

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Tuesday, May 27, 2008
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

ORDER PAPER (SC 2008-03)

- 2008-03/1 **SPEAKER'S BUSINESS**
- 2008-03/1a Announcements – The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on Tuesday, June 10, 2008.
- 2008-03/2 **PRESENTATIONS**
- 2008-03/2a GM Search Presentation- Presented by Michael Janz. Sponsored by Michael Janz.
- 2008-03/3 **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**
- 2008-03/3a Executive Committee- May 14, 2008
Please see document SC 08-03.01
- 2008-03/4 **QUESTION PERIOD**
- 2008-03/4a **JANZ-** To the Vice President Academic, John Braga:
Could the Vice President Academic please present to council on the status of the renovations to Cameron Library and when it will be ready for students.
- 2008-03/5 **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**
- 2008-03/5a University Policy Committee- Standing Orders
Please see document SC 08-03.02
- 2008-03/5b External Policy Committee- Report
Please see document SC 08-03.03
- 2008-03/5b(i) Standing Orders
Please see document SC 08-03.04
- 2008-03/5c Bylaw Committee- Report
Please see document SC 08-03.05
- 2008-03/6 **GENERAL ORDERS**

- 2008-03/6a** **BRAGA MOVES THAT** the composition of Awards Committee be changed to be comprised of the Vice President Academic (or designate) as Chair, one Students' Union Councillor, one Undergraduate Member of the General Faculties Council, one Undergraduate Member of the University Senate, and four Students-at-Large.
- Please see document SC 08-03.06
- 2008-03/6b** **DOLLANSKY/EASTHAM MOVE THAT** Students' Council ratify 2008/2009 CASA membership as required by the 2008/2009 budget principles.
- Please see document SC 08-03.07
- 2008-03/7** **INFORMATION ITEMS**
- 2008-03/7a** Students' Council Appointment of two Arts Councillors
- Please see document SC 08-03.08
- 2008-03/7b** John Braga, VP Academic- Report
- Please see document SC 08-03.09
- 2008-03/7c** Kristen Flath, VP Student Life-Report
- Please see document SC 08-03.10
- 2008-03/7d** Votes and Proceedings – May 13, 2008
- Please see document SC 08-03.11

Executive Committee Report to Students' Council May 27, 2008

1. The following motions were passed at the May 14 Executive Committee meeting:

- a. MORIN/EASTHAM MOVED THAT the Executive Committee approve a budgeted expense from 425 and 519 not to exceed \$2580.00 for the VPA and AVPA to attend STLHE, June 18-21, 2008

VOTE ON MOTION 4/0/0/ CARRIED

- b. BRAGA/EASTHAM MOVED THAT the Executive Committee approve a budgeted expense no to exceed \$360.00 for three staff to attend Vitalize 2008 in Edmonton .

VOTE ON MOTION 4/0/0/ CARRIED

University Policy Committee Standing Orders

Mandate

In accordance with Bylaw 100 of the University of Alberta Students' Union, the University Policy Committee:

- a) shall make recommendations to Students' Council on Students' Union political policy respecting the business of entities based at the University of Alberta;
- b) shall not make recommendations to Students' Council on Students' Union political policy respecting undergraduate tuition at the University of Alberta; and
- c) shall receive reports from the Students' Union Executive Committee on its on-campus non-tuition-related advocacy activities and evaluate their effectiveness.
- d) can make editorial changes to all political policy under its purview.

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Meetings

1. Quorum of the University Policy Committee shall be four voting members.
2. The University Policy Committee shall hold a meeting, coordinated through the Speaker of Students' Council, before the first meeting of its Students' Council in order to:
 - a. elect a chair from within its voting membership,
 - b. set initial standing orders, and
 - c. set a meeting schedule for its first trimester.
3. The University Policy Committee shall establish a meeting schedule on a trimesterly basis, in advance, with the trimesters being:
 - a. May to August,
 - b. September to December, and
 - c. January to April.
4. Additional meetings of the University Policy Committee may be called by either the Chair or four voting members of the Committee, provided that:
 - a. every member of the Committee has received at least seventy-two hours notice of the meeting, or
 - b. every member of the Committee consents to the meeting taking place.
5. Meetings of the University Policy Committee may be cancelled by:
 - a. a simple majority vote of the Committee to amend the meeting schedule, or
 - b. the unanimous consent of all voting members to the cancellation.
6. Meetings of the University Policy Committee shall occur in person and are open to the public, unless the Committee moves *in camera*.

Records

7. The Chair of the University Policy Committee will record attendance at each meeting of the Committee.
8. The Chair of the University Policy Committee shall assign the task of recording the minutes at each meeting to one of the members of the Committee.

University Policy Committee Standing Orders

9. Members of the University Policy Committee may amend their comments in the minutes when the minutes are being approved by the Committee.
10. The Chair of the University Policy Committee shall, after each meeting of the Committee, submit to Students' Council a report including:
 - a. any decisions made by the Committee acting under authority delegated to it by Students' Council;
 - b. any recommendations made by the Committee to Students' Council;
 - c. any standing orders adopted by the Committee; and
 - d. a summary of all motions passed by the Committee at the meeting in question.

Membership

11. Should a vacancy on the University Policy Committee occur, then the Committee shall recommend the nomination of additional member(s) to Students' Council at its next meeting.
12. Should the Chair of the University Policy Committee leave the voting membership of the Committee, the position of chair shall be considered vacant and a new chair shall be elected from within the voting membership of the Committee at the next meeting.
13. Any voting members of the Executive Committee involved in University advocacy who are not selected to be voting members of the University Policy Committee shall be considered non-voting members of the Committee.

Chair

14. The Chair of the University Policy Committee shall:
 - a. arrange for the booking of a meeting room, when necessary, for meetings of the Committee;
 - b. arrange for the preparation and distribution of the Committee agenda;
 - c. moderate debate at meetings of the Committee;
 - d. respond to the questions of members of the Committee in a timely fashion;
 - e. assign duties to members of the Committee, such duties pertaining to the fulfilment of the mandate of the Committee;
 - f. maintain the Standing Orders of the Committee; and
 - g. submit reports to Students' Council, as required.
15. Should the Chair of the University Policy Committee be absent from a meeting of the Committee, the Committee shall then elect an interim chair from within its voting membership for the duration of the meeting.
16. The Chair of the University Policy Committee may be removed from the post of chair by a simple majority vote of the Committee, whereupon a new chair shall be elected from within the voting membership of the Committee.

University Policy Committee Standing Orders

17. The Chair of the University Policy Committee shall not be a member of the Executive Committee.

Responsibilities of Members

18. Prior to the end of each Councillor trimester, the University Policy Committee shall review its attendance records for all voting members of the Committee.

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19. The University Policy Committee may recommend to Students' Council, by a simple majority vote, the removal of any voting member who is not carrying out his/her duties in contributing to the fulfilment of the mandate of the Committee.

20. Any member of the Executive Committee who is named as a member of the University Policy Committee may be reported to Students' Council, by a simple majority vote, if he/she does not fulfill the reporting requirements outlined in the standing orders of the Committee.

Proxies

21. To appoint a proxy to the University Policy Committee, the member thereof must provide a written notice to that effect to the Chair of the Committee:

- a. stating the name of the eligible member of Students' Council who will serve as proxy,
- b. indicating the duration of the appointment, and
- c. delivering the notice no later than two hours prior to the Committee meeting.

Legislative Process for Political Policies

22. When Students' Council refers a political policy to the University Policy Committee:
- a. the Chair shall, by the time of the next Committee meeting, assign a member of the Committee who is also a member of the Executive Committee to draft a political policy based on the principles passed in first reading by Students' Council;
 - b. the assigned member of the Executive Committee shall submit the draft political policy to the Committee in a timely fashion; and
 - c. the Committee will not recommend to Students' Council any political policy that is outside the scope of the principles approved in first reading by Students' Council.

Rules of Order

23. The Chair of the University Policy Committee will use his/her discretion in administering an informal style of Robert's Rules of Order to conduct the business of the meeting.

Structure of Sessions

24. The Order of Business for the University Policy Committee shall be:

- a. Approval of the Agenda
- b. Approval of the Minutes
- c. Chair's Announcements
- d. Presentations
- e. Executive Committee Reports
- f. Question Period

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University Policy Committee Standing Orders

- g. Old Business
- h. New Business
- i. Discussion
- j. Confirmation of Next Meeting Date

Orders of the Day

25. Any voting member of the University Policy Committee may submit Orders of the Day to be considered by the Committee.
26. Orders of the Day must be submitted to the Chair of the University Policy Committee and the Administrative Assistant to Students' Council by noon on the business day prior to the Committee meeting.
27. The agenda package for the University Policy Committee will be published in the following manner:
 - a. an electronic copy will be e-mailed to the Committee members by the day before the meeting, and
 - b. paper copies will be provided at the Committee meeting.
28. The Order of Business notwithstanding, the Chair of the University Policy Committee may designate any Order of the Day a Special Order.

Presentations

29. Each member of the Executive Committee who is named a member of the University Policy Committee shall provide:
 - a. a basic introduction of his/her goals for the year by June 1, and
 - b. a comprehensive presentation of all goals relevant to the mandate of the Committee by June 30.
30. Each member of the Executive Committee to which a political policy of the University Policy Committee pertains must submit to the Committee:
 - a. an implementation plan for each pertinent pre-existing political policy by June 30,
 - b. an implementation plan for any new political policy within one month of its date of approval, and
 - c. a comprehensive update on the progress of these implementation plans once during each of the fall and winter terms.

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Executive Committee Reports

31. Each member of the Executive Committee who is named a member of the University Policy Committee shall provide a written report at each meeting of the Committee on his/her University advocacy activities and those of the entire Executive Committee, and may provide an oral supplement to accompany this report.

Standing Orders

32. The Standing Orders of the University Policy Committee may be amended by a simple majority vote of the Committee, with such changes being reported to Students' Council.

University Policy Committee Standing Orders

33. The Standing Orders of the University Policy Committee do not expire, but shall be reintroduced at the Committee's first meeting.

University of Alberta Students' Union
Report to Students' Council

05-27-08

External Policy Committee

Hello Council:

The External Policy Committee held our first meeting on Tuesday, May 20. With all the members in attendance, we were able to get a good start on the year. Our summer meetings will be held on off-council Tuesdays at 7:30PM, after CAC. I'd encourage any councillors interested in external policy to attend.

Before our next meeting, committee members will be reading through EPC's policies and starting to think about goals for the rest of the year. If you have any ideas for external policies, meet with Vice-President Eastham or attend an EPC meeting to discuss them.

We amended the EPC Standing Orders but made no substantial changes. The first was under Mandate with the addition of "d) can make editorial changes to all political policy under its purview." This change was made in order for our Standing Orders to match Bylaw 100. Our second change was in the Responsibility of Members to reflect the removal of remuneration.

If you want to know in-depth information about our meeting, please review the minutes, and if you have any questions, feel free to ask them.

Jacqueline

External Policy Committee Standing Orders

Mandate

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- b) shall make recommendations to Students' Council on Students' Union political policy respecting undergraduate tuition at the University of Alberta; and
- c) shall receive reports from the Students' Union Executive Committee on its off-campus tuition-related advocacy activities and evaluate their effectiveness.
- d) can make editorial changes to all political policy under its purview.

Meetings

1. Quorum of the External Policy Committee shall be four voting members.
2. The External Policy Committee shall hold a meeting, coordinated through the Speaker of Students' Council, before the first meeting of its Students' Council in order to:
 - a. elect a chair from within its voting membership,
 - b. set initial standing orders, and
 - c. set a meeting schedule for its first trimester.
3. The External Policy Committee shall establish a meeting schedule on a trimesterly basis, in advance, with the trimesters being:
 - a. May to August,
 - b. September to December, and
 - c. January to April.
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 - a. every member of the Committee has received at least seventy-two hours notice of the meeting, or
 - b. every member of the Committee consents to the meeting taking place.
5. Meetings of the External Policy Committee may be cancelled by:
 - a. a simple majority vote of the Committee to amend the meeting schedule, or
 - b. the unanimous consent of all voting members to the cancellation.
6. Meetings of the External Policy Committee shall occur in person and are open to the public, unless the Committee moves *in camera*.

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 - c. any standing orders adopted by the Committee; and
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Membership

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Chair

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19. Any member of the Executive Committee who is named as a member of the External Policy Committee may be reported to Students' Council, by a simple majority vote, if he/she does not fulfill the reporting requirements outlined in the standing orders of the Committee.

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Proxies

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 - b. a comprehensive presentation of all goals relevant to the mandate of the Committee by June 30.
29. Each member of the Executive Committee to which a political policy of the External Policy Committee pertains must submit to the Committee an implementation plan for the political policy as of:
 - a. June 30 for all pre-existing political policies, or
 - b. one month from the date of the approval of a new political policy.

Executive Committee Reports

30. Each member of the Executive Committee who is named a member of the External Policy Committee shall provide a written report at each meeting of the Committee on his/her External and tuition-related advocacy activities and those of the entire Executive Committee, and may provide an oral supplement to accompany this report.

Standing Orders

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32. The Standing Orders of the External Policy Committee do not expire, but shall be reintroduced at the Committee's first meeting.

University of Alberta Students' Union
Report to Students' Council

05-27-08

Bylaw Committee

Hello Council:

At our first meeting on May 6th, Ian Clarke was nominated and elected as chairman. The 2008 Bylaw Committee Standing orders were adopted.

At our second meeting, we discussed the difficulty of scheduling a meeting time that everyone could attend. Beverly Eastham suggested that we should split the Bylaws for review between the committee members. John Braga will begin to review the 8000 bylaws and Beverly will investigate as to how to eliminate council remunerations from the bylaws. It was decided that another meeting shall be scheduled before Council retreat.

Proposal of Changes to the Composition of Awards Committee:

This proposal is based on the recommendations of Brittney Bugler, 2007/2008 Associate VP Academic and Awards Chair.

Given the difficulty in filling positions on Awards Committee, we believe that the committee should tap into other pools of volunteers to ensure the smooth functioning of itself throughout the year. Last year's committee often had difficulty meeting quorum, especially over the summer months.

The current composition of Awards Committee is set out in Bylaw 100, Section 12(5):

1	CHAIR: Vice President Academic (or designate)
7	Students-at-Large
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8	TOTAL

We propose that the composition be changed to the following:

1	CHAIR: Vice President Academic (or designate)
1	Students' Union Councillor
1	Undergraduate Member of the General Faculties Council
1	Undergraduate Member of the University Senate
4	Students-at-Large
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8	TOTAL

This new composition is based on the following rationale:

- It is tradition that the VP Academic or designate serve as chair because Awards is in their portfolio and it is important that it remain there.
- Given that Awards Committee is a standing committee of Students' Council, it was felt to be appropriate to have a Students' Council member on the committee.
- The undergraduate representatives of the General Faculties Council can often undervalue their positions and may not feel that they connect to the student body. This would allow for more engagement from student members of this body.
- The mandate of the University Senate is to promote the University to the community at-large as well as bring interests of the community to the University. Student senators are knowledgeable of many different volunteer opportunities present at the U of A. Experience on this committee could help them to inspire prospective students to come to this University not just to receive a degree, but to enrich their lives and the lives of others.
- It is still essential that students-at-large be given a central role on the committee for several reasons. Namely, it is a good way to introduce students to volunteer opportunities within and outside of the Students' Union.

Quorum for the committee would remain unchanged at 4 members plus the Chair. In the proposed composition, there would still need to be at least one student-at-large present to have enough to meet quorum.

BUDGET PRIORITIES OF STUDENTS' COUNCIL, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA STUDENTS' UNION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING MAY 1, 2008 AND ENDING APRIL 30, 2009.

This document is intended to serve as an outline of the fiscal priorities of the Students' Union.

1. General

The four key focuses of the Students' Union are

- Undergraduate Student Representation (Advocacy)
- Providing Student Services
- Operating the Students' Union Building
- Operating businesses for the purpose of funding Students' Union activities

Total operating expenditures will not exceed the amount of total operating and fee revenues.

All departments must work within the mandate of the Students' Union.

External entities such as dedicated fee units shall be managed as per existing Students' Union bylaw and any applicable contracts.

Capital expenditures shall be incurred based upon the following criteria:

- Replacement due to wear and tear
- To ensure continued operations of a particular unit
- To enhance the security or functionality of a particular unit
- To strengthen the viability of a particular unit

In the event that one section of this document conflicts with any other section, BFC shall identify such a conflict and propose any necessary changes in the presentation of the final budget.

Unless otherwise noted:

- Operating and fixed costs increase at a rate, relative to the previous fiscal year, commensurate with inflation.
- Activity of the Students' Union will continue in a manner consistent with the precedent set in previous fiscal years.

2. Staff

Staff costs shall increase 5% as specified in the CUPE collective agreement. Managerial staff are entitled to a merit increase of *up to* 4%. Unionized staff are eligible for a merit increase of up to 4%.

3. Fees

Operating, dedicated and capital fees shall increase in accordance with Students' Union Bylaw 3000. The consumer price index will be calculated as 4.1%. Tuition increases will be calculated as 4.6%.

Operating and capital fees shall account for between 15%-25% of overall revenues.

4. Advocacy and Representation

The Advocacy and Representation units of the Students' Union are:

- The Executive Committee and each individual executive member
- Students' Council
- Advocacy department
- Elections
- Awards night

To pursue full membership in the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations contingent upon approval by the 08/09 Students' Council that increased revenue from business operations will supply the membership fee and additional conference costs

Councilors shall not be remunerated

5. Services

The service units of the Students' Union are:

- Info Link
- Orientation and Transition Programs
- Ombudservice
- Student Financial Aid and Information Center
- Student Group Services
- Safewalk
- Student Distress Center
- Handbook
- ECOS

Additional incentives shall be given to SU volunteers

6. Business

The business units of the Students' Union are:

- SUBmart
- SUBtitles
- Print Center
- Cue

- Cramdunk
- Postal Outlet
- Room at the Top
- Dewey's
- L'Express and L'Express Catering
- Juicy
- SUB Rental Operations

All reasonable attempts to maximize the profitability of these business units, consistent with the mandate of the Students' Union as a service provider, shall be made.

There will be an average margin increase to non-academic materials of no more than 10%.

The Students' Union businesses shall not run a deficit

7. Entertainment and Programming

The Entertainment and Programming units of the Students' Union are:

- Week of Welcome
- Myer Horowitz Theatre
- Dinwoodie Lounge
- Antifreeze
- High School Leadership Conference
- SU Kid's Christmas Party
- SUB Programming
- Other Entertainment and Programming

For the purpose of the budget principles discussion, programming that takes place in an SU venue that is not specifically mentioned in the above list shall be considered as separate from the entertainment and programming units.

Where possible, all entertainment and programming units should plan to recoup all costs. Either admission sales or sponsorship are acceptable sources of revenue. Exceptions shall be made clear in the presentation of the final budget.

8. Administration, Operations and Support

The administrative, operational and support units of the Students' Union are:

- Marketing
- Sponsorship
- Facilities
- Administration

Any expenditure relating to marketing will be outlined in each individual unit's marketing plan, to be submitted to the executive committee or designate for approval .

Increase visibility of Students' Union businesses and services on the lower level

9. Changes from 07/08 Budget Principals

The Consumer Price Index shall be calculated as 4.1% and Tuition increases will be calculated as 4.6% when calculating increase in Operating, Dedicated and Capital Fees.

Staff costs shall increase 5% as specified in the CUPE collective agreement

Councilors shall not be remunerated

The Students' Union businesses shall not run a deficit

Additional incentives shall be given to Students' Union Volunteers

Increase visibility of SU-run businesses and services on the lower level

To pursue full membership in the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations contingent upon approval by the 08/09 Students' Council that increased revenue from business operations will supply the membership fee and additional conference costs.

Ratifying CASA Membership

A briefing for Students' Council

22 May, 2008



To: 2008/09 University of Alberta Students' Union Students' Council

Engaging Federal Lobbying

For the past six years, the University of Alberta Students' Union has not been a member of any federal lobby group. During that time we have invested resources to build the strongest political advocacy department at any Canadian post-secondary institution. However, it is becoming readily apparent that our absence on the federal scene will come at a cost to the students we represent. Having now built our political machine and with federal issues being vastly more prominent than they have been in the past decade, it is advised that we re-enter the realm of federal lobbying.

As post-secondary education becomes an increasingly national priority (and not exclusively a regional one), we have found ourselves dealing with a larger volume of issues handled at the federal level. Issues such as the costs of textbooks, student loan reform and copyright legislation, among many, many others, are major issues for students at the University of Alberta. Currently, we have no outlet by which to effectively advocate on these issues, as the cost and logistics of performing our own federal lobbying are prohibitive.

In a manner that closely mirrors the approach of our own Advocacy Department, the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations will provide a professional face and the weight of a significant number of Canadian students to our federal lobbying efforts. They will be able to do this at a nominal cost and will provide for significant input from the membership regarding the direction of the organization.

About CASA

At a glance:

- Represents 22 schools, approximately 380,000 students
- Budget of \$550,000
- 6 permanent head office staff, 3 governance officers
- CASA schedules over 200 meetings with MPs, Deputy Ministers and other bureaucrats throughout the year

The lobbying approach that CASA uses is described as pragmatic, focusing on policy development, face-to-face meetings with key decision makers and solid earned media strategies. As a result, they are a well-regarded lobby group, especially by Liberal and Conservative MPs. Additionally, they have ready access to key members of the federal civil service, which is an extremely important part of lobbying any government.

Recent Successes for CASA

For the past few years, CASA has been the only post-secondary education stakeholder to advocate for non-repayable student financial assistance, in the form of calls for renewal of the

Millennium Scholarship Foundation. While the MSF was not renewed (largely for partisan reasons, as the MSF was a highly-touted Liberal-era program), the Conservative government did commit \$350 million annually (increasing to \$430 million in 2012) to non-repayable student financial assistance, targeted at low income students, in the 2008 budget in the form of the Canada Student Granting Program. Further, CASA has been invited to work with the government to throughout the implementation of the program, which is significant due to the normally suspicious outlook the current government has with regards to lobby groups.

The 2008 Federal Budget also saw \$123 million over four years dedicated to streamlining and modernizing the Canada Student Loans Program and an additional \$74 million over four years for the program to be more responsive to the economic circumstances of borrowers. CASA had been pushing for changes such as these since approximately 2005.

CASA has long been a proponent of a pan-Canadian post-secondary strategy and has made this a cornerstone of their lobbying efforts. On 21 May 2008 Kelly Lamrock, the Chair of the Council of Ministers of Education Canada (CMEC), and Minister Solberg announced a federal-provincial/territorial partnership to provide students with "simple, easy-to-manage access to financial assistance." This represents a huge step toward the pan-Canadian strategy and is a step that CASA played a large part in.

Current Initiatives CASA is Pursuing

- A continued push for the Canada Student Loans Program to reduce interest rates and ensure that appropriate flexibility mechanisms for loan repayment exist.
- Advocating for the federal government to provide \$4 billion per year in the form of dedicated transfer payments for post-secondary education to the provinces and for accountability mechanisms to be put in place to ensure that these dollars are being spent on PSE in the most effective fashion.
- Increased Rural and Aboriginal student support in the Canada Student Grant Program. Rural and Aboriginal students are underrepresented in the Canadian post-secondary system (especially in Alberta),

Will Our Provincial Focus Suffer?

Addressing issues on a provincial level has been, and likely always will be, our top priority. The additional time dedicated to federal lobbying will be minimal. The staff of the Advocacy Department has always kept an eye on the comings and goings of the federal scene so, aside from the policy and strategy conference and the occasional phone call, there will be no additional staff time dedicated to federal lobbying on the staff side of things. In fact, since CASA monitors the federal Hansard and other sources, joining CASA will likely have the net effect of freeing up some staff time to apply to our provincial focus. Some executive time will be dedicated to the various conferences, but keep in mind that the 2007/08 year, a very successful year for our provincial lobby efforts, saw the President and the VPX attend the two major conferences, as well as the CASA Western transition and dedicate a reasonably significant amount of time to resolving the so-called "CASA question."

Given our ease of access to the Legislature and our ability to effect change, our external efforts will continue to be squarely focused on our provincial objectives and our ongoing work with CAUS. In fact, given that the other members of CAUS are CASA members, it can be expected that communication and camaraderie will continue to develop among the CAUS members at

CASA events, as was the case throughout 2007/08 and into this year. CASA will also provide the Advocacy Director with a unique opportunity to meet with their peers at the policy and strategy conference. Since policy staff across the country have no official association and no dedicated conference to attend for professional development, CASA may facilitate important discussions between staff members on effective lobbying techniques and technology, as was the case at the 2008 CAUS conference.

Consideration by the Previous Council

Whether or not to join CASA was a major question for last year's council and was given a great deal of consideration. Throughout the year, the 2007/08 council entertained a number of debates on the issue, heard the reflections of the President and the Vice-President (External) regarding their trips to the 2007 CASA Policy & Strategy Conference and the 2007 CASA Lobby Conference; and were given a presentation and Q&A session by CASA National Director Zach Churchill and CASA National Chair Jeff Friedrich. All-in-all, the decision to include CASA as a budget principle for the 2008/09 budget passed overwhelmingly, 22-2.

EDMONTON
December 20th, 2007

Steven Dollansky
Vice President External
University of Alberta Students' Union
2-900, Students' Union Building
8900-114 Street
Edmonton, AB T6G 2L7

To Whom It May Concern:

As the Member of Parliament for Edmonton-Strathcona, I am writing to you today to lend my support to the goal of seeing the University of Alberta Students' Union join the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations to help to further the awareness and importance of Post-Secondary Education funding.

In previous discussions with Mr. Dollansky, I had indicated that I felt it was important that those who advocate for increased Post Secondary Education support, to become more active in forming relationships at the Federal level.

Let me be clear in stating that the Federal Government is fully committed to the funding of a high quality post-secondary education system. This has already been demonstrated by the Federal government, through their commitment of significant dollars in the Federal budget to PSE, since 2006. However, there is still more that can be done.

Knowledge is power and Education is the critical tool that students must use to access that knowledge. It is with this in mind that I write this letter of support to the UofA Students' Union, in their efforts to work closely with the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations to help further the awareness and importance of Post-Secondary Education funding.

Sincerely,

Rahim Jaffer, MP
Edmonton-Strathcona
National Conservative Caucus Chair



Council of Alberta University Students
#2, 9912 – 109 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 1H5
(780) 437-4531

November 29, 2007

To the members of the University of Alberta Students' Council:

I have had the privilege of serving as the Executive Director of the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) for the past three years, and in that time I believe students in Alberta have made big strides in our province in securing more funding and reducing some of the financial barriers facing students in our province. We have made this progress together, with full participation and input from students from all three major universities as well as Alberta's colleges and technical institutes. In particular, I want to single out your organization, the University of Alberta Students' Union, in being a large part of that success. Of course, the job is not finished – students still face significant financial and other barriers to academic success, and we need to make further improvements to the quality and accessibility of our post-secondary system.

Rather than resting on our laurels and toasting our past success, CAUS is planning on how to advocate for a better post-secondary system in Alberta – a large campaign aimed at parents in Alberta is being planned for the next provincial election, as well we have been bringing our message directly to decision-makers throughout the summer and fall, and a lobby conference will be held immediately following the provincial election. How can we help ensure these efforts yield the maximum benefit to our students?

Advocacy, government relations, lobbying – whatever you choose to call it – is inherently about people and relationships. In this case, that naturally means with government and decision-makers, but as well internally among ourselves and with our allies at other institutions in the province and across Canada. I believe that if the University of Alberta Students' Union joined the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) it would be of direct benefit to our efforts in advocating to the Government of Alberta and stakeholders here.

Post-secondary education, while being within provincial jurisdiction, is a national issue. At the same time we are pressing our students' case here in Alberta there is real need to press for action by the federal government as well, something which our provincial government continually challenges CAUS on. When we press for reform of the remission system for debt relief, we are invariably asked why when 30% of all Alberta student loans are forgiven are we not pressing the Government of Canada for a similar program limiting debt from the Canada Student Loan Program. When we ask for more needs-based bursaries, we are invariably asked why we are not pressing the Government of Canada to renew the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation (CMSF), the largest provider of needs-based bursaries in Canada which is set to expire in 2009.

.../2

Given that two of three members of CAUS are also active members of CASA we do have an answer, with those two members able to confidently say that they have been pressing for those reforms and more federally but it does not change the fact that the Government of Alberta needs to do more. The strength of showing that these concerns are being taken to Parliament Hill by all members of CAUS would go a long way in showing the Government of Alberta that we understand the intricacies of the issue and are having our voice heard in all of the necessary areas. That builds credibility and that is a key to our success.

The world of post-secondary education policy does not occur in a vacuum either at the federal or provincial levels – the Canada Student Loan Program and the variety of provincial programs that compliment it are a perfect example. Key decisions on the future of this program are being made, right now, but not exclusively in Ottawa and certainly not exclusively here in Edmonton. Within these federal-provincial discussions, students need to ensure their voice is being heard on both sides of that conversation. With CAUS bringing this up with the provincial government on one side, and CASA bringing up student issues with the federal government – particularly the bureaucracy – on the other, we can ensure Alberta students are not going unrepresented.

The internal dynamic of CAUS is unique – we only have three members and operate by consensus. Leaving the University of Alberta outside of CASA threatens their ability to get their issues heard and understood at the CAUS table, and more importantly from my perspective threatens unity of purpose and policy when we talk to the provincial government. When CAUS members cannot agree on what needs to be done provincially we simply do not do anything – that is the nature of consensus. However, when unified, we get it done – witness the agreement last year that increasing living allowances was a priority followed by a 14% increase. The two years previous saw a united focus on tuition and a two-year tuition rebate and then a policy limiting increases to the consumer price index. With the University of Alberta Students' Union at the table in both CASA and CAUS, along with the Universities of Calgary and Lethbridge, the likelihood of consensus and action by CAUS is better – and not just on federal/provincial issues, but on all issues of concern.

Ultimately, the University of Alberta Students' Union has a duty to represent their students – it is not optional, it is provided for in the *Post Secondary Learning Act* of Alberta. CASA represents a method to meet that mandate federally, but in addition it offers the ability to do that job better provincially as well.

As always, I am here to serve you and your students, so please do not hesitate to give me a call at 780-437-4531 or drop me a line at duncan@caus.net if you have any questions about CASA, CAUS and everything in between.

Yours truly,

Duncan Wojtaszek,
Executive Director

vote Students' Union Elections Office
Phone: (780) 492-7102 Email: cro@su.ualberta.ca

To:	➤ Ms. Brittney Bugler Speaker, Students' Council
From:	➤ Mr. Patrick Wisheu Chief Returning Officer
Subject:	Students' Council Appointment
Date:	May 16, 2008

In accordance with Students' Union Bylaw 100, empty seats on Students' Council shall be filled by the next-highest ranked candidate from the previous election.

In response to the recent vacancy of two Arts Councillor seats, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Petros Kusmu and Mr. Jon Mastel to Students' Council as Arts Councillors.

If you require any other information regarding this appointment, or regarding the Councillor replenishment process, please contact me directly.

Setting the Stage for the Year

I have been in committee meetings and one-on-one conversations that are laying the groundwork for the year ahead. Some of the goals submitted to the May 13th meeting of council are still having their action plans developed while others are well underway already.

Canadian Roundtable on Academic Materials (CRAM)

CRAM momentum is building. I will be giving a presentation to Council (hopefully in July) about the June CRAM Conference and the Academic Materials Campaign that we are holding on campus this fall. The campaign will be targeting instructors as its primary focus; while also ensuring students are involved in our messaging.

General Faculties Council – Student Caucus (GFC SC)

GFC SC had their first meeting of the year at 6:00pm on Thursday, May 22nd. The first meeting of GFC was Monday, May 26th. Details will be given in an oral report if anything of consequence arises at those two meetings.

Council of Faculty Associations (CoFA)

Each Friday following Students' Council a report has been submitted to CoFA updating them on the activities of the Students' Union. These reports have been very well received so far and have initiated several meetings between the VP Academic and Faculty Associations.

Two CoFA highlights are;

CBAS (Collective Body for Arts Students) is trying to bring Avi Lewis to the Myer Horowitz on September 10th. We are exploring a collaboration with them as part of the Revolutionary Speakers Series.

FNSSA (Faculty of Native Studies Students' Association) has applied for Faculty Association status. The Faculty of Native Studies is currently the only undergraduate Faculty without a Faculty Association. They have been granted observational status at CoFA with discussion underway on extending that to full status.

Errata

In the May 13th Report to Students' Council under the heading General Faculties Council – Student Caucus (GFC SC) the sentence;

There are currently twenty-nine (29) vacancies on Students' Council (as referenced in Question Period at the May 6th meeting of Students' Council).

Should have read;

There are currently twenty-nine (29) vacancies on GFC Student Caucus (as referenced in Question Period at the May 6th meeting of Students' Council).

Hello Council,

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Student Life Committees – We had our first meeting last week, and I am pleased to announce that both committees are full. We have a very enthusiastic team and I look forward to discussing some of our projects at next week's meeting.

Residence Halls Association – I attended an RHA meeting on May 22nd and mentioned the request by Governor Janz for a presentation on the Residence Masterplan. They are interested in presenting to council and will get back to me with a date. I will have had a meeting with their acting President, Peter Ochs, on Monday the 26th, so feel free to ask me questions about the results of that meeting.

Graduate Students' Association – The SU Exec met with the GSA last week, where we had the chance to speak about some of our goals and opportunities for collaboration. There are some areas where we see a definite alignment of goals, and look forward to working together on those.

U-Pass Advisory Committee – Last week I met with the U-Pass Advisory Committee, where we talked about the popularity of the Post-secondary Pass. The pass has sold more than ETS or the SU had anticipated and we may have to implement checks for the eligibility of the students purchasing them.

Composting Meeting – I met with Ray Dumochel and George Thomlison from the University to discuss the possibility of implementing composting in SUB. The project is feasible and once we receive estimated costs from them we will be able to evaluate implementing a composting program.

Environmental Coordination Office of Students – ECOS recently received funding from the University to hire a bike mechanic, as well as increase the hours for the Associate Director. We are very pleased to be able to expand the service, especially as the bike library is in very high demand.

Student Group Services – We have been in contact with the Office of the Dean of Students in regards to the problems with student group registration, and they are working on repairing it. There currently is no estimated time for the database to be up and running, but we have assurances that it will be available as soon as possible.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Ask during council, stop by the office, or send me an email at vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca.

STUDENTS' COUNCIL VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, May 13, 2008
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (SC 2008-02)

2008-02/1 SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

2008-02/1a Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm

2008-02/2 PRESENTATIONS

2008-02/2a Robert's Rules, Council Decorum and Terminology - Presented by Brittney Bugler. Sponsored by Brittney Bugler

2008-02/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

2008-02/3a Oral report from VP Academic- John Braga

Oral report from VP Student Life- Kristen Flath

Oral report from BoG Rep- Michael Janz

Oral report from VP Operations and Finance- Steven Dollanksy

Oral report from President- Janelle Morin

2008-02/6c **BRAGA/EASTHAM MOVED THAT** Students' Council appoint (1) member to Alberta Public Interest Research Group Board

Speaker's list: Braga, Braga sponsors Ariel Bowering (APIRG)

Nomination: Shannon

EASTHAM/MORIN MOVED TO close nominations

Motion: CARRIED

Appointed: Shannon

2008-02/6a **MORIN/DOLLANKSY MOVED THAT** Students' Council appoint (1) member to the First Alberta Campus Radio Association Board.

Speaker's list: Morin

Nominations: Prokopiuk, McKinney

KWAN/PROKOPIUK MOVED TO close nominations

Motion: CARRIED

Appointed: McKinney

2008-02/6d **CLARKE/EASTHAM MOVED THAT** Students' Council appoint (1) member to the Bylaw Committee

Speaker's list: Eastham

Nominations: Casey

BRAGA/TOK MOVED TO close nominations

Motion: CARRIED

Appointed: Casey

2008-02/6e **DOLLANSKY/FLATH MOVED THAT** Students' Council appoint (1) member to the Council Administration Committee

Speaker's list: Dollansky

Nominations: Janz, Prokopiuk

MORIN MOVED TO close nominations

No objections

Appointed: Janz

2008-02/4 **QUESTION PERIOD**

***2008-02/6g** **BRAGA/JANZ MOVED THAT** Students' Council appoint (1) member to the Gateway Board of Directors

No objections to moving It onto the main package (*item 2008-02/6g)

Speaker's list: Braga

Nominations: Geller

Nominations closed

Appointed: Geller

2008-02/6b **BRAGA/FLATH MOVED THAT** the composition of Awards Committee be changed to be comprised of the Vice President Academic (or designate) as Chair, one Students' Union Councillor, one Undergraduate Member of the General Faculties Council, one Undergraduate Member of the University Senate, and four Students-at-Large.

BRAGA/HNATIUK MOVED TO postpone until the May 27, 2008 Students' Council meeting

Motion: CARRIED

2008-02/6f

DOLLANSKY/MORIN MOVED THAT Students' Council ratify the tenant lease agreements as tabled

MORIN/PROKOPIUK MOVED IN-CAMERA

Motion: CARRIED

COUNCILLOR/COUNCILLOR MOVED EX-CAMERA

Motion: CARRIED

DOLLANSKY/JANZ MOVED THAT Students' Council ratify the tenant lease agreements as tabled

Motion: CARRIED

EASTHAM/SCHULZ MOVED TO adjourn

Motion: CARRIED

Councillor Attendance Records 2008-2009		Attendance						
Council Seats (40 total Name		4/29/2008 SC 08-00	5/6/2008 SC 08-01	05/13/2008 SC 08-02				
Ex-officio Members (6 voting seats)								
President	Janelle Morin	Y	Y	Y				
VP Academic	John Braga	Y	Y	Y				
VP External	Beverly Eastham	Y	Y	Y				
VP Operations & Finance	Steven Dollansky	Y	Y	Y				
VP Student Life	Kristen Flath	Y	Y	Y				
Undergraduate Board of Governors Rep	Michael Janz	Y	Y	Y				
Faculty Representation (32 voting seats)								
ALES	Jacqueline Geller	0.5	N	Y				
Arts	Nick Dehod	Y	N	0.5				
Arts	James Eastham	N	N	N				
Arts	Brittany Kustra	Y	Y	N				
Arts	Dustin Miller	N	N					
Arts	<i>vacant</i>							
Arts	Caitlin Schulz	Y	N	Y				
Arts	Patrick Wisheu	0.5	N					
Arts	<i>vacant</i>							
Augustana (Faculty)	Makrina Scott	N	N	N				
Business	Zach Fentiman	Y	Y	Y				
Business	Michael Kwan	Y	Y	Y				
Education	Hayley Shannon	N	N	0.5				
Education	<i>vacant</i>							
Education	<i>vacant</i>							
Engineering	Abdul Doctor	N	N	N				
Engineering	Mark Hlady	N	N	N				
Engineering	Tom Janiszewski	Y	Y	Y				
Engineering	Scott McKinney	Y	Y	Y				
Law	D.J. Lynde	N	N	Y(p)				
Medicine & Dentistry	Amol Saincher	Y	N	Y				
Native Studies	Elsa Peterson	N	N	N				
Nursing	Natalie Cloutier	Y	Y	Y				
Nursing	<i>vacant</i>							
Open Studies	Mark Prokopiuk	Y	N	Y				
Pharmacy	<i>vacant</i>							
Phys Ed & Rec	Sheldon Tibbo	Y	Y	Y				
Saint-Jean (Faculty)	Aden Murphy	N	0.5	Y				
Science	Madeline Bachmann	Y	Y(p)	Y				
Science	Bridget Casey	N	Y	Y				
Science	Ian Clarke	Y	N	Y				
Science	Mark Hnatiuk	Y	Y	0.5				
Science	Doug Owoo	N	N	N				
Science	Helen Quevillon	Y	Y	Y				
Ex-Officio Members (2 non-voting seats)								
Speaker	Brittney Bugler	Y(A.Henry)	Y	Y				
General Manager	Bill Smith	N	N	N				
Resigned:								
Dustin Miller- Arts Faculty- May 6, 2008								
Patrick Wisheu- Arts Faculty- May 6, 2008								
Nick Dehod- Bylaw Comm.- May 11, 2008								
Janelle Morin- CAC Comm.- May 12, 2008								