

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Friday May 6, 2005 – 5:00 p.m.
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

ORDER PAPER (SC 2004-29)

- 2004-29/1 CALL TO ORDER
- 2004-29/2 University of Alberta CHEER SONG "Ring Out a Cheer"
- 2004-29/3 SPEAKER'S BUSINESS
- 2004-29/3a President's Farewell Address – Jordan Blatz, President.
- 2004-29/3b Election report compiled by Dane Bullerwell, Chief Returning Officer.
- Please bring backup documentation from the April 30, 2005 meeting of Students' Council.
- 2004-29/4 APPROVAL OF THE ORDERS OF THE DAY
- 2004-29/5 NOMINATIONS
- 2004-29/6 PRESENTATIONS
- 2004-29/7 REPORTS
- 2004-29/7a Duncan Taylor, Vice President (Student Life)
- Please see document SC 04-29.01
- 2004-29/8 QUESTION PERIOD
- 2004-29/9 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
- 2004-29/10 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS
- 2004-29/10a **MOTION BY LEWIS/LETTNER, RESOLVED THAT** Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Budget Committee, approve the '2005-2006 Operating, Capital, and Non-Dedicated Reserves Budget – Preliminary Draft' as follows:
- Please bring backup documentation from the April 30, 2005 meeting of Students' Council.

- 2004-29/10b** **MOTION BY McLAUGHLIN, RESOLVED THAT** Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Board, adopt the political policy regarding International Students (first reading).
- Please bring supporting documentation from the April 12, 2005 meeting of Students' Council.
- 2004-29/10c** **MOTION BY ABBOUD, RESOLVED THAT** Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the External Affairs board, adopt the following political policies (first reading);
1. Post-Secondary Education Act
 2. Canadian Education Transfer
 3. Canada Student Loan Program
 4. Canadian millennium Scholarship Fund
 5. International Students Work Off-Campus
- Please bring supporting documentation from the April 12, 2005 meeting of Students' Council.
- 2004-29/10d** **MOTION BY BERGHOFF/LETTNER, RESOLVED THAT** Students' Council, on the recommendation of the Committee for Council Reform and Progress, nominate Jessa Alykhan, Mustafa M. Hirji, and Shawna Pandya to the U of A Senate.
- 2004-29/10e** **MOTION BY LETTNER/LEWIS, ORDERED THAT** on the recommendation of the Committee for Council Reform and Progress, nominations for Chief Returning Officer be re-opened, the position re-posted and the new closing date of May 17, 2005 be established.
- 2004-29/11** **OLD BUSINESS**
- 2004-29/11a** **MOTION BY LAW, RESOLVED THAT** Students' Council approve the 2005-2006 Preliminary budget as follows:
- Please bring backup documentation from the April 30, 2005 meeting of Students' Council.
- 2004-29/11b** **MOTION BY LEWIS/LETTNER, RESOLVED THAT** Students' Council amend Standing Orders as tabled.
- Please bring backup documentation from the April 30, 2005 meeting of Students' Council.
- 2004-29/11c** **MOTION BY LAW, RESOLVED THAT** Student renew the First Alberta Campus Radio Association's Operating Agreement as per the 'Terms of Agreement' attached.
- Please bring backup documentation from the April 30, 2005 meeting of Students' Council.
- 2004-29/11d** **MOTION BY LETTNER/JOHNSON, RESOLVED THAT** Students' Council select an undergraduate student to sit on the Vargo Chair Selection Committee which will be meeting on Friday May 27, 8:00 a.m. -9:30 a.m., 2-11 University Hall.
- 2004-29/12** **LEGISLATION**

2004-29/13

NEW BUSINESS

2004-29/13a

MOTION BY KIRKHAM, ORDERED THAT Students' Council mandate that the Students' Union Webboard and all archived or related content remain online and intact until May 31, 2005.

2004-29/14

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2004-29/15

INFORMATION ITEMS

2004-29/15a

Votes and Proceedings from the April 30, 2005 meeting of Students' Council.

Please see document SC 04-29.02

Council,

Well, after this year my career in the Students' Union comes to an end. My experience with council itself started in Chris Samuel presidency as a proxy, getting my own seat during the Mat Brechtel year, and finally holding a seat on exec. As someone who has gone from not knowing much about the SU during his first 2 years at University to councilor and finally to exec, I've had a chance to see this organization from a number of different angles: as an unwitting observer, a service volunteer, council perma-proxy, councilor and exec. That being said, I'd like to impart some advice onto the councilors who will be joining the assembly this upcoming year.

First of all: Keep in mind council is a decision making body, not a debate society. A fair debate on a given topic is good but at the end of the year council and the SU will be ultimately judged by the amount and quality of work you produce. That being said, keep in mind during debate that you're not going to change everyone's mind and sooner or later it's good to just call the vote and get on with business. The people we are ultimately here to serve do not differentiate council from the executive. We are all "The SU" and our actions, decisions and overall productivity will affect how we are all ultimately judged.

Second: Council is not, and should not, be an "official opposition" for the exec. Nothing gets done with simple outright contradiction of the exec in council and in the end people just get frustrated. Keep in mind these people were elected too, and have the best interest of the SU and undergraduate students in mind. It's funny how someone who is apparently (according to some people) unfit for office one day, and a power hungry bastard the next. One day is not enough for someone to develop that degree of cunning, it takes years of work. That being said, council shouldn't be a 'rubber stamp'. Ask questions (Lots. Use question period to its full extent), but don't automatically criticize something because it comes from exec. Distrust between the two bodies (exec and the rest of council) affects how much progress will be made over the year. However, keep in mind that when I got elected to council, it was on the platform of "Not being pre-med" and "Not understanding Organic Chem.". I put up random posters and didn't speak to classes. I finished first out of the councilors that year, and even beat out a few incumbents. When I ran for exec, I actually had to have ideas of some sort. Until there is a drastic culture shift on campus with respect to council elections, it will always be easier to get on council than on exec.

Third: Don't get too wrapped up in the council culture. Going out for drinks with people afterwards is fine, but if you spend all your free time hanging out with other councilors or trolling the webboard, you lose the one great strength council has over the exec: the fact you are still full time students. The exec immerse themselves in the SU before many of you get on campus in the morning and are still here after most of you have left. By the nature of their jobs, the exec become more knowledgeable on a given subject than an average individual councilor could hope to be (this is why we have question period). You as councilors however still go to multiple classes, hang out at the bars, with student groups and services. You don't spend all day in an office or in meetings. This gives you the ability to act as the moral compass of the SU, if you use that ability.

Fourth: Don't say the following words or phrases EVER in council.

I've spoken to my constituents and they think that...: No you haven't. You've more than likely spoken to a few friends, or maybe at the most 5 or 6 people who you approached at random. Ten people do not a sample size make. Don't be afraid to say you oppose something because it goes against your beliefs, but don't use this cop-out. You may as well say you've been speaking to the Easter Bunny. You are also more informed about any given topic than your average student. Be sure to inform people you talk to about both sides of an issue, don't be afraid to ask for their opinion, but there is no possible way to speak to enough people to act as a good sample of the faculty. Keep in mind, you have been elected to be informed and make decisions so they don't have to.

Democracy: It's all too easy to throw this word around until it means nothing at all. If someone opposes something, it doesn't mean they hate democracy. Also, don't use the argument 'this makes the SU more democratic' yadda yadda yadda. There are much better ways to get your point across. There have been people who have died living under a dictatorship fighting for democracy. Don't compare what we do to them.

This is/this person is evil: No. Hitler was evil. Stalin was evil. Someone whose political beliefs differ from you is not evil. Don't blow things out of proportion. Someone who prefers CFS to CASA or vice-versa is not evil. Someone who is a socialist at heart is not evil, nor are they (necessarily) stupid. Ditto for someone who is a capitalist at heart. In the end, the reason we are all here is to improve the undergraduate experience for students, and that is a cause that transcends partisan hackery. Council and the SU is at its worst when people insist on looking for the absolute worst in every action and in every person. Give people a fair shot and until they BLATENTLY prove otherwise, trust that their actions are with the best of intentions. The people who look for the negative in every action are a cancer in this organization and act the way they do for purely narcissistic reasons. These people are the reason many students are unclear at what the SU actually does and how much work council, exec and their committees put into their jobs.

Fifth: If you come to council a little tired and worn out from a long day of school and homework, remember that the Executive is at least as tired as you are. Often the Executive works 12 hour days, several days in a row. It is a long and tiring job - if you are tired, remember that they are too.

Sixth: Be consistent. Don't say one thing one night, and a completely opposite thing the next. It's hypocritical. However, if you realize that you were wrong about something, don't be afraid to admit it.

Seventh (wow... this list is becoming longer than I expected): Remember what I said earlier. Most people on campus will not differentiate council and the exec. There is only one SU to them, and guess what: They're right. Events, be they tuition campaigns, concerts in Quad or Karaoke nights at RATT can be planned and promoted up the wazoo, but if no one comes it's a bust. This is where you come in. Council must be a

commitment that extends beyond 3 hours in council chambers every 2 weeks or so. Come out to events; help promote them, show support to the people who have invested a lot of time into trying to make them work. The best advertising is a word of mouth campaign that must start with you talking to your friends or classmates, and dragging them out to events. If you refuse to do this much, then the event has failed before it gets started. It is also this way in which new students get pulled into the world of the SU.

And Finally, Eight: Legislation is good. Rules are important, but keep in mind why we have them in the first place. Bylaws and political policy aren't the be-all-end-all of the SU. A bylaw won't lower my tuition, and you can't legislate spirit. Keep that in mind when you are involved in planning council's goals for next year. Try giving a few tangible things back to the student body.

Well. That's about it. Funny how this is likely the longest report I've written all year, however I expect it will have the same limited readership as anything that comes out of 2-930. I've sworn to amputate myself from the political wing of the SU next year, and I intend to win that bet. I thoroughly enjoyed my past year in office and my number of years involved with the SU. To those of you just starting out while I ride into the sunset, take what I've just said to heart, and always keep your enthusiasm and desire to create meaningful change.

What a long, strange, trip it's been.

Dunk

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Votes and Proceedings

Saturday April 30, 2005 – 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (SC 2004-28)

2004-28/1

CALL TO ORDER

The Speaker called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

NICOL MOVED THAT Students' Council take a 15 minute recess.

Motion to Recess: CARRIED

2004-28/6

PRESENTATIONS

2004-28/6a

Legal Update (Juicy) – Presented by the Executive Committee.

KIRKHAM/NICOL MOVED THAT Students' Council move in camera.

Motion to Move In Camera: CARRIED

VANDERSLUIS MOVED THAT Students' Council move ex camera.

Motion to Move Ex Camera: CARRIED

BLATZ/ABBOUD MOVED TO adjourn.

Motion to Adjourn: CARRIED

ATTENDANCE (SC 2004-28)

Faculty/Position	Name	1 st Roll Call
President	Jordan Blatz	√
VP Academic	Lisa McLaughlin	X
VP External	Alex Abboud	√

VP Finance	Alvin Law	√
VP Student Life	Duncan Taylor	√
BoG Undergrad Rep.	Roman Kotovych	√
Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics	Leah Bennett	√
Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics	Chelsy Shillington	X
Arts	Catrin Bergoff	PROXY
Arts	John Chandler	X
Arts	Gabrielle Donnelly	X
Arts	Aaron Johnson	X
Arts	Tamara Larter	X
Arts	Chris Laver	X
Arts	Cameron Lewis	√
Business	Chelsea Baron	√
Business	Nandini Somayaji	√
Education	Sean Clovechok	X
Education	Trevor Panas	√
Education	Lillian Patz	X
Engineering	Josh Bazin	X
Engineering	Graham Lettner	√
Engineering	Jamaal Montasser	√
Engineering	Gary Wicentowich	X
Law	Tara Thompson	X
Medicine and Oral Health Sciences	Brock Debenham	X
Native Studies (School of)	Matthew Wildcat	√
Pharmacy	Erica Skopac	X
Faculte Saint-Jean	Sarah Colpitts	√
Science	Justin Kehoe	√
Science	Stephen Kirkham	√

Science	Darren Lau	√
Science	Scott Nicol	√
Science	Shawna Pandya	√
Science	Chris Samuel	√
Science	Kelli Taylor	√
Science	Keith Vandersluis	√
Science	Omer Yusuf	√
General Manager	Bill Smith	X
Speaker	Gregory Harlow	√

GUESTS OF STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Jen Au