

*University of Alberta Students' Union*

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

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Tuesday October 17, 2006  
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

**2006-13/5**      **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**2006-13/5b**      Council Administration Committee – October 3 and 11, 2006

Please see document LA 06-13.01

**2006-13/5c**      External Policy Committee – October 12, 2006

Please see document LA 06-13.02

**2006-13/5c (i)**      **JANZ/COOK MOVED THAT** Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the External Policy Committee, approve the Political Policy "Student Loans" (second reading).

Please see document LA 06-13.03

**2006-13/5c (ii)**      **PAYNE/JANZ MOVED THAT** Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the External Policy Committee, approve the Political Policy "Income-Contingent Loans" (second reading).

Please see document LA 06-13.04

**2006-13/5d**      University Policy Committee – October 10, 2006

Please see document LA 06-13.05

**2006-13/6**      **GENERAL ORDERS**

**2006-13/6d**      **HENRY MOVED THAT** Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the DRO Selection Committee, appoint Tim Smith to the position of Deputy Returning Officer for the 2006/2007 academic year.

**2006-13/6e**      **COURNOYER MOVED THAT** Students' Council approve the following referendum question:  
Do you support the establishment of a Universal Bus Pass program for undergraduates as of the Fall semester of 2007, subject to the following conditions:

1. The Pass would provide unlimited access to Edmonton Transit Service, Strathcona County Transit and St. Albert Transit for the duration of the Fall and/or Winter semester(s) in which a student is enrolled;

2. That the Pass would cost each student \$75 per semester for Fall 2007 and Winter 2008 semesters, said fee being assessed by the University each semester with tuition and other non-academic fees;
3. That in subsequent years, the cost will increase annually by no more than the annual average Consumer Price Index;
4. That participation in the Universal Bus Pass would be mandatory for all undergraduates except:
  - a.) Students, who are for an entire term, not attending courses at the University of Alberta's Edmonton campuses (i.e. excluding co-ops, Augustana students and students on exchange);
  - b.) Students who, by reason of disability, are unable to make use of ordinary transit services;
  - c.) Students who are employees of any one of Edmonton Transit Service, Strathcona County Transit and St. Albert Transit; and,
  - d.) Students who are senior citizens.
5. That this program will proceed for undergraduates regardless of the outcome of the graduate student referendum.
6. That the SU Executive be authorized to enter into the necessary contractual agreements with the City of Edmonton and the University of Alberta; contingent upon the inclusion of appropriate transparency and accountability provisions.
7. That the Universal Bus Pass program for undergraduates would continue until such time as:
  - a.) A duly constituted SU referendum is conducted to rescind undergraduate student assent to the fee and program; or,
  - b.) In the case that either the University of Alberta or City of Edmonton terminate the agreement and/or funding sustaining the program

2006-13/7

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

2006-13/7c

Samantha Power, President – Report

Please see document LA 06-13.06

2006-13/7d

David Cournoyer, Vice President (External) – Report

Please see document LA 06-13.07

2006-13/7e

Omer Yusuf, Vice President (Student Life ) – Report

Please see document LA 06-13.08

**Council Administration Committee**  
**Report to Students' Council**  
*October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2006*

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**The CAC is back.**

CAC whipped through its Old Business like it actually knew what it was doing. Very impressive. Council's meeting schedule and wording surrounding Late Additions were duly manipulated. The Food Services Advisory Group is now Complete. Striking a Committee to select a committee is a pain. Hilarious and brutally necessary, but a pain. Random discussions occurred on the following:

- Having Councilor Semeunk legally change his name to "Shemenuk"
- CRAC jokes. At Councilor Schneider's expense (in the discussion on Council Rejuvenation and Composition).
- In the course of the discussion on Late Additions, CAC resolved to "do something."
- nostalgia with regards to Councilor Crossman.
- Retreats, chagrin, drinking and being brilliant.

We also directed the President to do all kinds of work, and conducted the following business: (aren't I just the most wonderful person every for laying out for you all like this?)

JANZ/SCHNEIDER moved to appoint Janelle Morin as the Student at Large appointed by Students' Council to serve on the Food Services Advisory Group.

7/0/0 CARRIED

SCHNEIDER/DOLLANSKY moved to amend Council Standing Order 4(5) to read:

Late additions to the Order Paper may, at Council's discretion, be added at the meeting if the items of business cannot be postponed to a future meeting of Council for resolution with risking detrimental consequences to or negative procedural difficulties for the Students' Union.

7/0/0 CARRIED

It was decided that the results of CAC's previous discussion on retreats would be collected and forwarded to Council, with specific reference to "awesomeness."

HENRY/SCHNEIDER moved the previous motion.

7/0/0  
CARRIED

SCHNEIDER/DOLLANSKY moved to cancel the November 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of Council, understanding that there will be a Council meeting in lieu of the October 31st meeting scheduled to take place on the 7th of November.

7/0/0  
CARRIED

The report (first of a two part series it seems) of the Awards Committee Selection Committee was also received. It's attached.

Next time, stay tuned for Councilor Tieman, the actual Chair – and be grateful. The more reports I do, the nastier I tend to get.

With warmest regards from the interim Chair of CAC.

Sans footnotes, since Chairs don't have to be as pretentious as VPs Academic to be amusing.

# MINUTES

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2006-09

## Council Administration Committee

Wednesday October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2006

ATTENDANCE: Amanda Henry (Interim Chair)  
Harold Semenuk  
Tim Schneider  
Samantha Power  
Steven Dollansky  
Mike Shaw  
Mike Janz

1. CALL TO ORDER: 6:01 pm

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

HENRY moved to amend the agenda to include New Business Item d – November 14<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. Considered friendly.

POWER/JANZ moved to amend the agenda so that Item 6 a would be dealt with first. Considered friendly.

POWER/JANZ moved that the agenda be approved as presented.

7/0/0 CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS – 6 a. Food Services Advisory Group Appointment

The interim Chair provided a brief introduction, conveying VP Yusuf's regrets and providing an overview of the process followed to collect nominations.

JANZ/SCHNEIDER moved to appoint Janelle Morin as the Student at Large appointed by Students' Council to serve on the Food Services Advisory Group.

7/0/0 CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - 2 editorial changes were noted. Councilor Semenuk and VP Yusuf's names are both spelled incorrectly once in the document.

4. PRESENTATIONS – No presentations.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. Council Rejuvenation and Composition (CRAC)

The discussion opened with CRAC jokes. At Councilor Schneider's expense.

Moving on...

The former Speaker, Mr. Gregory Harlow and the Chief Returning Officer both gave CAC a presentation on the subject of council composition at the beginning of the summer. The presentations were very good; however, CAC has not had a debriefing discussion yet.

After a brief discussion, it was decided that it would direct the Chair to request that the results of those presentations be compiled from old CAC minutes. The committee was asked to “think about the logistics of making Council better.”

Item tabled to next meeting.

b. Council Remuneration and various sub-points

The interim Chair provided a brief overview on the subject of remuneration. After a fairly lengthy discussion, it was decided that CAC needed to answer the following questions (and probably others besides) before proceeding with a report and set of recommendations to Council.

What does CAC have the power to do in terms of defining the terms of Council pay?

What federal and provincial laws have to be taken into consideration in the discussion of the status of paid councilors?

What was the original rationale for remunerating Councilors?

Is there a way to amend and/or clarify SU regulations to improve the processes surrounding Council remuneration?

The committee recognized that this issue is somewhat time sensitive due to the budget cycle. It also recognized that the BFC would need to be approached to provide a fiscal context for the committee’s recommendations.

The President was directed to undertake the task of compiling the information needed to inform the discussion. The discussion was tabled pending the receipt of that information.

In light of the above, a specific discussion of Bill 12 was also tabled.

c. Amendments to Council Standing Order – Late Additions

The interim Chair provided a brief background.

In the course of the discussion, the committee resolved to “do something.”

JANZ moved to call the question. No opposition noted.

SCHNEIDER/DOLLANSKY moved to amend Council Standing Order 4(5) to read:

Late additions to the Order Paper may, at Council’s discretion, be added at the meeting if the items of business cannot be postponed to a future meeting of Council for resolution with risking detrimental consequences to or negative procedural difficulties for the Students’ Union.

7/0/0 CARRIED

d. Council Directive on Augustana Councilors

Councilor Schneider and President Power provided a brief background on the issue. There was general nostalgia with regards to Councilor Crossman’s

involvement in the motion. CAC discussed the results of the directive to the Executive to meet with the Augustana Students' Association and the possibility of exploring a technological solution. A discussion regarding web cams and Afghanistan also ensued.

Power & Henry indicated that the meeting with the ASA had happened and had been reported directly to Council. The fact that Augustana does not currently have an elected Councilor on the SU Students' Council was also discussed. CAC directs the Executive Committee to compile their report on this issue and submit it to CAC.

e. Retreats and Standing Orders

Power & Henry provided background on this topic. At the last CAC meeting where it was discussed, CAC directed the Chair at the time to draft an appendix to Council Standing Orders to deal with retreats & orientation. The draft is still forthcoming.

It was decided that the results of CAC's previous discussion on retreats would be collected and forwarded to Council, with specific reference to "awesomeness." HENRY/SCHNEIDER moved the previous motion.

7/0/0  
CARRIED

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

b. New Councilor Retreat

The results of the discussion at the last CAC meeting were reviewed, much to the general chagrin of members who were present at that meeting.

Councilor Schneider indicated that he wasn't sure that a new councilor orientation was entirely necessary

Councilors Dollansky, Shaw and Semenuk disagreed. The interim Chair refrained from making a wry remark about their expertise on the subject.

Councilor Janz highlighted that a 'think tank' style of informal discussion open to all councilors would also be very beneficial.

President Power mentioned some hesitancy in being responsible for the scheduling of such an event.

CAC decided the following

A New Councilor Orientation should take place and it should include some time for the rules of debate and more time for going over some of the history of Council and an outline of the issues that have come before Council this year to date.

An informal get together for all of Council (and knowledgeable alumni of Council) would also be arranged, where drinking and being brilliant may be encouraged.

Both parts would be held in one afternoon/evening.

It was tentatively thought that a weekend sometime after the 20<sup>th</sup> of October would be considered for scheduling.

The President was asked to undertake the arrangement of this activity with scheduling thereof to be delegated to someone with better luck in that department.

c. Motion to Receive the report of the Awards Committee Selection Committee Members DID NOT have a copy of the report before them; however, they agreed to receive an oral update in lieu on the condition that the full text of the report be forwarded to Council. Henry agreed, and provided an oral summary of the report. It was decided that a) a motion was not needed to receive the report and b) that the Awards Committee Selection Committee would reconvene to fill the last vacancy on the committee.

d. November 14<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting

Henry introduced the item – the University is closed on November 14<sup>th</sup> for Fall term break.

After a discussion surrounding the cancellation of the October 31<sup>st</sup> meeting and the scheduling of a November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting in lieu, it was decided that cancelling the 14<sup>th</sup> and evaluating whether another alternate day need be proposed later would be the best course of action.

SCHNEIDER/DOLLANSKY moved to cancel the November 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of Council, understanding that there will be a Council meeting in lieu of the October 31<sup>st</sup> meeting scheduled to take place on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November.

7/0/0

CARRIED

## 7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. 5 Month Review of Council Functionality

JANZ/POWER moved to strike Item 7 a from the agenda.

7/0/0

CARRIED

b. Standing Orders vs. Bylaws vs. “Introduction to Students’ Council”

Power undertook to investigate.

## ADJOURNMENT

HENRY/SEMENUK – 7: 13 pm

7/0/0

CARRIED

## NEXT MEETING

October 25<sup>th</sup> at 6pm

Minutes from CAC meeting 03 October 2006

**Call to Order :**

12:05 pm

All permanent members present

**Approval of Agenda:**

SEMENUK/HENRY moved to approve

5/0/0 CARRIED

**Approval of Summary of Proceedings:**

SEMENUK moved a friendly amendment to section 6 a. of the July 20, 2006 Summary of proceedings changing the words “submission of written Executive Officer reports on conferences attended to Council no **less** than one month . . .” to “submission of written Executive Officer reports on conferences attended to Council no **more** than one month . . .”

5/0/0 CARRIED

An omnibus motion was made by POWER/SEMENUK to approve all Summary of Proceedings

5/0/0 CARRIED

**Presentations:**

There were no presentations

**Old Business:**

HENRY/SCHNEIDER motioned to table all old business to next meeting of CAC

5/0/0 CARRIED

The chair raised a concern as to what old business was outstanding and the priority of old business.

HENRY made an undertaking to review previous CAC meetings to determine outstanding Old Business and to prioritize and have it ready for discussion and on the agenda at next meeting of CAC

**New Business:**

**a) meeting schedule**

After a discussion of the availabilities of all members of CAC it was deemed that Off Council Wednesdays at 6:00pm would be a meeting time that accommodated everyone's schedules. VP HENRY does have bi weekly meetings that conflict. She will provide the chair with these dates so that the chair can arrange a schedule that accommodates her.

## **Next Meeting**

It was decided that the Next Meeting of CAC will be held on Oct 11 at 6pm  
The chair noted that he will be unable to attend as he will be in New York  
VP HENRY was nominated and appointed as temporary replacement Chair for the next meeting

Councillor Shemenuk leaves 12:20pm – QUORUM NOT LOST

## **Discussion Period**

There was a discussion as to what urgent outstanding old business needed to be dealt with

POWER acknowledged that an appointment to the Food Services Review Committee needed to be made. VP YUSAF is to attend the next meeting of CAC and provide CAC with a list of interested individuals , at which time CAC should appoint one.

POWER also noted the outstanding issue as to organizing a council retreat and or presentation to the new members of council

- it was reiterated that a retreat should involve all members of council as oppose to presentations that can be scheduled and organized for the new members of council

HENRY suggested that a presentation be made at the next council meeting to all members of council as to Roberts Rules

- all present members of CAC agreed

There was discussion as to Tim's Agenda, here to referred to as CRAC – COUNCIL REJUEVENATION AND COMPOSITION

- CAC will undergo an examination on how council composition can be re-organized so as to improve the functioning of council
- CAC will recommend Bylaw changes to Council

There was discussion as to the recent referral by Council regarding implementing an opt-out for council remuneration. The Chair ruled this discussion out of order as that referral has yet been put before CAC via agenda – will be included next meeting under new business.

There was discussion on the future assessment and examination by CAC as to the effects of council remuneration and whether or not councillors are employees of the SU.

## **Adjourn:**

HENRY/SCHNEIDER made a motion to adjourn

3/0/1(Tieman)CARRIED

Meeting Adjourned 12:28 pm

**Awards Committee Selection Committee**  
**Report to CAC**  
*October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2006*

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Nominations for the SU Awards Committee ran in March concurrent to the rest of SU nominations. The positions were advertised in the Gateway. Two applications were received.

Over the course of the summer, the Council Administration Committee as well as Students' Council were involved in the creation and striking of the Awards Committee Selection Committee. The Committee exists under delegated authority of the Council Administration Committee and is comprised of the following three members (as per the selection committee's standing orders):  
Past or Present Chair of the Awards Committee – Amanda Henry  
Permanent Member of the Council Administration Committee – Sam Power  
Elected Member of Students' Council – Ryan Payne

**September 29, 2006**

Nominations were re-opened at the beginning of September and set to close at 5pm on September 25th. The re-opening was advertised on the front page of the SU web site. Email notification was also sent to the Council of Faculty Associations, Students' Council, the student members of the General Faculties Council, the SU volunteers list server and the SU electronic newsletter.

The applicants from the March deadline were contacted to determine whether or not they still wished to let their application stand for the committee. One of the applicants replied that she would like to allow her application to receive. No response was received from the other applicant prior to the deadline.

An additional 5 applications were received.

The deadline for applications was extended by 24 hours.

The extension was advertised on the front page of the SU web site and email notification was also sent to the Council of Faculty Associations, Students' Council, the student members of the General Faculties Council and to the SU volunteers list server.

Due to the short notice, application requirements were changed to indicate that reference letters were optional for the 24 hour extension.

Eleven additional applications were received between 5 pm on September 25th and 5 pm on September 27th.

Seventeen (17) applications were presented to the Awards Committee Selection Committee for consideration.

5:00pm

Attendance: Chris Samuel, Brock Richardson, Michael Janz, David Cournoyer, Ryan Payne (5:15pm), Michael Cook (5:15pm), Bayan Hussein (6:15pm)

Guest: Prem Eruvbetine

Absent: None

Call to Order: 5:10pm

New Business

1.) Student Loan Political Policy

*[Cournoyer distributed copies of a draft political policy. As it comically turns out, it is an outdated draft. But that's foreshadowing.]*

*[The committee debated finer points about the wording of the political policy. Honestly, you don't want to know the details. Just be secure in knowing that we did an excellent job.]*

*[Committee realizes that they're dealing with an old draft, but like any great committee, decides to push through the adversity.]*

*[Several friendly amendments were proposed and adopted during the course of the debate and discussion.]*

**Janz/Cook move to recommend the policy entitled "Student Loan Policy" to Students' Council for adoption upon second reading.  
(policy attached)**

**Main Motion Carried (unanimously)**

2.) Income-Contingent Student Loan Policy

*[See item #1.]*

**Payne/Janz move to recommend the policy entitled "Income-Contingent Suent Loan Policy" to Students' Council for adoption upon second reading.  
(policy attached)**

**Main Motion Carried (unanimous)**

3.) Discussion: International Student Tuition Differential

*[Councilor Eruvbetine discussed with EPC the problem international students face when dealing with the international differential tuition fee.]*

**Highlights:**

-The principle of an international student differential fee is to compensate for the portion of a student's education covered by Canadian taxes, as well as compensation for the utilization of the surrounding community infrastructure

-The international student differential fee is currently 220%, an increase from 157% over recent years (meaning for every \$1 paid by a domestic student, an international student pays \$3.20)

-The "on-paper" increases in tuition fees, which in recent years have been covered by government rebates, \*does\* cause the differential fee to rise

-In the view of Councilor Eruvbetine, this fee is set too high, and the University is using international students as revenue streams

*[After some discussion, Councilor Eruvbetine was advised that the best course of action would be to send principle statements to Council, at which point every Councilor would be able to participate in the discussion.]*

*[The chair feels bad for Prem, because that means more work for him.]*

**Richardson/Janz move to adjourn**

**Carried (unanimous) 7:00pm**





*University of Alberta Students' Union*  
**Report to Students' Council**

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UPC 2006-10

## **University Policy Committee**

Tuesday October 10, 2006

The tenth meeting of the University Policy Committee was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Vice President Yusuf. All members were present except for Councillor Kehoe, who arrived at 5:15 p.m. His arrival marked the first gathering of all seven members of the Committee this year.

Yusuf provided an oral summary of the implementation plan for the [name of MNIF political policy], emphasizing the principles of transparency, student input and accountability. The Health Services Advisory Group and Food Services Advisory Group are a step in the right direction, but the proliferation of independent advisory groups is unsustainable. The aim is to entrench mandatory non-instructional fees in University governance with student access, and push to have mandatory referenda for fee increases.

The members committed to assess the effectiveness of the Committee's role in evaluating the University advocacy efforts of the Executive Committee. Nothing substantial was raised.

Janz and Eruvbetine moved that the University Policy Committee recommends that Students' Council direct the Executive Committee to lobby the University for access to personal information of Students' Union members for the purposes of: conducting Students' Union elections; conducting Faculty Association elections; sending a new student Orientation letter; and sending a welcome letter in September regarding an overview and by-elections, SU elections and by-elections, Orientation letter, and a general welcome letter regarding an overview of the Students' Union and its activities, services, student groups, and invitations to join other listservs.

"Ripoff 101: How the Current Practices of the Publishing Industry Drive Up the Cost of College Textbooks". Janz requested that the Chair invite current or former student directors of the Student OmbudService to attend a future meeting to address issues surrounding the use of lawyers in University appeals hearings.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

The next meeting of the University Policy Committee will take place on Tuesday, October 24, 2006 at 5:00 pm in the Lower Level Meeting Room.

## Summary of Proceedings

UPC 2006-10

### University Policy Committee

Tuesday October 10, 2006

1. **CALL TO ORDER**  
The meeting was called to order by YUSUF at 5:05 pm.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  
ERUVBETINE/DOLLANSKY moved that the agenda be approved as presented. 7/0/0 CARRIED
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
Full minutes of the September 19 UPC meeting were not available.
4. **PRESENTATIONS**
  - a. Presentation of Implementation Plan for Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees Political Policy
5. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS**
  - a. Amanda Henry, Vice President (Academic)
  - b. Omer Yusuf, Vice President (Student Life)
6. **QUESTION PERIOD**
7. **OLD BUSINESS**
  - a. Evaluation of University advocacy.
8. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - a. SU Communications with Members (access to student email list)
    - i. JANZ/ERUVBETINE MOVED THAT the University Policy Committee recommends that Students' Council direct the Executive Committee to lobby the University for access to personal information of Students' Union members for the purposes of: conducting Students' Union elections; conducting Faculty Association elections; sending a new student Orientation letter; and sending a welcome letter in September regarding an overview and by-elections, SU elections and by-elections, Orientation letter, and a general welcome letter regarding an overview of the Students' Union and its activities, services, student groups, and invitations to join other listservs. 7/0/0 CARRIED
  - b. Physical Fitness Facilities (PAC) - TABLED
9. **DISCUSSION PERIOD**
  - a. Academic Materials (course syllabi and student instructional support fees)
    - i. Uof A Book Costs Spreadsheet
    - ii. Access Copyright Information
    - iii. Ripoff 101 Textbook Report
  - b. General Tasks from UPC Strategic Planning
    - i. Janz requested that the Chair invite current or former student directors of the Student OmbudService to attend a future meeting to address issues surrounding the use of lawyers in University appeals hearings.

10. ADJOURNMENT  
ERUVBETINE/JANZ moved to adjourn at 6:55 pm.

6/0/0 CARRIED

11. NEXT MEETING  
Tuesday October 24, 2006 at 5:00 pm in the Lower Level Meeting Room.

## President's Report –October 17<sup>th</sup> , 2006

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### **Campus Campaigns –**

October 5<sup>th</sup> – Tuition forum, Dave Taylor, David Eggen, Bill Moore-Kilgannon, Elaine Ho, were all in attendance. We did classroom speaking the week before and the week of.

We've met with the marketing department to solidify our design for our rural and campus campaigns.

We're starting a Wall of Debt, and have unveiled a "tuition policy countdown" to show how long we've been waiting for our new tuition policy.

We continue to meet with faculty associations. This week ESS.

**Academic Plan** – The Academic Plan is the guiding document for the university's strategic priorities. Amanda and I have been lobbying on the plan for the past few months and it is now coming down to decision time. We are still looking for stronger wording in undergraduate priorities and will be submitting another document to the University administration and the writers of the Plan at their request.

We're also looking for the removal of the goal "Top 20 in 2020" or clarification on how it relates to the undergraduate experience.

**BEAC/BFPC** – Board Educational Affairs Committee discussed the Academic Plan in relation to the creation of the Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund, the Teaching, Learning and Technology Council and the Teaching and Learning Initiative. We are still exploring all of the implications of these initiatives. BFPC approved a renewed contract with Stantec to complete their construction projects on campus, and we approved funding for Phase II of Pembina Hall.

**UPass** – The City approved a \$90 rate, it will now move to their budget processes in November. We're now looking into the referendum question required and finalizing the University's financial contribution.

### **Meetings Had:**

Oct 4<sup>th</sup> – Budget Advisory Committee meeting

– UASUS and Rehab Med meeting

Oct 5<sup>th</sup> – Forum

Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> – TPW

Oct 11<sup>th</sup> – Academic Planning Committee

– CAC

– LEAF Person's Day Breakfast

Oct 13<sup>th</sup> – BEAC and BFPC

– Meeting w. Carl Amrhein

Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> – Stand Up for the Millennium Development Goals Rally

### **Meetings Coming up:**

Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> – Alberta Chamber of Commerce

– ESS

Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> – Alberta Federation of Labour

– Advisory Search Committee, VP (Research)

Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> - Meeting w. President Samarasekera

Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> - New Democrat Provincial Convention

Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> - Rural Tour, Grande Prairie

Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> - RHA meeting

- meeting with Heike Jurgens, president of Alumni Council

Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> - BoG meeting

## UPDATES

**CAMPUS CAMPAIGNS!:** We had our Town Hall Discussion on October 5. There was some great discussion – thanks to Councillors Bulger and Nuringberg who were able to make it out! Also, a big thanks to MLA's Dave Taylor and David Eggen, as well as Bill Moore-Kilgannon, Elaine Ho, and Sam Power for being part of our guest panel.

Upcoming Campus Campaign Events include – **Wall of Debt** – come, raise awareness, and send a strong message about the growing levels of student debt at the U of A. We will have paper bricks that our members can write their debt on – and when we have enough bricks, we will build the wall in SUB!

**If you'd like to volunteer to be part of SU campus campaigns – let me know!**

**ENHANCING EXTERNAL ADVOCACY:** Sam and I had a very positive meeting with the Alberta Chamber of Commerce yesterday discussing PSE issues. We will stay in contact with them to discuss how we can better promote a strong post-secondary education system for Alberta. Today, we will be meeting with the Alberta Federation of Labour and the Alberta Teachers' Association.

**HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE:** AVPX Pam Aranas is looking for **volunteers** to be part of this year's High School Leadership Conference on November 24 & 25 – contact Pam at [avpex@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:avpex@su.ualberta.ca).

**NEW TUITION POLICY:** I was expecting the policy to be released last Wednesday, but apparently the Ministry wasn't yet ready to release it. The draft of the policy included tying annual tuition increases to CPI, setting tuition at 2004 levels, and decreasing interest rates on student loans. Though it includes some positive baby steps, it does not go nearly far enough in ensuring that PSE in Alberta is truly affordable.

To highlight how ridiculously long it's taken the Provincial Government to release this policy, on October 16 we unveiled our **Tuition Policy Counter** in SUB - to count the days since **Albertans were promised the most Affordable Tuition Policy in Canada – 616 days ago!** We will keep the counter up and counting until the new policy is released. We received media coverage in the Gateway and Global News.

**RURAL OUTREACH:** Sam and I will be going to Peace River and Grande Prairie from October 23 to 25 to meet with community groups and discuss PSE issues. I will also be going to Fort McMurray from November 19 to 21 as our next rural outreach.

**TRICK OR EAT – THIS IS A REALLY IMPORTANT!** The Campus Food Bank will be having their **Trick or Eat event on the night of October 31** – this is why Council was postponed that night – All Councillors should come out and be part of the CFB's largest annual food drive in which you can dress up in your

favorite Halloween costume (I'm going as Wolverine) and join fellow students in going door to door in the University area to collect food bank donations. It's a great event and everyone should get involved! **Let me know if you're interested and I'll pass your names along to the organizers!**

**U-PASS:** On October 10, Sam, GSA President Christine Delling, and I presented on the U-Pass to the City of Edmonton Transport & Public Works Committee. The Committee has now recommended that the \$90 U-Pass be included in the 2007 City budget. We will be returning to City Hall in November/December to present on the U-Pass. We received media coverage from The Gateway, CJSR, CBC Radio, Global News, 630 CHED, the Edmonton Sun, and more.

We are continuing to negotiate with the University for their investment in the U-Pass project. Negotiations are taking place at the Budget Advisory Committee.

Advocacy Director Don Iveson and I have been meeting with the University Administration to negotiate the administrative framework of a U-Pass program.

**Upcoming:**

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| October 17     | Meeting with the Alberta Federation of Labour  |
|                | Meeting with the Alberta Teacher's Association |
| October 23-25  | Rural Outreach to Grande Prairie & Peace River |
| October 26     | Campaigns Planning & Action Committee Meeting  |
| October 31     | <b>Campus Food Bank – Trick or Eat!</b>        |
| November 14-16 | City of Edmonton Budget Hearings               |
| November 19-21 | Rural Outreach to Fort McMurray                |
| November 24/25 | High School Leadership Conference              |

Questions about this report? Got an external issue? Let me know in person, by phone -492.4236, or by email [vp.external@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:vp.external@su.ualberta.ca).



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# Omer Yusuf, Vice President (Student Life)

## Report to Council

October 17, 2006

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Greetings Council,

My apologies to council for not submitting in time for the council package, but there was a HSAG meeting on Friday that I felt that I should report on. Although you should be reading all parts of my report, I'll emphasize the Health Services Advisory Group and the Services sections.

- ❑ Health Services Advisory Group: If council remembers correctly, you'll remember nominating such councillors as Kehoe and Shamanna to sit on a committee primarily concerned with investigating University Health Services and reporting back to council regarding the operation and administration of this service. Well, here are some important points: first, we've compiled a working document outlining the financial status of the UHS as we understand it, and there are a number of concerns that we've addressed. We've been encouraged to sit down and discuss them further. Second, the issue of student/non-student usage is a serious concern, and we've all highlighted the need to resolve it soon. Third, the UHS budget is being sent this week, and that includes the operation of a Peer Health Education program. Whether or not the University accepts that budget is another situation. Fourth, Student Counseling Services has been brought under the UHS wing. I am assured that this is mostly to pool resources, but both budgets will remain separate (ie SCS will not benefit from the UHS fee). All in all, I think this process is working well regarding communication, but there has yet been any strong movement on the point of transparency and student input in the decision making process. However, I believe that the interest is there within the committee members, we just need to implement those goals.
- ❑ SLAC/PC/AntiFreeze: The Student Life Advisory Committee is moving, if slowly, towards solidifying it's place as a resource to review and make recommendations regarding services. I'll include it as an information item for next council meeting, just so people can give it a read and ask questions. The Programming Committee is focused on an upcoming event call "Speed Buddies: speed dating without the dating" as a means of improving campus community through programming. It'll be going down at 7:30 in RATT. AntiFreeze planning is starting up again. For those of you that don't know what it is, is a winter competition between team of 10-13, and loads of fun. I haven't seen a council team in my history with the program (hint hint).
- ❑ Services: Well, the big news right now is regarding staff hiring. We're in the process now of hiring for SGS AD, Safewalk AD, and soon the Campus Ambassadors Coordinator positions. This is all part of the bigger problem of staff retention in this organization for members that feel overworked, particularly the ADs. However, after going through a great round of interviews for the Student Group Services Associate Director, I know we will get great students to fill these positions.
- ❑ ECOS: we're moving away from the idea generating part of the meetings, and into the "here's the doom and gloom of the service, how operates, and how to

effect change". Essentially, this will mean that we move into implementation, which could mean budget principles for a new ECOS.

- ❑ Student Group Services: The review process is moving along, and should pick up by the end of this week. In other news, we'll be reconfiguring the office is structured to look less "available". This is mostly to counteract the interruptions during busy times and meetings within the SGS office, and office hours will still make the space accessible to students.
- ❑ Centenary: The University is looking at planning a birthday party. I'm not really sure what that means, but we've been invited to take part in it... somehow... I'm thinking fireworks!

On the horizon!

- Oct 18:       AntiFreeze design meeting  
              Student Group Services formations  
              CFB Board Meeting
- Oct 19:       Meeting re: Student Group Services Review  
              Service Awareness Committee  
              From Backpack to Briefcase
- Oct 20:       Meeting wit Indira  
              CFB Potluck Dinner
- Oct 23:       Lunch with Dima Utgoff  
              Council of Student Affairs
- Oct 24:       Public Health Response Committee  
              Service Directors and Exec Lunch