLUR>.
- ☞ Attended the National Forum on Post-Secondary Education in Winnipeg from 16 March to 19 March.

## ☞ Me Stuff

- ☞ Wrote 2 midterms. Caught a nasty illness. Salo is gonzo. Will the Oilers make the playoffs?
- ☞ 2 finals and a paper to go!

## ☞ Upcoming

- ☞ CLE Subcommittee on FEC's.
- ☞ Quantera Bookstore Business Case Review Finalization.
- ☞ APC Meeting to discuss Augustana Merger.
- ☞ Fall 2003 GPA Presentation for students (Wed 24 Mar, 5-7pm, Alumni Room, SUB).
- ☞ ONEcard Student Advisory Group.
- ☞ Academic Affairs Board (Thu 25 Mar, 530-7pm, Lower Level Meeting Room, SUB).
- ☞ Zero Year Reunion (Sat 27 Mar).
- ☞ 29 Mar – 2 Apr: SPRING BREAK! (But not for me, I guess.)
- ☞ Awards Night Ceremony & Reception (Tue 30 Mar).
- ☞ GFC (Mon 5 Apr) to discuss the Augustana Merger.
- ☞ Transition, transition, transition! Time to rejuvenate my writing spree and get that "VPA Binder" I started in June a rush to the finish line.
- ☞ Working hard, hardly getting anything done. Wonder if I can get away with sleeping 4 hours a night for the rest of my term?

**Report to Council**  
**Chris Samuel – Vice-President (External)**  
**March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2004**

I believe in a thing called loooooove...

\*visit blogs! Steve Smith @ [carlosthejackass.blogspot.com](http://carlosthejackass.blogspot.com)  
Josh Bazin @ [joshbazin.blogspot.com](http://joshbazin.blogspot.com)  
Nick Tam @ [www.ualberta.ca/~ntam](http://www.ualberta.ca/~ntam)

What's up, Council? Better get moving, if you want to impeach us, your time is running thin...

Debt Week: We're running our postcard campaign and also starting our "faces of debt" wall that will feature Polaroid photos of students with their debt levels beneath their names. I have already contacted several Councilors, asking if they could participate by distributing our Generation Debt postcards around their faculties. We're aiming to collect approximately 3000 postcards by the end of the week! It's a lofty goal, and we'll need Council's help to achieve success.

Federal Budget: As of Council's reading of this report, the Federal budget will have been released and announced, but as of my writing of this report, such an event has not yet occurred. We are anticipating that there will be an RESP plan in place that will be similar to the provincial Centennial program that was recently announced. They are apparently introducing them as "Learning Bonds." If Council is interested, I can provide an oral update in Question Period.

Provincial Budget: This is being released the day after the federal budget (ie. Tomorrow), so we will see what the budget contains for post-secondary education. We met briefly with the Minister yesterday, and indications are that the University will receive the anticipated "two plus two" percent base budget increase, and we are hearing that the bulk of the money will be dedicated towards access funding for the institutions. Obviously, that situation isn't ideal for students or the institution.

National Forum on Post-Secondary Education: Great conference that we attended in Winnipeg. Some issues we discussed were: Indiana's Voucher System, PSE as a Public Good, and the Future of E-Learning. The full report will be available for Council shortly.

Departure of CAUS Executive Director: We have recently seen the departure of Melanee Thomas, CAUS's first Executive Director. Mel was a great asset to the organization, and her presence will be missed. However, things must go on, and we are currently in the process of determining whether we want the organization to continue for 3 months without an Executive Director, or whether we want to hire someone

immediately. There is also much work to be done tying up loose ends before the end of my term in office.

U of C: Their elections got thrown out. That means they don't have a new Council, or Executive.

U of L: Their president ran again, and finished last.

VOTE! Society of Alberta: The Rush the Vote event will be held next Friday (April 2<sup>nd</sup>) at Cineplex Odeon in South Edmonton Common. Participants are as of yet unconfirmed, but we're anticipating that there will be several highly visible Canadian musicians in attendance, who will be prompting youth to vote.

After much deliberations and a couple weekend meetings, the Edmonton organizing committee has decided not to affiliate itself directly with Rush the Vote (a national body) or any of the other national youth voting organizations which exist in the city. As such, we've begun registering ourselves as a society under the Societies' Act, and (much to my glee) will be known as VOTE!

Public Interest Alberta: Attending a meeting this Saturday on behalf of CAUS to help formulate a group called Public Interest Alberta, who would be a collective of groups and individuals interested in advocating for changes in government policy that would see increased social spending. CAUS is currently in the process of determining whether or not membership would be of benefit to our organization.

Councilor Elections: Congratulations to all the newly elected Councilors! Next year is going to be fabulous; it looks like we have an unusually strong crop this year. Also, thanks to the science students who kept the streak alive.

Preliminary Budget: Need to finish this before Tyler punches me in the neckface.

Transitioning: Yup, still doing that. Transition events so far have included: Student loan briefing session, CRC Shortlisting and Wrestlemania XX.

**Report to Students' Council**  
**23 March, 2004**  
**Tyler Botten, Vice President (Operations & Finance)**

Members of Council,

Allow me to introduce my successor: Mr. Alvin Law. While I had originally intended to include his bio here for your perusal as some kind of hack dating service, I am running close to the deadline for submission of this report, so I'll cut to the chase. If there is anything you need after 1 May, your best bet is to contact him since I'll be hiding away in a fox den somewhere.

*suite of financial reforms*

- **been there, done that** – preliminary budget work is like final budget work, only less 'final' and more 'frustrating'. mostly because of the time of year, and the fact that we're currently working on a skeleton crew. started work on the presentation that I will make before this year is over that outlines how your student fee dollars really do break down. this should keep future confusion at bay.
- **up and coming** - more preliminary budget work and tying up some loose ends on the outstanding reports that have yet to be completed. don't expect anything glamorous at the next meeting though.

*year of the bars*

- **been there, done that** – nothing new to report here. been pretty status quo. haven't even *been* to the bar that much lately to be honest. codeine cough syrup is great though; only five bucks at the pharmacy too.
- **up and coming** – same as last time – the business revitalization plan is coming to fruition and will form a strong component of the transition with both my successor and the incoming vice president (student life) once we have outlined plans for both bars.

*bang for your buck*

- **been there, done that** – financial services got that quote they were waiting for. I've asked the folks over there to go ahead with the project since the cost is (relatively) low, and there's enough padding in the budget of our registrar's office to fill dinwoodie.
- **up and coming** – king weppler and I shall finalize faculty association membership fee details fairly soon, and once we see some reports from law and fsj on the student funds they collect, all will once again be well in the land of oz.

*organizational reform*

- **been there, done that** – the never-ending saga that is the organizational review continues...in this chapter: before completely finalizing the decisions, sixty percent of the executive committee disappears to Winnipeg. process delayed another week. no wonder they didn't get this done in 2001.
- **up and coming** – there is now no chance that a salary review might be underway in this last month, to take effect with the new term of office may 1<sup>st</sup>. instead of doing



this half-assed, I'm going to put a plan together for next year's executive to deal with and hopefully follow through on. how's that for passing the buck?

*students' council reform*

- **been there, done that** – finalized plans for the council retreat, changed the date to 8 May and now all I have to do is start booking people and places. and rewriting the council package.
- **up and coming** – let's be honest; the *real* reform comes with elections...

*online resource reform*

- **been there, done that** – zip.
- **up and coming** – nothing, really.

*side projects and other things that occupy my time*

- **been there, done that** – march is the month of “union Fridays”, where I go from one collective bargaining meeting to another and then start my day around 4 in the afternoon. that has been the largest random use of my time and I wish it could end soon. outside of that, I've been sick (reference cough syrup above) but thankfully all you need to do to land some codeine in the health centre is cough (okay, and demonstrate need, yadda yadda) I have spent more time than I thought I would alternating between acting president and vice president (external). oh, and if you've been reading the news lately, you are probably familiar with a couple of small items that have been consuming a great deal of my time: abortions and a food bank. why don't I just leave it at that.
- **up and coming** – less than 40 days to go. hold on kids!

\*this week's quiz: first person to tell me how many absences I have from Council this year gets something. no idea what it is, but I still owe hirji for the last quiz

Student Activities Coordinator – sac@su.ualberta.ca

**COUNCIL REPORT** - Anna Grimsrud\*

---

March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2004

**Activities in February and March:**

*What has happened*

- Reading Week
  - Went to Toronto!
- Bachelorette Finale
  - Meredith shocks viewers and chooses Ian!
- Drag Show Video
  - Polished off!
- Day of Silence – March 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Special congrats to Siderite and special thanks to Mat
- Wellness Week
  - Participation Stations: Centre for Student Development, Health Promotion, University of Alberta Dance Club, Tae Kwon Do, Kung Fu, Tobacco Reductionist, Student Distress Centre, Nutrition Month, Athletics, Information Services
  - Wellness Week Videos: Thank to James Knull and Chris Laver! Tips provided by → Peer Nutrition Educators, Campus Recreation, Academic Guidance Centre, International Centre Chaplain, Student Counselling Office, Hart Cantelon
  - Ultimate Frisbee Tournament
    - Over \$1500 raised for KidSport, a local charity that funds underprivileged children to participate in sport
    - 16 teams out, including the classic U-Hall vs. SU match
    - Thanks to: U of A Ultimate Frisbee Club, Bears Football, Campus Recreation, and Ryan Smith at the Office of External Affairs
    - Pictures to be online soon

*What is happenin’*

- AADAC Conference, March 24<sup>th</sup> 2004
- Time to write some final reports
- New SAC transitioning
- Feedback and evaluation from PC and SLB
- My 12-year old brother visits this Thursday
- Making on a SU video including events from 03/04

*Programming Committee:* TOMORROW, Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 5pm in the Lower Level Meeting Room