

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

**Tuesday, March 27, 2018
6:00PM
Council Chambers, University Hall**

LATE ADDITIONS (SC 2017-21)

2017-21/1 SPEAKERS BUSINESS

2017-21/2 PRESENTATIONS

2017-21/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

2017-21/4 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORT

2017-21/5 OPEN FORUM

2017-21/6 QUESTION PERIOD

2017-21/7 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2017-21/8 GENERAL ORDERS

2017-21/9 INFORMATION ITEMS

2017-21/9a President - Report.

See SC-2017-21.01.

2017-21/9b Vice-President, External - Report.

See SC-2017-21.02.

2017-21/9c Consultation Document- Student Group Committee.

See SC-2017-21.03.

2017-21/9d Student Group Policies and Procedures - Presentation

See SC-2017-21.04.

March 27, 2018

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Students' Council

Hello Council,

It has been a busy and tumultuous time at the University of Alberta. Please see a report of my work below.

University

Alumni Council

I attended a full day alumni council retreat. I received several updates on a new fundraising campaign the alumni council is starting. I expressed that the student experience needs to be prioritized or alumni will not be inclined to donate.

Cannabis

The University cannabis working group hosted a town hall which had good attendance. There is also a survey online that students can fill out to voice their opinion with cannabis legalization on campus. Survey -> <https://www.ualberta.ca/campus-life/cannabis-working-group>

Board of Governors

At the Friday March 16, University of Alberta Board of Governors meeting, cost increases to students were approved. Despite vocal student advocacy and opposition, a mandatory meal plan, 4% increase to rent, and 3.14% increase to international students' tuition were passed. Students and the rest of the campus community are understandably upset that they were not listened to. The Students' Union advocacy on these issues is ongoing. Learn more about the cost increases and advocacy here -> <https://theflame.su.ualberta.ca/en/>

Presidents' Forum

President Turpin is having a forum tomorrow to review the 2018-19 budget approved at the Board of Governors on March 16, outline the impact of the federal and provincial budgets on the U of A, and provide an update on ongoing initiatives in For the Public Good, including signature areas development and selection. Please attend if you have any questions or concerns about campus issues. RSVP here -> https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScSO6Qki3xAVPyoy1Y2_B5epAi-F_y4XHMSJ91lizOvVgq0fA/viewform

External

CASA

Marina Banister, *President*

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VP Larsen and I attended the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations Annual General Meeting conference in Fredericton, New Brunswick. I think it was one of the most productive CASA conferences of the year. I was especially happy to see “governance” be added as a pillar in the new strategic plan.

Media

Myself as well as the Vice-Presidents have been doing several media interviews about what is happening at the University of Alberta in regards to budget cuts and cost increases. You can see a recently updated list of interviews here ->

<https://su.ualberta.ca/about/news/>

Internal

The new incoming Vice-Presidents have been thrown into the deep end as they have started their transition at the same time as the unfolding budget situation at the University of Alberta. The outgoing executive is committed to a strong transition, however have been occupied with urgent matters in the past few weeks.

Closing Remarks

My Winter semester office hours will be Tuesdays from 12:00PM-1:00PM in SUB 2-900! Feel free to drop by if you have any questions or would like to discuss anything.

Thank you for reading my report and happy to answer any questions you may have.

Marina Banister
UASU President

Date: March 26, 2018
To: Students' Council
Re: Report to Students' Council

Hi Council,

We really get no breaks around here! Flew all the way across the country to Fredericton and back last week so have only about a million emails and reports to get caught up on. In that vein, my apologies for getting this report on the late additions. If I had done it earlier, the two largest updates of the last two weeks would have been missing.

Congratulations to all those councillors who partook in the elections as well! Fantastic work, most of which I had to watch on livestream or on facebook pages, but was a really excellent year! Looking forward to working with you all and the new folks coming in!

Provincial Budget

Brief highlights include:

- A two per cent increase to Campus Alberta grants;
- \$17.1 million for tuition backfill funding for public post-secondary institutions;
- A total of \$6 million in Budget 2018, and increasing to \$50 million in 5 years to support new technology spaces at post-secondary institutions and new tech and emerging sectors scholarships;
- A total of \$669.5 million budgeted for student loans to help an estimated 84,500 students—a \$39.5 million increase from Budget 2017;
- \$246 million for Student Aid, including \$97 million in scholarships and awards for 53,500 students and \$57 million in grants for 19,000 students;
- \$31 million for Apprenticeship Delivery - to develop and deliver trade and occupational programs, as well as staff 12 regional offices;
- \$94 million for Foundation Learning Supports, helping Albertans seeking English as a Second Language training, academic and skills upgrading, and occupational skills; and
- Continued funding of \$8 million for post-secondary mental health initiatives.
- \$29.5 million for the University of Alberta's District Energy System
- \$239 million for the University of Alberta Dentistry and Pharmacy Building Renewal

"Overall, this budget reflects good news for students," said Reed Larsen, Chair of the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) and Vice-President External for the University of Alberta Students' Union. "The government is demonstrating its commitment to the post-secondary sector, and students are happy with the direction the government is taking." - CAUS 2018

"Although he was happy to see the freeze continue another year, Robyn Paches, with the Council of Alberta University Students, acknowledges it will eventually end. "Our biggest concern is

predictability. We want to make sure students are able to budget for what's coming," said Paches, who is also vice-president of operations and finance with the University of Alberta Students' Union." - *Alberta budget 2018: Post-secondary students applaud continued tuition freeze* Edmonton Journal

This budget does represent a continued commitment from government to fund PSE and is mostly positive for students. Growth in the Alberta Campus Grant and Backfill funding are massive wins for student advocacy, as well as, support to growing scholarships, bursaries, and grants are excellent, and funding mental health resources is now guaranteed.

However, this Budget 2018 completely contradicts the budget assumptions that the University of Alberta used to create its most recent budget. The University of Alberta will have increased student fees while also receiving a budget increases and cutting funding to faculty. Ensuring that the campus community is aware that the university now has this surplus and either will keep it internally or return it to students is pivotal. Pressure to ensure funding goes to appropriate student supports or is outright returned to students through repealing fees is crucial.

As well, the Minister of Advanced Education Marlin Schmidt has repeatedly been interviewed being frustrated with compensation of University administration and executives. I perceive that this is positioning for government to introduce regulation or legislation limiting these costs. However, we will have to wait on that front. We ultimately have been pushing that government needs to focus on protecting students, not necessarily fighting administration, however, wherever cost savings can be found, and it lessens the impact on students...

I know that Robyn is big on the memes but this encapsulates a lot of how I feel these days...



Council of Alberta University Students & Advocacy Days

The Council of Alberta University Students will be undertaking its second advocacy days of the year next week! Keep an eye on social media to share and like the work being done by advocates across the province. The advocacy document will be public Monday, and I will distribute that widely.

Asides that, this organization continues to go through a transitory phase, and hiring a new ED has been a significant focus of mine over the past month. We should have the organization wholly changed over by May though and looking forward to working with such a fantastic group going forward.

We will be making a very sustained push to ensure that we have movement on the Tuition, Funding Framework, and Roles & Mandates reviews that are ongoing. In particular, ensuring regulations and legislation to protect tuition costs will be a priority. This is the critical moment when the government can step in and right some ongoing wrongs, or, tuition will become a political beating stick in the 2019 elections. I urge councillors to like, share, and promote messaging to get this government moving, as everything makes a difference.

Canadian Alliance of Student Associations

President Banister and I just spent the last week in Fredericton New Brunswick at the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations annual general meeting, overall a very productive meeting! Lasting over three days, we approved some much-needed updates, including updating their policy positions, reviewing internal procedures, and renewing the strategic plan. Next year they will face some challenges, including planning for elections 2019, new members, and a transition of their Executive Director.



#beleiveinfahim 2018

Cheers,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Reed Larsen'.

Reed Larsen

STUDENT GROUP COMMITTEE IN BYLAW 100

These are the additions that would be necessary to Bylaw 100 to create the Student Group Committee. As of right now, the numbers will be out of date compared to the bylaw due to recent changes, but this should give you a decent understanding of what the committee will look like.

12 Standing Committee Membership

7. The Student Group Committee consists of:
 - a. Two (2) voting members of the Students' Council.
 - b. The Vice President Student Life.
 - c. The Vice President Academic.
 - d. Four students-at-large, two of whom must be executives of a student group.
 - e. Two staff members of Student Group Services recommended by Student Group Services will have non-voting seats.
 - f. Two staff members of the University recommended by the Dean of Students, one of whom must be from the office of the Dean of Students, will have non-voting seats.

14 Quorum of Standing Committees

4. The Student Group Committee will have a quorum of five voting members, at least two of whom must be voting members of Students' Council.

17 Mandates of Standing Committees

7. The Student Group Committee
 - a. Shall receive reports on all student group investigations carried out by SU staff;
 - b. Shall make determinations on matters of student group discipline;
 - c. Shall make determinations on matters of registration and event approval in situations where Student Group Services staff cannot automatically approve the registration or event submission of a Student Group.
 - d. Review and make recommendations on policy and procedures to Student Group Services and on bylaw to Students' Council.
 - e. Provide general advice and oversight on student group affairs to Student Group Services and Students' Council.

STUDENT GROUP COMMITTEE STANDING ORDERS

This document is the Standing Orders that will govern how the Committee conducts its meetings, and outlines quorum,

1 Mandate

1. In accordance with Bylaw 100, the Student Group Committee:
 - a. Shall receive reports on all student group investigations carried out by SU staff;
 - b. Shall make determinations on matters of student group discipline;
 - c. Shall make determinations on matters of registration and, where appropriate, event approval in situations where Student Group Services staff cannot automatically approve the registration or event submission of a Student Group.

2 Meetings

1. Quorum of the Student Group Committee shall be five voting members.
2. Start-Up Meeting Logistics
 - a. The Administrative Assistant will arrange a start-up meeting of the Student Group Committee after the start-up meeting of Students' Council and prior to the installation ceremony at the first meeting of Students' Council.
3. The Order of Business for the start-up meeting of the incoming Student Group Committee will be:
 - a. Election of a Chair (see appendix 1)
 - b. Approval of Meeting Schedule, and
 - c. Approval of Standing Orders.
4. The Order of Business for the last meeting of the year will have the following orders of the day added to the Chair's Business:
 - a. Review and Revision of Standing Orders.
5. Within the limitations of Bylaw 100, additional meetings of the Student Group Committee may be called by the:
 - a. Chair, or
 - b. Student Group Committee.
6. Meetings of the Student Group Committee may be cancelled by the Chair or Student Group Committee.

3 Membership

1. The Administrative Assistant to Council shall request nominations of non-Councillor committee members from Student Group Services prior to the Start-Up meeting.
2. Should a vacancy on the Student Group Committee occur, then the Committee shall recommend the nomination of additional member(s) to the appropriate nomination body as soon as possible.
3. Should the Chair of the Student Group Committee leave the voting membership of the Committee, the position of Chair shall be considered vacant and a new chair shall be elected at the next meeting.

4 Attendance

1. The Chair will take attendance orally twice each meeting, once during the Chair's Business and once immediately prior to adjournment.

5 Chair's Responsibilities and Duties

1. Presiding over debate at meetings of the Student Group Committee,
2. Submitting the "Report to Students' Council" to the Administrative assistant, after each Student Group Committee Meeting and prior to the deadline for Submissions to the next Students' Council meeting as set out in the Students' Council Standing Orders.
3. Working with the Speaker and Administrative Assistant to ensure the logistical needs of Student Group Committee are met,
4. Recommending to Students' Council the removal of any member who in the opinion of the Chair is not fulfilling their responsibilities to the Student Group Committee, and
5. Designating an alternative chair for any meeting of the Student Group Committee they are unable to attend.

6 Member Responsibilities and Duties

1. All members of the Student Group Committee are responsible for:
 - a. Ensuring the mandate of the Student Group Committee is being fulfilled;
 - b. Recommending to the Student Group Committee the removal of any chair who in the opinion of the members of the Student Group committee is not fulfilling their responsibilities as Chair to the Student Group Committee;

- c. Recommending to Students' Council the removal of any member who in the opinion of the Student Group Committee is not fulfilling their responsibilities to the Student Group Committee;
- d. Carefully reviewing all appeal, disciplinary, and advisory materials without bias prior to the meeting; and
- e. Making appeal and disciplinary decisions with full consideration for the principles of natural justice.

7 Proxies/Guests

1. Any person may become a Guest of the Student Group Committee upon being recognised as such by the Chair.
2. The Chair may grant speaking privileges to Guests of the Student Group Committee as deemed appropriate by the Chair.
3. To appoint a proxy to the Student Group Committee, the member thereof must provide a notice to that effect to the Chair of the Committee:
 - a. Stating the name and e-mail address of the eligible member of Students' Council who will serve as proxy;
 - b. Indicating the duration of the appointment; and
 - c. That is signed by the appointing member of the Committee or e-mailed to the Chair of the Committee no later than two hours prior to the Committee meeting.

9 Administrative Assistant Duties

1. The Administrative Assistant of the Students' Council will:
 - a. Book meeting rooms for meetings of the Committee.
 - b. Book an Administrative Clerk for each meeting of the Committee.
 - c. Structure Agendas for each meeting based on the Orders of the Day submitted by members of the Committee and any referrals from Students' Council.
 - d. Notify the Committee of Meetings through the Agenda.
 - e. Distribute the Agenda and Minutes to members of the Committee in accordance with Standing Orders.
 - f. Ensure paper copies of the Agenda are printed for the Chair to bring to each meeting upon request.

10 Records

1. If an Administrative Clerk is not present at the meeting, the Chair will assign the task of recording proceedings to a member of the Committee.
2. Student Group Committee “Report to Students’ Council”
 - a. Student Group Committee proceedings will be recorded in a document styled “Report to Students’ Council”.
 - b. The “Report to Students’ Council” will be circulated to members of the committee via email for feedback regarding accuracy prior to submission to the Speaker.
 - c. The “Report to Students’ Council” is considered approved as submitted by the Chair to the Speaker for Students’ Council and ultimately as received by Students’ Council.
 - d. Whenever in the opinion of Student Group Committee an error is made in the “Report to Students’ Council” submitted by the Chair to the Speaker for Students’ Council, such error will be noted in the next “Report to Students’ Council”.
 - e. The Report to Students’ Council will consist of:
 - i. A document styled “Summary of Proceedings” which will be a brief written summary of the Student Group Committee’s activities at the relevant meeting;
 - ii. A document containing a list of all motions voted on by the committee that the committee intends to be a force and effect in accordance with Bylaw 100; and
 - iii. An appendix of all documents voted upon by the Student Group Committee for the purpose of providing an audit trail and accurate record of actions taken.

11 Rules of Order

1. Robert’s Rules of Order will be observed at all meetings of Student Group Committee except where they are inconsistent with the Bylaw or Standing Orders of the Student Group Committee.
2. Where the Bylaws, Standing Orders and Robert’s Rules of Order fail to provide direction with respect to procedure, the Chair will decide.

3. The Chair may relax the rules prescribed in Robert's Rules of Order at their discretion.
4. Any member of the Student Group Committee may require the Chair to strictly employ any part or all of Robert's Rules of Order by rising on a point of order to that effect.

12 Orders of the Day

1. Any voting member of the Student Group Committee may submit Orders of the Day to be considered by the Student Group Committee.
2. The following SU Staff may submit Orders of the Day regarding recognition, derecognition, event approval, or investigation of Student Groups to be considered by the Student Group Committee:
 - a. The Director of Student Life;
 - b. The SGS Program Lead;
 - c. The SGS Assistant Program Lead;
 - d. The Discover Governance Manager.
3. Order of Business
 - a. Chair's Business
 - b. Question/Discussion Period
 - c. Committee Business
 - i. Consideration of items submitted from members of the committee;
 - ii. Consideration of items submitted from SU Staff;
 - iii. Other matters referred to the Student Group Committee;
 - iv. Miscellaneous recommendations to the Student Group Committee.
 - d. Information Items
4. Order of Orders of the Day
 - a. Orders of the Day shall appear on the Agenda in the order submitted or as otherwise designated by the Chair.
 - b. Orders of the Day must be submitted to both the Chair and Students' Council Administrative Assistant by noon two business days prior to a Student Group Committee meeting.
 - c. Late Orders may be added to the Agenda, at the discretion of Student Group Committee at the meeting, if the items of business cannot be postponed to a future meeting of Student Group Committee for resolution without risking

detrimental consequences to or negative procedural difficulties for the Students' Union.

5. The agenda package will be published in the following manner:
 - a. Paper copies will be created and made available in the Students' Council Office upon request, and
 - b. An electronic version will be placed on the Students' Union web page.
 - c. The Agenda package will be published no later than 4.30p.m. on the business day prior to a Student Group Committee meeting.
 - d. For additional unscheduled meetings called by the Chair or the Student Group Committee, there will be no submission or publishing deadline.
6. Special Orders
 - a. A motion to make a specific Order of the Day a Special Order is a privileged motion.
 - b. The Order of Business notwithstanding, the Chair may designate any Order of the Day a Special Order.
 - c. The Order of Business notwithstanding, the Student Group Committee may designate any Order of the Day a Special Order.
7. Chair's Business
 - a. During Chair's Business, the Chair will address all day-to day regulatory concerns of the Student Group Committee, including but not limited to:
 - i. Attendance;
 - ii. Approval of the "Report to Students' Council" required in accordance with Bylaw 100;
 - iii. Resignations/recommendations to Council to nominate new members;
 - iv. Any process by which a member is recommended for removal from the Student Group Committee;
 - v. Reports;
 - vi. Announcements; and
 - vii. Motions making Orders of the Day Special Orders

13 Standing Orders

1. The Standing Orders of the Student Group Committee may be amended by a simple majority vote of the Committee, with such changes being reported to Students' Council.
2. The Standing Orders of the Student Group Committee do not expire, but shall be reintroduced and approved at the Committee's first meeting.

14 Confidentiality

1. All members shall ensure the security and confidentiality of sensitive information that comes into their possession by virtue of their membership on the Student Group Committee.

19 Miscellaneous

1. Public Meetings
 - a. Meetings of the Student Group Committee are open to the public, unless the Student Group Committee moves in camera.

20 Appendix 1: Procedure for Electing a Chair

1. Electing a Chair at the start-up meeting of the Student Group Committee:
 - a. The Speaker of Students' Council will serve as interim chair for the duration of the start up meeting of the Student Group Committee, and preside over the election of a Chair of the Student Group Committee as per this Appendix.
 - b. Any voting member of the Student Group Committee may nominate themselves for the role of Chair.
 - c. Each candidate may give a brief speech not to exceed two minutes.
 - d. The presiding officer will allow questions to be put to the candidates from the members of the Student Group Committee.
 - e. The vote will be by secret ballot
 - f. The Student Group Committee will recess while the presiding officer counts the vote.
 - g. The presiding officer will announce the results of the election to the Student Group Committee.
2. Electing a Chair after a vacancy:

- a. Should the position of chair become vacant, election of a new chair will take place at the next meeting of the Student Group Committee as a special order of business to be dispensed with immediately.
- b. Election of a new Chair shall be held in accordance with this appendix with the exception that a voting member of the Student Group Committee who is not running for election or re-election to the position of chair will preside over elections procedure until the election of a new chair.
- c. This member will be the outgoing Chair unless the outgoing Chair is running for re-election or is no longer a voting member of the Student Group Committee, in which case the presiding member will be determined by vote cast by all members of the Student Group Committee not running for election or re-election to the position of chair.
- d. In the case that all voting members of the Student Group Committee are running for election or re-election to the position of Chair, the speaker of Students' Council will serve as presiding officer.

Student Group Policies and Procedures

Outline

- History of Policies and Procedures
- Issues Identified
- Key Changes Proposed
- Feedback



The history of student group policies and procedures

History

- Vague policies and procedures
- Inconsistent student group oversight
- Basic requirements of student group management are unreasonably challenging



We are one of the few universities in the country in which student groups are managed by the university and not the SU



Examples of key issues identified

Key Issues Identified

- Inconsistent processes and procedures
- Lack of timelines
- Unjust discipline practices
- Weak judicial process
- Lack of transparency
- Difficult event submission process
- Vague communications and expectations



Students' Union Student Groups:

Developing separate policies and procedures

Our Proposed Changes

- Student-led decision-making through a Student Group Committee
- Concrete timelines
- Fair judicial process
- Simpler event registration



Feedback + Questions?