

STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

Tuesday February 10, 2009
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

LATE ADDITIONS (SC 2009-21)

- 2009-21/1 SPEAKER'S BUSINESS
- 2009-21/2 PRESENTATIONS
- 2009-21/2c 8000 Series Bylaw Update – Presented by John Braga, VP Academic. Sponsored by John Braga, VP Academic
- Please see document LA 09-21.01
- 2009-21/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
- 2009-21/5 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS
- 2009-21/5c Audit Committee- Report
- Please see document LA 09-21.02
- 2009-21/5d Budget and Finance Committee- Report
- Please see document LA 09-21.03
- 2009-21/5e D.I.E Bored- Report
- Please see document LA 09-21.04
- 2009-21/5f Awards Committee- Report
- Please see document LA 09-21.05
- 2009-21/6 GENERAL ORDERS
- 2009-21/6a DOLLANSKY/FENTIMAN MOVES THAT Students' Council approve the 2009/2010 Budget Principles
- Please see document LA 09-21.06
- 2009-21/7 INFORMATION ITEMS
- 2009-21/7b Beverly Eastham, VP External- Report

Please see document LA 09-21.07

2009-21/7c Beverly Eastham, VP External- Goals

Please see document LA 09-21.08

2009-21/7d Kristen Flath, VP Student Life- Report

Please see document LA 09-21.09

2009-21/7e Kristen Flath, VP Student Life- Goals

Please see document LA 09-21.10

2009-21/7f John Braga, VP Academic- Report

Please see document LA 09-21.11

2009-21/7g John Braga, VP Academic- Goals

Please see document LA 09-21.12

2009-21/7h Steven Dollansky, VP Operations and Finance- Report

Please see document LA 09-21.13

2009-21/7i Steven Dollansky, VP Operations and Finance- Goals

Please see document LA 09-21.14

2009-21/7j Janelle Morin, President- Report

Please see document LA 09-21.15

2009-21/7K Janelle Morin, President- Goals

Please see document LA 09-21.16

Topic	Old Bylaw	Principles	Notes
CoFA Terms of Reference	Practice	That by the March 24 th , 2009 meeting of Students' Council the Students' Union Vice President (Academic) shall provide to Students' Council, as an information item, the adopted Terms of Reference of the Council of Faculty Associations.	This is a motion not a bill
Membership (1)	Bylaw 8350: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I.3.c • I.6. • I.7. 	The base membership of a Faculty Association shall be defined as all undergraduate students enrolled in the faculty represented by the Faculty Association. The base membership of a Campus Association shall be defined as all undergraduate students enrolled in a faculty located on the satellite campus represented by the Campus Association. Notwithstanding this for matters that do not pertain to the collection of Campus Association Transfer Payments, Faculty Association Membership Fees, Faculty Association Special Fees and Faculty Membership Fees, the membership of a Faculty Association or Campus Association may be defined by criteria agreed upon with Students' Council.	Point three is more specific AUFSJ separated NSSA postponed
Membership (1a)	AUFSJ Constitution	That Students' Council agrees to the current membership definition in l'Association des Universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean which reads: Tout étudiant inscrit à au moins un cours de la Faculté Saint-Jean est considéré member de l'A.U.F.S.J. (All students enrolled in at least one course at the Faculté Saint-Jean are considered members of the AUFSJ.)	Point three is the translation of point two
Membership (2)	Bylaw 8350: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I.3.c • I.6. • I.7. 	The members of an Association have the following rights: to resign one's membership by notifying the Association; to reinstate one's membership by notifying the Association; for one to be afforded the same voting power as any other member of the Association at a General Meeting, in a referendum or plebiscite, and in an election for its officers; for one to be afforded the same voting power as any other member of a constituency of the Association in an election for a representative of that constituency; and for one to be afforded the same access to services and events as any other member in the same membership category of the Association.	Unchanged – waiting on resolution on the above
Derecognition	Bylaw 8350: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I.5. a, b & c Unlegislated	The Students' Union shall derecognize a Faculty Association or Campus Association, thus leaving an unrepresented constituency, upon the Faculty Association or Campus Association no longer being a student group. The Students' Union may derecognize a Faculty Association or Campus Association, thus leaving an unrepresented constituency, if: the Faculty Association or Campus Association applies for derecognition; a majority of the students which the Faculty Association or Campus Association represents petition for derecognition; or [MECHANISM FOR STUDENTS AT LARGE TO INITIATE THE DERECOGNITION OF A	Point two is expanded Point four is reworded Refer to attached table of

		<p>FACULTY ASSOCIATION OR CAMPUS ASSOCIATION WITH VERY LARGE ENROLLMENT]</p> <p>During the period of an unrepresented constituency the Students' Union shall assume responsibility of the affairs of the constituency. After two calendar weeks and before two calendar months of the existence of an unrepresented constituency the Students' Union shall recognize a new Association.</p> <p>The Students' Union may derecognize a Faculty Association or Campus Association if another student group applies for recognition as the Faculty Association representing the constituency, if and only if that student group is then recognized as the Association, having probationary status, representing that constituency.</p>	enrollment numbers
Probation	<p>Bylaw 8350:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I.4. <p>Unlegislated</p>	<p>The Students' Union may recognize a Faculty Association or Campus Association as having probationary status if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> multiple significant issues arise out of the annual recognition process, notwithstanding that a previously recognized Faculty Association or Campus Association shall be presumed to retain its previous recognition; the Faculty Association or Campus Association applies for probation; or any mechanism that may lead to derecognition has been initiated, where the Students' Union identifies that probation is more appropriate than derecognition. <p>The Students' Union and the Faculty Association or Campus Association, having probationary status, shall agree to and sign Conditions of Probation, which shall govern the Faculty Association or Campus Association while it retains its probationary status.</p> <p>After three calendar months and before one calendar year of an Association being recognized as having probationary status, the Students' Union shall either;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> recognize the Association as no longer having probationary status; or derecognize the Association, thus leaving an unrepresented constituency. 	Point one expanded
Governance Structure	<p>Bylaw 8350:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • II.3 • II. 4 to 7 <p>Bylaw 8350:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • II.1. a & b • II.8. b, c & d <p>Unlegislated</p> <p>Bylaw 8350:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • II.1. e & f 	<p>A Faculty Association or Campus Association shall adopt a governance structure which satisfies the following:</p> <p>Legislation is adopted, amended, or rescinded by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a General Meeting which meets at least once per Fall Term and Winter Term; or a Council which meets at least twice per Fall Term and Winter Term where a General Meeting may overturn the adoption, amendment, or rescission. <p>Policy and Procedure is adopted, amended, or rescinded by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a Council which meets at least twice per Fall Term and Winter Term; or an Executive Committee or Board which meets at least once per month during each Fall Term and Winter Term where a Council may overturn the adoption, amendment, or rescission. <p>the executive and board officers, as applicable, of the Faculty Association or Campus Association are held accountable to and removable by:</p>	Unchanged – waiting on comments on current practice

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> II.2 	<p>a General Meeting which meets at least once per Fall Term and Winter Term; a Council which meets at least twice per Fall Term and Winter Term; or another mechanism agreed to by the Students' Union.</p> <p>elections, if applicable, are conducted by a Campus Association Deputy Returning Officer or Faculty Association Deputy Returning Officer who acts at arms length from the other bodies of the Association.</p>	
Bylaw 2000	Bylaw 2000: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.f 69.1. a & b 11.1.a 	<p>A Faculty Association or Campus Association shall have the right to use the Students' Union Councillor Election polling stations and the Students' Union Councillor Election electronic ballot for the purpose of: election of such positions as may be required by that Faculty Association or Campus Association; and voting on such plebiscites and referenda as may be required by that Faculty Association or Campus Association.</p> <p>All sections of Students' Union Bylaws pertaining to the elections, plebiscites and referenda of a Faculty Association or Campus Association shall be consolidated into Bylaw 8100, A Bylaw Respecting Faculty Associations and Campus Associations.</p>	New
Augustana Campus Elections, Plebiscites and Referenda	Bylaw 2000: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10, 11 11.1.a 	???	Wording to be provided by the ASA
CRO Contract Alterations	CRO Contract	That the Students' Union General Manager shall ensure the contract of the Students' Union Chief Returning Officer shall be altered prior to the hiring of the next Students' Union Chief Returning Officer such that the Students' Union Chief Returning Officer shall continue to be responsible for fulfilling the duties outlined in Bill #?? and Bill #??.	Referring to the two Bills directly above
Schedule to Bylaw 3000	Bylaw 3000: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7.3 	The Chair of Audit Committee shall maintain the Schedule to Bylaw 3000, A Bylaw Respecting Students' Union Finances.	VPFO replaces Speaker
Financial Report Requirements	Bylaw 3000: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7. 11,12 Bylaw 8350: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> II.2 Bylaw 8400: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16.b Bylaw 8451: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 	<p>All Faculty Associations and Campus Associations shall provide an annual report of its finances to its membership and to the Students' Union. This report shall include the Association's current fiscal year's budget and the previous fiscal year's audited financial statements.</p> <p>All Faculty Associations or Campus Associations with a Campus Association Transfer Payment, Faculty Association Membership Fee and/or Faculty Association Special Fee shall append additional information to their annual report. This appendix shall include evidence of compliance with Students' Union Bylaw, evidence of compliance with all contracts with the Students' Union and additional information as requested by Audit Committee.</p>	Point two grammar correction Point three reworded for clarity and

	Bylaw 8461: • 11	No funds raised by a Campus Association Transfer Payment, Faculty Association Membership Fee and/or Faculty Association Special Fee shall be dispersed to a Faculty Association or Campus Association until such time as the Students' Union Audit Committee has approved this dispersal. Upon the Faculty Association or Campus Association being demonstrated to be in compliance with Students' Union Bylaws the Audit Committee shall approve the dispersal of funds to them by June 30 th of that fiscal year or within four calendar weeks, whichever is later. All Faculty Associations or Campus Associations with a Faculty Membership Fee shall append additional information to their annual report. This appendix shall include evidence of compliance with the Bylaw Respecting The Students' Union Membership Fees, evidence of seeking alternatives to the fee and a recommendation regarding the continuation or termination of the Faculty Membership Fee.	question about June 30 th Point four expanded
Fund Dispersal Timeline	Practice	That the Students' Union Vice President (Academic) shall present to the Students' Union Executive Committee, for adoption, an Operating Policy which shall govern the dispersal of Campus Association Transfer Payments, Faculty Association Membership Fees, and Faculty Association Special Fees.	This is a motion not a bill
Disbursement Agreement	Students' Union In Camera Document	That the Students' Union Vice President (Academic) shall secure written agreement between the Students' Union and the relevant Faculty Association or Campus Association to the amendment of their Faculty Association Membership Fee Proposal such that the fund dispersal outlined in Bill #?? shall take affect May 1 st , 2009. That the Students' Union Vice President (Academic) shall secure written agreement between the Students' Union and the relevant Faculty Association or Campus Association to the amendment of their Faculty Association Special Fee Proposal such that the fund dispersal outlined in Bill #?? shall take affect May 1 st , 2009.	This is a motion not a bill
Campus Association Transfer Payments (1)	Bylaw 3000: • 7. 11,12	The purpose of a Campus Association Transfer Payment is to provide financial support for the operation of a Campus Association. Only a Campus Association is eligible for a Campus Association Transfer Payment. All base members of the Campus Association shall have a percentage of their Students' Union membership fee transferred to the Campus Association with the remainder retained by the Students' Union. The percentage of the Students' Union membership fee transferred to the Campus Association shall be determined by dividing the net Political/Governance spending of the Students' Union by the net Students' Union membership fees collected; then multiplying this number by one hundred; then subtracting this number from one hundred. The percentage of the Students' Union membership fee transferred to the Campus Association may be recalculated upon the mutual agreement of the Campus Association and the Students' Union. Notwithstanding this, the term between calculations of the percentage of the Students' Union membership fee transferred to the Campus Association shall not exceed four years.	Point two clarified Point three net replaces total Point four clarified
Campus Association Transfer	Bylaw 3000: • 7. 11,12	On September 1 st , 2009 the Augustana Students' Association shall begin receiving a Campus Association Transfer Payment as outlined in Bill #?? where the percentage of the Students' Union membership fee transferred shall be 56.85% as per Bill #??.	Refer to AUFSSJ CATP

Payments (2)		<p>On September 1st, 2009 l'Association des Universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean shall begin receiving a Campus Association Transfer Payment as outlined in Bill #?? where the percentage of the Students' Union membership fee transferred shall be 74.00% as per current practice.</p> <p>On September 1st, 2010 the percentage of the Students' Union membership fee transferred to l'Association des Universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean shall be recalculated as per Bill #??.</p> <p>For both the Augustana Students' Association and l'Association des Universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean the fund dispersal outlined in Bill #?? shall take affect May 1st, 2009.</p>	document
--------------	--	--	----------

Faculty Enrollment Figures

Association	Enrollment 2008/02/14	5%	15%	50%	Size Category (20% As Threshold)
SSA	5849	292.5	877.4	2924.5	Alpha
CBAS	5675	283.8	851.3	2837.5	Alpha
ESS	3658	182.9	548.7	1829.0	Beta
ESA	3043	152.2	456.5	1521.5	Beta
BSA	1827	91.4	274.1	913.5	Gamma
NUA	1494	74.7	224.1	747.0	Gamma
ALESSA	1370	68.5	205.5	685.0	Gamma
MSA	936	46.8	140.4	468.0	Delta
ASA	896	44.8	134.4	448.0	Delta
PERCS	887	44.4	133.1	443.5	Delta
AUFSJ	570	28.5	85.5	285.0	Epsilon
LSA	515	25.8	77.3	257.5	Epsilon
APSA	509	25.5	76.4	254.5	Epsilon
NSSA	137	6.9	20.6	68.5	Zeta

Overview

The purpose of this informational document is to summarize the current legislation, practice and proposals relating to the Campus Association Transfer Payment (CATP) of l'Association des Universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean (AUFSJ).

Current SU Bylaw

Bylaw 3000: A Bylaw Respecting Students' Union Finances

Section 7: Fees

(11) Full-time students enrolled at the Faculté Saint-Jean shall have the portions of their Students' Union fees not dedicated to a specific Students' Union reserve allocated as follows:

(a) in the case of students enrolled in at least three courses offered by faculties other than the Faculté Saint-Jean, 31% of the fee shall be forwarded to l'Association des Universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean and the remainder retained by the Students' Union; and

(b) in the case of all other students enrolled at the Faculté Saint-Jean, 74% of the fee shall be forwarded to l'Association des Universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean and the remainder retained by the Students' Union.

Current AUFSJ Constitution

Article 1 – 1.2

Tout étudiant inscrit à au moins un cours de la Faculté Saint-Jean est considéré member de l'A.U.F.S.J.

(All students enrolled in at least one course at the Faculté Saint-Jean are considered members of the AUFSJ.)

Summary of Remittance Percentages

'Category' describes a subset of students. 'Collaborative Programs' refers to programs ran in collaboration between Faculté Saint-Jean and another faculty; Bilingual BCom [1st & 2nd FSJ, 3rd & 4th SoB] (Cal 64.3 & 184.9), Bilingual BSc Environmental and Conservation Sciences [1st & 2nd FSJ, 3rd & 4th ALES] (Cal 34.6 & 184.11), and Bilingual BSc Nursing [1st to 4th FoN] (Cal 134.6 & Cal 184.13).

'Students' provides an approximation/estimate of the number of students in the category. The following columns outline the percentage of the base Students' Union membership fee transferred to the AUFSJ for each category, the remainder being retained by the SU. 'Current Bylaw' lists the percentages that are supposed to be transferred according to SU bylaw.

'Current Practice' lists the percentages that are actually being transferred.

The percentage of 56.85 % is calculated using the formula outlined in the SU Operating Fee Remittance document of January 13, 2009. It is intended to represent the variable percentage resulting from the formula, and not to represent the fixed number of 56.85 %.

'SU Proposal' lists the percentages that the SU believes should be implemented.

'AUFSJ Proposal' lists the percentages that the AUFSJ believes should be implemented.

Category	Students	Current Bylaw	Current Practice	SU Proposal	AUFSJ Proposal
Full Time Faculté Saint-Jean Students Enrolled In At Least Three Courses Offered By Other Faculties	Unknown, though significant, portion of 550	31 %	74 %	56.85 %	56.85 %
All Other Full Time Faculté Saint-Jean Students	Unknown remainder of 550	74 %	74 %	56.85 %	56.85 %
All Part Time Faculté Saint-Jean Students	About 20	0 %	31 %	56.85 %	56.85 %
All Spring & Summer Faculté Saint-Jean Students	50 or Less	0 %	0 %	56.85 %	56.85 %
Collaborative Program Students Enrolled In The Faculty Other Than Faculté Saint-Jean	About 110	0 %	0 %	0 %	56.85 %
Engineering Students Taking First Year Course In French At Faculté Saint-Jean	About 20	0 %	0 %	0 %	??
Other Students Enrolled In At Least One Course At Faculté Saint-Jean	10 or Less	0 %	0 %	0 %	0 %

University of Alberta Students' Union

Report to Students' Council

Audit Committee

2008-2009/AC /12

Dear Council:

At the Tuesday, February 3rd, 2009 meeting of the Audit Committee:

- a) The committee discussed the current state of auditor selection. It was indicated that audit proposals have been requested from five firms and that the proposals should be expected within the next three weeks.

- b) The committee reviewed a FA-related financial reporting cover form. The committee had no further amendments to the form, and I look forward to meeting with Vice-president Braga to finalize this documentation.

~

For specific details and questions, please feel free to refer to the minutes posted online.

The committee decided to cancel its Tuesday, February 17th, 2009 meeting. At the next meeting on Thursday, February 26th, 2009 at 1700h, the committee plans on continuing with the auditor selection process, and possibly reviewing the profit and loss statements for Students' Union departments or conducting a review of executive credit card statements.

Sincerely,

Zachary Fentiman

Report to Students' Council

Budget and Finance Committee

2008-2009/BFC /12

Dear Council:

At the Wednesday, January 28th, 2009 meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee:

The committee received a presentation from Anna Mann (Director, Safewalk) and Norma Rodenburg (Senior Manager, Student Services) regarding the operations of Safewalk. This presentation helped the committee better understand the operational nature and needs of Safewalk. The committee has requested additional information be prepared using other university's Safewalk program information as comparables.

The committee completed its review of budget principles. They have been sent to Students' Council for review.

~

For specific details and questions, please feel free to refer to the minutes posted online.

At the next meeting on Wednesday, February 11th, 2009 at 1700h, the committee plans on continuing with budget preparation.

Sincerely,

Zachary Fentiman

Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement (DIE) Board

Ruling of the Board

(1) HEARING DETAILS

Style of Cause:	Reference re: Bylaw 2000 s. 19(3)
Hearing Number:	Ruling #4, 2008/2009
Hearing Date:	N/A
DIE Board Panel Members:	Jason Morris, Chief Tribune, Chair Natalie Climenhaga, Tribune Christiaan Conradie, Tribune
Appearing for the Applicant:	Patrick Wisheu, Chief Returning Officer
Appearing for the Respondent:	N/A
Intervener(s):	Steven Dollansky, VP Operations and Finance

(2) ALLEGED CONTRAVENTION / INTERPRETATION QUESTIONS

Bylaw 2000 § 19(3) repeatedly refers to “an executive” or “an executive position”. Is this referring to:

- a) Incumbent members of the Executive committee
- b) Incumbent members of the Executive committee and the Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative?

Other sections of Bylaw when referring to an incumbent member of the Executive Committee explicitly state “incumbent members of the Executive Committee” (Bylaw 2000 §37(3)) without mention of the Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative.

In discussing the Executive and Board of Governors General Election, Bylaw 2000 routinely refers to Executive and Undergraduate Board of Governors positions or candidates in a partnered phrase such as “Executive Committee and the Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative” in Bylaw 2000 § 11(1),

(3) RELEVANT LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

Bylaw 2000 s. 19(3) reads:

Members of Students’ Council and its standing committees are not required to take a leave of absence from their duties for the period beginning with the nomination deadline and ceasing with the conclusion of voting of the election in which they are contesting a position, in order for their nominations papers to be valid. The following exceptions apply:

- a) An executive contesting an executive position when the race is contested,

- b) An executive contesting a Faculty Councilor position when the race is contested,
- c) Any member of Students' Council, excluding members of the Executive.

For the purpose of this section, any race solely contested by a joke candidate shall be considered uncontested.

The DIE Board notes that the words “executive” and “executive position” are not used elsewhere in Bylaw 2000 in those forms with the exception of in s. 16. All other uses in Bylaw 2000 of the word “executive” are in the context of “Executive Committee,” often in combination with “and Board of Governors.”

In Bylaw 1100, which governs the Executive Committee, the word “executive” does not appear on its own.

In Bylaw 0100 the word “executive” in lower case appears once, in reference to executives of affiliated student groups. In Bylaw 0100 the word “Executive” capitalized appears once, in a reference to “member of the Executive.”

(4) ANALYSIS

The Applicant requests an interpretation of whether the word “executive” as it appears in various places in Bylaw 2000 s. 19 (3) includes the Board of Governors Representative.

(4.1) The Significance of Capitalization

While the capitalization of a word is a drafting hint that the word is defined elsewhere in legislation, the hint is not useful if the capitalized word or words are not used in the same form (or an obviously related form) where they are defined. “Executive Committee” is a defined phrase by virtue of Bylaw 1100, but the word “Executive” is not. Therefore, we make no distinction between the word “Executive” as capitalized in s. 19 (3) (c), and the word “executive” as it appears everywhere else in s. 19 (3).

(4.2) The Plain Meaning of the Words

The interpretation process begins by looking at the words used, and how they are used elsewhere. In this case, this is unhelpful, because the word “executive” is not used elsewhere absent the context of the word “committee” or “member”, either of which might make it clear that the reference was to the Executive Committee, which does not include the Board of Governors Representative. It is therefore plausible both that the intent was to include the Board of Governors Representative as an individual elected during what are colloquially referred to as “executive elections”, and that the intent was to include only members of the Executive Committee.

(4.3) The Context of the Words

DIE Board next considered the how the section as a whole informs the meaning of the word “executive” in this section. First, the board found it necessary to rephrase the bylaw in such a way as to make it intelligible. The resulting condensed bylaw would read:

Members of Students’ Council ... are not required to take leaves of absence ... unless:

- A) They are an incumbent executive running for a contested executive position,
- B) They are an incumbent executive running for a contested Faculty Councilor positions, or
- C) They are a member of Students’ Council other than an executive member.

(4.4) The Section is Drafted as a General Rule with Exceptions

It does not make sense for this section to be drafted as a general rule with exceptions unless there was some party to whom the exceptions did not apply. If the word “executive” includes Board of Governors Representative, the only matters on which the requirement for a Leave of Absence was contingent would be a) being a Faculty Councilor, or b) running for a contested position.

If that had been the intent, there would have been an easier way to say so. If we exclude the Board of Governors Representative from the word “executive”, the Board of Governors Representative is the only party to whom the exceptions do not seem to apply, which gives the exceptions meaning.

(4.5) Whether the Section Lists All Possible Members of a Class

It also does not make sense, if the intent was to include the Board of Governors Representative in the term “executive”, to have sub-clauses a) and b) as separate clauses. If “executive” is inclusive of the Board of Governors Representative, then there is no type of position to which the requirement would not apply, and it would have sufficed to write a single clause requiring incumbent members of the Executive Committee and the Board of Governors Representative to take a leave of absence when running for “contested elected positions”, or other equivalent generic language.

(4.6) Policy Justifications

The Board, noting that this bylaw is a recent change to Bylaw 2000, also inquired into the policy reasons behind the change. The Intervener suggested that there were two reasons: First it was an effort to prevent members of the Executive Committee running unopposed from having to take a leave of absence, and thereby inconveniencing the Students’ Union administration without cause. Specifically, there was a concern about the ability to maintain quorum in Executive Committee meetings during election periods. Second, there was a desire to ensure that incumbents did not have the opportunity to “poison the well” for their opponents should they become aware that they were likely to lose re-election bids.

The Board asked why these considerations should not have applied to the Board of Governors Representative position. The intervener suggested that it was because no opportunity existed for

members of Executive Committee to poison the well for the Board of Governors Representative. But the Board notes that there is no real means for the members of Executive Committee to poison the well for Faculty Councilors either, and yet the requirement to take a leave of absence in the case of an incumbent Executive Committee member running for a Faculty Council position is clear. Even if such a means did exist, the members of Executive Committee would thereby also have the power to poison the well for the Board of Governors Representative in the latter's capacity as a voting member of the Students' Council. So it is not clear why that protection would be afforded to Faculty Councilors and not the Board of Governors Representative.

Also, if there is some reason that the Board of Governors election is somehow less sensitive than the others, and that a leave of absence is therefore not necessary for members of the Executive Committee, it is not clear to the Board why the same consideration would not apply to incumbent Board of Governor Representatives or Faculty Councilors.

The Board is concerned that the resulting effect of this interpretation is not consistent from a policy standpoint. While the general exception for Executive Committee might be explained by concerns about maintaining quorum during election periods, the Board has not heard any satisfactory explanation for the further exception for members of Executive Committee running for the position of Board of Governors Representative.

(4.7) Preference for Contextual over Legislative Intent Approach

Nevertheless, the Board is more comfortable taking its cues from the text of the Bylaw than from an imagined intent of the Students' Council. Neither of the interpretations available to us explain away all of the anomalies that exist in how this bylaw was drafted. However, the interpretation that the word "executive" excludes the Board of Governors Representative explains away more of them.

(4.8) The meaning of "contested" in s. 19(3)(b)

The Board notes that there is some uncertainty as to determining whether or not a Faculty Councilor position is "contested" under s. 19(3)(b). The Board declines to rule on this matter as it was not argued before the panel.

(5) DECISION

The word "executive" throughout Bylaw 2000 s. 19(3) should be read as "member of the Executive Committee", or "Executive Committee" as appropriate, thereby excluding the Board of Governors Representative.

Accordingly, a leave of absence will always be required for incumbent Board of Governors Representatives and Faculty Councilors, and will be required for incumbent members of the Executive Committee only where they are running for a contested Executive Committee or Faculty Councilor position.

The Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement (DIE) Board functions as the judicial branch of the Students' Union, and is responsible for interpreting and enforcing all Students' Union legislation. Please direct all inquiries regarding the DIE Board or this decision to the Chief Tribune at: <ea@su.ualberta.ca>.

Awards Committee Report to Student' Council

February 10, 2009

The awards committee is pleased to report that there was a 150% increase in the number of applications that were received for SU awards this year. There are many factors that have contributed to this increase including a revised marketing plan.

The committee met on Friday February 6 and Saturday February 7 to select the various successful applicants. After many intense hours, the Awards Committee would like to respectfully submit the following names for ratification by Students' Council.

Students' Union Award for Excellence

- Zetan Du

Alberta Treasury Branches Volunteerism Award

- Katie Hayes
- Kaitlin Worobec

Bill Smith Student Mentorship Award

- Alisha Duret
- Nicole Kostrosky-Wareham

CIBC Community Investment Award

- Tracy Mah

Cristal Mar Memorial Award

- Kiran Kang
- Eric Leung

Dean Mortensen Award

- Melissa Nicholle Dymond
- Patrick Giguere

Dr. Randy Gregg Athletics Award

- Erin Kolodziej
- Brian Yakiwchuk

Edo Japan Global Citizenship Award

- Justin Benko
- Jaelyn Fink
- Navita Kalra
- Morenice Olaosebikan
- Randi Taylor

Eugene L. Brody Award

- Jennifer Goodrick
- Simone Semotiuk

Gateway Student Journalism Society Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Excellence

- Alexandria Eldridge
- Ariane St-Onge

Hilda Wilson Memorial Volunteer Recognition Award (2)

- Queenie Lee

- Malori Stan

Hooper-Munroe Academic Award

- Debraj Das
- Julia Pon

Java Jive Merchants Student Achievement Award

- Allison Brett
- Sara Michael
- Mallory Nault

Lorne Calhoun Memorial Award

- Andrew Chow
- Ryan Gallagher

Royal Bank Financial Group Involvement Award

- Christopher Kapusta

Royal Bank Student Faculty Association Involvement Award

- Leah Trueblood

Social Justice Activism Award

- Caitlin Cobb
- Daniella San Martin-Feeney

Subway Community Service Award

- Daniel Shafran

Taco Time Outstanding Initiative Award

- Amanda Fung
- Justin Ley
- Kavina Mistry

Tevie Miller Involvement Award

- Sarah Fung
- Stephen Lee

Tom Lancaster Memorial Award

- Nicholas Dehod
- Carmen Fong

Students' Union Award for Leadership in Undergraduate Teaching (2)

- Dr. David Begg
- Dr. Lise Gotell

BUDGET PRIORITIES OF STUDENTS' COUNCIL, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA STUDENTS' UNION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING MAY 1, 2009 AND ENDING APRIL 30, 2010.

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

- Governance, Representation, and Advocacy
- Providing Student Services
- Operating the Students' Union Building
- Operating businesses for the purpose of funding Students' Union activities

Total operating and capital expenditures will not exceed the amount of total operating and fee revenues. The only exception to this would be council approved capital purchases which do not cause a deficit on an accrual basis.

All departments must work within the mandate of the Students' Union and activities or operations deemed to be beyond its scope shall be eliminated.

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, not higher than inflation for the province of Alberta.
- Activity of the Students' Union will continue in a manner consistent with the precedent set in previous fiscal years.

The SU shall not budget for a deficit.

The Students' Union shall implement all necessary financial restraints and audits as required by the Post-Secondary Learning act and its own bylaws.

2. Staff

Staff costs shall change as specified in the CUPE collective agreement. Managerial and non-unionized staff are entitled to a merit increase of *up to* 4%.

3. Fees

Operating and dedicated fees shall increase in accordance with Students' Union Bylaw 3000. The consumer price index will be calculated as 1.9%. Tuition increases will be calculated as 4.1%.

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
- CAUS
- CASA

5. Services

The service units of the Students' Union are:

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

6. Business

The business units of the Students' Union are:

- SUBmart
- SUBtitles
- ~~Print Center~~
- SUBprint
- SUBspace
- 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 may be an average margin increase to non-academic materials of no more than 10%.

~~Students' Union businesses shall not run a deficit.~~

Where costs have increased in academic material areas, there shall be a margin increase to compensate.

The Students' Union shall implement a secret shopper program to ensure the highest level of customer satisfaction.

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

Increase visibility of Students' Union businesses and services, particularly those located on the lower level.

Administration, operations and support costs shall be apportioned to all departments of the Students' Union on a usage basis.

The Students' Union shall allocate additional resources toward the future improvements and/or expansion of the Students' Union Building.

9. Changes from 08/09 Budget Principles

The Consumer Price Index shall be calculated as 1.9% and Tuition increases will be calculated as 4.1% when calculating increase in Operating and Dedicated Fees.

Staff costs shall change as specified in the CUPE collective agreement.

Increase visibility of Students' Union businesses and services, particularly those located on the lower level.

Administration, operations and support costs shall be apportioned to all departments of the Students' Union on a usage basis.

The Students' Union shall no longer host the High School Leadership Conference.

Where costs have increase in academic material areas, there shall be a margin increase to compensate.

The Print Centre shall be rebranded as SUBprint.

Expenditures deemed to be beyond the scope of the Students' Union's mandate shall be eliminated.

The Students' Union implement all necessary financial restraints and audits as required by the Post-Secondary Learning act and its own bylaws.

The Students' Union shall implement a secret shopper program to ensure the highest level of customer satisfaction.

The Students' Union shall allocate additional resources toward the future improvements and/or expansion of the Students' Union Building.

Individual Students' Union businesses can be budgeted for a deficit.

Report to Students' Council

February 10, 2009

Beverly Eastham, Vice-President (External)



Hello Council,

Although reasonably lengthy, this report has some very interesting updates and information for you. I hope you can find the time to read through it before our meeting on Tuesday.

Meetings Update

Jan 14: Public Interest Alberta Post Secondary Education Taskforce
Jan 14: Student Financial Aid Project (meeting between SU and GSA)
Jan 15: CASA Policy Committee
Jan 16: EAS Meeting
Jan 17: Municipal lobbying brainstorm with NAITSA President
Jan 20: Budgeting re: AVPs
Jan 21: Budgeting re: HSLC
Jan 23: Restricted Access: Take to the Streets/BoG Meeting/Media Interviews
Jan 23: CASA Policy Committee
Jan 27: Festival of Teaching
Jan 31: CAUS Meeting (Calgary)
Feb 1-2: CAUS/ACTISEC Meeting (Calgary)
Feb 4: Senate Executive Committee
Feb 5: CAPS Career Fair
Feb 6: Meeting with Rachel Notley re: Restricted Access Campaign
Feb 6: CASA Policy Committee
Feb 13: Senate Plenary
Feb 13: EAS Meeting

CASA Presentation

Zach Churchill, CASA National Director, Dan Murphy, CASA Member Relations Officer, and possibly Alastair McKinnon, CASA Secretary and Vice-Chair (and also UCSU VPX) will be attending our Tuesday, February 10th Council Meeting to give an overview of what CASA is and what CASA does. I will be attempting to arrange a smaller and more intimate gathering for people to attend if you have any questions for the three dedicated individuals. Hopefully this smaller gathering will be either Monday afternoon or Tuesday shortly before council. I will send out notice as soon as I know if there is time to schedule this and if there is, please feel free to bring anyone with questions or concerns regarding CASA with you. This is an excellent opportunity for yourselves as councillors to learn more about the role that CASA has in PSE advocacy and to ask the tough questions that you would like answers for.

I strongly encourage all councillors to check out the CASA website before the council meeting, learning a little bit more about CASA, and formulate some questions for our presenters. If you would like to come speak to me before the meeting feel free to stop by the office, or send me an email.

(report continues on next page...)

Increased Legislation for Secondary Suites

At the City Council meeting on Monday, Councillors moved to reduce the zoning restrictions to allow for more secondary suites in mature neighbourhoods. These changes will increase the number of homes where secondary suites would be allowed by an estimated 270 per cent. The city is also encouraging homeowners with illegal suites to upgrade their suites to meet building and fire codes now that zoning regulations allow substantially more secondary suites to exist legally. Homeowners will be able to access the Secondary Suites Grant Program for assistance with the costs involved in upgrading their suit to legal status or building a new suit. In exchange for funding, homeowners agree to rent the suite to modest income tenants at 85% of the median market rate for five years.

The Students' Union is pleased that City Council has listened to the concerns of students and has taken the final step in approving the second of the two-phased legislation process. While we are certainly encouraged with the significant steps that the City has taken to address the issue of secondary suites there are still a few concerns, namely working towards relaxing the parking restrictions on suites surrounding the university area and LRT route as well as the regulations surrounding owner-occupied suites, that the Students' Union will be following up on with Council. This is an encouraging step and we hope that other orders of government will follow the City's lead in addressing the need for more affordable student housing.

CAUS/ACTISEC Meeting

CAUS and ACTISEC met last weekend to discuss the implications that a new university would have for the post-secondary scene in the province and for the Alberta student movement. As you will know, rumours of Mount Royal College turning into Mount Royal University have been floating around for some time. It appears that ACTISEC and CAUS have impeccable timing as the first point under the heading "Bills for spring 2009 Legislative sitting" of the provincial legislative agenda as announced on the Friday after our joint meeting was the following:

"Post-Secondary Learning Amendment Act, 2009 (Advanced Education and Technology) The proposed amendments will allow baccalaureate and applied studies institutions to have the option of applying for the use of the term "university" in their name; and will ensure consistency and clarity around the governance of colleges offering degree programs."

'Open Up' Contest Winner:

Although the number of entries for the contest was slightly lower than CAUS had hoped for, the stories themselves were all quite profound and illustrated the struggles that many students have in a very personal light. The winner of the draw was a student from the University of Lethbridge who wrote about troubles they had had with landlords. Here are a few excerpts from some of the entries that were received:

"The money I make is sometimes not even enough to cover my monthly expenses; last semester I didn't buy a textbook because the price was too high and I couldn't even buy a used edition of the book because a new edition is being used this year. The library only has one copy on reserve, which is inadequate for two large lecture classes. Being unable to purchase the textbook placed me at a disadvantage, and I feel that it affected my ability to do well in that class; it ended up being my worst grade last semester."

"What is my money paying for? The buildings my classes are in are falling apart. I haven't seen

a single penny of the \$1.3 million the University saved by cutting credit card payments for tuition at work anywhere that I go.”

“In the May following my first year at the University, my mom was diagnosed with cancer. I wish I could say it’s not necessary for me to mention that it would lead to financial difficulties, but the amount of people who do not realize how that can affect a family’s finances is alarming. I had two jobs for most of the summer. The rest of the summer, I had three. Even still, when September rolled around, it was looking like my tuition was too high.”

PIA (Public Interest Alberta)

At the last Public Interest Alberta I attended (on behalf of CAUS), the plans for a comprehensive PIA campaign were presented to the Post-Secondary Education Taskforce members. The core message of the PSE message would focus on restricted access numbers, and the campaign would involve all of the different taskforces (Democracy, Seniors, PSE, Childcare, Environment/Energy, Community Agencies) working together to create a united message to the government. In my very humble opinion, the campaign seems overly optimistic in the amount and scope of work that has been proposed. The campaign is (apparently) launching in February, although one might note that it already February and I haven’t heard from any of the PIA representatives about what is going on. The next PIA PSE taskforce meeting is on February 10th, so hopefully some updates will be given to the status of the campaign at that time.

CASA Policy Committee

The CASA Policy Committee approved two policies at our last meeting. The first was a policy on The Canada Student Grant Program/Access Issues and the second was a policy on Copyright. We will be working on two more policies regarding Academic Materials and The Repayment Assistance Plan. These policies will be forwarded to the entire CASA membership, voted on at MegaCon and then integrated into the lobbying agenda.

EAS Update

At our last EAS meeting we approved the letter to City Council requesting a meeting with the Mayor and City Councillors. We will be scheduling the meeting in the next few days.

Upcoming Lobby Conferences

Janelle and I will be attending two lobby conferences in March. The first will be from March 9-12 and will be here in Edmonton as it is our provincial lobby conference for CAUS. The second will be from March 21-30 in Ottawa for the CASA lobby conference/AGM (aka MegaCon). Both of these chances present us with the opportunity to talk directly to government members and bring forward the concerns of students in the hopes of working together to find solutions to student issues.

Due to elections I will be away from February 13th and will be returning on March 6th. If you have any questions related to the external portfolio during this time please contact either Janelle Morin (president@su.ualberta.ca) or Chris Henderson (chris.henderson@su.ualberta.ca). Until I depart feel free to email, call or schedule a coffee meeting if you have questions.

Cheers,
~ B

Goal (as presented 13 May 2008)	How to Achieve Goal (as presented 13 May 2008)	Updates and Recommendations (as of 10 February 2009)
Rural Tours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with community groups and interested parties • Increase the number and/or length of rural tours • Continue to use rural media as a means for communicating student concerns to citizens of Alberta 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In May, and even into September, increasing the number of rural tours appeared to be a good idea. However, as school got going and more pressing issues came up it was decided that rural tours would likely not be the best use of our advocacy time and resources. • Rural tours are an excellent tool that the Students' Union has developed, but are much more successful and beneficial in provincial election years, of which this year was not. • The UofA Senate is currently working on a "Community Consultation" model that I have been involved with through my seat on the Provincial Affairs Committee. This model is very similar to the SU's Rural Tours and I have been working to find a way that the Senate and the SU can work together on an approach to community consultation that would decrease the costs to both parties by pooling our resources. <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to use Rural Tours, but generally restrict their use to the time closer to provincial elections. • Continue to work with the Senate on creating a joint model of Community Consultation. • In years between provincial elections, focus advocacy support on Campus Associations and the consultation they are already engaging their larger communities in.

<p>Strengthen the EAS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the members of EAS stay connected and continue to discuss issues affecting students in the Edmonton area • Look for areas where the members of the EAS can work together in order to make gains on student issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This year the EAS had its first meeting of the year in August which all of the executive members from UofA, NAIT and MacEwan attended. • Regular meetings of the EAS started in October • I have taken on the role of preparing formal agendas and minutes in order to help formalize our meetings and to leave documentation behind so that those who come after us will know what was discussed. • Having monthly meetings between the representative of the three EAS schools has proven to be valuable if only to have a better idea of what each of our executive committees and councils are working on. • At the last meeting of EAS a formal letter was sent to the Mayor and City Council requesting a meeting for EAS to come and present on issues affecting Edmonton students. This letter was received and a meeting will hopefully be scheduled within the next few days, however, this is a meeting that would have been easier to schedule in the first half of our term as everyone is quite busy now. <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the importance of holding regularly scheduled, monthly EAS meetings is transitioned to each new EAS member representative. • Request meeting with Mayor and City Council earlier in the year and turn this request into an annual event. • Continue to work with NAIT and MacEwan on municipal lobbying (without membership fees).
---------------------------	---	--

<p>Attainable/Affordable Student Housing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the university, provincial government and municipal government • Hold a housing week or event in conjunction with the University of Calgary Students' Union housing week • Work with CAUS to further develop advocacy plans regarding affordable student housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing week this year was held in conjunction with both UCSU and ULSU. A housing website was also developed (www.studenthousingalberta.ca). • Affordable student housing was one of CAUS's three main lobbying priorities for the year. As such it was brought up in all of the meetings that we had with government officials and key stakeholders. • Edmonton City Council just recently approved the second phase of the Secondary Suite legislations. This will relax the regulations that homeowners face when seeking to apply for the legalization of their secondary, garage, or garden suites and will help to provide students with more affordable and safe housing options. I attended a stakeholder meeting in the summer regarding the Secondary Suite legislation and also spoke in favour of Secondary Suites at the public hearing. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working on increasing affordable housing options for students will continue to be a slow and incremental process, but is something that the Students' Union absolutely must continue to be involved in. • Housing week was a reasonably success this year, but due to the economic situation and the perceived decrease of pressure in the housing market (more so for the average home buyer than for the average student), housing week will likely have to be reworked next year in order to maintain its effectiveness.
--	--	---

<p>Elimination of Municipal Property Taxes on Residences</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work the university, provincial government and municipal government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the summer and into the start of the academic year, the elimination of municipal property taxes on residence was looking like a very attainable goal. However, any gains that had been made in working towards this goal were immediately undone when the city announced that it was in a deficit budget situation. • The elimination of municipal property taxes on residences was brought up in most of the lobby meeting that CAUS had. • The difficulty with working on this goal now is that the provincial government wants to see movement from the municipal government first and vice versa. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work on lobbying for the elimination of municipal property taxes on residence through CAUS
<p>Tuition Stability in Legislation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look for support of the university • Develop a new approach to lobbying efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAUS brought this point up at the very first meeting we had with Minister Horner, but we were quickly shut down. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is likely to be any progress on working towards tuition stability in legislation while Minister Horner is the Minister of Advanced Education and Technology. That said, it probably doesn't hurt to ask if he will consider it at the beginning of the new executives' year when CAUS meets with the Minister. It should also be kept on the radar in case an opportunity to move on the issue presents itself

<p>Deferred Maintenance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure students are not paying for deferred maintenance • Ensure that the province dedicates funding to the university to pay for deferred maintenance • Work with CAUS to further develop lobbying efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deferred maintenance funding from the provincial government was given to the UofA in August (part of the \$155 million given to AB PSE institutes) • \$2 billion of deferred maintenance funding was allocated to Canadian universities and colleges in the recent federal government • Deferred maintenance was one of CAUS's three main lobbying priorities for the year and was brought up in many of the meetings that CAUS had with government officials and stakeholder groups. • Restricted Access campaign and Board of Governors presentation highlighted the issue of students having to pay for deferred maintenance on residences. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deferred maintenance, like affordable housing, is an issue that will likely see smaller, incremental changes. The solutions to deferred maintenance issues will take time and it is important for the Students' Union to continue advocating for further funding and to work on ensuring that students are not paying for the costs of deferred maintenance.
<p>Communication w/ Students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capitalize on UASU's Centenary year • Continue to increase the involvement and effectiveness of the Campaign Planning and Action Committee (CPAC) • Look for new ideas and alternate methods of communication • Develop better awareness of SU advocacy activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apparently UASU Centenary, although technically this year, will be celebrated next year • CPAC did not come to fruition this year for a number of different reasons: turn-over of the AVPX, lack of volunteers, etc. • Started UASU Advocacy blog! • Worked to better communicate with student groups on campus

		<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with AVPX next year to re-vamp CPAC and come up a new mandate, or even a new committee to work on outreaching to students • AVPX will not be working on HSLC next year so there is a huge opportunity to build up this position and for the AVPX to take on a greater role as liaison between the SU and students.
Increase Quality of Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the university and provincial government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAUS and the UASU continually bring up the need for not just more spaces at universities, but to ensure that those spaces are affordable and of a high quality. • Many initiatives this year have worked to include this point, however the point itself is rather vague. <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including information about how the quality of education can be improved is relatively easy to integrate into other lobbying priorities and is something that the Students' Union should continue to advocate for.
Textbooks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work closely with the VPA • Start working towards movement on this issue at a federal level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John and I have had many conversations about textbooks this year. He has been working on the issue through CRAM while I have been working on textbooks, academic materials and copyright issues through CASA. • UASU and UCSU worked to ensure that textbooks, academic materials and copyright issues were a priority for CASA's advocacy and policy agenda for the year (which they were)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CASA policy committee has developed a policy on copyright issues and will be developing a policy on textbooks and academic materials before the CASA lobby conference. • Textbooks, academic materials and copyright issues will be part of the lobbying agenda for CASA's lobby conference in March <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The issues around textbooks and academic materials are gaining more attention and the UASU is in a good position to be an advocate for many of these issues • As this is mainly a VPA issue, but one that requires work on the federal (and provincial) level it is crucial for the VPA and VPX to continue working closely on the issues surrounding textbooks and academic materials • It is likely that some new iteration of bill C-61 will be coming back, the VPX needs to ensure that academic copyright issues are taken into consideration when copyright issues immerge again.
Federal Lobbying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure membership in CASA is approved as directed to by the 07/08 Students' Council through budget principles • Develop and implement a federal lobbying strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation of CASA membership was approved by the 08/09 Students' Council • Worked with the advocacy department to develop priorities that we hoped to see achieved through our involvement in CASA. Many of these were discussed at the Policy and Strategy Conference and ended up on the advocacy and policy agenda.

		<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the point in time it is crucial for students to have an active body lobbying for their interests at the federal level. CASA provides us this opportunity. • Federal advocacy and policy priorities of the UASU should be brought to the Policy and Strategy Conference where these priorities can be integrated into CASA priorities for the year
<p>Tuition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to advocate for tuition being tied to CPI • Ensure tuition levels are equal to reasonable summer saving for students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuition was one of CAUS’s three main lobbying priorities for the year. At all of the meetings that CAUS had with Minister Horner, tuition was discussed both in terms of having it remain tied to CPI and in terms of lowering tuition to make PSE more affordable for students. • Ensuring tuition levels are equal to reasonable summer savings has proved to be difficult mainly because no comprehensive formula for determining what reasonable summer savings are has been developed. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that tuition remains tied to CPI will be very critical in the coming years, especially given the current economic situation, as it is likely that the university will start asking (assuming that they aren’t already) the Minister to untie tuition increases from CPI. • CAUS and the UASU should continue to explore the possibility of deriving a calculation for reasonable summer savings

<p>Effective Advocacy and Lobbying</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare for possible federal election in the summer or fall • Work with the VPOF to create and elections war-chest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal election forum and lobbying successfully completed • Elections-war chest approved by Students' Council • Comprehensive approach to lobbying was developed involving work at the municipal, provincial and federal levels in conjunction with maintaining a strong campus presence <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pressure both Elections Canada and Elections Alberta to make voting easier and more accessible to students on campus.
<p>Support for Environmentally Sustainable Initiatives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use data to push the university to be more sustainable • Work with the VPSL to further sustainability initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kristen has been doing most of the work on this one as it fits better in her portfolio <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where possible, look for ways to integrate environmental sustainability initiative into the work of the VPX
<p>Student Loans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobby for the elimination of parental contribution restrictions and for a greater proportion of non-repayable assistance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAUS has discussed this topic at the Student Finance Board • CAUS had developed a policy on Spousal Contributions • CASA is working at a national level to ensure that student loans are improved in ways that help meet students need. • CASA has been very involved in the new CSGP and RAP programs and will be working on ensuring that these programs are administered in ways that are best for students.

		<p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work on improving aspects of the Student Loan system through work with the Student Finance Board at a provincial level and through CASA at a federal level
<p>Scholarships/Bursaries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the university and provincial government • Lobby for an increased value and number of scholarships and bursaries for continuing undergraduate students • Lobby for increased number of needs based and involvement based scholarships and bursaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This was CAUS's unofficial fourth priority for the year. We advocated to the provincial government that they increase the amount (value) of the existing scholarship programs rather than increasing the number of possible awards. • At a university level, Janelle has been having some discussions with the administration on how to better provide students with comprehensive information on what scholarships and bursaries are available to them throughout their programs. <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work on this issue with the university administration • Continue advocating for needs based grants at the federal level through CASA and involvement in refining the CSGP

Council Report 15 – February 9, 2009
Kristen Flath, Vice President (Student Life)

Hello Council,

I feel like I have spent the past five years of my life writing up the update on my goals, so this will be very brief.

Health Plan – I had a meeting with Studentcare last week to go over several details of the health plan. They are very excited about the referendum and are available to answer any questions that students may have.

Sustainability – Composting is in the food court of SUB for students to use. Hoorah!

Campus Rec – Our plans to hold a meeting with sports clubs has morphed into possibly forming a committee of student club executives that would advise CR on club-related issues. Stay tuned for progress on that.

PAHC – Steve, Marc, and I spent Saturday at Millennium Place in Sherwood Park with the various groups that make up our PAHC meetings. We toured the facility, watched a presentation, and then had a chance to do some of our own brainstorming with PAHC. It was a very productive day, and we left knowing a bit more about what would be important in a PAHC.

Residence First Year Initiative – Last weekend I spent some quality time with the Dean of Students, John, the Provost, and the Chancellor at a discussion involving first-year residence students. We talked about their experiences in residence, what they liked, what they disliked, and what they thought could be changed. This was an initiative from the Dean of Students to be more active in listening to residence students, rather than the common practice of having them listen to residence authorities. Overall it went very well and everyone got some great feedback.

That time of year – In 2-900 we have had many potential candidates in the SU elections come by to chat. Just a reminder that we place a high priority on informing candidates, so if you would like to chat, please come by.

Travel Week – This week is Travel Week! There are discussion and presentations to get students thinking about the different ways that they could travel. Here is a list of events.

FEBRUARY 9 – 13, 2009

Travel Expo

See what exciting opportunities and adventures there are for you to expand your horizons in the world around you! The TRAVEL EXPO runs on Monday through Friday in SUB and Thursday in HUB.

Education Abroad | February 10th

Immerse yourself in your studies... and surround yourself in the subjects!

Hosted by the U of A International Centre. Presentation on SUB Stage at 12:00pm and Travel Talk in the Alumni Room at 5:00pm.

Volunteer Abroad | February 11th

Give back. Contribute and give back to communities throughout the world.

Presentation on SUB Stage at 12:00pm and Travel Talk in the Alumni Room at 5:00pm.

Work Abroad | February 12th

Balance work and life in an exciting and unknown place!

SWAP Presentation on SUB Stage at 12:00pm

Enjoy Abroad | February 13th

Take in all of the wonder and enjoyment that the world has to offer!

Contiki Holidays Presentation on SUB Stage at 12:00pm

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

Hello Council. This is a review and update of the goals I presented to you back in May. If there are additional projects that have come up throughout the year I have added them onto the end of the document. If you have questions or would like some more specifics please let me know.

1. ADVOCACY

- a. Health Plan – This is probably the area where we have made the greatest strides through the year. Thanks to Council and the councilors that sat on the Health Plan Advisory Committee. After a very intensive investigation and negotiation process we were able to bring forward a plan for students that includes a universal opt-out. This will come to referendum in the March elections. If the plan does go through, the months after the election will be busy organizing the implementation of the plan and re-evaluating some existing health services structures that we have in place.

This year we were also able to work with the FAs of Med/Dent and Law to ensure that if the universal plan does not go through, there will be provisions for them to have their own referendum for a faculty-specific plan. These faculties have been very patient and understanding as we navigate this unfamiliar territory.

- b. Sustainability – Composting in SUB was one of my major sustainability goals coming into office, and I am pleased that it has worked out relatively well. There has been a delay in opening it up for students to participate in the composting as well, but that should be resolved by Tuesday's meeting and we should have composting for all!

Styrofoam has been a bit of a trickier cat to deal with, but that too is coming along. We have found a couple of alternatives, though they are more expensive than the existing Styrofoam. Steve and I have a meeting with the Manager of Food and Beverages to discuss the alternatives, the costs, and the feasibility of replacing the Styrofoam before we end our term.

Though there are many projects I would like to see through before the end of the year, I would like to develop a committee that would focus on sustainability issues. Bringing together faculty, admin, and students to advise the University on environmental issues would stimulate action on some of these issues.

- c. Residence – Though at the beginning of the year I intended to play a greater role in residence issues, I have found that I am better in a supporting role. John and I attended a Residence First Year initiative held by the Dean of Students, Frank Robinson, to have an open discussion with residence students to improve their experience. It was very successful, and the talks that Frank has been having have helped to bridge the gap between residence students and Residence Services. John and Janelle have also been very involved in residence issues, especially with Janelle’s fight against the rent increases in residence.
- d. Mandatory Non Instructional Fees – Discussions with the Health Centre Advisory Group have been going very well. We recognize that the Students’ Counseling Services is in dire need of funding and have been discussing ways to remedy the situation. Shortly we will begin talking about changes that would happen if the health plan were to come through. As for the Athletics fee, this remains a problem. However, with our recent discussions surrounding PAHC there is the opportunity to revisit and re-evaluate this fee.

2. SERVICES

- a. I would say one of the other major accomplishments of the year was the Student Engagement Proposal that would see more than \$200 000 from admin go towards improving our support structure for student groups and our services approach. We have received every indication that this will go through, but will have to wait for final confirmation of the budget in April. The next few months the Manager of Student Services and myself will be preparing the implementation of this proposal.
- b. ECOS has undergone quite a large increase in its volunteer base and funding from the Office of Sustainability. Over the next couple of months we will be re-evaluating the goals and programs of ECOS to determine where we would like to see the service in the future.
- c. Campus Food Bank – One of our priorities for the year was finding space for the Campus Food Bank. This has proved more difficult than expected. Please ask Steve for any details on the status of that project.

3. PROGRAMMING

- a. Developing the Sustainability Advisory Committee – SAC was a very active committee in the first half of the year. We came up with many programs that I would like to see implemented over the next few years, and served as a good source of feedback on any environmental initiatives we were planning. During the second half of the year, due to time constraints and the necessity of focusing on the implementation of projects as opposed to brainstorming, the committee has not met. That said, they were invaluable during the first part of the year.

- b. Student development – This year we really wanted to continue the trend towards programming that encouraged student development, rather than only to entertain. We built on the trends of the previous year, with Travel Week and Campus Got Talent, and have added Eco Week in as well.
- c. Programming through student groups – This year programming in conjunction with student groups was very successful. For large SU initiatives, such as the Restricted Access Campaign and Revolutionary Speaker Series, student groups constituted an essential component. This year we also attempted to encourage student groups to be involved in student events by providing them with more resources, such as projectors and tables, and by re-evaluating Student Group Services. The remainder of the year we will continue to support student group programming by re-evaluating our granting procedure to make it easier for groups to use.

At the beginning of the year, I reported on these projects. Since that time, several other projects have gained importance as well.

U-Pass – Starting with this year, the U-Pass will be entering re-negotiations. In previous months we have discussed student feedback with ETS and started looking and possible discussion points for the negotiations. We have also been working with ETS and the University on a survey for students that will give us more accurate information on the UPass. The next few months will be critical as we send out the survey, interpret the results, and begin discussions with ETS.

PAHC – The Physical Activity and Health Complex was the unexpected issue of the year. Though in my original campaign platform I was opposed to a PAHC, after initial discussions with the University I believe there is incredible potential for an agreement that would benefit students. For the past several months we have been meeting on a bi-weekly basis to discuss any progress on PAHC. We are still in the visioning phase of what we would like to see PAHC become, but after a one-day trip out to Millennium place in Sherwood Park and a great discussion after, I think we are getting a clearer picture. Over the next few months we will continue to develop ideas and come up with a plan for PAHC that would be appealing for students and the University.

Campus Recreation – Again, this was an issue that I wasn't expecting to be as prominent as it was. After hearing a few complaints from sports clubs I solicited feedback on CR from them, and found that the list of issues was long. I have had periodic meetings with the Director of CR to resolve some of the most urgent issues, and we have discussed some plans to bring long-term resolution. As it stands, there is talk about creating an advisory committee of sports club executives to advise CR. We hope to get this off the ground before the term is over.

Refer to the Goals Document

There is a lot of interesting stuff in there! Hope it is what the honored Governor was looking for.

Meanwhile in another part of 2-900 ...

My Filing Cabinet Vomited On My Desk

Not kidding, you should take a look at all the paper work that the 8000 series, TLEF vetting, CRAM to do lists, GFC agendas, TLAT briefs and CoFA notes can generate.

On the flip side my email inbox is very neat and nearly empty.

So It Has Been Three Meetings Since I Have Been Asked Anything In Question Period

Just saying ...

Although I have been told, in a very kindly manner, it is because I have given presentations and/or massive amounts of bills at the last three meetings and that Council may not wish to allow me another opportunity to speak.

Speaking of ...

8000 Series Bylaw Review

Yeah! Lucky us, we have another CoFA presentation today!

CoFA shall see this stuff on Thursday and hopefully two weeks from now we will have another pile of motions; to be specific twelve bills and four directives. And this is the controversial stuff; so put your thinking hat on, pull out your red pen and prepare to represent your constituents.

The AdvoWiki Home Page is linked to the CoFA Page, the CoFA Page is linked to the GFC Page ...

You would love the AdvoWiki ... it would make you proud ... ask about the AdvoWiki.

Tran-si-tion AND ALL THAT JAZZ ... (I love Chicago!)

Other Stuff

Is happening! All the time! Yeah! Stay posted for a 'slow' week to find out what this means.

And no, I was not on caffeine when I wrote this. Too serious for too long, I had to find a release somewhere.

Dear Council,

The following is an update on my goals. The parts in italics were submitted to you on May 13th, 2008 while the parts not in italics are the update.

Sincerely,
VP Nerd

Council of Faculty Associations

Individual Attention

Visit Faculty Association Executives on their home ground. Listen to the wants and needs they express and facilitate them.

Done: phenomenal results with progress made on numerous issues. The 'down side' is that the FA's expectations of the SU have drastically increased as well. A byproduct of the clarification of expectations was the UASUS to SSA saga.

Academic and Nonacademic Advocacy

Encourage Faculty Associations to take their role as the representative of their students seriously. Aid them in their efforts to represent student concerns to the Faculties.

Phenomenal success: FAs have a better understanding of their role, the SU is providing more support to them. The 8000 Series Bylaw Review and GFC Policy feedback have been vital in ensuring that this new sense of responsibility will maintain itself. This required a culture change that has nearly passed the tipping point.

Fall Retreat

Plan and execute a comprehensive fall retreat (held on campus), which will provide Faculty Associations with the knowledge and resources they require. Develop yearlong communication between Faculties and with the Students' Union.

Done: went very well. CoFA feedback indicated a spring retreat with incoming and outgoing executives would be far more effective, so we are holding a second retreat this year to change the schedule. A DA/PA session through SGS, their idea!, is also being run for the first time on the same day as the Spring CoFA Retreat.

Academic Materials

Canadian Roundtable on Academic Materials Summer Conference

Fully cooperate with the Bookstore so that the University of Alberta will continue its' leadership on the issue of Academic Materials Affordability. Further convince other Universities of the importance and potential for progress of this issue.

Done and done! Huge momentum is underway, almost to the point of being out of our control but still within our influence. In recent weeks I have fallen behind as I have taken a more internal focus.

Fall Academic Materials Campaign

Run an On Campus Campaign focused on making instructors aware of the cost of Academic Materials, their rights when selecting Textbooks, and the alternatives available (such as course packs). Focus on engagement of instructors and education of what actions they can take.

Huge success:

Phase I – targeted students and garnered a lot of on and off campus media attention.

There was very positive reception from the general student body.

Phase II – targeted instructors. It demonstrated that there is a lot of willingness to address this, though no direction really set yet.

Throughout both phases the administration has been extremely helpful. We have had Vice Provosts, Associate Deans and Directors share our message and help raise the

profile of this issue. Many communications channels have been opened, with the intention that the campaign will repeat next year with a more solutions (rather than awareness) focus.

Teaching and Learning

Course Evaluations (USRI)

Participate in the development of course evaluations that more accurately evaluate instructors and better captures constructive student feedback.

I sat on the task force that did the literature review and made the first recommendations to GFC CLE. Also AASUA TLC had a lot to do with it. The gist is; the system is broken, we are trying to fix it, the speed of bureaucracy means your grandchildren may have new USRIs. There was a very cool UTS symposium panel that I spoke on; aimed at having more dialogue and less assumptions about the evaluation of teaching – very productive.

Student Advisor Evaluations

Explore having the Administration implement student feedback and/or evaluations of Student Advisors. The intention of having student input is to improve the quality of this service.

Janelle and I had intended for the SU to take this on this year. We received some really cool information from my counterpart at UofS that has been very informative. Also, I have gradually morphed into the mind set that this is the perfect issue for FAs to be addressing as part of their Faculty level advocacy initiatives.

Formative Feedback

Support and expand the pilot project.

It happened; I didn't have anything to do with it.

Professor of the Week

Reevaluate the intention and focus of the program; adjust it as required.

Teaching Matters!, involving a ceramic gnome named Cicero and his very scholarly blog, has been wildly successful in targeting faculty and administration. Targeting the general student body has been mixed with some people loving the idea and some hating it. The program is drastically more effective than Professor of the Week at almost a quarter of the budget!

'Learning Survey'

Conduct a survey, jointly with the Administration, of instructors exploring what traits make a good/great student. Provide this information in a form they can benefit from. Use this information in the Teaching and Learning dialogues as an essential half of the equation.

HA! Late during the summer trimester I decided that I had too much on my plate for this year. The SU Exec decided that we would not conduct a general survey this year and instead strongly recommend to our successors that they do so.

Writing

Continue the observation and constructive criticism of past VP Academics.

The AVPA sits on the Writing Center steering committee on my behalf. This is another one of that slow-but-constant-progress over many years kind of thing.

Technology

Constant Vigilance

Monitoring the general implementation of technology and ensuring that student concerns are raised. Ensure technology benefits teaching and learning; and is not an end unto itself.

The AVPA sits on all technology committees on my behalf. This year we had hoped to address student group usage of smart classrooms but we did not find the time.

WebCT (Learning Management System)

Be engaged in the review process and assertively raise student concerns while the feedback is being sought.

This task force just started up in the last month, through the initiative of the VPIT.

Extremely positive tone; in that the needs of students are given a very high priority in the discussion. The emphasis is on pedagogy not technology; which is a very good thing.

BearTracks/Scat (Registration System)

Evaluate the impending upgrade to BearTracks and determine the strategy the Students' Union will follow after that point.

Bear Scat disappeared into the ether in November; amazing consultation process with the university leading up to that point in time.

Student Body Communication and Engagement

General Faculties Council - Student Caucus

Engage the general student body and make them aware of how important these positions are. Ensure that the Student Caucus vacancies are filled.

URGH regarding vacancies remaining after elections. GFC SC has been very positive and engaged this year, however the general student body has no idea what GFC is or why it is so important. Instead I have refocused on ensuring the FAs are aware and encouraging their members to run.

Academic Relations Group

Utilize as a forum to sound out the Student At Large opinion on various topics, follow up on recommendations and questions that come out of it.

ARG has been an amazing feedback body – they have provided a very useful perspective on many issues. Due to time constraints they were not an active body – the effort the VPA used to expend here was redirected to be spent on the FAs. I will be recommending the discontinuation of ARG as a general body and suggest it

Departmental Associations

Encourage Faculty Associations to provide support to and communicate regularly with their Departmental Associations. Aid them indirectly through their Faculty Associations.

I have been addressing this indirectly through the Faculty Associations; the bar has been raised as far as FA-DA interactions which over the next two or three years will begin to show concrete improvements. SGS has gotten involved, specifically by hosting the spring DA/PA session on the same day as the CoFA retreat.

Scholarships and Bursaries

Raise student awareness of the Scholarships and Bursaries available to them. Seek great ease of use in the application process.

The AVPA did an amazing job in doubling the applications we got to the SU Awards program. Communication with Student Awards is on the back burner until after the Coke Contract is sign.

Report to Students' Council

February 10, 2009

Prepared by: Steven Dollansky, Vice-President (Operations and Finance)



To: 2008/2009 Students' Council

Important Initiatives

- Budget 2009/2010 – The Budget Principles have been sent to Council for review and ratification at tonight's meeting (which is great). I believe that they are an excellent framework for forming a budget that will guide our organization through the economic turmoil. The departmental budgets are all due tomorrow, at which point Anita and I will be working with the finance department to consolidate them and prepare a first draft of the operating budget. This will be reviewed over the course of the next few weeks and will be presented to Executive Committee and BFC in late February, and will (hopefully) be sent to council for the first week of March.
- Powerplant space – the University has indicated that they will be looking to retain the entirety of the space that is currently the "old powerplant" seating area. They have offered us continued use of the coffeehouse and kitchen space. Marc and I are assessing the viability of the business operations if confined to that area, as I'm not about to go down the road of losing more money. We will be sending them a response today and look forward to future discussions around maintaining student social space in the heart of campus.
- SUB and PAC Expansions – The Space Program continues to wait on the University Architect Office. As for PAC, we had a fantastic visioning session with the Deans in Sherwood Park on the weekend. We talked at length about increasing the SU's role in health and wellness promotion, and how we can build a facility that will accommodate that vision. There truly are not enough positive things to say about the approach taken by Dean Mahon and Dean Robinson in the process thus far.
- Coke Contract – we are still waiting to hear back from the University about how they plan to incorporate our last request: to ensure that students have adequate influence over how the University distributes the residuals that result from this contract within the Student Awards office. Marc will be meeting with administration this week
- SU financial performance – we are slightly behind last year, but still ahead of budget.
- ONEcard – the SU has approached the ONEcard about becoming a tenant in our building. We hope to negotiate a fair deal that will see our organization receive comparable revenues to having external clients occupy the space, while ensuring that SUB remains the centre for delivery of vital student services. We have assessed their space needs and are preparing a proposal for them.
- Green Store – we are pursuing an idea that would see SUBtitles offer a completely green product line. This idea is still in preliminary phases, but both the SUBtitles and ECOS staff were pretty excited about it. I hope to have more in the coming weeks as we try to make the business model more "sustainable".

Other issues

- SUB signage – we have started to develop a plan to revitalize the signage and way finding in the Students' Union Building. The University has given us tentative approval of the concept and we are in the process of finding price quotes. The project will include

improved branding, building maps, and directional signage.

- Access Fund charitable status –We are in the process of making the necessary amendments and will be looking into the feasibility of hiring on a part time position to solicit donations in the Winter semester. GAC is working on a number of other Access Fund initiatives that I hope to have implemented by early next year.
- SUBprint the new Print Centre – effective May 1, the SU Print Centre will become SUBprint. We are devising a new visual identity and will keep Council posted.
- Satellite Campus Fees – We are continuing to work to find a more suitable balance for remittance of the Students' Union fees to the ASA and AUFSJ. Discussions are ongoing and I will keep Council posted.
- Secret Shopper – I had a secret shopper exercise conducted over the fall semester in order to identify areas for improvement at RATT and Dewey's. We have the documentation submitted and will be reviewing the findings later this month. I would like to expand this program and make it more permanent in the coming budget in order to ensure we are constantly addressing customer service issues at our businesses.
- Collective Agreement Negotiations – we have served notice to CUPE and are awaiting their response. We hope they will be timely in order to ensure that an agreement is in place prior to the expiration of the existing contract.

2008/2009 Executive Goals

February 10, 2009

Prepared by: Steven Dollansky, Vice-President (Operations and Finance)



To: Students' Council 2008/2009

Summary of May 12 VPOF Goals

- *Develop and executive an effective General Manager hiring process* – in conjunction with the rest of the incoming executive, staff, previous executives, and other interested parties I will be focused on ensuring the transition in the General Manager position flows smoothly. Bill has been with us for 17 years and will be greatly missed, but it is my goal to ensure we use this opportunity to build on his great work and move our organization in a positive direction.
- *Build the foundation for SUB expansion* – begin consultation with the Dean of Students and Provost surrounding the future expansion of our building. SUB has become the centerpiece to our campus as a center for student services, relaxation/study space, and successful business environment, which has lead to the burden of overcrowding and the need for more space. It is my goal to ensure the University recognizes the important role of our building and commits to financially assisting SUB's expansion.
- *Secure space for the Campus Food Bank* – work with the Vice President Facilities and Operations and the Provost to find a suitable location for the Campus Food Bank and facilitate the negotiation of a contractual agreement surrounding space within my term.
- *Streamline and expand the student group granting process* – work with the Dean of Students to expand the University's contribution to the granting process while working to reduce barriers to accessing these funds. I will also work with Council to ensure that staff is being utilized in the granting procedure when possible in order to reduce the more specific involvement of the grant allocation committee and encourage a more broad oversight role.
- *Solicit donations from external parties to student awards and the Access Fund* – investigate the feasibility of registering the Access Fund as a charity (like the Student Involvement Fund) in order to establish a permanent system to attract third-party investment.
- *Finalize major changes to our business operations and contracts* – ensure that all of the proposed renovations are completed on schedule and on budget. I will also finalize the food court tenant contracts and the single source cold beverage agreement.
- *Establish a permanent Elections Reserve* – create a reserve, funded by an annual contribution, that can be used to fund the Students' Union's election campaigns.
- *Conduct a Students' Union spending audit* – identify areas for possible spending reductions, compare our expenditures to similar Students' Unions, and encourage efficient budgeting in all departments.

Progress towards achieving these goals

- *Develop and executive an effective General Manager hiring process* – we successfully implemented a GM hiring process that was both effective and affordable. Our General Manager, Marc Dumouchel, has been a good fit and a welcome addition. We will be evaluating his progress and establishing long-term KPIs prior to the end of April.
- *Build the foundation for SUB expansion* – we have initiated a space program to enhance our space needs, started to write a vision document, and investigated alternative payment options for our existing loans.
- *Secure space for the Campus Food Bank* – we have provided an additional ~120 square feet of storage space for the CFB in lower level SUB. I have pushed this issue with the Office of the University Architect on a number of occasions and will continue to do so.
- *Streamline and expand the student group granting process* – we have put together a proposal that would nearly double our ability to provide support to student groups on campus that has been positively received by the Provost's Office. The Grant Allocation Committee is working with SGS to ensure that our granting procedures are formalized, at which point we can take a holistic view of the system and make the necessary improvements. I have discussed this at length with the Office of the Dean of Students and they are keen to assist in this process.
- *Solicit donations from external parties to student awards and the Access Fund* – we have applied to make the Access Fund a charitable organization, as outlined by the motion in GAC. I will work with Sirina to establish a system where external sponsorship and donations can be solicited.
- *Finalize major changes to our business operations and contracts* – renovations were completed on schedule and budget. Food court contracts were renegotiated. We continue to work towards an improved agreement with the University and Coca-cola.
- *Establish a permanent Elections Reserve* – done.
- *Conduct a Students' Union spending audit* – The finance department and I have started this review and will continue to do so throughout the budgeting process.

Other notable achievements

- *Assisted with the negotiation of a Health and Dental Plan that will be put to students in March.*
- *Implemented a successful secret shopper program to provide ideas about improving the customer experience at SU operations.*
- *Developed a plan to improve signage and way-finding in the Students' Union Building.*
- *Successfully joined the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations.*
- *Served as chair of the Gateway Student Journalism Society Board of Directors and assisted in developing significant improvements to their accountability mechanisms that were positively received by the Audit Committee.*
- *Eliminated the Eugene L. Brody Fund.*
- *Combined the Capital Improvement Fee with the SU Membership Fee.*
- *Improved the access to financial information through the Students' Union website.*
- *Developed a fair funding formula for distribution of fee revenue to satellite campus faculty associations.*
- *Did not fail any classes.*

Report to Council Edition 18.0

Janelle Morin, President 2008-2009

February 10, 2009

Dear Council:

Hope you're all gearing up for elections! This round should be fun. I'm happy to see so many potential candidates falling out of the woodwork; remembers, I'm always up for coffee if you'd like to chat about the possibility of running for any position.

CAUS/ AICTISEC Joint Meeting

The meeting this weekend went quite well, and was timed perfectly for announcements from the provincial government about post-secondary. We will be working more closely with ACTISEC in future to ensure the best possible representation for students in Alberta. Yet to be resolved is the questions of MRC becoming MRU and what this will mean to their affiliation between our two groups... but more to come on this soon.

University Budget Consultation

The budget has gone through round one of consultation, and will still pass through BFPC and APC. I will have updates from each of these committees at the next Council meeting.

President Samarasekera's Review Committee

Steve and I will be soliciting feedback from as many students as possible about how our president has been performing to date. This information will be used to assess her and will factor into whether or not the university asks President Samarasekera to renew her contract with the University of Alberta. Meaningful feedback is welcome; we will be setting up a specific mail address for feedback to be sent. While input will be anonymous in presentation, we will not be accepting anonymous feedback in the initial stages, as we need to ensure the respondents are undergraduate students at the University of Alberta. Please ask if you would like more information about the process and timeline, although I will be submitting updates to Council.

Rachel Notley

The success of the Restricted Access campaign was recognized by several government officials, and we had our first follow-up meeting with Rachel Notley last Friday. Ms. Notley was very enthusiastic about helping students and has committed to speaking on their behalves to the government.

Services/ Exec Meeting

We had another semi-regular Services and Executive meeting this week. These positions are central to improving the lives of students on campus, and with transition right around the corner, there are several excellent positions opening up

for students. Consider applying – I can tell you, from personal experience, it is well worth the time and effort.

Elections Fun

With a heated few weeks around the corner, I implore all of you to be involved in the coming elections. Democracy is essential to our legitimacy as an organization, and with online voting, we will have a very interesting election before us. Good luck to all of the candidates – taking the leap to run is a big step. We are grateful for the effort you will be putting in to bring attention to student issues, win or lose.

Cheers,
Janelle

2008/2009 Executive Goals

February 10, 2009

Prepared by: Janelle Morin (President)

Hello Council:

Here are my original goals as presented in May with comments underneath each about progress. New goals have been highlighted at the end.

Of note: there is substantial overlap between many of the areas I've set goals and the VPs have set their goals. Much of the work outlined below is attributable to their hard work, and the hard work of our dedicated, loyal and highly enviable staff, without who we would be unable to do achieve a fraction of what we hope to do each year. A huge, understated and inadequate thank-you to those staff members.

Academic:

1. Support COFA (inclusively as student groups but exclusively as per recommendations of VP Academic) through direct interaction and focused, responsive meeting of needs
 - With John, we've attempted to make strong connections with the FAs this year. I've met with them whenever able and made the effort to engage non-North Campus groups through trips to Augustana and CSJ.
2. Tie USRIs to targeted training for professors with deficiencies in certain areas: this is a project I hope to have secured for implementation in September 2010
 - John has made USRIs a priority for the year, but this is the goal that has proven most problematic in the short-term. Long-term, USRIs will be redefined with student input.
3. Explore the feasibility and then work towards creating a system for student advisor feedback
 - Working with the Dean of Students, we hope to have a panel with FAs and Associate Deans to discuss best practices and to ensure Student Advisors are meeting the needs of students.
4. Re-implement some facsimile of the Revolutionary Speakers Series
 - The RSS this year has seen some notable success, including a sold-out Sue Johanson, the highly successful CBAS Avi Lewis event and the soon-to-come collaboration with ECOS.

External:

1. Use all tools at our disposal when appropriate to further ongoing and new concerns of undergraduate students
 - We continue to work at improving the Advocacy department to create a responsive and responsible mechanism for representing students.
2. Ensure the elimination of property taxes on residences
 - This has been problematic because of the city's deficit budget, but we are

developing an ongoing joint lobbying initiative with the university for the remainder of this year and next. I'm optimistic it will pass, given enough time and pressure.

3. Promote the creation of new government-funded residences
 - By helping with the Universiade Bid, there are plans for a South Campus undergraduate residence. The Aboriginal residence will be breaking ground in May.
4. Develop a more specific advocacy framework for tuition and explore options of how to best achieve an effective strategy for lobbying on tuition decreases, using reasonable summer savings as an indicator
 - The tuition debate has morphed significantly since this original goal. We have instead run the Restricted Access campaign, which I have thoroughly analysed elsewhere.
 - The focus has shifted away from tuition and more to a general concept of access. I think this has been an incredibly effective shift in thinking, and has resonated with many students.
5. Use the centenary as leverage in all external lobbying
 - We have done this on campus and off, with notable success in the Edmonton Journal's June feature, and through government grants for deferred maintenance
6. Encourage active student participation in the federal election
 - By running the student political forum on campus for the student party clubs, and organizing a successful Strathcona candidate forum, we encouraged student engagement with the federal election

Operations and Finance:

1. Help develop SUB expansion plans
 - This has been ongoing throughout the year. The visioning documents should be complete in their first manifestation before we leave office.
2. Hire an effective, dynamic General Manager
 - I am very pleased with the rigorous process we employed to hire Marc Dumochel, and he has been an excellent GM choice to date
3. Ensure granting systems in place are appropriate and as streamlined as possible for ease of use and access
 - The Sea Grant and SU groups grant should be harmonized before we leave office
4. Examine and ensure operating policies are up-to-date
 - We have substantially updated many of our operating policies, including year end reports, and have placed emphasis on an effective transition

Student Life:

1. Increase the sustainability of our internal operations and those of the university
 - The university's new Sustainability Office will prove beneficial to students and the campus in general. ECOS has made numerous contributions to this new office. The composting and sustainability contracts in our vendor clauses have

- been very effective.
2. Push joint funding models for services in conjunction with the university to ensure they shoulder their share of the financial responsibility
 - We have submitted the Student Engagement Proposal to the university and are awaiting the finalized budget in April to see the end result of our efforts here
 3. Promote student group events and help to support groups in appropriate and solicited ways
 - Working with student groups through such initiatives as the RSS, the political forums, COFA, the Restricted Access campaign and several other initiatives has built many strong ties with our groups on campus; I hope this progress continues this year and next.
 4. Support residence communities in their advocacy initiatives
 - The Restricted Access campaign and our work with the RHA, Lister Hall discussions and general residence advocacy has ensured residences are a priority. Specifically, the LHSA has been given the okay on elections for another year, a huge feat the SU has helped to support.
 5. Continue the Wall of Gold activities calendar
 - The calendar was another effective outreach strategy with students.

Communication and Outreach:

1. Engage students with our message, programs and services through use of alternative media and outreach strategies
 - Through personally attending student group meetings, classroom speaking, news stories on the website, and many other methods we have made meaningful efforts to engage students. However, we can do more; we have asked for an updated long-term communications plan from our senior managers, and will be reviewing and making recommendations on this plan before the end of March for the incoming executive.
2. Respond personally to emails, Gateway in a timely manner
 - This has been ongoing, though I have done less writing in to the Gateway than I originally thought would be the case, for various reasons
3. Ensure website is up-to-date
 - We have updated the website and hope to continue using it effectively
4. Publicize to students relevant decisions being made at BOG and GFC, or other important bodies as appropriate
 - Through Council and media, we have made efforts to ensure the decisions made by the university are being monitored and publicized as relevant

New Goals:

1. Ethical and sustainable operations: working with representatives from the SUSJ, we have begun a review process of the SU's operations and hope to create long-term strategies to ensure we are socially responsible as an organization.

2. Student Financial Aid Project: working with the university, I hope to review and improve our campus financial aid system to ensure it adequately and appropriately addresses need. This will be a long-term project, but I hope there are systems in place to ensure it continues to be a priority.