

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

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Tuesday September 28, 2010  
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

## LATE ADDITIONS (SC 2010-12)

- |            |                                                                                                     |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2010-12/1  | <u>SPEAKER'S BUSINESS</u>                                                                           |
| 2010-12/2  | <u>PRESENTATIONS</u>                                                                                |
| 2010-12/3  | <u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT</u>                                                                   |
| 2010-12/4  | <u>BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS</u>                                                                  |
| 2010-12/5  | <u>QUESTION PERIOD</u>                                                                              |
| 2010-12/6  | <u>BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS</u>                                                                 |
| 2010-12/7  | <u>GENERAL ORDERS</u>                                                                               |
| 2010-12/7c | FENTIMAN MOVES TO appoint (3) three member of Students' Council to the Budget and Finance Committee |
| 2010-12/8  | <u>INFORMATION ITEMS</u>                                                                            |
| 2010-12/8b | Aden Murphy, VP External- Report<br>Please see document LA 10-12.01                                 |
| 2010-12/8c | CASA Board- Report<br>Please see document LA 10-12.02                                               |
| 2010-12/8d | Wei Qiang- Resignation from the Budget and Finance Committee<br>Please see document LA 10-12.03     |
| 2010-12/8e | Nariman Saidane- Resignation from Students Council<br>Please see document LA 10-12.04               |
| 2010-12/8f | Nick Dehod, President- Report<br>Please see document LA 10-12.05                                    |
| 2010-12/8g | Thomas L'Abbe'- Resignation from the Budget and Finance Committee                                   |

Please see document LA 10-12.06

**2010-12/8h**

Zach Fentiman, VP Operations and Finance- Report

Please see document LA 10-12.07

**2010-12/8i**

Bylaw Committee- Report

Please see document LA 10-12.08

**2010-12/8j**

CRO- Report

Please see document LA 10-12.09

**2010-12/8k**

Rory Tighe, VP Student Life- Report

Please see document LA 10-12.10

# Report to Council

10-09-28

Prepared by: Aden Murphy, VPX – September 23, 2010

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

Good evening Council,

As I was unable to submit a report last week, I suppose I'll have to make this a deluxe report. Just so that you'll have something to do over the weekend.

## Budget Submissions

As it is budget consultation season, both CASA and CAUS have released their pre-budget submissions. I'm sure attentive councilors will have already read the CAUS submission which came out a few weeks ago, so I'll focus a bit more on the CASA submission today.

The submission focuses on three main areas: strengthen the financial supports for First Nations education, improvements to the Canada Student Loan Program (CSLP), and an amendment to the Book Importation Regulation. Sound a bit obscure? Certainly. But given the current budget environment in Ottawa, we are looking for proposals that are achievable and relatively low cost. The policy focus of the first point is the Post-Secondary Student Support Program, the main grant program for First Nations, Métis and Inuit students. It is run through Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and administered by the individual bands. The two major issues are that its funding increases have been capped at 2% a year for the past 15 years, and that there is no funding envelope with which the bands can administer the program. I am happy to say that this was something I proposed for the CASA priority list, and I'm looking forward to lobbying on it.

The main improvements to the Canada Student Loan Program (CSLP) are to increase the maximum loan limit and index it to inflation, and double the allowable in-study work income exemption from \$50/week to \$100/week. The in-study work exemption is the amount that you can make in a week during the school year before it is counted as an asset on the loan formula. Currently, every dollar a student earns in a week over \$50 counts against their loan eligibility. This is an area where the federal loans program needs to catch up to our provincial one.

The CASA Pre-Budget Submission can be found at [www.casa-acae.com/blog/](http://www.casa-acae.com/blog/) in both French and English.

## Events and Municipal Election

First up, I'll be talking at an APIRG PSE panel discussion with Bill Moore-Kilgannon, the Executive Director of Public Interest Alberta.

Next week, I'll be promoting an unconventional election forum, Candi{date}, on September 29 at 18h30 at SUBstage. It aims to allow students to meet municipal election candidates less formally and talk about city issues. Please come out and bring your friends. I'm currently talking with the Political Science Undergrads Association about pumping up the election and getting students to vote.

## CASA Board Report

Hello CASA members!

It has been a busy summer and the fall looks to be even busier. To keep all the members of the Alliance apprised of the activities of their counterparts across the country, I'll briefly summarize the activities of the schools in the Northwest Region.

In BC, our three members have been working together on forming a provincial alliance. As anyone can imagine, this is a difficult and delicate process but one that could have a large effect on the post-secondary education scene in the province in the future. Both Kwantlen and UBC are working on the negotiations for their regional transit agreement, which has been massively complicated and politically difficult. Having come to the end of their beverage exclusivity contract, Kwantlen Student Association is looking to ban bottled water sales on their campuses. Over at UBC, the AMS is pioneering a new process of constituency consultation on the planning of their new building. Jeremy is working on the AMS pre-budget submission, which will focus on funding for child care spaces (as the wait list at UBC is over 2000), improvements to the province's student financial aid system, and funding for a rapid transit link to UBC, which currently has only bus service.

The five members in Alberta have had a good summer and are looking forward to the fall, having recently released pre-budget submissions from their two provincial alliances, the Council of Alberta University Students and the Alberta Student Executive Council. In regard to the provincial political climate, the Albertan post-secondary sector is seeing stagnant base grant funding but won't be seeing fee increases beyond inflation. The CAUS budget submission pressed for increased base grant funding, restoring the needs-based bursaries cut last year, and converting the \$110 million in provincial Tuition and Education Tax Credits into needs-bursaries. While this last policy is already on the books at CASA and elsewhere, it is a new idea on the provincial scene and has opposition from some schools within ASEC. The ASEC budget submission focused on restoring the \$54 million cut from needs-based bursaries, creating a provincial "rainy day" endowment fund for PSE, investment in trades and technology, and an innovative debt-reduction program for non-profit volunteers. Additionally, ASEC is working to increase student representation on the boards of governors of their schools, in order to help make institutional decisions friendlier to students. Sharing many interests, both CAUS and ASEC look forward to working together this year.

On an additional note, municipal elections will be held across Alberta on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Many schools are planning student voting initiatives and forums, especially in Calgary.

In terms of my work on the Board, I have had a very interesting (and time-consuming) experience. With the substantial changes in staff at home office, the Board has been very well occupied with HR issues. I am very happy both with how things have turned out and with the work of both Zach and the other regional directors. The preparation for the Partners Conference required a very significant number of hours, but I am satisfied with

the results of the conference. With LobbyCon approaching, I will be in more regular contact with member schools. If there are any concerns you have with the how CASA is doing or if you want to pull ideas from work going on elsewhere in the country, don't hesitate to contact your regional director or myself.

If you're feeling tired or burned out during the semester, remember that we're doing a very unique job to make Canada's post-secondary education system work better for students. I am proud to work all of you.

Sincerely,

Aden Murphy

I am submitting my resignation for the budget and finance committee. With the amount of school work I am experiencing this semester, I am unable to fully commit my time and would prefer for a councillor who is better able to commit their time to the committee to take my position.

Sincerely,

Wei Qiang

As of September 27, 2010 I will be officially resigning from Students Union. Although I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as a councillor since the end of elections, there a lot of things that I did not expect when taking up the task. I feel that being a councillor is not for me and so I will have to resign before the year really starts going.

I apologize for any inconvenience that I may cause by resigning,

Thanks everyone for their time,  
Sincerely,  
Nariman Saidane

September 28th, 2010

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Students' Council

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Greetings Council,

As I mentioned in my last Council report, aside from a couple of meetings, I am spending my Monday preparing for my midterm on Tuesday. With that in mind, this report covers my activity from last Wednesday through the weekend.

Last week was probably the busiest week I have had in my term as President. Aside from the Board of Governors and Alumni Council, every other major committee or body that I sit on all met last week (BAC, APC, GFC, BFPC, BSHEC, Students' Council, General Faculties Council). On top of attending and preparing for these committee meetings, I also attended and spoke at three functions, the Alumni Recognition Awards (on Wednesday), the Celebration of Teaching and Learning (Friday), and the Alumni Dance & Dinner (Saturday).

I have also met with several Councilors last week bringing me very close to sitting down with every member of Council. If you have not met with me yet and we still do not have a time booked, let me know and we will find a time.

Although I have been busy with meetings the last week, there has been a lot of repetition in agenda items, which means I do not have that much new to report from last week. I will give you a quick overview on what has been discussed.

### **Academic Plan**

This morning we used a Budget Advisory Committee meeting as an opportunity to give more direct feedback on the Academic Plan. We highlighted the initiatives that we hope survive the process as well as the initiatives that we would still like to see in the plan. We also raised some of our concerns around packaging and have offered to go through the document and provide suggestions on how to improve the language.

As a follow-up to a request made by some councillors, I have also discussed the possibility of having a Town Hall sometime in the next few months. Monday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, was suggested as a possible date. Please let me know if you have any thoughts on what you would like this Town Hall to look like.

### **Budget 2010/2011**

The University's budget is continuing to work its way through several of the committees I sit on. There is nothing new to update you on from what you saw in Council. Having now sat through the presentation several times now, I can certainly attest to the fact that we currently have a strong level of consultation in place for the budget process. Throughout the process I have been articulating our position that the



University should be working towards the elimination of the CoSSS fee once funding increases from the province again. We are also expecting to start having meetings to discuss the implementation of market modifiers in commerce, engineering, and pharmacy.

### **Ceremonies and Award Events**

As mentioned above, last week I attended several ceremonies and award events. Here is a quick run down:

#### *Alumni Recognition Awards (September 22, 2010)*

At the Alumni Recognition Awards I had the privilege of giving out the Dr. Lois E. Hole Student Spirit Award to Sara Houlihan. Sara is the director of SHINE – an inner-city and student-run health clinic. She is also a member of the U of A's rowing club and serves on the Green and Gold Athletic Society.

It was my first time attending the event and being in my last year, I found it really interesting to hear about many of the fantastic things our alumni have accomplished after their time at the U of A.

#### *Celebration of Teaching and Learning (September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010)*

The Celebration of Teaching and Learning recognizes the work and contributions of students and staff at the University of Alberta. On Friday, I also helped present awards to dozens of undergraduate Dean's Citation Awards to students. Again, it was great to hear about the accomplishments and efforts of many individuals on campus.

#### *Alumni Dinner & Dance (September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010)*

At the Alumni Dinner & Dance, I had the privilege of toasting our Alumni with Jane Halford, President of the Alumni Association. I also had the chance to speak with many alumni and hear about their experiences at the University of Alberta, including one Mr. William Kent, an alumnus who graduated from Civil Engineering in 1931.

### **External Communication and Media Advisor Interviews**

Justin Kehoe is leaving the organization to start graduate studies. We are currently in the process of interview candidates and will hopefully be able to announce a successor by the next Students' Council meeting. We have several strong candidates and we look forward to adding a new member to the Department of Research and Political Affairs team.

### **Helping Individuals at Risk**

Last week, Vice President Tighe and I met with the newly hired Helping Individuals at Risk coordinator, Kris Fowler. Ms. Fowler used to be the Director of the Sexual Assault Centre and has a tremendous amount of experience working with different health services on campus.

It is still very early in the development process of this initiative and much too early to provide feedback on how the program is working. We reemphasized our perspective that the communication and educational piece of the program is important to its success, while recognizing that it will likely still be a year before the program fully gets its feet under it. Although many details remain to be sorted out, it was a very productive meeting and we agreed to have a follow-up meeting before the end of my term.

### **Residences**

On Wednesday, Vice President Tighe and I attended our second Residence Budget Advisory Committee (RBAC) meeting. Consultation began on the residence budget process. We were given some of the key budget drivers, including utilities, the Volunteer Retirement Incentive Program, and furlough days. We are expecting to have a rent increase proposal number either at the next or following meeting.

### **Services Orientation**

On Saturday morning, I attended a services orientation session and gave our new volunteers a run down and introduction to the Students' Union. It is looking to be another promising year for all of our services and I'm looking forward to crossing paths with our new volunteers as the semester progresses.

### **Sustainability Assessment**

Work continues on the assessment. Last week we discussed sections related to SUB, paper usage, and food. This week we will be discussing sections related to purchasing, equipment, and eco-labeling.

**If you have any further questions, suggestions, or concerns**, please do not hesitate to follow-up with me, either in person at SUB 2-900, by phone at 780-492-4236, or by email at [president@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:president@su.ualberta.ca).

*"To hell with circumstances, I create opportunities" – Bruce Lee*

September 27, 2010  
Nariman Saidane  
Cc: Stephen Dollanksy

Dear Councillor Saidane:

I hereby tender my resignation as a member of the Budget and Finance Committee of Students' Council.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas L'Abbé

September 28, 2010

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Council

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### **Joint Executive-APIRG Meeting**

On Wednesday, September 29, 2010 at 4:00PM, the executive will have a meet-and-greet with APIRG representatives.

### **RBC Dominion Endowment Composition Meeting**

I will be meeting with our account executive on Tuesday, September 28, 2010 at 11:00AM to discuss any changes we might want to make to the endowment portfolio (SIEF). Unfortunately, GAC meets later than this date/time, so I believe my recommendation will be to maintain the low-risk, stable income approach. We typically meet bi-annually to discuss any changes to portfolio composition.

### **PAW Centre**

Site Tour—Wednesday, September 29, 2010 at 9:00: The steering committee will tour the “site” where construction will be taking place—this will assist the architects in communicating their vision (our vision) to the steering committee.

Planning Exercise—Thursday, September 30 at 11:00AM: This meeting will serve to further hammer out details regarding types/amount of spaces in the PAW facility before the schematic design phase of the project.

### **Student Group Granting Committee**

The fall session of student group granting selection will take place on Monday, October 4 from 2:00PM to 5:00PM.

### **Infolink/Ancillary Services Access Point Strategy Meeting**

Friday, October 1, 2010 at 2:00PM, I will be meeting with services managers to discuss the prospect of expanding Infolink's reach across campus(es).

### **Sustainability Audit Meeting**

The third internal sustainability audit meeting is this Wednesday, September 29, 2010 at 2:00PM.

### **Strategic Planning Committee Meeting**

Another meeting of the strategic planning committee is scheduled for 3:00PM on Friday, Oct 1, 2010.

### **Students' Council Committee Meetings**

Budget & Finance Committee: 5:15PM, Tuesday, October 5, 2010 (please join!)

Grant Allocation Committee: 5:00PM, Thursday, October 7, 2010

Yours,  
Zach

# (BY)LAW & ORDER

*“du dunn”*

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Starring: Jenn PARSONAGE, Natalie COX, Zach FENTIMAN, Farid ISKANDAR, Ngina we KAAI (proxying for Malori STAN), and Petros KUSMU as Chair.

This week on Bylaw:

- Councillor Nariman SAIDANE resigned from the Bylaw Committee. She will be missed by her Comrades.
- Since Council gave us no work to do, we came up with 2 important “Discussion Items” that we felt were extremely “timely” and important: the idea of impeaching Executives and Councillors off of Students' Council and reviewing the Bylaws surrounding By-Elections.
- However, since we only had SUB 606 for an hour, we had to cut our discussion short (Note to Self: Book SUB 606 for at least 2 hours). We only discussed about the possibilities of impeaching executives. Conclusions? Not anything concrete, but it did help stir the idea around, making next week's meeting more probable of coming up with something concrete (if you'd like, we can send you the minutes).

Next week on Bylaw:

- We will continue to discuss these two important issues. Also, if we have time, we may start discussing about revisions to Bylaw 2000 surrounding “No” Campaigns for Referendums.
- Next week, we will be featuring a new member to the cast of the Bylaw Committee! And this could be YOU (unless you're already on it).
- Our next meeting will be on October 7th at 5PM (and most likely will be in SUB 606).

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*"In the Students' Union, the students are represented by two separate yet equally important groups: the Executives, who get remittances and free food, and the Students' Councillors, who only get the free food (and some scholarship money, too). These are their bylaws."*

<b>Students' Union Elections Office</b> Phone: (780) 492-7102    Email: cro@su.ualberta.ca	
<b>To:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Mr. Steven Dollansky Speaker, Students' Council</li><li>➤ Mr. James Eastham Vice President (Academic), Students' Union</li><li>➤ Mr. Garry Bodnar University Secretariat</li></ul>
<b>From:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Mr. Jaskaran Singh Chief Returning Officer</li></ul>
<b>Subject:</b>	2010 Students' Council and General Faculties Council By-Election Results

### September By-Election Results

Augustana (SC)  
Carlo Smith

Education (SC)  
Vanessa Johnson  
Britney Luimes

Phys. Ed (SC)  
Peter Tenove

Science (SC)  
Sangram Hansra

Augustana (GFC)  
Samuel Whittleton

Arts (GFC)  
Adam Woods  
Tyler Smith

Phys Ed (GFC)  
David Hurley

### Statistics

370 voters  
2.07 percent voter turnout



**Response to Gateway opinion article by Andrew Jeffrey**

As the Chief Returning Officer of the Students' Union, I both agree and disagree with Mr. Jeffrey's article. I am incredibly pleased to see such an advocate of informed voting; however, I do have a problem with the argument. My principle criticism is that Mr. Jeffrey is situating the blame for the lack of candidate information on the Students' Union.

I do see how a common student can construe this as a fault of the elections office, yet the truth is that this responsibility falls on the candidate to provide suitable information.

Bylaw 2000 (the document pertaining to the governing of Students' Union elections) has provisions to empower students in their campaigning efforts by picking up the bill on expenses such as posters, banners, et cetera. With this in mind, the candidate can waive the right to use these options and choose not to campaign at all. Out of all of the candidates, only two provided the elections office with autobiographical sketches for the SU website. This is no criticism of the candidates, as historically there is little fuss and campaign fervor over by-elections.

Throughout the election days I answered various emails with the same questions asked by Mr. Jeffrey, and I responded to all of them in the same way; if you feel that the lack of information does not instill confidence in your faculties candidate, please exercise your right to vote for none of the above, as it is as valid a choice as any.

**Prepared by:** Rory Tighe, Vice President (Student Life)

**To:** Students' Council 2010/2011

### **Programming**

We are working our way through Week of Welcome debriefs. I am looking for more ways for Clubs Fair, Orientation, and Week of Welcome programming to work together in the future. I am also looking at how we can improve each of these individually. This all ties into my Student Engagement Plan, and some thoughts that I have gathered from the process so far may be present in changes to things like Week of Welcome before the Plan is finished. If you have any thoughts about the week, for any of the events/programs, I would love to hear them.

### **Residences**

The new Residence Community Standards came to Campus Law Review Committee as a discussion item. It will be coming back for a vote in late October. I have been working with Residence Services on changing the Lease agreement and enforcement process simultaneously with this policy change.

I met with the Residence Halls' Association President last week and we talked again about his goals moving forward this year. He will be having the first RHA meeting of the year in the next couple of weeks where many of these goals will be discussed. I also talked to him about the RHA website confusions and updates, and he is currently looking into them.

We also had the first Residence Budget Advisory Committee (RBAC) meeting where we discussed residence budget principals and future meeting agendas.

### **Alcohol Policy**

I have brought up questions surrounding the mandate and scope of the Alcohol Policy Review Committee (APRC) and we will be discussing these at the next meeting in October. My questions are regarding what role APRC has in enforcing and changing alcohol policy, membership, and status within University governance.

The University is also currently reviewing its campus-wide alcohol policy and I am trying to figure out a fair consultation process to make sure that Students' concerns are heard.

### **Leadership Certificate**

I am a part of a working group that has been talking about creating a Leadership Certificate program at the U of A. It is something that other Universities in Canada have done and it seems that there are a lot of benefits that come along with it. We are currently discussing how formal the recognition for a program could be and what exactly it would contain but if you have any thoughts please let me know.

### **U-Pass**

I have been working with our advocacy department to explore a spring/summer U-Pass program. I will be bringing it up with ETS again in the next month and possibly working with our



Vice President External to talk to City Council about it in months to come. This project is something that will likely be a long term goal and likely will not come to fruition by the end of my term.

I will not be at the next Council meeting as I will be away at a conference on Campus Sustainability.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions. Ask during council, stop by the office, or send me an email at [vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca)