

April 16th, 2024
6:00pm
Council Chambers/Zoom

The University of Alberta and the University of Alberta Students' Union occupy Indigenous land in amiskwacîswâskahikan (Beaver Hills House), on Treaty 6 territory. From time immemorial, the banks along the river valley have been known as the Pehonan, a meeting place for the nêhiyawak (Cree), the Niitsítapi (Blackfoot), Métis, Dënesųłiné (Dene), Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and others. The University, the Students' Union and much of the city are located on the unlawfully stolen land of the forcibly removed Papaschase Cree.

We acknowledge that sharing this land gives each of us the responsibility to research the historic contexts of Treaty 6, to reflect on our personal relationships to the land, the Nations we've named, and to our roles in upholding justice on this territory. Since they began, the Students' Union and the University have benefited from historic and ongoing dispossession of land and resources from Indigenous Peoples. As a result, it is our responsibility to seek the restitution of this land and its resources. Finally, we seek to do better by working to make our learning, research, and governance align with the histories, languages, teachings, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples in the land presently occupied by the Canadian state.

We encourage critical reflection by asking the following question. In relation to the territory on which you are situated, what role do you play in strengthening the resistance and resurgence of Indigenous students within your communities?

LATE ADDITIONS (SC-2023-26)

2023-26/1 SPEAKERS BUSINESS

2023-26/1a Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/95902116340>

2023-26/1b Council Scholarship Voting

2023-26/1c *The Gateway Awards Presentation*

2023-26/1d Executive and BoG Farewell Speeches

2023-26/2 CONSENT AGENDA

2023-26/3 PRESENTATIONS

2023-26/4 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOG REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

2023-26/5 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORT

2023-26/6 OPEN FORUM

2023-26/7

QUESTION PERIOD

- 2023-26/8 UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- 2023-26/9 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS
- 2023-26/9c **MAJEKODUNMI/GRIFFITHS MOVE TO** approve the second principles of the Truth and Reconciliation Political Policy

See SC-2023-26.19
- 2023-26/9d **GRIFFITHS/ABDELWAHAB MOVE TO** recommend a 10% increase to the Health and Dental Plan Fees for the 2024/25 academic year.

See SC-2023-26.20
- 2023-26/9e **THIESSEN/ALMEIDA MOVE TO** appoint Hiba Khan as Chief Tribune of the Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement Board.

See SC-2023-26.21
- 2023-26/9f **ALMEIDA/THIESSEN MOVE TO** approve the second principles of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships Policy and to concurrently delete the Scholarships and Bursaries policy.

See SC-2023-26.22
- 2023-26/9g **LAM/ALMEIDA MOVE TO** approve the Votes and Proceedings from the April 2nd Meeting of Students' Council

See SC-2023-26.23
- 2023-26/9h **FLAMAN/THIESSEN MOVE TO** reintroduce the Annual Remembrance portion of the first Council meeting of the year in May. (joke motion)

See SC-2023-26.24
- 2023-26/10 GENERAL ORDERS
- 2023-26/11 CLOSED SESSIONS
- 2023-26/11a **BEASLEY/FOTANG MOVE TO** enter closed session to receive updates on Provincial advocacy
- 2023-26/12 INFORMATION ITEMS
- 2023-26/12f Executive Reports

See SC-2023-26.14-17

2023-26/12g Students' Council Submissions

See SC-2023-26.18-33

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

UASU Students' Council Agenda Submission Form

Council Meeting Date

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

[Meeting Schedule](#)

Submitter

Christian Fotang

Email Address

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Type of Item Submission

Information Item

Is this a Consent Agenda item?

No

Approval/Discussion Items

[Strategic Plan](#)

Calls for Nominations

[Council Committees and Boards](#)

Written Nominations

Information Items

Agenda Title

President Report

Description of the Information Item

final exec report

Attachments



President final report_Exec c... .pdf

Presentations

Written Questions

Executive Reports

President Report

Christian Fotang | *President*

Dear Council,

It's hard to believe we've reached our last council meeting. This year, like any other, brought its share of challenges. It's been a difficult time. Despite this, I am immensely proud of how resilient, collaborative, and dedicated our council has been throughout this challenging year.

At the start of the year, our team set out three main goals:

1. Amplify Student Voices
2. Enhance and Cultivate the Student Experience
3. Promote Comprehensive Student Learning

Reflecting on the past year and our efforts toward these goals, I am incredibly proud of my team and our collective achievements for the students of the University of Alberta, both present and future. We've endured some challenging moments together, and



their support, kindness, and drive have been crucial in navigating this year. I want to express my gratitude to them for their dedication and service to the student body.

Writing this report has been bittersweet. I can't count how many of these I have had to write over the last three years, but it has felt like a lifetime. Over the previous four years, Council has been a constant in my life. I have witnessed many highs and lows, all while meeting with, learning from, and working with incredible student leaders. I have learned so much and grown in many ways, professionally and personally, in the last two terms, and this year was no exception. I know I have my shortcomings, I know I have been far from perfect, but I know that every morning for the last 1,081 days, I have gotten up motivated to serve and do good by the students who lent me their power in exchange for a promise. And I couldn't have asked for a better group of people to complete this 1081-day-long journey that is now ending.

UASU Strategic Plan Steering Committee

The executive committee approved the amendment of the terms of reference for the steering committee. The updates, while minor, will see the addition of two other students at large seats, with preference for other Augustana and Campus Saint-Jean students. The committee met last week to discuss the next step as we transition the incoming team. Survey responses were grouped into themes, and prompting questions based on student responses were developed for further engagement with different units within the UASU. The next stage will be to craft critical success factors based on new priorities, existing initiatives, and unit feedback. I have attached the report below.

Transition

I have been continuing transition meetings with President-Elect Glock, and I am confident she will be ready to serve as an effective President starting May 1st. We will be on our Executive retreat for our remaining transition activities between April 28th and May 4th. VP Beasley, myself, then-to-be President Glock, VP Abbassi, and I will be traveling to Canmore for the Council of Alberta University Students changeover conference the following weekend. That will be my last event with the UASU. For now, I will focus on ensuring the smoothest possible transition, creating more transition material for CAUS and internally.

Meeting with Chancellor-Elect Somji

The incoming and outgoing team met with Chancellor Garrity and Chancellor-Elect Nizar Somji. This was an opportunity to introduce ourselves and for the Chancellor-Elect to learn more about what the SU has been up to and the relationship with the Chancellor's office. We thanked Chancellor Garrity for her years of service to

our University. Her leadership in addressing homelessness, mental health prevention, and response to campus sexual violence and for being vocal on the issues that students have raised, whether at the Senate or Board of Governors. We look forward to Chancellor-Elect Somji's direction, especially as we navigate new forces of change on and off campus.

Myer Horowitz Theatre Re-Opening

Re-opening the Myer-Horowitz Theatre was the biggest highlight of last week. Seeing the space returned to life after four years of construction was magnificent. While there are still some finishing touches, I am thankful to have witnessed the coming to life of the vision of my predecessors. The renovation saw new achievements, from reducing energy use in the building to more accessible all-gender washrooms, expanded lounge space, and updated and accessible seating within the theatre. The Teagan and Sara concert elevated the space with a packed room of fans, students, alumni, and staff. There are many people to name for the completion of this project. But foremost, I want to give a massive shoutout to our events team for planning, preparing, and producing the show and re-opening the space. I look forward to seeing what students, student groups, and community members will do with the space.

Reflection on goals

With only two weeks left in office, I want to share some of the work and goals we have accomplished through student advocacy this year.

- Collaborated with the University to revamp the Moderate Standard of Living calculation, boosting bursary spending for 2023/2024 by \$1 million.
- Defeated the proposed campus-wide smoking ban: The ban was not passed at the General Faculties Council (GFC) due to collaborative efforts with the Indigenous Students' Union (ISU).
- Student Experience Action Plan: We've worked on the strategic guide reflecting students' priorities for our University experience. Officially launched in January, it outlines pathways for improving the student experience in vital areas ID'd by students.
- Indigenous Course Requirement Approval: Successfully advocated for an Indigenous Course requirement in the Faculty of Science to be implemented by Fall 2024.
- Consent Awareness Week: We partnered with Possibility Seeds and The U of A Sexual Assault Centre to promote consent literacy on campus.
- ZTCup Award: Introduced the ZTCup, recognizing faculties' efforts to make courses more affordable through the Zero Textbook Cost program.
- Fought back against potentially unaffordable student textbook fees. Specifically Academic Materials Program.
- Creation of a financial aid support hub to provide better communication and awareness of financial assistance for students.
- Zero Waste Initiatives: Undertook efforts to minimize waste on campus, focusing on initiatives like zero waste at CSJ and partnering with The Daily Grind with Too Good to Go to reduce food waste.
- \$500 million in Youth Mental Health in Budget 2024

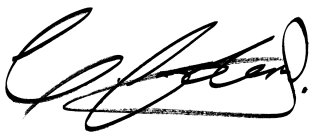
- 4,800+ letters sent as part of our letter-writing campaign to fight tuition
- Increase tuition offset from 7.55% to 8.55%, which will result in nearly \$1.2 million in additional financial assistance for international students in need.
- Promotion and/or creation of more student discounts
- Pushing the university administration to fast-track the hiring of the executive director and restore UASAC's services.
- Co-organized and hosted alongside the ISU the Indigenous Students Award Recipient Recognition Night
- Successfully advocated for the role of the SGBV response coordinator to be transformed into a permanent position as the University Lead on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Response.
- Getting the University to recognize outdated religious exam policies and allow students to continue to apply for accommodations past the policy deadline.
- Expansion of the Affirmed names so students can use the preferred first and last names of University interfaces.
- Expansion of Free Verification of Enrollment to Augustana
- Collaborated with the Dean of Students Office to create a grant to improve access to prayer spaces.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me or any other team member with any questions. Although my tenure at UASU has concluded, I will continue as a student next year. Feel free to contact me at my personal email: fotang@ualberta.ca

To the incoming council team, I wish you all the best. I'll be cheering you on and supporting you from the sidelines. I'm eager to see what you will accomplish. To those who are also concluding their time in governance, thank you for serving. I am proud of what we have achieved and feel privileged to have shared this advocacy journey with you.

Whatever your next steps, I hope you succeed in whatever way that means to you. Spread kindness, and best of luck with new frontiers.

Cheers,



University of Alberta Students' Union President
Christian Fotang, President

	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2022-01	05/08/2023
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from April 24, 2023 as presented	4/0/1 CARRIED, FLAMAN abstaining	2022-01	05/08/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
ALMEIDA/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2022-02	05/11/2023
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from May 8, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2022-02	05/11/2023
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO go into closed session for the balance of this discussion.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2022-02	05/11/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
ALMEIDA/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented	4/0/0 CARRIED	2022-03	05/15/2023
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from May 11, 2023 as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2022-03	05/15/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-04	05/18/2023
ALMEIDA/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from May 15, 2023 as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-04	05/18/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as amended.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-05	05/29/2023
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from May 18, 2023 as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-05	05/29/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-06	06/12/2023
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from May 29, 2023 as presented	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-06	06/12/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
ALMEIDA/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-07	06/19/2023
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from June 12, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-07	06/19/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
ALMEIDA/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-08	06/22/2023
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from June 19, 2023 as presented	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-08	06/22/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
FLAMAN/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-09	06/26/2023
GRIFFITHS/FLAMAN MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from June 22, 2023 as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-09	06/26/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
ALMEIDA/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-10	06/29/2023
ALMEIDA/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from June 26, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-10	06/29/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date

GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2013-11	06/29/2023
ALMEIDA/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from June 29, 2023 as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2013-11	06/29/2023
FLAMAN/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Kitchen Manager Job Description as submitted.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2013-11	06/29/2023
FLAMAN/GRIFFITHS MOVE TO approve conference expenditures for the Executive Committee to attend the Student Union Development Summit (SUDS) at the University of British Columbia from August 18 to 21, 2023 not to exceed \$4,700.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2013-11	06/29/2023
Result		Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/FLAMAN MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2013-12	07/10/2023
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from July 6, 2023 as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2013-12	07/10/2023
FLAMAN/GRIFFITHS MOVED THAT the UASU sign the Courage to Act open letter on the hate-motivated attack at the University of Waterloo.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2013-12	07/10/2023
Result		Meeting	Date
ALMEIDA/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented	5/0/0 CARRIED	2013-13	07/13/2023
ALMEIDA/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from July 10, 2023 as presented.	4/0/1 CARRIED, BEASLEY abstaining.	2013-13	07/13/2023
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the terms of reference for the ETI Task Force as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2013-13	07/13/2023
Result		Meeting	Date
FLAMAN/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented	4/0/0 CARRIED	2013-14	07/17/2023
FLAMAN/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from July 13, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2013-14	07/17/2023
Result		Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2013-15	07/24/2023
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from July 17, 2023 as presented.	3/0/1 CARRIED, BEASLEY abstaining.	2013-15	07/24/2023
GRIFFITHS/BEASLEY MOVE TO allocate up to \$30,000 from the Contingency Reserve for the purpose of purchasing new communications hardware to meet University requirements	5/0/0 CARRIED	2013-15	07/24/2023
Result		Meeting	Date
ALMEIDA/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2013-16	07/27/2023
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from July 24, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2013-16	07/27/2023
Result		Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2013-17	07/31/2023
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from July 27, 2023 as presented	5/0/0 CARRIED	2013-17	07/31/2023
Result		Meeting	Date

ALMEIDA/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2013-18	08/03/2023
FLAMAN/ALMEIDA MOVE TO go in-camera.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2013-18	08/03/2023
FLAMAN/BEASLEY MOVE TO ex-camera.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2013-18	08/03/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
FLAMAN/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2013-19	08/10/2023
FLAMAN/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from August 3, 2023 as presented.	4/1/0 CARRIED, GRIFFITHS abstaining.	2013-19	08/10/2023
BEASLEY/FLAMAN MOVE TO appoint ALMEIDA and BEASLEY to be the two Executives selected for a DIE Board Hiring Committee	5/0/0 CARRIED	2013-19	08/10/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/FLAMAN MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2013-20	08/14/2023
FLAMAN/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from August 10, 2023 as presented.	3/1/0 CARRIED, FLAMAN abstaining.	2013-20	08/14/2023
FLAMAN/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from July 31, 2023 as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2013-20	08/14/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
ALMEIDA/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-21	08/17/2023
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from August 14, 2023 as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-21	08/17/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
ALMEIDA/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-22	08/23/2023
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from August 17	TABLED	2023-22	08/23/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
ALMEIDA/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-23	08/28/2023
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from August 17, 2023 and August 23, 2023 as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-23	08/28/2023
FLAMAN/ALMEIDA MOVED TO go into closed session.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-23	08/28/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-24	08/31/2023
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from August 28, 2023 as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-24	08/31/2023
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve a \$2000 donation to be made to the Campus Food Bank.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-24	08/31/2023
FLAMAN/ALMEIDA MOVED TO go in camera.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-24	08/31/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-25	09/11/2023
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from August 31, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-25	09/11/2023

	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-26	09/18/2023
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from September 11, 2023 as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-26	09/18/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-27	09/21/2023
ALMEIDA/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from September 18, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-27	09/21/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-28	09/25/2023
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve a Project Allocation release of \$4,999 for the Residential School Memorial.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-28	09/25/2023
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO amend Operating Policy section 2.6 on decorations and signage in SUB.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-28	09/25/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as amended.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-29	10/02/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-30	10/05/2023
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from September 21, September 25, and October 2, 2023 as presented.	4/0/01 CARRIED	2023-30	10/05/2023
ALMEIDA/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO request no more than \$5000 from the Project Allocation budget to be used for the SRA Summit.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-30	10/05/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
ALMEIDA/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-31	10/12/2023
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from October 5, 2023 as presented	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-31	10/12/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-32	10/16/2023
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from October 12, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-32	10/16/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-33	10/19/2023
ALMEIDA/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from October 16, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-33	10/19/2023
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO go into closed session.	5/0/0 PASSED	2023-33	10/19/2023
GRIFFITHS/BEASLEY MOVED TO leave closed session.	5/0/0 PASSED	2023-33	10/19/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-34	10/23/2023
FLAMAN/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from October 19, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-34	10/23/2023
FLAMAN/ALMEIDA MOVED TO go into closed session	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-34	10/23/2023
FLAMAN/ALMEIDA MOVED TO go out of closed session	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-34	10/23/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date

ALMEIDA/FLAMAN MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-35	10/26/2023
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from October 23, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-35	10/26/2023
FLAMAN/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Job Descriptions as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-35	10/26/2023
BEASLEY/FLAMAN MOVED TO appoint GRIFFITHS to the Board of The Landing to replace ALMEIDA.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-35	10/26/2023
FLAMAN/ALMEIDA MOVED TO go into closed session.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-35	10/26/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/FLAMAN MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-36	10/30/2023
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from October 26, 2023 as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-36	10/30/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-37	11/02/2023
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from October 30, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-37	11/02/2023
GRIFFITHS/FLAMAN MOVE TO approve \$200 from the PA fund as an honorarium for Feiyao (Mark) Wu for his work in restoring the piano in the HUB/humanities pedway.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-37	11/02/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-38	11/06/2023
ALMEIDA/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from November 2, 2023 as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-38	11/06/2023
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVE TO approve the use of up to \$500 of PA funds towards the UASU's part of International Day, in collaboration with the ISA.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-38	11/06/2023
FOTANG/ALMEIDA MOVE TO approve using up to \$250 of PA funds towards the Welcome Workshop Series: Black Students in Leadership: Opportunities and Challenges.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-38	11/06/2023
FLAMAN/ALMEIDA MOVED TO go into closed session.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-38	11/06/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
FLAMAN/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-39	11/09/2023
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from November 6, 2023 as presented	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-39	11/09/2023
GRIFFITHS/ALMEFOTANG/GRIFFITHS MOVE TO endorse the participation of the UASU Vice President (Academic) on SPARC's Student Advisory Committee.	3/0/1 CARRIED	2023-39	11/09/2023
GRIFFITHS/FLAMAN MOVE TO approve the use of up to \$1500 of PA funds towards the UASU's part of International Day, in collaboration with the ISA.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-39	11/09/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/FOTANG MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-40	11/16/2023
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from November 9, 2023 as presented	3/0/1 CARRIED	2023-40	11/16/2023
FLAMAN/GRIFFITHS MOVE TO approve \$214.20 from the Project Allocation Reserve for a Bar None 76 SUTV advertisement.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-40	11/16/2023
GRIFFITHS/FLAMAN MOVE TO approve up to \$350 from the Project Allocation Reserve for the Pronoun Campaign budget.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-40	11/16/2023
ALMEIDA/GRIFFITHS MOVE TO direct Governance to schedule a special meeting of Students' Council for November the 28th at 6PM.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-40	11/16/2023

	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-41	11/20/2023
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from November 16, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-41	11/20/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-42	11/23/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/FLAMAN MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-43	11/27/2023
FLAMAN/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from November 20 and November 23, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-43	11/27/2023
FLAMAN/BEASLEY MOVED TO go in camera.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-43	11/27/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-44	11/30/2023
ALMEIDA/FLAMAN TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from November 27, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-44	11/30/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
FLAMAN/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-45	12/04/2023
BEASLEY/FOTANG MOVE TO appoint VP Academic Almeida as the new representative on the ISA Council.	4/0/1 CARRIED	2023-45	12/04/2023
FLAMAN/BEASLEY MOVE TO advance the NUA FAMF membership fee in order to pay their CNUA fee to the amount owing, \$15,691	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-45	12/04/2023
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVE TO go in camera.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-45	12/04/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-46	12/07/2023
FLAMAN/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from November 30 and December 4, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-46	12/07/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-47	12/11/2023
FLAMAN/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from December 7, 2023 as amended	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-47	12/11/2023
GRIFFITHS/FLAMAN MOVE TO allow the release of an additional 150,000 dollars from the Access Fund to be released to the Registrar's Office.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-47	12/11/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
FLAMAN/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-48	12/18/2023
FLAMAN/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from December 11, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-48	12/18/2023
	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/FLAMAN MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-49	01/04/2024
BEASLEY/FLAMAN MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from December 18, 2023 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-49	01/04/2024
BEASLEY/FLAMAN MOVED TO approve the job descriptions as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-49	01/04/2024
BEASLEY/FLAMAN MOVED TO go in camera.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-49	01/04/2024

	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/FLAMAN MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-50	01/08/2024
FLAMAN/BEASLEY MOVED TO go in camera.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-50	01/08/2024
	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-51	01/11/2024
GRIFFITHS/FOTANG MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from January 4 and January 8, 2024 as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-51	01/11/2024
	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-52	01/15/2024
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO go in camera.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-52	01/15/2024
	Result	Meeting	Date
FLAMAN/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-53	01/18/2024
GRIFFITHS/FLAMAN MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from January 11 and 15, 2024 as presented	4/0/1 CARRIED, ALMEI	2023-53	01/18/2024
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO go into closed session.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-53	01/18/2024
	Result	Meeting	Date
FLAMAN/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-54	01/24/2024
FLAMAN/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from January 18, 2024 as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-54	01/24/2024
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO go into closed session.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-54	01/24/2024
	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-55	01/29/2024
BEASLEY/FLAMAN MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from January 24, 2024 as presented	4/0/1 CARRIED, BEASL	2023-55	01/29/2024
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO go into closed session.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-55	01/29/2024
	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-56	02/01/2024
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve \$400 to sponsor 10 tickets to the Black Nursing Alliance's Black History Month Gala.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-56	02/01/2024
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO go into closed session.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-56	02/01/2024
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO go out of closed session	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-56	02/01/2024
	Result	Meeting	Date
FLAMAN/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-57	02/05/2024
FLAMAN/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from February 1, 2024 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-57	02/05/2024
BEASLEY/FOTANG MOVES TO approve a Project Allocation not to exceed \$1155 for the purchase of tickets to the ACC MLA Dinner.	TABLED	2023-57	02/05/2024
GRIFFITHS/FLAMAN MOVED TO go into closed session.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-57	02/05/2024
	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-58	02/08/2024

BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from February 5, 2024 as presented.	3/0/1 CARRIED,ALMEI	2023-58	02/08/2024
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO go into closed session.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-58	02/08/2024
	Result	Meeting	Date
FLAMAN/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-59	02/12/2024
FLAMAN/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from February 8, 2024 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-59	02/12/2024
FOTANG/GRIFFITHS MOVE TO allocate an amount not to exceed \$5000 to cover the We Create Futures event for the celebration of University of Alberta Black student artists	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-59	02/12/2024
FOTANG/ALMEIDA MOVED TO allocate an amount not to exceed \$662 to cover the Muslim Students' Association event reimbursement.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-59	02/12/2024
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO go into closed session.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-59	02/12/2024
	Result	Meeting	Date
FLAMAN/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-60	02/15/2024
FLAMAN/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from February 12, 2024 as presented.	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-60	02/15/2024
BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO go into closed session	5/0/0 CARRIED	2023-60	02/15/2024
	Result	Meeting	Date
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-61	03/18/2024
BEASLEY/ALMEIDA MOVED TO go into closed session	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-61	03/18/2024
FLAMAN/BEASLEY MOVED TO approve the following motion: Bestea to replace Teapsy in SUB I-11 Edo Japan to remain in SUB I-30 Marco's Famous to remain in SUB I-31 Opa of Greece to remain in SUB I-32	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-61	03/18/2024
	Result	Meeting	Date
GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-62	03/21/2024
ALMEIDA/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from February 15th and March 18th, 2024 as presented.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-62	03/21/2024
FLAMAN/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO go into closed session.	4/0/0 CARRIED	2023-62	03/21/2024
	Result	Meeting	Date

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

UASU Students' Council Agenda Submission Form

Council Meeting Date

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

[Meeting Schedule](#)

Submitter

ALMEIDA

Email Address

pedro.almeida@su.ualberta.ca

Type of Item Submission

Information Item

Is this a Consent Agenda item?

No

Approval/Discussion Items

[Strategic Plan](#)

Calls for Nominations

[Council Committees and Boards](#)

Written Nominations

Information Items

Agenda Title

Final Report - VPA

Description of the Information Item

This is the final report from the Office of the Vice-President (Academic).

Attachments



Pedro Final Report.pdf

Presentations

Written Questions

Executive Reports

Vice-President (Academic)

Final report for the 2023-24 year, Pedro Almeida

Hi Council

It has been a wonderful pleasure to serve you and the student body this year as your Vice-President (Academic). Coming into this role, I was a bit new to the Students' Union world, but I was welcomed in and I had an opportunity to demonstrate my passion for this role.

Below you will find a list of what we have been able to achieve this year on the academic file, but this would not have been possible without the collaboration from a lot of people whom I would love to thank. Starting off with each of you, thank you so much to the 2023-24 Students' Council, it has been wonderful to come together every two weeks and have important discussions with all of you.

I would also like to thank the 2022-23 executives for showing me how to get started in this role and for welcoming me into the SU. Similarly, I am grateful for folks across this University who invited and welcomed me into several discussions and groups, allowing me to tackle the work this year.

In addition, a special thanks goes out to all student leaders in the General Faculties Council, the Faculty Associations, the Indigenous Students' Union and the International Students' Association, who I have worked with throughout this year on a variety of issues!

And finally, my gratitude goes out to my co-executives who have been there for me throughout the year, I could not have asked for a more supportive team, so to each of you, thank you!

And with that, our council season comes to an end!

Indigenizing education

As previously described in the [report](#) to the meeting of Council on January 23rd, one of the major priorities for UASU VPAs for years has been the introduction of more Indigenous course content. Over the years many strides have been made to furthering this goal and this year has shown amazing progress on this front across several programs at the University of Alberta. This can be done because of all the work that was achieved into the making and implementation of the [Braiding Past, Present and Future: University of Alberta Indigenous Strategic Plan](#), since its launch in [2022](#).

However, just because *Braiding* sets the path forward, does not mean the University and the UASU can just take a seat back, but instead we must actively work together to meaningfully implement the steps outlined in the strategic plan. What this has looked like over the past few months, in relation to the effort to Indigenize curricula across the University, has been actively collaborating with and following the guidance of the Vice-Provost (Indigenous Programming and Research), Dr. Florence Glanfield, in supporting efforts to introduce more Indigenous course content as well as criticizing plans that lacked this aspect.

The January 23rd report highlights several specific tangible results that have been achieved, but I am proud to report that as recently as the last meeting of GFC Programs Committee, one proposal was rejected and another proposal was tabled because it was believed they still had some work to do in addressing the Indigenization of their programs. I am extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to work alongside Dr. Glanfield on this, as this work is important and I look forward to the future strides my successor will make!

Experiential learning

On [February 6th](#), Council invited Raymond Matthias, the Director, Experiential and Work Integrated Learning in the Office of the Provost to present to us some of the updates regarding the work that is being done on experiential learning at the University. This presentation highlighted several key areas that I have worked on alongside the Provost's Office throughout the year.

Coming into this role, my priority areas around experiential learning were to:

- 1) Advocate for the growth of the Experiential Learning Better Practices (ELBP) Working Group in connecting students to appropriate resources for success in their respective placements
- 2) Push for standards of care for students in Work-Integrated Learning terms to be incorporated into partnership agreements with work placements
- 3) Support the development of an easy-to-access online hub, after the model set by the University of Toronto

In tackling advocacy for the growth of the ELBP Working Group, I communicated with the Provost's Office, which helped to lead to the establishment of the Experiential Learning Council (ELC) that Raymond mentioned. The ELC functioned like an expanded ELBP Working Group, as it allowed for leaders around the University to come together to tackle the challenges students experience in their experiential learning terms and it oversees the initiatives that Raymond highlighted in the presentation. This group will continue its work in the coming terms.

In order to push for standards of care for students in Work-Integrated Learning terms, and to address concerns of harassment that students in Work-Integrated Learning terms face, I worked with the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) in Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) Working Group. This group is working on policy framework development to help address this issue and it reports periodically to the ELC. The SGBV in WIL will continue its work in the coming year.

In addition, we can talk about the development of an easy to access online hub, after the model set by the University of Toronto. In order to achieve this, I advocated to the Provost's Office on the importance of a hub for students to access the information they need in relation to experiential learning, which contributed to this becoming an initial area of focus for Raymond and his department. The hub is expected to be launched sometime soon, so students next year can benefit from it!

Syllabus Management Tool

On [February 13th](#), Karsten Mündel, the Vice-Provost (Learning Initiatives) came to present to Council on the Syllabus Management Tool. As highlighted, the Syllabus Management Tool will integrate with existing University systems and adapt to the particular needs of different faculties. As Karsten highlighted, one of the functions of the Syllabus Management Tool will be to serve as a syllabus bank. Future work still needs to be done to ensure all instructors use the tool, but this demonstrates great strides to addressing the academic needs of students.

Lecture capture and flexibility

One of my highest priorities this year was advocating for flexibility for students. Our enrollment is increasing over the next few years and that means more and more students will be in each class. And this also means more and more students will face challenging circumstances, including losing loved ones or being sick which prevents them from either making it to class or exams, but that shouldn't prevent them from having the chance to learn and to show their learning. This year I had the opportunity to continuously highlight this as a priority for students and we were able to get a lot of conversations and initiatives started, and we have seen some great progress, including investments in technology and policies that allows for more flexibility for students, which is work my successor will be continuing.

Textbook affordability

As discussed on my report to Council on [January 23rd](#), this year we did a lot of work to address the cost of materials, which really took three major forms.

Firstly, we looked toward promoting the Zero Textbook Cost program further and pushing more for classes to become ZTC. Zero Textbook Cost courses are those without costs associated with materials, and in 2021 the University began labeling these courses so students can select for them on Bear Tracks. This year a huge focus was growing the program even more, and what I did was work alongside the Libraries and the Registrar's Office on both a direct outreach campaign as well as reviewing the promotional materials that were sent out to instructors. Altogether, this year we ended up having the highest ZTC year yet, with 31.3% of all classes across Fall and Winter being ZTC.

The second area within this was elevating the profile of ZTC and Open Education overall. We accomplished this by introducing the ZTCup, an award given out to the faculties with great improvement in their proportion of ZTC classes or the highest proportion of ZTC classes overall for Winter, with this year's winners being Augustana and ALES.

And then finally, the SU fought back against automatic textbook billing models that were proposed by the University. We believe these could have been detrimental to students, with particularly negative effects on our strong efforts toward Zero Textbook Cost and a more affordable education and we made that clear to the University. I also participated in an initiative to lead a campaign against these models, joining forces with other Student Associations in Canada and the U.S.

Advocate for the simplification of sub-degree accreditation recognition

I have been in constant communication this year with the Vice-Provost (Programs) in regards to the process for applying for embedded certificates. Currently, information on

and the application for different embedded certificates is decentralized. We have talked about the importance of having all of this information in one place for students to access, and I have consistently advocated for this website to include a central application form for students, to streamline and simplify the process of receiving recognition for this sub-degree accreditation.

Regular communication with Faculty Associations, the International Students' Association and the Indigenous Students' Union

One of the things I am most proud to have set up this year are regular meetings, where Dr. Glanfield, Victor Olsen, the VP Consultation and Engagement of the Indigenous Students' Union (ISU) and I have a chance to come together to share priorities and identify areas of collaboration. We met once in the Summer, once in the Fall and once in the Winter. This was the first time these quarterly meetings with Dr. Glanfield, the ISU and the UASU have been organized, and they have allowed for several important topics to be discussed, such as the ways the University can support the Residential Schools Memorial. In addition, as aforementioned, one of the topics that is consistently discussed is how student leaders can continue to support the move for Indigenizing education. We have talked about the importance of speaking up in support of great changes and in opposition to programs that have not appropriately addressed this question, which is exactly what I have tried to do over the past year, including as mentioned above at the latest meeting of the GFC Programs Committee.

Another discussion topic that arose from these regular meetings with Dr. Glanfield and the ISU is the release of the [Affirming and Acknowledging Indigenous Ceremonial Practices at the University of Alberta](#) resource. This resource, as outlined in [The Quad](#), was developed by Dr. Glanfield and her team in the Office of the Vice-Provost (Indigenous Programming and Research) and it emphasizes the commitment from the University to "supports the rights of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit individuals and groups to **engage in cultural and spiritual practices anywhere on campus**, including, but not limited to, outdoor spaces, classrooms, lecture halls, gathering spaces, and residences." I am extremely proud and grateful for the opportunity to have been the SU representative to have discussed this resource with Dr. Glanfield and to offer mine and the SU's support to it ahead of its launch.

In addition to my regular meetings with Dr. Glanfield and Victor, I also offered the option to each Faculty Association, the International Students' Association and the Indigenous Students' Union to meet either biweekly or at some other frequency level. Some of the Student Representative Associations indicated they would like to meet biweekly, some

indicated monthly and one indicated they preferred bimonthly meetings. Two of the SRAs indicated they would prefer to schedule meetings on an ad hoc basis and one SRA had to deal with internal matters, which made it challenging to schedule meetings, but hopefully that will be addressed in the near future. These meetings allowed for consistent communication and collaboration with the different SRAs to tackle issues important to the University community or issues relevant to their specific constituencies.

Additionally, in order to further foster collaboration between these groups, we held frequent meetings of the Council of Faculty Associations (CoFA). In particular, for the CoFA Senior Board, we held two meetings in the Spring/Summer, three meetings in the Fall and two meetings in the Winter. For the CoFA Advocacy Working Group, we met twice in the Spring/Summer, twice in the Fall and twice in the Winter.

Finally, as outlined in the report on [October 10th](#), we also organized the 2023 SRA Summit which took place on Friday, October 6th (5PM to 9PM) and Saturday, October 7th (8:30AM to 7PM). This was the second iteration of the SRA Summit, with the first happening in November of 2021. There were two main goals the SRA Summit was designed to achieve. Firstly, the SRA Summit was intended to provide skills and knowledge to the different Student Representative Associations (SRAs) in order for each SRA to be able to conduct effective advocacy throughout the academic year. Secondly, the SRA Summit was intended to create a collaborative space, through which representatives from each SRA would be able to get to know each other and foster the necessary connections for potential collective advocacy. Out of the nineteen active SRAs, eighteen attended the first day of the SRA Summit and seventeen attended the second day of the SRA Summit. Additionally, after collecting anonymous feedback from all attendees on the second day of the SRA Summit, average satisfaction results were calculated. On average, representatives from each SRA rated the quality of the SRA Summit at 4.59 out of 5 and their overall satisfaction with the SRA Summit at 4.27 out of 5. In addition, the different SRAs provided great feedback for potential future iterations of the SRA Summit.

Ultimately, I believe the connection fostered through all of these initiatives guided at creating collaboration that allowed for a cohesive advocacy effort from student leaders in relation to initiatives such as the Clean Air Strategy, leading to it being rejected at the General Faculties Council, as an example.

ONEcard access

Earlier in the Fall, I had the pleasure of working with Vice-President (Student Life) Michael Griffiths in response to the University of Alberta reducing building hours across buildings in the University of Alberta. We worked together to communicate the need for students to have robust access to buildings through a proposal to the University of Alberta's Vice-President, Facilities & Operations, then further communicating with people in that department around the importance of access to buildings for students. This has resulted in access to four internal access routes being provided to students from 7:30AM to 9:30PM, that is further explained in this [notice](#). In addition, earlier in the Winter, the SU conducted a survey and released a [report](#) that can be used to demonstrate the value of access to these buildings for students. As previously indicated, Michael and I hope this is not the end of the conversation around access to buildings, and we look forward to seeing the progress our successors achieve on this file.

Clean Air Strategy

As reported on [October 24th](#), a significant amount of work and preparation was required to combat the proposed Clean Air Strategy which was voted on at the October 16th meeting of the General Faculties Council. If approved, this proposal could have had significant impacts on the experiences of students across the different University of Alberta campuses. The Clean Air Strategy, as outlined in GFC, entailed a smoking and vaping ban on University of Alberta campuses, with limited exceptions for ceremonial and medical use, as well as for students living in residence. This proposed ban led to several equity, diversity and inclusivity concerns, as outlined by the Indigenous Students' Union's Clean Air Strategy Response Letter, which can be found in the Equity, Vaping, and Smoking report that was presented at GFC (found in this [agenda](#) on page 10). My work in response to the Clean Air Strategy focused mainly on organizing the collective response from the Council of Faculty Associations (CoFA). After discussions at both the CoFA Advocacy Working Group and the CoFA Senior Board, the CoFA Senior Board voted to issue a joint statement ([page 28](#)) in support of the ISU's Clean Air Strategy Response Letter and in opposition to the Clean Air Strategy. This statement was signed by the presidents of twelve of the fourteen Faculty Associations (FAs), and was also presented at GFC. Additionally, three FAs chose to issue additional individual statements or letters which were also included in the GFC materials. In addition, I also assisted the different FAs in reaching out to GFC members of their respective faculties. Finally, at the GFC meeting, led by the ISU President and UASU VP Student Life Griffiths, all three UASU executives on GFC spoke in opposition to the Clean Air Strategy. After a lengthy discussion, in which many student leaders also indicated their positions, the motion for

the Clean Air Strategy did not pass. This was one of the achievements that made me the most proud this year, as it demonstrated concretely the power of a carefully organized collective student response to a particular issue.

Academic Integrity Policy

This year, in particular in the Summer and Fall, I did a lot of work on academic integrity. For many years, students have had concerns with the Code of Student Behaviour (CoSB) and so this year I got to continue the work to create a new Academic Integrity Policy, that will (alongside the Student Conduct Policy) replace the CoSB. I focused on emphasizing the concerns students had with the CoSB and emphasizing the need for clear language, a clear appeal process and more of a restorative approach, instead of a punitive model. In addition, as can be seen in the draft presented to the GFC Executive Committee (starting on [page 13](#)), coming to GFC for approval on April 29th, language has been added to indicate that the Faculty Decision-Makers will inform the student if they decide to deal with a complaint of misconduct through the complaint process (page 32) and language has been added to allow students to request an appeal in French, with the University being required to make reasonable efforts to accommodating this request (page 50). It is really great to see some of these changes and others suggested by other students and I make their way to the final draft of the document and I am very hopeful that once the Suite is approved, it will be a significant improvement from the Code of Student Behaviour, improving the experience of students at the University of Alberta for years to come!

Free Verification of Enrollments

This year we got to see the establishment of a better alternative over asking students to pay out of pocket for verification of enrollment documentation. Since September, current students can order hard-copy enrollment verification documents for pick up at the University's Student Service Centre (SSC) for free. In addition, in a conversation with the Augustana Students' Association Council we talked about how this option was inaccessible to Augustana students, so we then communicated with the Registrar's Office. A bit after that, the University updated their systems to allow for a pick up option of free verification of enrollment documents at Augustana.

ARISE portal and IPO forms inclusivity

This year, I also had the opportunity to work alongside some departments in the University to address inclusivity issues with the Alberta Research Information Services

(ARISE) System ethics approval portal and with some different Information and Privacy Office (IPO) forms. Previously, these included elements that required a gender binary in ways that excluded non-binary students, in particular in relation to the honorific field's options previously present. We talked about potential solutions and received confirmation that all of these had the honorific fields removed.

Exam Rescheduling Procedure

Starting in Fall 2024, the University will be moving to scheduling exams in three time slots per day (8:30AM, 1PM and 5Pm) instead of the current two (9AM and 2PM). This change is coming because in certain terms, such as Fall 2024, the University does not have enough slots to schedule their exams, and so the decision was made to match every other U15 institution and start scheduling using three exam slots. The alternatives provided by the Registrar's Office were to either take days away from Fall Reading Week or not celebrate certain holidays, both of which were unacceptable to the University community.

In response to the upcoming change in final exam schedules, the University proposed a new procedure that allows for the rescheduling of one of their exams in case students have particularly dense exam schedules. The original proposal from the University contained two important features worth mentioning:

- 1) It allowed students to reschedule one of their exams if they had three exams within three consecutive time slots, essentially, in one of the following three scenarios:

Exam Period	Day 1	Day 2	Exam Period	Day 1	Day 2	Exam Period	Day 1	Day 2
8:30 a.m.	Exam 1		8:30 a.m.		Exam 3	8:30 a.m.		Exam 2
1:00 p.m.	Exam 2		1:00 p.m.	Exam 1		1:00 p.m.		Exam 3
5:30 p.m.	Exam 3		5:30 p.m.	Exam 2		5:30 p.m.	Exam 1	

- 2) It would always automatically reschedule the middle exam (i.e. Exam 2) if the student applied for a rescheduled exam.

However, following several discussions with the University community, the University has agreed to two major suggestions offered on our proposal:

- 1) Students would be able to reschedule an exam if they had three exams in **four** consecutive time slots. This means all the scenarios described above as well as

an additional six scenarios, should be covered by this procedure. Some of the additional scenarios, such as the following:

Exam Period	Day 1	Day 2	Exam Period	Day 1	Day 2	Exam Period	Day 1	Day 2
8:30 a.m.	Exam 1	Exam 3	8:30 a.m.			8:30 a.m.		
1:00 p.m.			1:00 p.m.	Exam 1	Exam 3	1:00 p.m.		Exam 2
5:30 p.m.	Exam 2		5:30 p.m.	Exam 2		5:30 p.m.	Exam 1	Exam 3

include exams of cases that can currently happen now (e.g. morning, afternoon, morning) as well as new scenarios arising from the move to three exam slots per day.

- 2) Students can choose which exam they want to reschedule instead of always having the middle exam rescheduled.

There are some additional notes that are important to mention:

1. The University has committed to changing the way they schedule exams so that only a small minority of students would have to experience three exams in four consecutive time slots. This includes using new and emerging technology to account for student registration in different courses when creating the exam schedule.
2. The University has mentioned that evening exams will not be used as frequently as other exam slots.
3. The procedure, even with the SU's suggestions, is not completely perfect. In line with the feedback from faculty members, sometimes (the University has committed to working for this to be a small minority of the time if at all) the rescheduled exam will be rescheduled for after the holiday break, which will be a risk that is communicated to students and that is why it is critical that students can choose which exam to defer and that students communicate with their instructors ahead of making this decision. The SU will continue to work with the University on the communication to students to ensure they are aware of this potential risk.
4. The University has committed to collecting data over the next year of how many students have three exams in four consecutive time slots, how many students choose to reschedule exams, how many exams are rescheduled ahead of the break, etc. This will allow for a robust conversation in the coming year about any necessary changes.

5. From my understanding, for smaller faculties and/or programs, especially smaller professional programs, the chance of having an exam schedule with three exams in four consecutive time slots is very small.

As mentioned above, I do not think this procedure is perfect, but what we communicated to the University is that even if we can't get something perfect out there, we should try to have something that can help as many students as possible, and that causes the least amount of students to "fall through the cracks," by not having options. I look forward to seeing the work my successor and the University community continue to do in this file.



Tuesday, April 16, 2024

UASU Students' Council Agenda Submission Form

Council Meeting Date

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

[Meeting Schedule](#)

Submitter

Chris Beasley

Email Address

chris.beasley@su.ualberta.ca

Type of Item Submission

Information Item

Is this a Consent Agenda item?

No

Approval/Discussion Items

[Strategic Plan](#)

Calls for Nominations

[Council Committees and Boards](#)

Written Nominations

Information Items

Agenda Title

Vice President External year end report.

Description of the Information Item

Year end report by Vice President External Chris Beasley.

Attachments



VPX Year End Report April 20... .pdf

Presentations

Written Questions

Is there anything else that you would like to include?

N/A

Dear Council,

As I near the end of my term and the end of over a half a decade of service to students, I have a few reflections that I would like to share. This year was highly challenging, but I would like to share the work that we were able to achieve:

- \$500 Million to [Youth Mental Health](#) in the Government of Canada's 2024 Budget.
- Spearheaded a successful public information and engagement campaign on sexual and gender-based violence in a post-secondary context.
- Over 260,000 Media Impressions with well over 40 media appearances.
- Renewal of the Alberta Post-Secondary Mental Health Grant.
- An extension to temporary lifting of the 20hr work limit for International Students, with permanent measures to be announced by the end of April 2024.
- Expansion of the federal [Apartment Construction Loan Program](#) to make Post-Secondary Institutions eligible for low cost loans to build housing.
- A successful Get Out The Vote Campaign for the 2023 Provincial election
- Commissioned the [Identity Matters 3](#) report.
- Secured the creation of a City of Edmonton 2SLGBTQIA+ working group to explore the creation of a Queer Advisory Committee.
- Created the Indigenization Committee of the Council of Alberta University Students.
- Sent 4,800+ letters as part of a letter writing campaign to fight tuition increases.

The Vice President External role is, of course, characterized by work that rarely pays off within a single term. The 2023/2024 school year was challenging for students in the Province of Alberta. The costs of groceries, rent, and tuition all rose while students received no further affordability measures from the Ministry of Advanced Education. Moreover, I spent a large portion of my term simply working to change perspectives. Whether it was debunking rhetoric that blamed International students for the Canadian housing crisis, drawing attention to the affordability crisis among students, or raising the alarm about rapidly rising rent prices; I spent my term talking to Albertans and Canadians through the media.

I have been reflecting on my journey through student leadership. I arrived on campus in Fall 2017 and immediately joined the University of Alberta Debate Society (UADS). I began serving students through student governance in the fall of 2018 when I became a Humanities Councillor for the Organization for Arts Students and Interdisciplinary Studies (OASIS). The following year, I was humbled by the opportunity to serve the University of Alberta Students Union as an Arts Councillor, Chair of CAC, and as Deputy Speaker. That year, Council had its first ever mid-year resignation of a Speaker. I also spent that year serving as the Vice President Finance of OASIS. The next year, I was elected President of OASIS less than a week after the COVID-19 Pandemic closed our University. Those were not easy days for the University as we dealt with cuts, restructuring, and a global pandemic. I spent my 2020 year serving as OASIS President, GFC Councillor, and as a University of Alberta Senator. In 2021, I returned to the UASU Students' Council and GFC, serving as the Undergraduate representative on the Academic Planning Committee. Following this, I was hired as the Communications Coordinator for the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) where I served students in that capacity.

I have given far more to the Albertan student movement over the last six years than to anything else I have ever done. I am proud of what I was able to give and prouder still that my contributions have enabled others to do more than I ever could.

I am extremely grateful that Abdul will be succeeding me as Vice-President External. I have nothing but confidence in him, President-Elect Glock, and the rest of the team. The union continues to be in the hands of people who believe in its power to do good.

Thank you all for allowing me to serve,

Chris Beasley
UASU Vice President (External), 2023/24
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Tuesday, April 16, 2024

UASU Students' Council Agenda Submission Form

Council Meeting Date

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

[Meeting Schedule](#)

Submitter

Griffiths

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Type of Item Submission

Information Item

Is this a Consent Agenda item?

No

Approval/Discussion Items

[Strategic Plan](#)

Calls for Nominations

[Council Committees and Boards](#)

Written Nominations

Information Items

Agenda Title

Michael Griffiths - 2023-24 Vice President Student Life - Final Report to Students' Council

Description of the Information Item

Hey council, please see attached my final report to Students' Council, summarizing some of the things I've worked on this year!

Attachments



Michael Griffiths - 2023_24 Vi....pdf

Presentations

Written Questions

Executive Reports

Vice-President (Student Life)

Final Report for the 2023-24 academic year, Michael Griffiths

Dear Council,

Congratulations to each and every one of you for making it to the end of your terms. It has been a pleasure to work closely with you as we tackle the challenges students are facing and pursue a better future for our University. I am proud of everything we have done to make students' lives better this year, and of each of you for persevering through the many obstacles we have encountered.

It has certainly been an unorthodox year. We have faced adversity that I do not think any of us would have anticipated when we began our terms nearly one year ago. I think we have learned that students' priorities are diverse and the supports they need are complex. As much as we are all here with the pure intention of helping students, sometimes it is difficult to navigate what the best way to do that is. We have been subject to tremendous adversity this year. I, for one, have learned that many students do not see the challenges faced at the UofA from the same lens that we may. I have learned that many students will never understand the great things that their Students' Union does for them - and that is okay, we will continue to do great things anyway. I have learned that not all students have the integrity to do the right thing in the face of adversity - and that is why I am even more proud of my team, and you folks, for doing your best when times have been tough. On that note, I want to talk about some of the fantastic things that myself, my team, and you folks have done for students this year:

- Negotiated a **\$1 million increase in supplementary bursary funding**, which will go directly to students who need it most.

- Created a **Residence Representative position at Augustana**, giving their students direct representation and access to funding at North Campus.
- Collaborated with the Indigenous Students' Union to host a very successful **Residential School Memorial** in the Fall.
- Worked with the Residence Associations to **distribute \$50,000 in funding** for important, student-driven improvement projects in our residences.
- Leveraged data and engaged various campus stakeholders to **overturn a proposed smoking ban** at General Faculties Council.
- Successfully advocated for the SGBV Response Coordinator position to be transformed into a **permanent position as the University Lead on SGBV Response**.
- **Collected students' perspectives** on the meal plan and campus food vendor to inform future contract discussions.
- Partnered with the Campus Food Bank and student clubs to **expand the financial and environmental sustainability of the Period Equity Initiative**.
- Worked with the Dean of Students' Office to **hire additional clinicians at counselling and clinical services**, as well as **incorporate cultural and religious competencies into training and hiring practices**, and implement the One-At-A-Time-Therapy (OAATT) model.
- In partnership with the Vice President Academic, successfully lobbied University administration to **grant after-hours OneCard access for students to 4 critical interior access routes**, spanning many buildings on campus.
- **Awarded over \$20,000 in Green Funding** to student-led sustainability projects on campus as chair of the Sustainability Committee.
- Organized the UofA's portion of the Edmonton Elks Campus Clash night, where we sold nearly 1200 tickets, UofA students made up 44% of attendees, and nearly **\$2400 was fundraised for our Student Representative Associations**.
- Worked with Student Leaders at Campus Saint-Jean to **fully integrate the Zero-Waste program** and improve sustainability at CSJ.
- Helped design, launch, and ensure students' perspectives continue to be reflected in the University's **Student Experience Action Plan**.
- Collaborated with the International Students Association to **host International Day**, an event celebrating our international students and diversity on campus.
- Ensured Residence Services further **prioritizes the completion rate of their mandatory move-in module** and that the content covers critical issues like building a culture of consent in Residence.
- Worked with the Muslim Students' Association and the Dean of Students' Office to **create a grant that will improve access to prayer spaces**.

Through difficult times, we have come together to focus on the good things we can do for students. We have built relationships and crafted experiences that will last a lifetime, and will guide us well in our future endeavours.

Some of you may already know, but my favourite Students' Union value is "*Do what's right, not what's easy.*" I believe that integrity is truly the strongest test of character. This is the message that I hope to leave you with. Even if everyone around you deviates from the values that you know are just, I hope you can find the strength to do the right thing, and I hope you can be fulfilled by knowing that you did what was right, regardless of the outcome. That is not a license to be naive, still listen and engage, but do so with earnest intentions.

Thank you for a great year; thank you for your support and collaboration throughout; I hope, going forward, you have the strength to **do what's right, not what's easy.**

Thanks,



Michael Griffiths
Vice President Student Life
University of Alberta Students' Union

Michael Griffiths | VP Student Life

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

UASU Students' Council Agenda Submission Form

Council Meeting Date

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

[Meeting Schedule](#)

Submitter

FLAMAN

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Type of Item Submission

Information Item

Is this a Consent Agenda item?

No

Approval/Discussion Items

[Strategic Plan](#)

Calls for Nominations

[Council Committees and Boards](#)

Written Nominations

Information Items

Agenda Title

Finance Committee Winter 2024 Trimester Report

Description of the Information Item

Finance Committee Winter 2024 Trimester Report

Attachments



Finance Committee Winter 2... .pdf

Presentations

Written Questions

Is there anything else that you would like to include?

no

Date: 04/16/2024

To: Students' Council

Re: Finance Committee Winter Trimester Report

Introduction

Hey Council,

As required under [Bylaw 120.7.1](#), here is the Winter trimester committee report from the Chair of the University of Alberta Students' Union [Finance Committee](#).

Activities of Finance Committee during Winter 2024

During the Winter 2023 trimester, Finance Committee appointed two members to the Golden Bears and Pandas Legacy Fund Committee, approved the disbursement of dedicated fee unit funds (DFU) from the Golden Bears and Pandas Legacy Fund for both *last year* and this year, approved the release of DFU funds for both SLS and APIRG, then recommended approval of both the 2024-25 Students' Union Operating & Capital Budget Principles, as well as the full budget itself.

Acknowledgements

The fall 2023 trimester was quite a bit busier than the Spring/Summer trimester; between reviewing DFU reports and approving DFU disbursements, to reviewing and ratifying appointments to the Reserve Funds and Investments Policy Task Force. The winter trimester may shape up to be even busier as we review the remaining DFU submissions, then get into budget season as we first craft budget principles for Council approval before bringing the 2024-25 Operating and Capital Budget to Council near the end of the year. Therefore, I would like to acknowledge a few individuals for their various contributions to the committee throughout the trimester.

- Science Councillor **Laurel Ford**, Arts Councillor **Nathan Thiessen**, and Arts Councillor **Mason Pich** as the Students' Council appointees to the Finance Committee,
 - Vice-President Student Life **Michael Griffiths** as the Executive Committee appointee to the Finance Committee,
 - **Melissa Cyriac** and **Colton Meronyk** as the student-at-large appointees to the Finance Committee,
 - UASU General Manager **Marc Dumouchel** as a non-voting resource member,
 - Governance Support Assistant Manager **Courtney Graham**, Governance Support Specialist **Aseel Atia**, and Administrative Clerk **Sun Dano**.
-

General Summary of Decisions, Recommendations and Motions

Item	Motion	Result
2023-09/4a	MERONYK/FORD MOVE TO ratify the Golden Bears and Pandas Legacy Fund disbursal decision as approved by the Golden Bears and Pandas Legacy Fund Committee on January 25, 2023.	CARRIED
2023-09/4b	FORD/GRIFFITHS MOVE TO appoint Laurel Ford and Colton Meryonyk to the Golden Bears and Pandas Legacy Fund Committee.	CARRIED
2023-09/4c	FORD/GRIFFITHS MOVE TO approve the release of Dedicated Fee Unit (DFU) funds from the Student Legal Services of Edmonton Fund to be disbursed to Student Legal Services of Edmonton.	CARRIED
2023-09/4d	FORD/GRIFFITHS MOVE TO approve the release of Dedicated Fee Unit (DFU) funds from the Alberta Public Interest Research Group Fund to be disbursed to Alberta Public Interest Research Group.	CARRIED
2023-11/3a	THIESSEN / CYRIAC MOVE TO ratify the 2023-2024 Golden Bears and Pandas Legacy Fund funding allocations as recommended by the Golden Bears and Pandas Legacy Fund Committee.	CARRIED
2023-07/3b	FLAMAN / CYRIAC MOVE TO recommend approval of the 2024-2025 University of Alberta Students' Union Operating and Capital Budget Principles.	CARRIED
2023-13/3a	FLAMAN / FORD MOVE TO recommend approval of the 2024/2025 University of Alberta Students' Union Operating and Capital Budget.	CARRIED

Regards,

Levi Flaman 

Levi Flaman

Vice-President Operations and Finance 2023-24
University of Alberta Students' Union

Levi Flaman, Vice-President Operations and Finance

2-900 SUB | 780-492-4241 | vp.finance@uasu.ca

UASU Students' Council Agenda Submission Form

Council Meeting Date Tuesday, April 16, 2024

[Meeting Schedule](#)

Submitter Griffiths

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Type of Item Submission

Is this a Consent Agenda item?

Approval/Discussion Items

Motion

Majekodunmi/ Griffiths move to approve the second principles of the Truth and Reconciliation Political Policy

Mover Majekodunmi

Second Griffiths

Presenter (If Not the Mover) Majekodunmi or Griffiths

Does this item require a closed session discussion?

Office/Committee Responsible Policy Committee

Purpose

Approve the 2nd principles of the expiring TRC policy

Executive Summary

The TRC policy is due for renewal. Changes have been made, in alignment with the first principles approved by council, to amend the policy to include more citations, clean up technical errors in the policy, and to expand the policy to cover recent plans like Braiding Past, Present and Future.

Relevant Bylaws/Policies/Standing Orders

TRC political policy

Engagement and Routing

ARRC Committee, ISU

Approval Routing

Policy Committee, Students' Council

Strategic Alignment

Develop stronger partnerships with cultural groups and the international student community.

Strengthen our credibility by sharing our research, best practices, and program knowledge.

Work in partnership with First Nations, Metis, and Inuit (FNMI) student representatives and communities.

[Strategic Plan](#)

Attachments



TRC Second Principles.pdf

Calls for Nominations

[Council Committees and Boards](#)

Written Nominations

Information Items

Presentations

Written Questions

Link to policy -

<https://docs.su.ualberta.ca/books/political-policies/page/truth-and-reconciliation-commission>

Second Principles

Facts

1. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission came forward with "Calls to Action" that are relevant to all Canadians.
2. As the Students' Union, we have a mandate to improve the undergraduate experience at the U of A.
3. The U of A Students' Union should adopt Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Final Report that directly relate to the undergraduate experience at the University of Alberta.
4. The education and employment gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students should be eliminated.
5. The backlog of Aboriginal students seeking post-secondary education must be dealt with.
6. Aboriginal language programs are important for the University of Alberta to offer.
7. Students in certain areas of study should have mandatory aspects of their degree to deal with Aboriginal people's reconciliation.
8. There should be funding available to those that wish to integrate indigenous knowledge into the classroom.
9. Undergraduate students will benefit from the increased ability to do research on understanding reconciliation.
10. University of Alberta Museums and Libraries should work collaboratively with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.

Updated facts:

1. In 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission came forward with "Calls to Action" that are relevant to all Canadians.¹
2. As the Students' Union, we have a mandate to improve the undergraduate experience at the University of Alberta U of A.
3. The U of A Students' Union should adopt Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Final Report that directly relate to the undergraduate experience at the University of Alberta.
4. Call to Action #7 identifies an education and employment gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians.¹ The education and employment gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students should be eliminated.
5. Calls to Action #11 identifies a backlog of First Nations students seeking a post-secondary education.¹ The backlog of Aboriginal students seeking post-secondary education must be dealt with.
6. Aboriginal language programs are important for the University of Alberta for advancing reconciliation and decolonization.
7. Students in certain areas of study should have mandatory aspects of their degree to deal with Aboriginal people's reconciliation.
7. Many programs would benefit from including mandatory content focusing on Aboriginal reconciliation.
8. There should be funding available to those that wish to integrate indigenous knowledge into the classroom.
8. Additional funding is required to further

	<p>integrate Indigenous knowledge into the classroom.</p> <p>9. Undergraduate students will benefit from the increased ability to do research focused on understanding reconciliation and integrating .</p> <p>10. University of Alberta Museums and Libraries should work collaboratively with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.</p> <p>10. The University of Alberta Museums and Libraries contain repositories of information and artifacts that could help advance understanding and progress on Truth and Reconciliation.</p> <p>11. In June 2022, the University of Alberta launched “Braiding Past Present and Future,” and a 5 year Indigenous Strategic Plan responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada’s Calls to Action which can be utilized to continually strategize ways to advance reconciliation at the university.^{2,3}</p> <p>12. The University has created a “Truth and Reconciliation Commision Report to Community,”⁴ which includes an overview of Truth and Reconciliation at the University of Alberta, and a “TRC Dashboard” where progress on initiatives is tracked.⁵</p>
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<h1>Resolutions</h1> <hr/> <p>1. The Students' Union will advocate that the provincial and federal government create and sustain financial assistance programs that seek to</p>	<p>Updated Resolutions:</p> <p>1. The Students' Union will advocate that the provincial and federal government create and sustain financial assistance programs that seek to increase enrolment of Aboriginal students.</p> <p>2. The Students' Union will advocate that the funding cap on the Post-Secondary Student Support Program be lifted such that aid will be given to</p>
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<p>increase enrolment of Aboriginal students.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The Students' Union will advocate that the funding cap on the Post-Secondary Student Support Program be lifted such that aid will be given to all eligible students. 3. The Students' Union advocates that the University of Alberta offer courses and course content on multiple Aboriginal languages. 4. The Students' Union will consult appropriate campus stakeholders with the intention of integrating mandatory courses in Aboriginal Studies for the faculty of Law, Medicine and Dentistry, Nursing; St. Stephen's and St. Joseph's College; and the Faculté St. Jean Education. 5. The Students' Union will further advocate that all other degree programs mandate Aboriginal course content in relation to that degree. 6. The Students' Union advocates for funding from the provincial and federal governments, as well as the University of Alberta to be given to those that seek to integrate indigenous knowledge into their curriculum. 7. The Students' Union will advocate for the creation of new undergraduate research funding surrounding the understanding of reconciliation. 8. The Students' Union will advocate that University Museums and Libraries share all relevant documents and records relevant to the history and legacy of the residential school system with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. 	<p>all eligible students.⁶</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. The Students' Union will advocate that the University of Alberta offer courses and course content on multiple Aboriginal languages and Indigenous history. 4. The Students' Union will consult appropriate campus stakeholders with the intention of integrating mandatory courses in Aboriginal Studies for the faculty of Law, Medicine and Dentistry, Nursing; St. Stephen's and St. Joseph's College; and the Faculté St. Jean Education. 5. The Students' Union will further advocate that all other degree programs mandate Aboriginal course content in relation to that degree. 6. The Students' Union will advocates for funding from the provincial and federal governments, as well as the University of Alberta to be given to those that seek to integrate Indigenous knowledge into their curriculum. 7. The Students' Union will advocate for the creation of new undergraduate research funding surrounding the understanding of practicing and furthering reconciliation. 8. The Students' Union will advocate that University Museums and Libraries share all relevant documents and records relevant to the history and legacy of the residential school system with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. 9. The Students' Union will advocate to the University and the Government to work to eliminate the education and employment gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students wherever possible. 10. The Students' Union will advocate to the University and the Government to eliminate the backlog of Aboriginal students seeking a Post-Secondary education by making education more accessible to Aboriginal students. 11. The Students' Union will advocate to
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	<p>the University to honor its commitments to Truth and Reconciliation, as outlined in Braiding Past, Present and Future.³</p> <p>12. The Students' Union will advocate for the University to continue to provide transparent updates on reconciliation using the "TRC Report to Community Dashboard,"⁵ and will advocate that the University makes efforts to promote this resource.</p>
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Sources (none currently)	Updated Sources
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. "Calls to Action." 2015. https://ehprnh2mwo3.exactdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf 2. McMaster, Geoff. Braiding Past, Present and Future: U of A Launches Indigenous-led Strategic Plan. <i>Folio</i>. June 23, 2022. https://www.ualberta.ca/folio/2022/06/braiding-past-present-and-future.html. 3. Office of the Vice-Provost, Indigenous Programming and Research. "Braiding Past, Present and Future." https://www.ualberta.ca/media-library/indigenous-excellence/indigenous-strategic-plan/indigenous-strategic-plan.pdf. 4. Indigenous Initiatives, The University of Alberta. "TRC Report to Community." 2023. https://www.ualberta.ca/indigenous/trc/index.html. 5. Indigenous Initiatives, The University of Alberta. "TRC Report to Community Dashboard." https://www.ualberta.ca/indigenous/trc/dashboard/index.html#sort=%40ua_title%20ascending.

	<p>6. Indigenous Services Canada, Government of Canada. “Post-Secondary Student Support Program.” https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1100100033682/1531933580211.</p>
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UASU Students' Council Agenda Submission Form

Council Meeting Date Tuesday, April 16, 2024

[Meeting Schedule](#)

Submitter Griffiths

Email Address michael.griffiths@su.ualberta.ca

Type of Item Submission

Is this a Consent Agenda item?

Approval/Discussion Items

Motion

GRIFFITHS/ABDELWAHAB MOVE TO recommend a 10% increase to the Health and Dental Plan Fees for the 2024/25 academic year.

Mover Griffiths

Seconder Abdelwahab

Presenter (If Not the Mover) Griffiths

Does this item require a closed session discussion?

Office/Committee Responsible Health and Dental Plan Committee

Purpose

To approve the 2024/25 Health and Dental Plan Rates

Executive Summary

Council must approve the 2024/25 Health and Dental Plan rates for the upcoming year before it adjourns for the year. Management and the Health and Dental Plan committee are recommending a 10% increase. A full breakdown of the reasoning will be given in the meeting.

Relevant Bylaws/Policies/Standing Orders

Bylaw 130 Sec 5.5

Engagement and Routing

StudentCare > Health and Dental Plan Committee > Students Council

Approval Routing

Health and Dental Plan Committee > Students Council

Strategic Alignment

Improve access to Students' Union spaces, resources, and expertise.

Connect students to academic and personal support services.

[Strategic Plan](#)

Attachments



04152024 UASU Renewal An... .pdf

Calls for Nominations

[Council Committtees and Boards](#)

Written Nominations

Information Items

Presentations

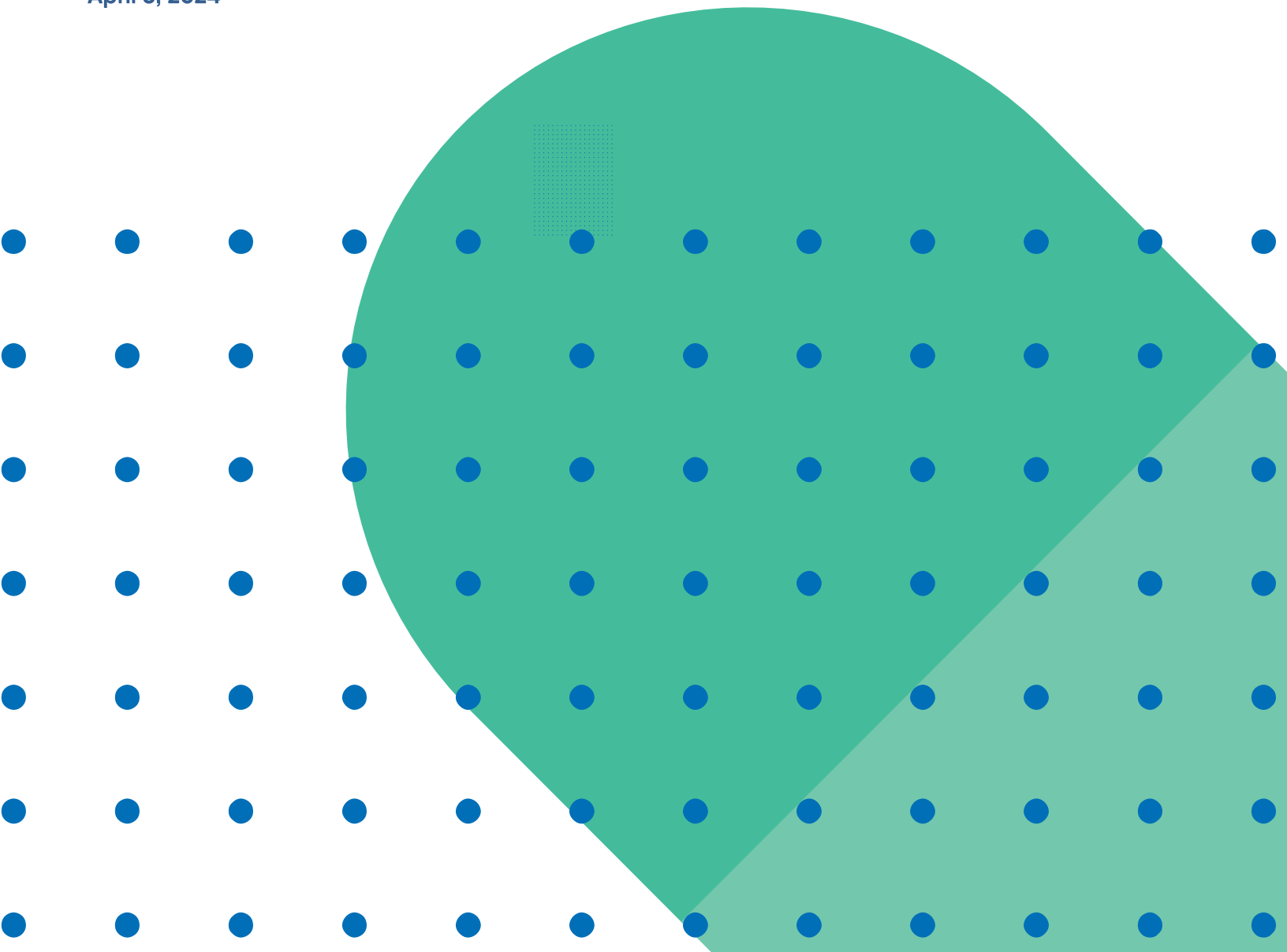
Written Questions

UASU HEALTH & DENTAL PLAN

Claims Update & Renewal Analysis – UASU Students' Council

September 2023 – March 2024

April 5, 2024



Introduction

The insurance policies that underlie the UASU Benefit Plan are one-year contracts that must be renewed with the Plan insurer each policy year. This renewal process generally begins in January and is concluded by mid-April to set the Plan fee, as well as the premiums and benefits for the following school year.

This report provides an overview of the projected Plan cost structure for the upcoming 2024-2025 policy year on a fully insured basis. This coming year is the first renewal after a two-year rate guarantee from Green Shield Canada (GSC). GSC has honoured the 10% maximum third-year renewal they committed to in the 2022 RFQ. The premiums represented in this report are intended to demonstrate the usage trends of the Plan only and do not represent a premium quote for the 2024-25 policy year. UASU's confirmed premiums are included at the end of this document.

Reviewing Plan Experience

Policy Year	Health Premium	Dental Premium	Total Premium	Plan Fee	Notes
2011-2012	\$103.56	\$104.88	\$208.44	\$213.33	Sun Life
2012-2013	\$106.44	\$107.28	\$213.72	\$219.52	Desjardins ↓
2013-2014	\$106.44	\$107.28	\$213.72	\$221.96	Rate guarantee
2014-2015	\$116.40	\$111.00	\$227.40	\$234.50	
2015-2016	\$118.56	\$110.28	\$228.84	\$234.50	
2016-2017	\$124.92	\$128.04	\$252.96	\$257.95	
2017-2018	\$130.32	\$148.20	\$278.52	\$283.70	
2018-2019	\$131.99	\$156.50	\$288.49	\$283.70	Rate guarantee
2019-2020	\$131.99	\$156.50	\$288.49	\$292.22	Rate guarantee
2020-2021	\$171.19	\$155.89	\$327.08	\$315.00	
2021-2022	\$153.75	\$148.92	\$302.67	\$305.00	
2022-2023	\$159.79	\$143.17	\$302.96	\$315.00	Green Shield rate guarantee
2023-2024	\$167.19	\$143.17	\$310.35	\$328.55	GSC rate guarantee plus Psychology benefit enhancement

Determining the Plan Cost

Our projections are based on an analysis of the Plan's claims experience. We project forward the current year's claims, adjust for inflation, and add the insurer expenses, our provider fee and the Plan's fixed costs. It is important to note that the current year's claims are the largest factor in setting the Plan cost for the following year.

Renewal Rate Formula



Monthly Claims Experience: September 2023 – March 2024

HEALTH

	<u>ENROLMENT</u>	<u>PREMIUMS</u>	<u>CLAIMS</u>	<u>LOSS RATIO</u>
SEPTEMBER	24,483	\$266,118	\$369,130	139%
OCTOBER	24,483	\$266,118	\$373,682	140%
NOVEMBER	24,483	\$266,118	\$428,910	161%
DECEMBER	24,483	\$266,118	\$364,610	137%
JANUARY	25,293	\$274,923	\$449,740	164%
FEBRUARY	25,293	\$274,923	\$405,467	147%
MARCH	25,293	\$274,923	\$401,525	146%
PAID HEALTH CLAIMS TOTAL		\$1,889,241	\$2,793,064	148%

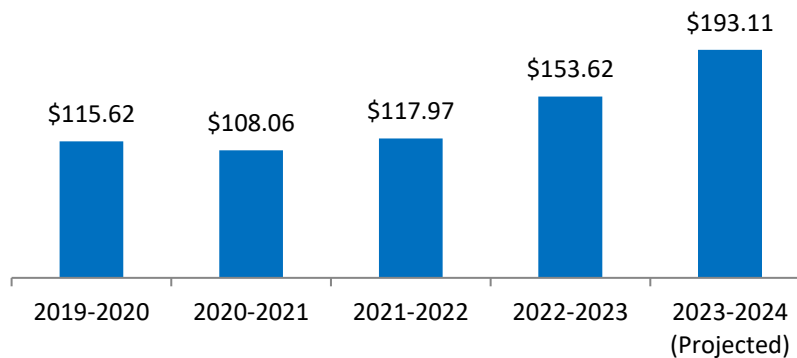
DENTAL

	<u>Total</u>	<u>PREMIUMS</u>	<u>CLAIMS</u>	<u>LOSS RATIO</u>
SEPTEMBER	24,268	\$263,041	\$298,085	113%
OCTOBER	24,268	\$263,041	\$305,223	116%
NOVEMBER	24,268	\$263,041	\$452,084	172%
DECEMBER	24,268	\$263,041	\$346,079	132%
JANUARY	25,074	\$271,783	\$382,870	141%
FEBRUARY	25,074	\$271,783	\$318,477	117%
MARCH	25,074	\$271,783	\$249,971	92%
PAID DENTAL CLAIMS TOTAL		\$1,867,515	\$2,352,789	126%
PAID CLAIMS GRAND TOTAL		\$3,756,757	\$5,145,853	137%

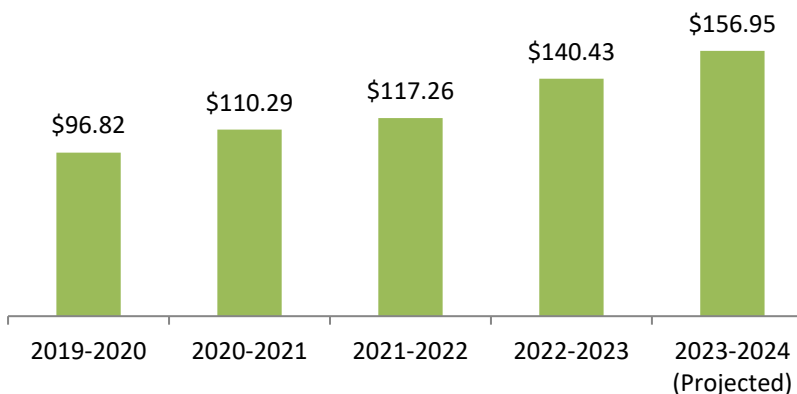
Per Capita Claims

Per capita claims – or claims per student – is the average amount each enrolled plan member has claimed in each of the Health and Dental Plans. We calculate the per capita claims by dividing the total claims in a given policy year by the average number of students (and dependents) enrolled in the Plan. The table below illustrates the per capita claims for each Plan with current-year data.

Per Capita Claims - Health



Per Capita Claims - Dental



Health	Sep 2022 - Mar 2023	Sep 2023 - Mar 2024	Change
Claims Paid	\$1,902,527	\$2,793,064	47%
Enrolled Units	25,122	24,830	-1%
Per Capita Claims	\$75.73	\$112.49	49%
Dental	Sep 2022 - Mar 2023	Sep 2023 - Mar 2024	Change
Claims Paid	\$2,059,132	\$2,352,789	14%
Enrolled Units	24,908	24,613	-1%
Per Capita Claims	\$82.67	\$95.59	16%

Health – Share of Total Change Analysis

	Total Claims		Per Capita Claims			
	2022-2023	2023-2024	2022-2023	2023-2024	Percentage Change	Share of Total Change
Summary						
Prescription Drugs	\$1,216,639.16	\$1,821,314.17	\$48.43	\$73.35	34%	67.80%
Vision Care	\$230,798.92	\$225,475.63	\$9.19	\$9.08	-1%	-0.29%
Paramedical Practitioners	\$395,883.57	\$623,537.51	\$15.76	\$25.11	37%	25.45%
Medical Services & Equipment	\$48,577.17	\$100,719.07	\$1.93	\$4.06	52%	5.78%
Tuition Insurance	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.08	100%	0.22%
Medical Transportation	\$10,628.00	\$19,517.20	\$0.42	\$0.79	46%	0.99%
Audio (Hearing Aids)	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.02	100%	0.05%
Total Claims	\$1,902,526.82	\$2,793,063.58	\$75.73	\$112.49	47%	100%

Dental – Share of Total Change Analysis

	Total Claims		Per Capita Claims			
	2022-2023	2023-2024	2022-2023	2023-2024	Percentage Change	Share of Total Change
Summary						
Basic Services	\$1,577,514.00	\$1,772,431.13	\$63.33	\$72.01	12%	67.16%
Comprehensive Basic Services	\$443,316.33	\$526,598.85	\$17.80	\$21.39	17%	27.84%
Major Services	\$38,301.52	\$53,759.39	\$1.54	\$2.18	30%	5.00%
Total Claims	\$2,059,131.85	\$2,352,789.37	\$82.67	\$95.59	16%	100%
Basic Services						
Adjunctive Services	\$1,178.57	\$2,484.89	\$0.05	\$0.10	53%	0.62%
Basic Oral Surgery	\$130,991.78	\$134,974.21	\$5.26	\$5.48	4%	2.59%
Case Presentation	\$184.23	\$360.63	\$0.01	\$0.01	50%	0.08%
Complete Oral Exam / Examinations	\$243,359.72	\$268,360.67	\$9.77	\$10.90	-0%	13.05%
Pulp Vitality	\$246.12	\$491.58	\$0.01	\$0.02	51%	0.12%
Radiographs	\$353,566.63	\$391,077.42	\$14.19	\$15.89	11%	19.52%
Test/Lab Exams	\$51.83	\$221.28	\$0.00	\$0.01	77%	0.08%
Polishings	\$152,499.67	\$182,629.36	\$6.12	\$7.42	17%	14.95%
Preventive Scaling	\$204,039.92	\$242,477.93	\$8.19	\$9.85	17%	19.13%
Fluoride	\$68,631.78	\$82,560.70	\$2.76	\$3.35	18%	6.90%
Other Preventive	\$28,680.69	\$86,770.12	\$1.15	\$3.53	67%	27.35%
Restorative (fillings)	\$394,083.06	\$380,022.34	\$15.82	\$15.44	-2%	-4.40%
Total Claims	\$2,059,131.85	\$2,352,789.37	\$82.67	\$95.59	16%	100%

Health Claims Analysis

	Claims (\$)	% of claims	Claims (\$)	% of claims
Prescription Drugs	\$1,216,639.16	63.95%	\$1,821,314.17	65.21%
Paramedical Practitioners	\$395,883.57	20.81%	\$623,537.51	22.32%
Athletic Therapist	\$420.00	0.02%	\$680.00	0.02%
Chiropractor	\$55,039.20	2.89%	\$87,854.30	3.15%
Dietitian	\$330.00	0.02%	\$1,295.00	0.05%
Foot Care Professionals	\$1,260.00	0.07%	\$1,002.08	0.04%
Massage Therapy	\$42,815.87	2.25%	\$50,790.56	1.82%
Naturopath	\$3,156.25	0.17%	\$1,706.50	0.06%
Osteopath	\$840.00	0.04%	\$2,354.00	0.08%
Physiotherapist	\$54,506.40	2.86%	\$77,368.25	2.77%
Mental Health Practitioners	\$237,345.85	12.48%	\$400,056.82	14.32%
Psychologist, initial	\$31,780.63	1.67%	\$39,962.98	1.43%
Psychologist, subsequent	\$168,373.97	8.85%	\$280,475.13	10.04%
Master of Social Work (MSW)	\$5,321.24	0.28%	\$20,508.16	0.73%
Clinical Counsellor	\$0.00	0.00%	\$13,098.23	0.47%
Social Worker	\$31,870.01	1.68%	\$46,012.32	1.65%
Speech Therapist	\$170.00	0.01%	\$430.00	0.02%

The increase in Mental Health Practitioner claims directly correlates to the increase in the annual maximum implemented in September 2023.

Top Drug Classifications by Number of Claims and Amount Paid

	Number of Claims	% of Total Number of Claims	Amount Paid	% of Total Amount Paid
RX - CNS STIMULANT AGENTS	5,644	16.99%	\$579,466.16	31.82%
RX - ANTIDEPRESSANT AGENTS	5,959	17.94%	\$189,519.94	10.41%
RX - INJECTABLE BIOTECHNOLOGY AGENTS	99	0.30%	\$112,685.28	6.19%
RX - ORAL CONTRACEPTIVES	2,316	6.97%	\$65,339.73	3.59%
RX - ANTIPSYCHOTIC AGENTS	1,142	3.44%	\$62,544.48	3.43%
RX - ACNE PREPARATIONS - ORAL	887	2.67%	\$53,428.28	2.93%
RX - ACNE PREPARATIONS - TOPICAL	866	2.61%	\$51,839.77	2.85%
RX - LONG ACTING BRONCHODILATORS	483	1.45%	\$47,965.03	2.63%
RX - INTRAUTERINE CONTRACEPTIVES	166	0.50%	\$47,807.60	2.62%
RX - MISCELLANEOUS MIGRAINE	90	0.27%	\$27,119.84	1.49%

Inflation Trend

The inflation trend is used to calculate projected claims, which in turn determine the major portion of the Plan premium. While the typical inflation trend for an employee benefit plan is in the double digits, the demographics and usage patterns of a student health and dental plan enable the use of a much lower inflation trend.

Type of Health Plan	Typical Inflation Trend
Employee Health & Dental Plan	15-20%
Typical Student Health & Dental Plan	5-8%

Projected Plan Cost for 2024-2025

2023-2024 CLAIMS ANALYSIS	Health	Dental	Total
Paid Claims (September 2023 through March 2024)	\$2,793,064	\$2,352,789	\$5,145,853
Ratio to Project Claims to Year-End	57.80%	60.43%	
2023-2024 Projected Paid Claims (through August)	\$4,832,184	\$3,893,213	\$8,725,396.58
IBNR adjustment	\$58,914	\$15,456	
2023-2024 Projected Incurred Claims (through August)	\$4,891,098	\$3,908,668	\$8,799,767
2024-2025 PLAN COST ANALYSIS	Health	Dental	Total
2023-2024 Projected Incurred Claims (through August)	\$4,891,098	\$3,908,668	\$8,799,767
Enrolled Units	25,023	24,805	
Projected Claims per Enrolled Unit (2023-2024)	\$195.46	\$157.57	\$353.04
Inflation Trend	8%	8%	
Projected Claims per Enrolled Unit (2024-2025)	\$211.10	\$170.18	\$381.28
Admin Costs	\$28.51	\$24.66	\$53.17
Accidental Death & Dismemberment (Pooled Benefit)	\$6.00	-	\$6.00
Tuition Insurance	\$1.68	-	\$1.68
Travel Insurance (Pooled Benefit)	\$9.72	-	\$9.72
Empower Me	\$7.94	-	\$7.94
Projected Annual Premium	\$264.95	\$194.84	\$459.79
Current Plan Premium	\$167.18	\$143.16	\$310.34
Projected Change in Premium	58%	36%	48%

Plan Fee Analysis

PLAN FEE ANALYSIS	Health	Dental	Total
Projected Plan Premium (2024-2025)	\$264.95	\$194.84	\$459.79
University Admin Fee (0.25% of Plan Fee)	\$0.42	\$0.41	\$0.83
Projected Total Amount Required (2024-2025)	\$265.37	\$195.25	\$460.62
Current Plan Fee (2023-2024)	\$166.34	\$162.21	\$328.55
Difference between Plan Cost & Current Plan Fee	\$99.03	\$33.04	\$132.07
% Difference	60%	20%	40%

GSC Confirmed 2024-2025 10% Renewal

2024-25 GSC Plan Premium	Health	Dental	Total
Current Plan Premium	\$141.84	\$143.16	\$285.00
GSC Renewal - 10% Increase	\$162.00	\$153.48	\$315.48
AD&D	\$6.00	-	\$6.00
Tuition	\$1.68	-	\$1.68
Travel	\$9.72	-	\$9.72
Empower Me	\$7.94	-	\$7.94
Total 2024-25 Plan Premium	\$187.34	\$153.48	\$340.82
Total 2024-25 Plan Premium	\$187.34	\$153.48	\$340.82
University Admin Fee (0.25% of Plan Fee)	\$0.42	\$0.41	\$0.82
Total Plan Cost	\$187.76	\$153.89	\$341.64
Current Plan Fee	\$166.34	\$162.21	\$328.55
Required from Reserve	-\$21.42	\$8.32	-\$13.09

Next Steps:

GSC has honoured their 10% maximum renewal in year three of your agreement with them. As such, premiums are only increasing by that amount. However, claims trends continue to rise in both Health and Dental. We see the majority of the increases occurring in Health – with significant increases in prescription drug and mental health practitioner claims. Studentcare expects that GSC will push large increases to the Plan Premium in the 2025-26 renewal. To ensure the Plan Fee is best positioned for any future increases, we recommend an increase this policy year.

To put into perspective how much the UASU has benefited from the two-year rate guarantee and the 10% max renewal, see the below table demonstrating the difference between net premiums paid and claims paid to students.

Sept 2022 to March 2023 Total Net Premiums Paid	\$10,159,426
Sept 2022 to March 2023 Total Claims Paid to Students	\$12,560,625
Claims Paid Above Net Premiums to Date	\$2,401,199

This means that **UASU members have received \$2.4 M more in claims than the UASU has paid in premiums** for the Plan over the past 19 months. This is a huge win in value for students.

Studentcare will conduct a strategic analysis of tactics we can implement to aid in prescription drug cost controls and advise the SU.

Inflationary Plan Fee Adjustment to \$361.41

Studentcare recommends the UASU increase the Plan Fee by 10% to \$361.41. This increase allows the SU to continue predictable, incremental, Plan Fee increases ahead of the large premium increase in 2025-26. Without the 10% max renewal this year, Plan costs would have been \$460.62. This cost will likely increase next year, and the UASU should prepare accordingly. Increasing the Plan Fee now will aid in protecting the financial health of the Plan and, hopefully, avoid the need for a referendum to increase the Plan Fee in 2025-26.

UASU Students' Council Agenda Submission Form

Council Meeting Date Tuesday, April 16, 2024

[Meeting Schedule](#)

Submitter Nathan Thiessen

Email Address nathiess@ualberta.ca

Type of Item Submission

Is this a Consent Agenda item?

Approval/Discussion Items

Motion

THIESSEN moves to appoint Hiba Khan as Chief Tribune of the Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement Board.

Mover Thiessen

Seconder Almeida

Presenter (If Not the Mover) Thiessen

Does this item require a closed session discussion?

Office/Committee Responsible DIE Board Selection Committee

Purpose

To ensure the operation of the Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement Board by the appointment of Hiba Khan as Chief Tribune.

Executive Summary

Appointment of Hiba Khan to the Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement Board

Relevant Bylaws/Policies/Standing Orders

Bylaw 140

Engagement and Routing

DIE Board Selection Committee

Approval Routing

DIE Board Selection Committee

Strategic Alignment

Do what's right, not what's easy. Acting with integrity and respect is essential to an open, collaborative, and democratic organization. This appointment serves to strengthen our organization by ensuring the DIE Board is kept operational and functional.

[Strategic Plan](#)

Calls for Nominations

[Council Committees and Boards](#)

Written Nominations

Information Items

Presentations

Written Questions

UASU Students' Council Agenda Submission Form

Council Meeting Date	Tuesday, April 16, 2024
Meeting Schedule	
Submitter	ALMEIDA
Email Address	pedro.almeida@su.ualberta.ca
Type of Item Submission	<input type="button" value="Approval"/>
Is this a Consent Agenda item?	<input type="button" value="No"/>

Approval/Discussion Items

Motion

ALMEIDA moves to approve the second principles of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships Policy and to concurrently delete the Scholarships and Bursaries policy.

Mover	ALMEIDA
Second	THIESSEN
Presenter (If Not the Mover)	ALMEIDA
Does this item require a closed session discussion?	<input type="button" value="No"/>
Office/Committee Responsible	Policy Committee

Purpose

Second principles of the political policy

Executive Summary

Second principle of the political policy, with the changes as outlined previously

Relevant Bylaws/Policies/Standing Orders

Student Financial Aid and Scholarships policy
Scholarships and Bursaries policy

Engagement and Routing

This was brought to the Council of Faculty Associations Senior Board and approved by the UASU Policy Committee

Approval Routing

UASU Policy Committee

Strategic Alignment

This will set the direction the SU has for advocating on financial aid, a key concept within the SU's mandate

[Strategic Plan](#)

Attachments



Student Financial Aid and Sc... .pdf

Calls for Nominations

[Council Committees and Boards](#)

Written Nominations

Information Items

Presentations

Written Questions

Title of Policy: Student Financial Aid and Scholarships Policy

Principle Author: Nathan Thiessen, Abdul Abbasi, Pedro Almeida

Consultation: All members of CoFA Senior Board were contacted

Policy Facts

Old	New
<p>Facts</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Post-Secondary education is not only a benefit to individual graduates, but is also a public good due to positive impacts on economic productivity and government revenue¹.2. The University of Alberta, the Government of Alberta, and the Government of Canada have a responsibility to make post-secondary education accessible to qualified people of all backgrounds so that they may achieve their full potential.3. The cost of participating in post-secondary education includes tuition, fees, the cost of educational materials, and living expenses.4. The cost of university education has increased rapidly in Canada in recent decades, with tuition alone rising over 270% in real terms since 1990. This has forced increasing numbers of students to take out large student loans that are burdensome later in life².	<p>Facts</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. University post-secondary education is not only a benefit to individual graduates, but it is also a public good due to positive impacts on economic productivity and government revenue^{+, 1}.2. The University of Alberta, the Government of Alberta, and the Government of Canada have a responsibility to make post-secondary education accessible to qualified people of all backgrounds so that they may achieve their full potential.^{2, 3}3. The opportunity cost of participating in post-secondary education is both the direct expenses students incurincludes (tuition, fees, the cost of educational materials, and living expenses) as well as all potential income students lose when they choose to attend a post-secondary institution.4. The cost of university education has increased rapidly in Canada in recent decades, with tuition for a bachelors in Canada alone rising over 190%-270% in real terms since 1981-1990. This has resulted in 54% of Canadian bachelor graduates having owed debt at time of graduation, with 45% owing debts larger than \$25 000forced increasing

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. The high cost of university education is both a disincentive to beginning a university education and an obstacle to completing one. 6. Students lose significant potential income when they choose to pursue a university education instead of full-time work. 7. Some students require either full or part-time employment while attending university to meet their financial needs, which can reduce their opportunities for academic achievement and extracurricular activity³ 8. Both needs-based and merit-based awards, and both repayable and non-repayable aid, are integral parts of the student financial aid system, as they provide students with the support needed to complete their education. 	<p>numbers of students out large student loans that are burdensome later in life^{2, 5}</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 53% of Alberta post-secondary graduates owe debt at time of graduation, with 52% owing debts larger than \$25 000.⁶ b. The average bachelor debt owed at time of graduation is \$28 000 for all Canadians,⁵ with the average bachelor debt owed at time of graduation being \$31 000 for Albertans.⁶ <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. The high cost of university education is both a disincentive to beginning a university education and an obstacle to completing one. 6.—Students lose significant potential income when they choose to pursue a university education instead of full-time work. 7.—6. Some students require either full or part-time employment while attending university to meet their financial needs, which can reduce their opportunities for academic achievement and extracurricular activity.⁹ 8.—7. Both needs-based and merit-based awards, and both repayable and non-repayable aid, are integral parts of the student financial aid system, as they provide students with the support needed to complete their education. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Bursaries are non-repayable funds that help with academic and basic living costs for students who find themselves in
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<p>9. The current application process for student financial aid is inefficient and inaccessible.³</p> <p>10. Needs-based aid plays an essential role in allowing students from less privileged socioeconomic backgrounds to access university education. Merit-based awards typically target students who have less financial need³, and as a result are not sufficient on their own to ensure the accessibility of post-secondary education. Education tax credits are an inefficient and poorly targeted mechanism for distributing student financial aid³.</p> <p>11. Merit-based awards typically target students who have less financial need⁴, and as a result are not sufficient on their own to ensure the accessibility of post-secondary education.</p> <p>12. Education tax credits are an inefficient and poorly targeted mechanism for distributing student financial aid⁶.</p> <p>13. Up-front, non-repayable, needs-based</p>	<p>financial need.⁷</p> <p>b. Scholarships and awards are available for students as non-repayable funds based on different criteria that may include needs-based and/or merit-based considerations.⁸</p> <p>c. The Emergency Loan Program and student loans both constitute repayable financial aid.^{9, 10}</p> <p>9. The current application process for student financial aid is inefficient and inaccessible.³</p> <p>10. 8. Needs-based aid plays an essential role in allowing students from less privileged socioeconomic backgrounds to access university education. Merit-based awards typically target students who have less financial need³; and as a result are not sufficient on their own to ensure the accessibility of post-secondary education. Education tax credits are an inefficient and poorly targeted mechanism for distributing student financial aid³:</p> <p>11. 9. Merit-based awards typically target students who have less financial need⁴; and as a result are not sufficient on their own to ensure the accessibility of post-secondary education.¹¹</p> <p>12. Education tax credits are an inefficient and poorly targeted mechanism for distributing student financial aid⁶.</p> <p>13. 10. Up-front, non-repayable, needs-based grants are represent the</p>
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<p>grants represent the most accessible and fair method of distributing student financial aid⁴.</p> <p>14. While the post-secondary system requires a strong student financial aid system, reducing the total cost of a university education is the best way to ensure the accessibility of post-secondary education and prevent aid loopholes.</p> <p>15.</p>	<p>most effective student financial aid distribution mechanism for ensuring greater accessibility of post-secondary education accessible and fair method of distributing student financial aid⁴¹².</p> <p>a. Up-front, non-repayable, needs-based grants can focus on students who most need aid, as opposed to other methods, such as tax credits, which tend to primarily benefit more affluent families.</p> <p>14. 11. 56.9% of surveyed University of Alberta students who sought needs-based financial aid reported the application being too difficult or opaque indicating inaccessibility, and hence, inefficiency in providing appropriate aid to students.¹³</p> <p>12. Alberta Student Aid funded scholarships do not consider approved accommodations from students registered with Accessibility Resources for an approved reduced courseload.¹⁴</p> <p>14. 13. While the post-secondary system requires a strong student financial aid system, reducing the total cost of a university education is the best way to ensure the accessibility of post-secondary education and prevent aid loopholes.</p> <p>15.</p>
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Resolutions

1. The Students' Union advocates for a provincial financial aid system that:
 - a. Includes increased relative and absolute amounts of non-repayable assistance, including but not limited to grants and bursaries;
 - b. Recognizes the importance of need-based student financial aid that increases the relative and absolute amounts and number of need based aid awards, which are awarded based on students' financial need and/or involvement;
 - c. Is accessible to all Alberta students attending not-for-profit post-secondary institutions;
 - d. Recognizes the complete overhead costs of education to the learner including, but not limited to, rent and utility costs, textbook costs, transportation costs, food, personal care, internet, and computer costs;
 - e. Includes adjustments to all forms of financial assistance to reflect changes in market realities as they affect students; and catastrophic events
 - f. Eases the growing burden of student debt to post-secondary

Resolutions

1. The Students' Union ~~shall advocate~~ ~~advocates~~ for a provincial financial aid system that:
 - a. Includes increased relative and absolute amounts of non-repayable assistance, including but not limited to grants and bursaries;
 - b. Recognizes the importance of need~~s~~-based student financial aid that increases the relative and absolute amounts and number of need~~s~~-based aid awards, ~~which are awarded~~ based on students' financial need and/or involvement;
 - c. Is accessible to all Alberta students attending not-for-profit post-secondary institutions;
 - d. Recognizes the complete overhead costs of education to the learner including, but not limited to, rent and utility costs, textbooks ~~and materials~~ costs, transportation costs, food, personal care, internet, and computers costs;
 - e. Includes adjustments to all forms of financial assistance to reflect changes in market realities as they affect students; and catastrophic events;
 - f. Eases the growing burden of student debt to post-secondary

<p>graduates;</p> <p>g. Increases the number of awards targeted to traditionally barriered populations, including but not limited to, Aboriginal students, rural students, students with disabilities, and low-income students.</p> <p>h. Acknowledges the unique financial needs of students with dependents and students living with disabilities, and provides the necessary resources to ensure those needs are met.</p> <p>2. The Students' Union advocates for Student Financial Assistance provided by the University of Alberta that:</p> <p>a. Increases the number and value of need-based awards to continuing undergraduate students such that they are consistent with the number and value of entrance awards;</p> <p>b. Increases the monetary value of awards in conjunction with any increase to the cost of higher education;</p> <p>c. Increases the number of available awards as enrolment of students increases;</p>	<p>graduates;</p> <p>g. Increases the number of awards targeted to traditionally barriered populations, including but not limited to, Aboriginal students, rural students, students with disabilities, and low-income students.</p> <p>h. Acknowledges the unique financial needs of students with dependents and students living with disabilities, and provides the necessary resources to ensure those needs are met;-</p> <p>i. Does not discriminate against students with approved accommodations, such as reduced courseloads.</p> <p>2. The Students' Union shall advocate advocates for student financial assistance-Student Financial Assistance provided by the University of Alberta that:</p> <p>a. Increases the number and value of needs-based awards to continuing undergraduate students such that they are consistent with the number and value of entrance awards;</p> <p>b. Increases the monetary value of awards and bursaries in conjunction with any increase to the cost of higher education;</p> <p>c. Increases the number of available awards as enrolment of student increases;</p>
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<p>d. Annually discloses the ratio of need to merit-based aid, and the distribution of awards between years of study;</p> <p>e. Has an efficient application process that connects more students to funding.</p> <p>3. The Students' Union advocates that donors support students from diverse backgrounds and with diverse skills via scholarships and bursaries.</p> <p>4. The Students' Union shall lobby the University of Alberta to increase the number and value of awards granted to continuing undergraduate students in order to be consistent with the number and value of entrance awards.</p> <p>5. The Students' Union shall lobby the University of Alberta and the Government of Alberta to increase the relative and absolute amounts of scholarships and bursaries that are awarded based on the students' financial need and/or involvement.</p> <p>6. The Students' Union shall work towards tailoring the SU Awards to a needs-based model to reward not only excellence in leadership and academics, but also to those who need financial support the most.</p> <p>7. The Students' Union shall pursue a single digital portal to access the provincial and University student aid, scholarships, and bursaries application process.</p>	<p>d. Annually discloses the ratio of needs- to merit-based aid, and the distribution of aid-awards between years of study;</p> <p>e. Has an efficient application process that connects more students to funding.</p> <p>3. The Students' Union shall advocate advocates that donors support students from diverse backgrounds and with diverse skills via scholarships and bursaries.</p> <p>4. The Students' Union shall advocate lobby to the University of Alberta to increase the number and value of awards granted to continuing undergraduate students in order to be consistent with the number and value of entrance awards.</p> <p>5. The Students' Union shall advocate lobby to the University of Alberta and the Government of Alberta to increase the relative and absolute amounts of scholarships and bursaries that are awarded based on the students' financial need and/or involvement.</p> <p>6. The Students' Union shall work towards tailoring the SU Awards to a needs-based model to reward not only excellence in leadership and academics, but also to those who need financial support the most.</p> <p>7. The Students' Union shall pursue a single digital portal to access the provincial and University student aid, scholarships, and bursaries application</p>
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<p>8. The Students' Union shall advocate that the University of Alberta and the Government of Alberta provide a higher proportion of merit-based awards on the basis of leadership and community involvement rather than academic performance.</p> <p>9. The Students' Union shall advocate that the University of Alberta and the Government of Alberta publish detailed statistics regarding the demographic composition of student aid recipients, their sector of study, and other information that may be relevant to determine the impact of student financial aid on post-secondary participation rates.</p> <p>¹https://www.aplu.org/projects-and-initiatives/college-costs-tuition-and-financial-aid/public-values/societal-benefits.html</p> <p>²https://thoughtleadership.rbc.com/the-cost-of-credentials-the-shifting-burden-of-post-secondary-education-in-canada/</p> <p>³https://www.caus.net/policy-papers/CAUS_Student_Financial_Paper_2018_v3_NO_CROPS_single.pdf</p> <p>⁴https://www.su.ualberta.ca/media/uploads/114</p>	<p>process:</p> <p>7. The Student's Union shall advocate that more of the merit-based awards provided by the University of Alberta and the Government of Alberta, consider financial need.</p> <p>8. The Students' Union shall advocate that a significant proportion of the merit-based awards provided by the University of Alberta and the Government of Alberta are-a-provide-a higher proportion of the merit-based awards on the basis of leadership and community involvement rather than academic performance.</p> <p>9. The Students' Union shall advocate that the University of Alberta and the Government of Alberta publish detailed statistics regarding the demographic composition of student aid recipients, their sector of study, and other information that may be relevant to determine the impact of student financial aid on post-secondary participation rates.</p> <p>1. Economic Impact Study, University of Alberta 2023 https://www.ualberta.ca/media-library/impact-report/u-of-a-economic-impact-study-report.pdf</p> <p>2. United Nations Sustainable Developments Goals (Goal 4, Target 4.3) https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal4</p> <p>3. Government of Canada (Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education) https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-soc</p>
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- [ial-development/programs/agenda-2030/quality-education.html](http://ualberta.ca/development/programs/agenda-2030/quality-education.html)
4. Undergraduate Tuition Trends in Canada and Alberta
<https://www.su.ualberta.ca/media/uploads/1143/Undergraduate%20Tuition%20Trends%20in%20Canada%20and%20Alberta.pdf>
 5. Statistics Canada (Student debt from all sources, by province of study and level of study)
<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=3710003601&pickMembers%5B0%5D=1.1&pickMembers%5B1%5D=3.1&cubeTimeFrame.startYear=2015&cubeTimeFrame.endYear=2015&referencePeriods=201501%2C20150101>
 6. Statistics Canada (Student debt from all sources, by provinces of study and level of study)
 - a. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=3710003601&pickMembers%5B0%5D=1.10&pickMembers%5B1%5D=3.1&cubeTimeFrame.startYear=2015&cubeTimeFrame.endYear=2015&referencePeriods=20150101%2C20150101>
 7. University of Alberta (Financial Support & Advising)
<https://www.ualberta.ca/admissions/undergraduate/tuition-and-scholarships/financial-support.html?>
 8. University of Alberta (Awards by Faculty)
<https://www.ualberta.ca/registrar/scholarships-awards-financial-support/undergraduate-awards/awards-by-faculty/index.html>
 9. University of Alberta (Emergency Loan)
<https://www.ualberta.ca/registrar/scholarships-awards-financial-support/bursaries-emergency-funding/emergency-loan.html>
 10. University of Alberta (Student Loans)
<https://www.ualberta.ca/registrar/scholarships>

	<p>ps-awards-financial-support/student-loans/index.html</p> <p>11. Heller, D. (March 2006). Merit aid and college access. In Symposium on the consequences of merit-based student aid. Madison: University of Wisconsin https://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.544.2863&rep=rep1&type=pdf</p> <p>12. Up-Front Grants: An Efficient Choice for Students and Families https://www.su.ualberta.ca/media/uploads/1143/UpFrontGrants.pdf</p> <p>13. Accessing Needs-Based Financial Aid https://www.su.ualberta.ca/media/uploads/1143/Accessing%20Needs-Based%20Financial%20Aid.pdf</p> <p>14. University of Alberta (Additional Scholarship Information) https://www.ualberta.ca/registrar/scholarships-awards-financial-support/undergraduate-awards/additional-scholarship-information.html</p>
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UASU Students' Council Agenda Submission Form

Council Meeting Date Tuesday, April 16, 2024

[Meeting Schedule](#)

Submitter Lam

Email Address lam8@ualberta.ca

Type of Item Submission

Is this a Consent Agenda item?

Approval/Discussion Items

Motion

LAM moves to approve the Votes and Proceedings from the April 2nd Meeting of Students' Council

Mover Lam

Seconder Almeida

Presenter (If Not the Mover) Lam

Does this item require a closed session discussion?

Office/Committee Responsible Council Administration Committee

Purpose

To approve the votes and proceedings for the April 2nd meeting of Students' Council

Executive Summary

N/A

Relevant Bylaws/Policies/Standing Orders

Section 19 of Standing Orders: Records of Students' Council

Engagement and Routing

Admin Clerks
Governance Staff

Approval Routing

N/A

Strategic Alignment

N/A

[Strategic Plan](#)

Attachments



SC-2023-25-VP-20240402.pdf

Calls for Nominations

[Council Committees and Boards](#)

Written Nominations

Information Items

Presentations

Written Questions

April 2nd, 2024
6:00pm
Council Chambers/Zoom

The University of Alberta and the University of Alberta Students' Union occupy Indigenous land in amiskwaciwâskahikan (Beaver Hills House), on Treaty 6 territory. From time immemorial, the banks along the river valley have been known as the Pehonan, a meeting place for the nêhiyawak (Cree), the Niitsitapi (Blackfoot), Métis, Dënesųłiné (Dene), Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and others. The University, the Students' Union and much of the city are located on the unlawfully stolen land of the forcibly removed Papaschase Cree.

We acknowledge that sharing this land gives each of us the responsibility to research the historic contexts of Treaty 6, to reflect on our personal relationships to the land, the Nations we've named, and to our roles in upholding justice on this territory. Since they began, the Students' Union and the University have benefited from historic and ongoing dispossession of land and resources from Indigenous Peoples. As a result, it is our responsibility to seek the restitution of this land and its resources. Finally, we seek to do better by working to make our learning, research, and governance align with the histories, languages, teachings, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples in the land presently occupied by the Canadian state.

We encourage critical reflection by asking the following question. In relation to the territory on which you are situated, what role do you play in strengthening the resistance and resurgence of Indigenous students within your communities?

SPEAKER called the meeting to order at 6:15 P.M.

ORDER PAPERS (SC-2023-25)

2023-25/1 SPEAKERS BUSINESS

SPEAKER: Wanted to give information regarding conduct and maintaining respectful dialogue, given the presence of guests at today's meeting. Reminds the room to be mindful that information is gathered through minute taking and Zoom recordings. Will allow the Late Additions.

2023-25/1a Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/95902116340>

2023-25/2 CONSENT AGENDA

2023-25/2a Students' Council Votes and Proceedings (SC-2023-23-VP-20240305) - Tuesday, March 5th, 2024

See SC-2023-25.05

APPROVED

2023-25/2b Students' Council Votes and Proceedings (SC-2023-24-VP-20240323) - Tuesday,

March 23rd, 2024

See SC-2023-25.06

APPROVED

2023-25/2c **THIESSEN/ALMEIDA MOVE TO** appoint Yaatheshini Ashok Kumar and Sheroz Hamid to the Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement Board

See SC-2023-25.01

APPROVED

2023-25/3 PRESENTATIONS

2023-25/3a **FOTANG/FLAMAN MOVE TO** allow Juliana du Pree to present an update on the UASU website

See SC-2023-25.02

CARRIED 14/00/00

2023-25/4 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOG REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Beasley - Vice President External - Report
Fotang - President - Report

2023-25/5 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORT

Flaman - Finance Committee Chair - Report

2023-25/6 OPEN FORUM

HARUUN ALI: Begins statement wanting to tell the Students' Council a story. In the Summer of 2022, they were elected as a counselor and halfway through the term, questions were raised about eligibility by several counselors as well as the CRO. Does not want to get into the details of the situation as they believe it is overall semantics and D.I.E Board also ruled in their favor, but wanted to focus on one vote that happened at Students' Council. It was a contentious vote where there was debate that sought to clarify if they were within their correct faculty. Believes around 10 to 11 counselors did abstain on the vote, as they did not want to be a part of a contentious vote. Wants to remind counselors that in their oath, it is about doing what is right and not what is easy. The right and moral thing to do is to recognize that this election was not fair and that there were obvious discrepancies with how the CRO responded to certain candidates, as Farah Elgaweesh has pointed out. Understands that the D.I.E Board has already made their decision but this body can ensure that the votes are properly presented. Proposes to have Farah Elgaweesh's

name versus Layla Alhussainy's name on the first round of voting, then to drop her name off in the second ballot and explain the reasons as to why she was disqualified. Believes this is the most transparent way to present the information while ensuring everyone can access it. Has more to say about unfairness but wanted to get this out first. Hopes that the body make the ethical decision in order to not throw away the incredible work of Farah.

PROMETHEUS: Asks a question to FLAMAN and the Students' Council broadly. States that they were named in a ruling made by the CRO which, in passing, accused them of vandalism. Has previously contacted the CRO, but the CRO did not respond to them, despite having their contact information. Asks what is lacking in the Bylaws and Regulations which allows this to happen.

FOTANG: Responds to Prometheus. Believes that this question is better suited for the CAC Chair if it is regarding concerns with response times or interactions with the CRO. With that being said, the Bylaw committee is reviewing election related processes and looking at issues that have occurred in this election where there could be room for improvement. Also states that there is an appeal process where any kind of complaint that comes through to the Elections Office can be contested and there is also the ability to go to the D.I.E Board with any concerns.

ASHA JAMA: Notes that the intention with their statement is not to attack a person or individual, but rather express feedback regarding evidence gaps that they have identified within the UASU Bylaws. Has read through the proposed changes of the UASU Bylaws and is disappointed as they do not encompass the major concerns faced during the general election. For example, there has been a dangerous precedent set by this year's VPA race, including retroactively charging former VPA Candidate, Farah Elgaweesh, with extreme fines after issues were recognized by the Elections Office. This was not done in a timely manner. There were also discrepancies in communication and treatment among candidates by the Elections Office. Wants to establish a consistent level of communication with all candidates through a clear definition of the basic level of communication that is to be required and upheld by the Elections Office.

Requests Council to revisit the proposed Election Bylaw changes to reflect the feedback by themselves.

FARAH ELGAWEEESH: Encourages counselors to refer back to the Students' Council Oath of Office while listening to their statement. Wants to highlight the importance of the results having their name released publicly with the amount of votes tabulated in the first round. Notes that there is not a bylaw stating that these results are not to be shared or tabulated publicly. This should be done out of respect for the students who pay the salaries of the Students' Union Staff and who voted in this election out of hope of their interests being heard. Notes that this may cause tension and resistance in the future given the context of this election and a low voter turnout and that it is apparent that students are losing trust in the Students' Union. In order to gain credibility for the incoming Executive team, believes it is critical to communicate

with the students and release their name, along with the results, as the students who have voted for are not pleased to see results without their name. This will create more barriers for the incoming Executives to move forward due to the spectacle regarding how certain Executives came to office.

Notes that they are here in good faith, to ask the Students' Union to uphold communication and transparency, as this is an important step in ensuring in the long term that they are equipped to advocate and support students. Given the nature of their disqualification and that it was not publicized to students and also given that bylaws do not state that these results are not to be shared and that their name stayed on the ballot until the election period ended, it is only fair that the complete set of results are shared.

AIMAN SAIF: Asks that if there is nothing in the Bylaws that state that the results should be withheld, why are the numbers not being released? Also asks why the votes were stopped from being counted and why the numbers for the first ballot were not made public.

VERGHESE: Responds to Saif. Noted that the Elections Office made their ruling based on if candidates were over their budgets or not. Informed Farah that their name will be on the ballot until 7:00pm, in the case that any of the rulings were overturned by the D.I.E Board.

The Elections Office does not remove the results of disqualified candidates. Because the UASU voting system is a ranked based system of voting, votes were calculated using the order of preferences outlined by each voter.

DUMOUCHEL: Responds to Saif. Technically speaking, when someone is disqualified prior to the results, there is no account of the race due to the disqualification. There is a flag that is set in the software and the votes are not counted. There are not hidden results that are not presented. If the disqualification were to be overturned, the system would be re-run with the disqualification flag turned off.

ANDIE HANSEN: Begins by stating that this year's elections were much more intense than previous years, and to their knowledge, all the candidates have put in a lot of effort into their great campaigns. Notes that the Elections Office and the D.I.E Board had tough decisions to make and were exhausted by the end of elections. Is impressed by Farah's efforts of understanding the Bylaws and their diligence towards their campaign, especially as the youngest candidate running in the General Election this year. States that, if diverse student voices with outside point of views are to be included in student governance, effort needs to be made to increase communication and make the running process more accessible and fair. In their opinion, they believe Farah's disqualification was unfair. Wants to emphasize that Council should give Farah the benefit of the doubt and listen with compassion to the statements of Farah and others in this Students' Council meeting. Is concerned with the precedents that are set by the actions of the Elections Office during this campaign voting period.

Aparajita (*The Gateway*): Question directed to the CRO. Asks for clarification on how the results are tabulated.

VERGHESE: The Director of I.T Department would ask if any disqualifications have been made before running the voting system, Because there was a disqualified candidate this year, the votes were run without the disqualified present.

DUMOUCHEL: To further clarify, there are no vote counts made for disqualified candidates.

FOTANG/RAITZ MOVE TO extend question period by 15 minutes.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

HARUUN ALI: Is confused regarding the controversy on releasing the results with Farah's name on them. Does not believe that it makes sense. If Farah won, believes it was not truly not fair to Farah. CAC should open up an investigation on the grounds of differential treatment. Expresses concern that they believe that racialized students may be turned off from running in student governance due to the process of this year's elections.

MIKAEL SCHMIDTKE: Seems that, based on everything said, the main issue is the way the software handles the voting procedure. Based on the outrage regarding the lack of inclusion of disqualified students, encourages Council to look into how votes are tabulated and to have it so that disqualified candidates have the votes properly tabulated with them included in the race. Believes that this should have been the case from years prior, and since disqualifications can be overruled, if they are not tabulated properly, then there would be no way to properly determine if they would have won had they not been disqualified.

ASHA JAMA: Question. Asks if it is democratic to redistribute student votes to Candidate X when Candidate Y is disqualified. Given that students have voted, as an example, for candidate Y as their first option. Therefore, if a student did not vote for Candidate X at all for their second option, their vote for Candidate Y was possibly erased. Suggests that it should be erased from the system in general rather than be redistributed. Reaffirms and raises concerns on the voting software and that it needs to be looked into.

DUMOUCHEL: Responds to Asha Jama. Clarifies that if a candidate is disqualified, those that voted for the disqualified candidate and no one else would not have their vote redistributed. However, if a voter also voted for another person as their second option, then that vote would be redistributed. The idea is to respect the will of the voters. Clarifies that as long as the UASU has the original ballot, which they do, the results can be rerun with the disqualification flag removed.

ABDUL ABBASI: Engagement in SU elections have decreased over the years. Recalls their year on Students' Council and how discussions around elections often focused around increasing engagement and accessibility. Is looking forward to the Bylaw

amendments that are coming forward regarding the elections. Believes they should be striving to make the Students' Union more accessible for everyone, regardless if they have no experience or if they come from a marginalized community. This will increase the trust from students to the Students' Union.

FARAH ELGAWEESH: Asks for further clarification on rank based voting procedures.

VERGHESE: Responds to Farah. Explains the rules and regulations of rank based voting.

DUMOUCHEL: When someone is disqualified, there is not a candidate that is the second choice because they then are now the voter's first choice. The alternative to rank based voting is a simple plurality vote.

PROMETHEUS: Question for CRO. Asks if the ballots have been destroyed yet.

VERGHESE. Responds. No, the ballots have not been destroyed and that the calculations can be done, if need be.

BEASLEY/RAITZ MOVE TO extend question period by 15 minutes.
CARRIED

HARUUN ALI: Believes this is a legislative matter and a decision for this council to make. Does council want to see the complete results? Believes the results are relevant and that it is not appropriate to penalize candidates for social media stories. Notes that there are flaws in the bylaws that need to be fixed and that the D.I.E Board are only ones capable of ruling on these flawed bylaws.

PROMETHEUS: Question for LAM or for anyone that can answer. Asks if a motion could be made to recount the ballots as though Farah was not disqualified in order for the complete results to be released to students.

LAM: Believes that is a motion that could be possibly made. Looks to the SPEAKER for confirmation of this fact.

SPEAKER: Does not see any reason why it could not; It would be up to Students' Council to make that decision.

FARAH ELGAWEESH: Notes that the common sentiment among students is that their disqualification was deemed unfair, but is not at Students' Council to debate this. The common sentiment amongst students is concern on the way results are to be presented and believes it is going to be presented in a misleading manner, as many students do not know how rank based ballots work. Believes it is important for the Students' Union to explain how the results are tabulated in the way that was discussed during Open Forum. Is concerned about next year's elections and the lack of communication between the Students' Union and the student body. Is also concerned this will affect the incoming Executives and how their terms will go.

QUESTION PERIOD

ALMEIDA: Will refrain on discussing anything related to the VPA race. Recognizes the many concerns brought to Council today about processes and communication at the Students' Union. Reassures that there are conversations to come later in the meeting regarding ratification and a separate conversation about future possible Bylaw amendments. Encourages this year's as well as the incoming Students' Council members to take an in depth look into the election bylaws and process and address what has been relayed. Notes that the proposed changes are not all encompassing, but are a first step.

ATWOOD: Wants to let the guests of council know that the council heard their concerns and personally shares them to an extent. Personally believes that the bylaws are not necessarily clear regarding whether the CRO has the authority to disqualify people on the basis of campaign expenses being exceeded. Is intending on putting a motion forward to either table the ratification of results until D.I.E Board can make their interpretation of that Bylaw, or to separate the ratification into separate parts in order to withhold the ratification of the VPA until consultation can be made.

PICH: Appreciates the students coming in today and expressing their concerns. Notes some hypocrisy about retroactively going back on bylaws that have been already voted on. Notes that the Bylaws have been in place and have been ruled on by the D.I.E Board in some cases. Believes it was a sound decision.

ATWOOD: Asks PICH if the D.I.E Board ruled on the issue of Farrah's disqualification or an assessment of fines.

PICH: As far as they are aware, it was specifically on the fines.

Believes that retroactively changing the bylaws regarding this is something that could have been addressed through D.I.E Board appeals but with consideration that they are passed the appeal period, they do not believe it is precedent to bring a new case to D.I.E Board past the appeal period.

DUMOUCHEL: Notes that this is for Council to decide. Encourages Council to think about the message it will send to the DIE Board if they should send their decision back to them for review.

MOHAMED: Asks about the timeline of the Strategic Plan of the UASU.

FOTANG: Provides an update on the Strategic Plan. Notes that there was a survey run earlier in the Winter semester that did not have the response rate that they hoped to have, however good pieces of information were highlighted. Met with a member of the Strategic Plan Committee with the intention of creating another package in hopes of prompting more questions, more surveys or focus groups that will help accomplish set goals. Will be recommending re-addressing the terms of reference of the Strategic Plan Committee to extend the timeline of their work.

Believes that the work will take longer than a year.

PICH: Asks FLAMAN about the current progress on the Dewey's washrooms, discussed earlier in the year.

FLAMAN: There are funds budgeted for this project for the incoming budget up for approval at the next meeting. Subject to this passing, work on the bathrooms will begin in the Spring/Summer semesters.

2023-25/8 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2023-25/9 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2023-25/9c **FOTANG/BEASLEY MOVE TO** ratify the results of the 2024 General (Minus the VPA race), SU Council, and GFC election results

CARRIED Flaman, Thiessen, Griffiths, Lam, Pich ABSTAIN

See SC-2023-25.09

MOHAMED: Asks the CRO on voter turnout this year, as they recognize increasing voter engagement was a goal this year but yet has seen a historical low.

VERGHESE: Notes there are several factors as to why voter engagement saw a low, including candidate platforms being unavailable for voters until close to the voting period. In order to increase engagement, they used Perk points and Election Staff to engage with students. Recommends the use of voter polls in order to increase future engagement. Recommendations and concerns are to be listed in the CRO Report, submitted for the end of the year.

PICH: States that they trust that all proper measures have taken place for the election and have full confidence in the results.

ALMEIDA: Although information is available online, asks the CRO to explain in detail what occurred regarding the Presidential race.

VERGHESE: Complaints surrounded tabling that was done by a third party group where defamatory remarks were used against Candidate Griffiths. New information became available in which noted Candidate Glock was aware of the actions of the third party group. This is how the ruling of disqualification was made. Notes that through appeal, D.I.E Board ruled that disqualification was not warranted in this case.

ATWOOD/ALMEIDA MOVE TO separate the ratification of the Vice President Academic Race from the other ratifications.

CARRIED

ATWOOD: Their understanding is that ratification is a review of the lawfulness of the election and the ways in which it has proceeded. Notes a conflict in the bylaws in which they believe they do not provide the CRO with the power to disqualify. Wants to ensure that they are interpreting the laws accurately and in the way they are intended to be interpreted.

RAITZ: Shares concerns regarding bylaw clarity but notes that the CRO power to disqualify a candidate is stated in bylaw. Concerned that this motion will ultimately move council backwards.

FLAMAN: Notes that disqualifications are triggered automatically when candidates go over their election budgets.

ELGAWEESH: Wants to clarify that they were also concerned about communications from the Elections staff. States that they would be interested in exploring further interpretation from the D.I.E Board.

FLAMAN/THIESSEN MOVE TO extend the meeting until 10:00 P.M.
CARRIED

ATWOOD/ALMEIDA MOVE TO table the ratification of the results of the Vice President Academic election until the next meeting of Students' Council and refer the following question to the DIE Board: does Bylaw 320 provide the CRO the authority to disqualify a candidate based on exceeding campaign expense limits which are exceeded on the basis of fines imposed by the CRO.

FAILED Almeida ABSTAINS

RAITZ: Reiterates that if a threshold is triggered, then disqualification is automatic. Notes that the wording of the bylaw is not perfect, however legislation is available. Encourages the council to move forward from elections.

PICH: Highlights that this discussion should have been brought to their attention earlier and is concerned that this would seem like a retroactive action.

ATWOOD: Wants to emphasize that this motion is not necessarily to reconsider the results of the elections but instead to gather more information in order to make more informed decisions at the next council meeting.

GRIFFITHS: Urges council to consider the perception and consequences of lengthening the process. Does not think that this is effective and emphasizes that these details can be elaborated on and accurately addressed through future bylaw changes.

FOTANG/BEASLEY MOVE TO ratify the results of the VPA Election with direction to staff to provide communications to the student body on how the VPA race results were tabulated no later than the April 16th meeting of Council.

CARRIED Griffiths, Thiessen, Lam, Almeida, Pich, Flaman, Elahi ABSTAIN

FOTANG/BEASLEY MOVE TO amend the motion to direct staff to provide communications to the student body on how the VPA race results were tabulated no later than the April 16th meeting of Council.

CARRIED Almeida ABSTAINS

RAITZ: Seeks to touch on a part of this discussion which relates to communication

requests. Notes that there is still clear confusion, believes it would be worthwhile to have a clear proclamation after ratifying the results.

PICH: Appreciates the idea of ratifying the election with a directive to put out a clarifying statement in order to ease any confusion regarding the process.

2023-25/9a **GRIFFITHS/MAJEKODUNMI MOVE TO** approve the first principles of the Truth and Reconciliation Policy.

CARRIED

See SC-2023-25.03

GRIFFITHS: Notes that the policy is set to expire soon, which is the main reason they went through the process of reviewing and updating this policy. Notes that there is potential to incorporate ARRC recommendations and have been committed to working alongside ARRC and ISU while designing this policy.

2023-25/9b **RAITZ/AISENSTAT MOVE TO** approve the First Principles of elections related bylaw amendments

CARRIED

See SC-2023-25.04

RAITZ: Proposal for these first principles are based on reflection and discussion about the recent D.I.E Board rulings. Appreciates comments that there are aspects of the current situation that are not reflected in the proposed amendments, however they are working within their scope whilst respecting the amount of time left in their terms.

Bylaw committee chose to move forward to establish a stronger directive that would ultimately create better direction for everyone involved in the process. The first change being brought forward is establishing a Duty of Honesty to the C.R.O. The second change addresses further clarity regarding the role of a volunteer. The proposed changes also address concerns for further appeal processes.

Speaks to concerns that the amendments felt rushed and that they did move at a quicker pace than prior bylaw proposals brought forth by the committee, however the process did still meet the minimum thresholds required per procedure. Notes that any council that is to respond to election issues would be rushed, because elections occur in March and Council terms end in April.

GARBUTT: Asks if the Bylaw committee discussed what the penalty would be for breaching the duty of honesty or if that will be discussed at future meetings.

RAITZ: The Bylaw committee did not discuss that specific aspect. The duty of

honesty section is to communicate to candidates what they owe to the C.R.O. Subsequent councils can determine fines and penalty sections to reflect concerns that have been brought forward.

FLAMAN: Reiterates that this was not a unanimous decision in the Bylaw committee and was one of the dissenting votes. Notes that reviewing previous D.I.E Board rulings is well within the powers of the subsequent Bylaw committee. Believes that election related processes need to be amended, but would have rather worked on this holistically rather than in pieces.

PROMETHEUS: Wanted to note that the power that the C.R.O holds should be strictly regulated.

AISENSTAT: Hears concerns, however believes they are doing their due diligence by beginning the process now.

2023-25/10 GENERAL ORDERS

2023-25/11 CLOSED SESSIONS

2023-25/12 INFORMATION ITEMS

2023-25/12a Students' Council Submissions

See SC-2023-25.01-04

2023-25/12b Students' Council Votes and Proceedings (SC-2023-23-VP-20240305 and SC-2023-24-VP-20240323)

See SC-2023-25.05-06

2023-25/12c Students' Council Attendance

See SC-2023-25.07

2023-25/12d Students' Council Motion Tracker

See SC-2023-25.08

2023-25/12e Students' Council Submissions

See SC-2023-25.09

2023-25/12f Executive Report

See SC-2023-25.10

SPEAKER adjourned the meeting at 10:00 P.M.

UASU Students' Council Agenda Submission Form

Council Meeting Date Tuesday, April 16, 2024

[Meeting Schedule](#)

Submitter FLAMAN

Email Address levi.flaman@su.ualberta.ca

Type of Item Submission

Is this a Consent Agenda item?

Approval/Discussion Items

Motion

FLAMAN moves to reintroduce the Annual Remembrance portion of the first Council meeting of the year in May. (Joke motion)

Mover FLAMAN

Second THIESSEN

Presenter (If Not the Mover) N/A

Does this item require a closed session discussion?

Office/Committee Responsible None

Purpose

To bring back the one minute of silence at the first meeting in May every year to recognize the passing of Bob Homme (the Friendly Giant), Ernie Coombs (Mr. Dressup) and Mister Rogers.

Executive Summary

Back in the day, there used to be an annual moment of silence to recognize famous television personalities / children's entertainers who had since passed away. I think we should bring that back.

Relevant Bylaws/Policies/Standing Orders

Students' Council Standing Orders

Engagement and Routing

Students' Council Alumni

Approval Routing

April 16, 2024: Students' Council

Strategic Alignment

Learn from the past to improve tomorrow.

[Strategic Plan](#)

Calls for Nominations

[Council Committees and Boards](#)

Written Nominations

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Transition Reports

Chair Name:	Ella Thomson
Date:	Apr 1, 2024
Committee:	ARRC

1. **Committee Activities:**

Provide an overview of the major activities worked on this year. Outline each project along with the resources and efforts that were required.

Project	Timeline	Overview
Grant	1 meeting	Give money to Beading with friends an Indigenous run Initiative on campus
Medicine garden	2 years	We only really discussed once in a planning stage but we want to consider for future years

2. **Motions of the Year:**

Please list the motions proposed by the committee, referencing the Committee Motion Tracker for the complete record. Ensure to include the meeting number, the exact motion and its outcome. An example is provided below for your reference.

Meeting Number	Motion	Result
Ex. 3	MOVER/SECONDER MOVE TO complete the transition document.	CARRIED
<u>EX. 9</u>	<u>Move to give a grant to Brading With Friends for \$1000</u>	<u>Carried</u>

3. Structure and Function of Committee

We met bi-weekly every second monday. The committee is supposed to consist of a. Three (3) members of Students' Council;
b. Two (2) members of the Executive Committee;
c. Two (2) members of the ISU, as appointed by the ISU and ratified at Students' Council;
e. Three (3) Indigenous Students-at-Large, ratified by Students' Council;
f. One (1) elder, as chosen by the Committee, as a non-voting member. The committee goals are to implement TRC at the University and make sure the voices of Indigenous students are represented and heard. The Quorum for this committee is 6 voting members.

4. Roles and Responsibilities of the Chair

Generally, your duties as the Chair involve making sure that the duties of ARRC are fulfilled. This can mean handling them yourself, delegating them to others, or facilitating the entire committee in carrying them out, depending on the situation.

5. Issues Encountered by the Committee

The committee this year was largely unsuccessful. We were rarely able to meet Quorum for meetings which made achieving the goals of ARRC extremely difficult. We often went months without meetings despite reminders and multiple lettuce meets being sent out. As the chair I felt largely unsupported. In meetings it felt like I was talking to myself as when we did make Quorum it was difficult to get people to talk and brainstorm ideas. At one of the initial meetings I asked why people joined ARRC and they said to learn. I gave the committee members the task of reading reports including the TRC report and UNDRIP, and then to come back and we could brainstorm ideas the following meeting. When we had our next meeting no one who had yet to read the reports had read them and the

brainstorming session was very quiet. We did not have an elder and the process for having an elder in the meetings was not outlined to me.

6. Unfinished Projects and Activities

The Medicine Garden project was unfulfilled. This project aimed to build a medicine garden and ceremony space for Indigenous students on campus.

7. Advice for Future Committee

Do your research prior to joining, have a good understanding of the TRC and UNDRIP, read the Students union directives on truth and reconciliation. In addition to this make sure you are an active participant in proceedings and share your thoughts.

8. Recommendations for Future Chairs

Make sure people can make meetings, be a leader and direct conversations and discussion, but remember you are not the only voice, delegate tasks to committee members and work collaboratively.

9. Resources for Future Committee Members

https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP_E_web.pdf
<https://www.reconciliationeducation.ca/what-are-truth-and-reconciliation-commission-94-calls-to-action>

10. Closing Comments and Remarks

My experience as chair this year was not great, I felt unsupported throughout the year and felt that the non-Indigenous committee members often did not take initiative to learn about Indigenous issues. The comment I mentioned earlier about using the committee as a place to learn for non-Indigenous committee members is counter intuitive to the committee itself. Sentiments like this push the responsibility of reconciliation onto Indigenous people not non-Indigenous people. By centering their own

Transition Reports

learning in a committee like this while simultaneously not reading reports like UNDRIP and the TRC when asked, demonstrates a lack of dedication to the mission of ARRC and quite frankly negates the purpose of the committee. When non-Indigenous committee members use the committee as a place of learning and not as a place to help Indigenous students it is difficult to implement truth and reconciliation. Truth and Reconciliation is about non-Indigenous people reconciling with Indigenous people through commitment to deconstruction and change. Indigenous people at the University of Alberta experience institutional colonialism every day, we experience racism on campus, in the classroom, in online spaces and in the larger community outside of the University. We cannot be the only ones doing the lifting, the TRC report is not calls for Indigenous people to enact but non-Indigenous people and Institutions. There are a plethora of educational resources out there for non-Indigenous people to learn, we cannot be the only teachers, Truth and reconciliation is about collaboration and working together, not Indigenous people doing all the work to remedy problems created by colonization. ARRC as a committee needs to be a place of supporting Indigenous students not a place of tokenization. ARRC needs commitment from non-Indigenous students to reconciliation, which means putting in time and work and educating oneself prior to joining.

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

UASU Students' Council Agenda Submission Form

Council Meeting Date

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

[Meeting Schedule](#)

Submitter

Stephen Raitz (on behalf of Jillian Aisenstaht)

Email Address

raitz@ualberta.ca

Type of Item Submission

Information Item

Is this a Consent Agenda item?

Yes

Approval/Discussion Items

[Strategic Plan](#)

Calls for Nominations

[Council Committees and Boards](#)

Written Nominations

Information Items

Agenda Title

Bylaw Committee Chair Transition Report

Description of the Information Item

Report from the Chair of Bylaw Committee aiding in transition to next year's Committee

Attachments



Bylaw Committee Transitionpdf

Presentations

Written Questions

Is there anything else that you would like to include?

XOXO

Transition Reports

Chair Name:	Jillian Aisenstat
Date:	April 15th 2024
Committee:	Bylaw Committee

1. **Committee Activities:**

Provide an overview of the major activities worked on this year. Outline each project along with the resources and efforts that were required.

Project	Timeline	Overview
Article 2	Summer 2023-Winter 2024	This was our big project this year that required the efforts of all members. Essentially, it was the restructuring and editing of all of the operational bylaws. It began with the scrapping of Bylaw 9000, the amendments to Bylaw 600 as well as Bylaw 500 which required subsequent amendments to Bylaws in Article 1. Those amendments were completed by the end of Fall 2023 and the Bylaw 500 (now Bylaw 210) amendments were approved at the same time as the entirety of Article 2. A very special shoutout to Damon for writing up the entirety of the changes to Article 2 and to Stephen for his efforts in ensuring the proper consultation for the Access to information bylaw and the FNMI consultation and engagement bylaw.
Elections questions	End of fall 2023 - early Winter 2024	Bylaw committee drafted all of the plebiscite and referendum questions as well as the FAMF and SRAMF questions. This requires resources provided by the organizations and communication with them if any clarifications are necessary.

2. **Motions of the Year:**

Please list the motions proposed by the committee, referencing the Committee Motion Tracker for the complete record. Ensure to include the meeting number, the exact motion and its outcome. An example is provided below for your reference.

Transition Reports

Meeting Number	Motion	Result
0	ATWOOD/RAITZ MOVE TO appoint ATWOOD as the interim chair for the next meeting.	CARRIED
1	ATWOOD nominates AISENSTAT as Chair	CARRIED (via acclimation)
4	RAITZ/AISENSTAT MOVE TO approve sending the first principles of Bylaw 600 to the Students' Council for approval.	CARRIED
4	ATWOOD/RAITZ MOVE TO approve sending the first principles of Bylaw 9000 to the Students' Council for approval.	CARRIED
4	RAITZ/ATWOOD MOVE TO approve sending the first principles of the Bylaw 110/120/140 Amendments to Students' Council.	CARRIED
7	ATWOOD/RAITZ MOVE TO approve the Second Principles of Bylaw 110/120/130/140.	CARRIED
7	ATWOOD/AISENSTAT MOVE TO approve the Second Principles of Bylaw 9000	CARRIED
9	AISENSTAT/ATWOOD MOVE TO approve the Second Principles of Bylaw 600: Student Union Bilingualism.	CARRIED
14	AISENSTAT/RAITZ MOVE TO approve The CJSR, The Landing and The Gateway DFU questions of 2024.	CARRIED
14	AISENSTAT/ABDELWAHAB	CARRIED

Transition Reports

	MOVE TO approve The ISU DFU questions of 2024.	
16	RAITZ/ATWOOD MOVE TO send the amended regulation to Council for approval. (Augustana Residence Association Amendment)	CARRIED
E-VOTE February 7	AISENSTAT\TAM move to approve Regulation 110.19: Students' Council Initiative Fund.	CARRIED
E-VOTE February 28th	RAITZ\AISENSTAT move to approve the First Principles of Bylaw 200 and Bylaw 210.	CARRIED
19	RAITZ/ATWOOD motion to approve the Second Principles of Bylaw 210	CARRIED
19	RAITZ/ATWOOD motion to approve the Second Principles of Bylaw 200	CARRIED
19	ATWOOD/RAITZ motion to approve to Second Principles of Article 2 restructuring	CARRIED
E-VOTE march 26th	RAITZ\AISENSTAT move to approve the First Principles of Elections related bylaw amendments	CARRIED
21	RAITZ-AISENSTAT motions to bring forward Second Principles of Bylaw 140 and 320 amendments to Students' Council	CARRIED

3. Structure and Function of Committee

The Bylaw Committee:

- Shall draft bylaws as required by Students' Council;
- Shall draft referendum and plebiscite questions as required by Students' Council;
- Shall make recommendations to Students' Council on Students' Union bylaws where such recommendations are not the purview of any other standing committee;
- Has the power to make, to Students' Union bylaws alterations to Students' Union bylaws that do not alter the meaning of the bylaws in question; and
- Shall review recommendations of the Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement (D.I.E.) Board by the end of the first August following the ruling's release.

This year, the Bylaw committee had 5 voting members and the General Manager. I, Jill, served as the chair for the entire mandate. Other members of the committee include Stephen Raitz, Levi Flaman, Damon Atwood, Precious Majekodunmi (Summer and Fall), Noor Abdelwahab (Fall), and Ellen Tam (Winter). We consistently met online to accommodate everyone's busy schedules throughout the year. Often, we would assign work to be done outside of meetings to be presented and voted on during bi-weekly meetings, this worked well and kept meetings generally under one hour.

4. Roles and Responsibilities of the Chair

The Chair of Bylaw Committee shall:

- Preside over debate at meetings of the Bylaw Committee;
- Submit the "Report to Students' Council" to the Administrative assistant, after each Bylaw Committee Meeting and prior to the deadline for Submissions to the next Students' Council meeting as set out in the Students' Council Standing Order 4(4);
- Assign tasks to draftspersons in accordance with these Standing Orders;
- Work with the Speaker and Administrative Assistant to ensure the logistical needs of Bylaw Committee are met;

- Recommend to Students' Council the removal of any member who in the opinion of the Chair is not fulfilling their responsibilities to the Bylaw Committee; and
- Designate an alternative chair for any meeting of the Bylaw Committee they are unable to attend.

As Chair of the committee, my role has been facilitating meetings and workload. Generally, I introduce projects by recommendations from executives, create agendas, facilitate discussions in meetings and submit items to the Order Papers. It is also the chair's job to ensure people are completing their work and setting reminders and deadlines for the committee. As Stephen lovingly puts it - the chair's job is like herding cats!

5. Issues Encountered by the Committee

One of the biggest struggles is time. We had big plans to finish up Articles 2 and 4 this year but due to the fact Bylaw committee must draft all the elections questions, we had to put a pause on these projects and only ended up finishing Article 2. Having a rigorous timeline is important and knowing that the elections responsibilities will take up a lot of meeting time is crucial to making this timeline realistic.

6. Unfinished Projects and Activities

As noted, we did not get to finishing the Fee Governance restructuring, Article 4. This is essentially grouping and re-doing the bylaws related to SU finances. Luckily, Levi has the information necessary to complete this project next year and we suggest that this gets completed by October, before the elections question drafting becomes your top priority. Additionally, the elections bylaws have become a big topic of discussion near the end of our mandate due to the tumultuous elections of this year. We would have loved to take a look at all of the DIE board recommendations and implement them but we did not have enough time or meetings left to do so. As per Bylaw, this committee must review the DIE board rulings and recommendations before the end of August, this is very important and we suggest reviewing them carefully and seriously considering amending the elections bylaws to make them more comprehensible and accessible to students running in elections. The duties

Transition Reports

and powers of the CRO are to be clarified and reviewed and how they appear in Bylaw\Regulation.

Along the same lines, Damon had flagged Bylaw 320 section 17.4 regarding disqualifications. It is not exactly clear whether the CRO holds the power to disqualify a candidate based on fines exceeding their campaign budget, only implied. Damon suggests asking DIE board to provide an interpretation of this, or to clarify the bylaws on how fines can contribute to a disqualification.

7. Advice for Future Committee

With all of the unfinished projects mentioned, we suggest that you get your first major rounds of amendments - to Fee Governance, potentially elections - done before October. This will allow time for you to focus on the election responsibilities in the latter half of the fall semester.

8. Recommendations for Future Chairs

When you are starting out, do not be afraid to ask for help! Governance staff are absolute rock stars and they will help you every step of the way if needed. In the beginning, create a clear timeline of the projects you would like to complete, with the recommendations we have provided. Other projects will always arise and you will have to be flexible to include them. Designate people to work on things outside of meetings to keep meetings as efficient as possible, but try to keep everyone informed on all the moving parts of a task. Set deadlines and give reminders, but give grace to those who may be struggling with classes and work overload. Being a chair is a big responsibility but it is super rewarding and you learn so much! Lastly, feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions, I would be happy to help you in your mandate if needed.

9. Closing Comments and Remarks

It has been such a joy to be a part of this committee. Everyone who has been on this committee has been, detail-oriented, easy to work with and dedicated to completing tasks on time. I extend my gratitude to Damon, Stephen, Levi, Ellen, Noor and Precious. Marc has also been such a great resource person who provided a ton of insight during meetings. As always,

Transition Reports

Courtney is a superstar and I would not have been able to complete the year without her.

Good luck next year, bonne chance pour l'année prochaine.

Bisous!

Jillian.

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

UASU Students' Council Agenda Submission Form

Council Meeting Date

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

[Meeting Schedule](#)

Submitter

Christian Fotang

Email Address

christian.fotang@su.ualberta.ca

Type of Item Submission

Information Item

Is this a Consent Agenda item?

No

Approval/Discussion Items

[Strategic Plan](#)

Calls for Nominations

[Council Committees and Boards](#)

Written Nominations

Information Items

Agenda Title

SPSC Information item

Description of the Information Item

Update on survey results of the SPSC

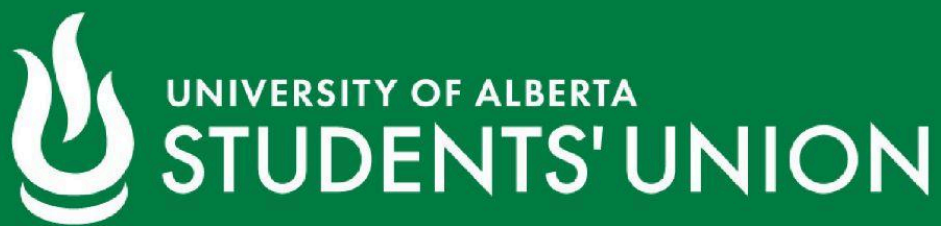
Attachments



SPSC_ Next Steps.pdf

Presentations

Written Questions



UASU Strategic Plan Steering Committee

Next Steps

Prepared by: Angelina Botros & Christian Fotang

University of Alberta Students' Union

April 12th, 2024

Introduction

Following our previous meeting, the published results of the three surveys have been rearranged into buckets to understand better what specific themes continue to emerge from student responses. Following this arrangement of survey response, we will assemble smaller teams to branch to separate areas and engage with different units to start crafting critical success factors, goals, and other measures that will reflect the next set of priorities for the organization.

Services and Business Based

The UASU prioritizes ensuring that students can use its services and participate in its businesses. By participating in businesses within the Students' Union Building, students gain valuable work experience, develop essential skills, and can shape the services and offerings to meet their needs better. This active involvement fosters a sense of ownership and empowerment among students, creating a vibrant and supportive community on campus. Therefore, student participation in student union business initiatives is an invaluable asset to any university. Below is a summary of student feedback from January 2024 concerning UASU services and businesses.

Student Feedback Summary

1. Mental Health Services:
 - Expanded professional mental health services to support growing demand.
 - Continued mental health help.
 - Mental health resources and accommodations.
 - More counselors/psychologists
 - Better mental health services, including shorter wait times.
2. Accessibility and Awareness:
 - Increased awareness about eligibility for accommodations and what is offered.
 - Maps of the inside of buildings on campus.
 - Increased coordination and awareness of services.
 - More awareness on local matters and sexual assault.
 - Services that are more targeted to overlooked groups.
3. Diverse Food Services:



- Diversified food services on campus, including options for dietary restrictions.
- More options of restaurants and cafes, preferably more accessible.
- 4. Academic Support and Advising:
 - Improved academic advising.
 - Guidance in the initial stages.
 - More range of services in different locations, not just in SUB.
 - More opportunities for students to voice opinions and struggles.
- 5. Financial Support and Literacy:
 - Financial literacy help (free).
 - More monetary support and advocacy for student needs.
 - More options for financial aid.
 - Stop tuition hikes.
- 6. Campus Facilities and Safety:
 - More access to jobs while in school and after graduation.
 - Safer transit options.
 - Safety on campus, including addressing homelessness and security concerns.
- 7. Community Engagement and Events:
 - More campus engagement for social activities.
 - More events with smaller time commitments.
 - More opportunities to engage in the community.
- 8. Other Services and Facilities:
 - Free female sanitary products at all campus bathrooms.
 - Office space for clubs.
 - Safe spaces and services for marginalized groups.
 - Job opportunities or resources.
 - Advocacy for student needs and issues.

Prompting Questions

- How can we increase student awareness of these already available services?
- How would we integrate the idea of more mental health support into the next strategic plan?
- How can we integrate the idea of accessibility into the strategic plan? This would include academic services, building accessibility, and creating an inclusive environment.
- What role would you like to see your UASU play in addressing and supporting mental health crises on campus?



- What role would you like to see your UASU play in providing more financial literacy?
- How can we integrate and communicate existing supports to not duplicate resources?
- Who could we consult regarding mental health services on campus?

Events Based

Our goal at UASU is to provide students with events that will foster community on campus and provide a place of equity, diversity, and inclusion for all students. Events on campus are done to provide a sense of belonging to students and make them feel connected to the campuses that will be home for the next few years. A strong student community on campus enhances the overall college experience but also promotes academic success and personal growth. It creates a support system where students can find resources, share ideas, and collaborate on projects. In order to properly do this, students were asked about their opinions on events coordinated by the UASU. Below shows a summary of student feedback taken in January 2024 regarding UASU events.

Student Feedback Summary

1. Community Events and Engagement:
 - Various suggestions for diverse and engaging events on campus, ranging from cultural festivals to drop-in activities.
 - Concerns about event timing, accessibility, and inclusivity, with a focus on fostering lasting connections and community building.
 - Calls for events that cater to specific demographics or interests, such as parents, older students, and neurodivergent individuals.
2. Suggestions for Event Improvement:
 - Feedback on current events, highlighting the need for more diverse, inclusive, and less crowded activities.
 - Suggestions for more flexible timing, less commitment-heavy events, and increased consideration for dietary restrictions and allergies.



- Emphasis on creating events that facilitate genuine connections and friendships, especially between different student groups and demographics.
- 3. Specialized Events and Suggestions:
 - Specific recommendations for events catering to diverse groups, including neurodivergent individuals, disabled students, and those with varying schedules.
 - Calls for increased awareness and accommodation during orientation and a desire for more events at satellite campuses.
 - Suggestions for unique events like cooking workshops, local tours, and themed social gatherings targeting specific interests or demographics.

Prompting Questions

- We need more elaboration on whether we need more large or small events. Would more tabling be necessary?
- How can we make events more accessible to students (especially those who need accommodations)?
- How would one incorporate more diversity in their events? How can we integrate this into the strategic plan? Should we consult the Vice-provost of EDI?
- How can the UASU bridge students from CSJ and Augustana to its events?
- What role does the UASU play in fostering community in CSJ and Augustana?
- How can we integrate sustainability into the building and planning of events?

Advocacy Based

UASU is committed to accurately representing the voice of the student body and incorporating equity, diversity, and inclusion principles. It is also dedicated to braiding past, present, and future. The Students' Union also works diligently to ensure that its students are empowered to make informed decisions and to actively participate in the governance of the university. It also encourages students to take part in the democratic process and to be actively involved in making decisions that affect their lives. To ensure that its advocacy priorities continue to reflect the

student body's needs, students were asked about their opinions on student advocacy in the UASU. Below is a summary of student feedback taken in January 2024.

Student Feedback Summary

- Advocacy for Diversity and Inclusion:
 - Advocate for more gender-neutral bathrooms that are regularly accessible.
 - Advocate for Palestinian students and against hate speech at the university.
 - By seeing more female and gender-diverse individuals in governance positions.
 - Representation of and advocacy for "majority" groups, i.e., white Christian students.
 - More Muslim representation.
 - More representation from WOC (Women of Color).
 - Criticism for lack of policy positions the freedom of oppressed civilians in Gaza
 - Make sure that we're representing everyone, not just the loudest groups.
 - More Campus Saint Jean representation.
 - More consultation of EDI (Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) councils.
 - More feminine voices on the UASU team.
 - It's good to see the UASU make statements in support of marginalized communities (e.g. the LGBTQ+ and Indigenous communities), and I hope more will be done to advocate for these groups.
- Advocacy for Financial Accessibility:
 - There will be a stronger emphasis on student debt solutions and job market struggles for recently graduated students or students looking for jobs during their studies.
 - Advocate for lower costs and transparency with university spending.
 - Cheaper parking.
 - Fight harder to stop tuition hikes AND fight to decrease tuition, textbooks, residency, and food prices.
 - Make sure that we're representing everyone, not just the loudest groups.
 - UASU could better advocate to the government or university regarding what the students are asking



- for, especially regarding tuition hikes and financial support.
 - Advocating for affordable tuition costs.
- Advocacy for Student Representation and Engagement:
 - Electing people who aren't in it just for the image/resume.
 - Having more teeth in advocacy efforts.
 - More student surveys and opportunities for input.
 - Little commitment options for awareness and advocacy group memberships.
 - More awareness on how to reach out to the UASU.
 - More meaningful interaction with students beyond social media.
 - Petitions for students to sign for/against certain changes.
 - Development and use of data-driven reports to showcase how decisions directly impact students.
- Critiques of Current Advocacy Efforts:
 - University management not listening to student concerns.
 - Silence or inadequate advocacy on certain social issues, such as the Israel/Palestine war.
 - Student unions not using enough leverage as an organization for students.
 - Students feel unsupported or unheard of in advocacy efforts.
 - What does better advocacy from the UASU look like?
E.g. (would you like to see more protest vs lobby)
 - How do we make our advocacy clear

Prompting Questions

- How would one integrate the idea of accurate/diverse representation while maintaining the democratic process within UASU elections?
- Would it help to have more representatives on the student council or the student exec team?
- What could we do to improve clarity within student governance in a way that could be more accessible to the student body?
- To what extent is the UASU responsible for commenting on social issues that extend beyond campus?

Safe Spaces Based

The UASU is dedicated to providing a safe space in which students feel accommodated and welcome. Creating a welcoming environment for students is crucial for their overall well-being and success. When students feel accommodated and welcome, they are more likely to engage in their studies, seek support, and develop a sense of belonging within the university community. This enhances their academic experience and contributes to their personal growth and development. Students were asked if they felt they had a safe space on campus and in what ways this could improve. Student responses are found below from a survey done in January 2024.

Student Feedback Summary

1. Enhanced Security Measures:
 - Increase the presence of security cameras or personnel in key areas to enhance safety.
 - Implement better lighting and ensure secure doors and windows to deter potential threats.
 - Improve access control mechanisms to restrict entry to students and faculty only.
2. Sensory Consideration and Comfort:
 - Create more low-sensory environments with minimal noise and softer lighting to accommodate individuals with sensory sensitivities.
 - Provide quiet and secluded areas for relaxation and study away from crowded and noisy spaces.
3. Addressing Harassment and Discrimination:
 - Implement policies and educational initiatives to combat harassment, discrimination, and hate speech on campus.
 - Establish clear protocols for reporting incidents of harassment and ensure swift and effective responses.
4. Inclusivity and Accessibility:
 - Ensure that safe spaces are accessible to all individuals, including those with disabilities, by providing ramps, elevators, and seating options that accommodate diverse needs.



- Promote inclusivity and diversity within safe spaces through educational programming and inclusive language and signage.
- 5. Privacy and Autonomy:
 - Expand the availability of private study spaces where individuals can study, work, or engage in personal habits without feeling self-conscious or judged.
 - Provide resources and support for individuals seeking mental health services or counseling in safe and private settings.
- 6. Community and Collaboration:
 - Foster a sense of community and belonging within safe spaces by organizing collaborative events, support groups, and social activities.
 - Encourage peer support and mentorship programs to help individuals connect and build supportive relationships within safe spaces.
- 7. Infrastructure and Facilities Improvement:
 - Invest in maintaining and upgrading existing facilities to ensure cleanliness, functionality, and comfort within safe spaces.
 - Provide amenities such as comfortable seating, access to electrical outlets, and reliable Wi-Fi to enhance the usability of safe spaces for studying and socializing.
- 8. Education and Awareness:
 - Increase awareness of safe spaces on campus through targeted outreach and marketing campaigns.
 - Provide education and training on safety, inclusivity, and diversity issues for students, faculty, and staff.
- 9. Continuous Feedback and Evaluation:
 - Establish mechanisms for gathering feedback from students and stakeholders to assess safe spaces' effectiveness and identify areas for improvement.
 - Regularly review and update policies and procedures based on feedback and emerging needs within the campus community.

Prompting Questions

- How can we incorporate improvements in things like infrastructure into the strategic plan for the future?
- How can we make experiences more low-sensory at events?
- How can one characterize the feeling of judgment? Would this need more tabling? How can we create a space completely free of judgment?



- How can we identify spaces that are not accessible and improve them? Should we contact any committees, or can we talk directly to students only?

Appendix A: Student Comments Services and Business Based

1. Mental Health Services:

- Expanded professional mental health services to support growing demand.
- Continued mental health help.
- Mental health resources (though much is already present).
- Way better mental health services. Counseling and clinical services are too small to support the need. Hire more therapists.
- What they have is great! I appreciate the dog therapy, tampons and pads in the bathrooms and safe walk provided. Safewalk is the most important and special service provided because as a woman, it is often scary walking to my car alone at night. I would appreciate to see more awareness on local matters and sexual assault. Students also need more mental health support, home support, food and shelter services. I know a lot of people who depend on the food shelter while studying at the UofA.
- More counselors/psychologists, more food options, a lot of the same services but with more staff to accommodate the number of students.

2. Accessibility and Awareness:

- Increased awareness about eligibility for accommodations and what is offered/adds more to what's already offered.
- Maps of the inside of buildings on campus to help new students find classrooms.
- Increased coordination between the SU and others (like the chaplains etc) in services provided, awareness of services (especially mental health services) etc.
- Services that are more targeted to overlooked groups, whether it is to make them aware that they can voice their needs or what services they would like to see, or to assure people that they will be



- heard, and the list of services is changing and becoming more adequate to serve the students.
- More range of services in different locations (not just in SUB?), advocacy for more investments in our older buildings instead of new buildings.
- 3. Diverse Food Services:
 - Diversified food services on campus (ex: gluten-free and dairy-free, low-FODMAP, common allergen-free) → U Guelph has a webpage dedicated to help students with dietary restrictions find services they can eat at on campus called SNAP.
 - Academic Support and Advising:
 - Financial literacy help (free). Continued mental health help.
 - Guidance in the initial stages.
 - I don't know if it's in your jurisdiction, but either improving or advocating for the improvement of academic advising would be wonderful. Every advising session I've had has been nearly useless as they don't understand what I am asking about or haven't even read my transcript.
- 4. Financial Support and Literacy:
 - Financial literacy help (free).
 - Reduced fees as long as it doesn't reduce services offered by the SU.
 - Campus Facilities and Safety:
 - More access to jobs while in school and as they graduate (maybe work with the career center on this aspect).
 - Transit needs to be safer. Last semester I was literally randomly assaulted by three complete strangers at an on-campus train station on my regular university commute home.
 - Meeting physical needs (exercise, physical healthcare, nutrition, shelter, etc), psychological needs (accessible mental health resources and accommodations), etc, etc. Not sure of specifics beyond that but you guys seem to do a pretty good job (as someone who does not rely on these kinds of resources at least).
- 5. Community Engagement and Events:
 - More campus engagement for social activities.
 - Just do more events but small ones that don't require a giant time commitment. Like red eye and campus cup are fun but I don't wanna spend a whole weekend on it.



- Services that are more targeted to overlooked groups, whether it is to make them aware that they can voice their needs or what services they would like to see, or to assure people that they will be heard, and the list of services is changing and becoming more adequate to serve the students.
 - More opportunities for students to voice opinions and struggles would be good (like the surveys on this app!).
6. Other Services and Facilities:
- Free female sanitary products at all campus bathrooms.
 - More help after classes like Decima Robinson.
 - Those are ideal services, however, we need more focus on safety on campus. Med Sci literally has homeless people living in it and security is doing nothing about it, same with the Jubilee car park.
 - Sexual assault help center. Safe spaces.
 - The current model seems to work well, though it would be great if continued effort could be directed toward keeping tuition and textbooks affordable.
 - Mount Royal University (MRU) has a program called Fresh Routes (mobile grocery store) where people on campus are able to get fresh produce at an affordable price (much cheaper than grocery stores) weekly. This would be nice to see if U of A could implement something like this on campus.
 - Office space for clubs (literally none right now) and it's absolutely disgraceful.
 - SafeWalk is a fantastic idea, and the wellness stands set up around libraries during finals season really impressed me. I'm going into this winter term confident that the UASU is looking out for the student body.
 - More monetary support, more advocacy by the SU on behalf of students and student needs. Support Palestinian students rather than remaining silent in the face of genocide. The SU was not silent at the start of the Ukraine and Russian War and it does not make me feel safe that the SU has remained silent on this issue. Do more for homeless students. Provide more subsidized food. Stop using money on cosmetics and start using it for student quality of life.
 - Unsure, but I think more opportunities for students to voice opinions and struggles would be good (like the surveys on this app!).



- Just do more events but small ones that don't require a giant time commitment. Like red eye and campus cup are fun but I don't wanna spend a whole weekend on it.
- Less \$14,000 fountains in SUB. \$14,000 more to the food bank. I still haven't forgiven y'all for that bullshit.
- More staff for SGS so club events get approved faster! Less unneeded bureaucracy so tuition can be lower!
- All that are being provided right now are ideal and beneficial.
- Well, you close gender-neutral bathrooms, provide limited amounts of financial aid, and don't help to stop the tuition hikes. So start doing that and maybe you'll be providing an adequate job.
- Affordable. Accessible to all students. Available at a reasonable time.
- Just do more events but small ones that don't require a giant time commitment. Like red eye and campus cup are fun but I don't wanna spend a whole weekend on it.
- More options of restaurants and cafes (preferably more accessible as well). Paper shops.
- Providing job opportunities or resources in aiding in this.
- Safe space for students.
- Serving them in academics and mental health.
- More range of services in different locations (not just in SUB?), advocacy for more investments in our older buildings instead of new buildings.



Appendix B – Student Comments: Events

1. Community Events and Engagement:
 - Charity 5k run.
 - Widely accessible Library workshops and Tours throughout the school year. (I'm a bit biased for this suggestion) but a day recognizing and spreading awareness for those individuals with any category of neurodivergence.
 - Many of the events cost money or are held during common class hours making it not really possible for students to take advantage and enjoy the events held in the university.
 - A previous university I attended handed out pre-made food hampers around the end of the semester. You didn't need to go through the food bank or anything. It was very popular.
 - A story show where we could share one story or life experience... like in the old days the old people sitting under a big tree talking about life and wisdom.
 - Although a lot of the events are great, I'm not entirely sure they build enough community. I'd love to see some events targeted towards integrating and making friendships between new first years and upper years.
 - An auction in SUB, all the proceeds go to the campus food bank, where the money should've gone in the first place.
 - Another "Break the Record" dodgeball event!
 - Bring back the pancakes at the start of winter term! It's fun, but also really helpful for those of us who just came back to empty fridges in Edmonton and haven't had a chance to get all our groceries.
 - Burlesque.
 - Daycare option for student parents.
 - Events off-campus! As a CSJ student, it can be hard to participate in events that take place at the main campus.
 - Hackathons, as programming is severely underrepresented.
 - I don't really look at events, but maybe haven't events off-campus would intrigue students who



don't live on campus and don't want to pay for parking late night (like how we have the splash and bash that's good).

- I know that WiSEST exists, however, I think that a women's event that includes arts and sciences majors should exist.
- I like the drop-in events like cookie decorating and pumpkin carving.
- I really enjoyed the giant dodgeball (but understand that was pricey :(I am in pharmacy though, and I think a lot of the medical people across the road in echa/MSB feel very disconnected from campus. In science I had people popping in to chat and there was signage of what was going on which felt more like a community.
- I really love antifreeze so far so maybe a first-semester version?
- I think having a slight range of time periods for events so they can be attended while also attending classes is important. I know it's not always achievable but most events I've missed have been due to my class schedule.
- I would like current events to be more allergy-friendly. It's frustrating to try and attend something and be unable to participate b/c volunteers have no idea what's in the food they're offering.
- I would like to see events that aren't so commitment heavy. For example, I would love to participate in the Anti-Freeze games, but it takes so much time that I can't commit to it. Even if the smaller activities from Anti-freeze (like the dance competition) were taken individually. This would allow students to get together with their friends for an afternoon for some fun without committing to the entire Anti-Freeze games.
- I would like to see more events hosted that target minority groups on campus. It'd be great to see some collaboration between student groups and the UASU.
- I'm 38 with 2 kids and a long commute. I'm almost never attending any campus event, but I think it's a good idea to have events to promote the coming together of diverse groups. I think one negative consequence I've seen from the honorable goal of promoting a feeling of safety among students is



events that appeal to specific demographics of the student body, which is sometimes important, but can have the effect of segmenting us to an extent.

- Introvert and neurodivergent friendly events.
- Little drop-in events here and there through more regular school hours for those who can't always stay super late due to long bus commutes.
- Local tours you could sign up for. Sleepover at the Butterdome. Scavenger hunts across campus.
- Many of the bigger events (e.g. the dodgeball tournament and the antifreeze games) are more focused on athletic ability. This can be alienating to disabled students. For future events, I don't care much what the actual event is, I'd just like it to be something that I could participate in if I wanted to. (Here are a few ideas anyways: it's not really an event but hot chocolate at entrances to the busier buildings on cold days, a fair, conferences like the sustainability in leadership conference, book sales at the start of term).
- Many students feel quite lonely so I think having more events or services like unitea, etc. - maybe faculty-specific, casual events (not networking).
- Maybe cooking events where students can learn how to eat better and cook good food on a student budget.
- More at Campus Saint Jean.
- More events for different types of students, especially for people who are not comfortable doing things physically due to some sort of injury or disability.
- More in-depth explanation of available accommodations especially during orientation.
- More of the cute animals in SUB maybe, that was cool.
- More outdoor, music-based stuff. Student-led concerts would be super cool to see, and not just in Deweys (which I don't go to because I don't drink).
- No more UASU protest or political events. Just host casual fun things so students don't want to kill themselves.
- Perhaps some asynchronous events, such as photo contests of some sort.
- Queer meet-ups!
- Sex Toy Bingo (MRU had these events), TEDx talks, U of A carnival, Oktoberfest, Multicultural Jam.



- Small randomized group events to establish more personal connections.
 - Social event aimed specifically at older undergraduate students (eg 30 plus) whether they are completing a first degree or are registered as after degree students. There are also a large number of us who live in Sherwood Park, so some kind of recognition of that say by having periodic events in Sherwood Park would be nice.
 - Something that facilitates new real friendships with diverse groups. Maybe a weekly tea time where people are paired into new groups every month with the same people and can just have tea and connect for an hour in a peaceful environment. I feel like most events don't create much lasting new connection and it's hard to make friends when new here.
 - There are numerous events and consideration for diverse people to participate. I loved that there was a low stimulation club fair day in the fall so that those individuals who would get overwhelmed by the usual loud and busy event could still get a chance to visit and be part of the community.
 - Workshops for interesting skills.
 - You all do a great job.
2. Suggestions for Event Improvement:
- Just tamer events. A lot of us like lawn games and trivia nights and things like that, but the events are just too loud and too crowded. I avoid Quad as much as possible during WOW because there are just too many people and too much noise. More events like campus cup. Maybe like the amazing race or something like that. team competitions.
 - Maybe like an event that takes place every Friday where you bring your friends and just play games, draw, or do some just dance or something. Like an event to let go and take your mind off of other things.
 - A culturama event, stalls set up in the main quad representing a country and their culture. Where we try food, clothes, traditional art, etc.
 - Bigger or longer events for Halloween and Christmas. Maybe like offering multiple activities for some holidays where people can sign up online (with time slots in the evenings). Sometimes I can't participate in the Christmas or Halloween activities



because they are right during class time. or maybe even some type of ball or costume competition. I don't know what you guys have planned for St. Patties but hopefully something! I love the Red Eye Games, but could it be the Clear-eyed games (i.e. could you host the exact same event but during a full day or weekend?!)

- A lot of the events are super busy ik it's hard to combat that but I'd like to do things that don't require there being a lot of people around or feeling like I need to bring a friend.
- I think having a slight range of time periods for events so they can be attended while also attending classes is important. I know it's not always achievable but most events I've missed have been due to my class schedule.
- I would like to see events that aren't so commitment heavy. For example, I would love to participate in the Antifreeze games, but it takes so much time that I can't commit to it. Even if the smaller activities from Antifreeze (like the dance competition) were taken individually. This would allow students to get together with their friends for an afternoon for some fun without committing to the entire Antifreeze games.
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people are paired into new groups every month with the same people and can just have tea and connect for an hour in a peaceful environment. I feel like most events don't create much lasting new connection and it's hard to make friends when new here.

- There are numerous events and consideration for diverse people to participate. I loved that there was a low stimulation club fair day in the fall so that those individuals who would get overwhelmed by the usual loud and busy event could still get a chance to visit and be part of the community.

3. Specialized Events and Suggestions:

- I'm 38 with 2 kids and a long commute. I'm almost never attending any campus event, but I think it's a good idea to have events to promote the coming together of diverse groups. I think one negative consequence I've seen from the honorable goal of promoting a feeling of safety among students is events that appeal to specific demographics of the student body, which is sometimes important, but can have the effect of segmenting us to an extent.
- Introvert and neurodivergent friendly events.
- Little drop-in events here and there through more regular school hours for those who can't always stay super late due to long bus commutes.
- Local tours you could sign up for. Sleepover at the Butterdome. Scavenger hunts across campus.
- Many of the bigger events (e.g. the dodgeball tournament and the antifreeze games) are more focused on athletic ability. This can be alienating to disabled students. For future events, I don't care much what the actual event is, I'd just like it to be something that I could participate in if I wanted to. (Here are a few ideas anyways: it's not really an event but hot chocolate at entrances to the busier buildings on cold days, a fair, conferences like the sustainability in leadership conference, book sales at the start of term).
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- Maybe cooking events where students can learn how to eat better and cook good food on a student budget.
- More at Campus Saint Jean.



- More events for different types of students, especially for people who are not comfortable doing things physically due to some sort of injury or disability.
- More in-depth explanation of available accommodations especially during orientation.
- More of the cute animals in SUB maybe, that was cool.
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- Small randomized group events to establish more personal connections.
- Social event aimed specifically at older undergraduate students (eg 30 plus) whether they are completing a first degree or are registered as after degree students. There are also a large number of us who love in Sherwood Park, so some kind of recognition of that say by having periodic events in Sherwood Park would be nice.
- Something that facilitates new real friendships with diverse groups. Maybe a weekly tea time where people are paired into new groups every month with the same people and can just have tea and connect for an hour in a peaceful environment. I feel like most events don't create much lasting new connection and it's hard to make friends when new here.
- There are numerous events and consideration for diverse people to participate. I loved that there was a low stimulation club fair day in the fall

Appendix C – Student Comments: Advocacy

1. Advocacy for Accessibility and Equity:
 - Advocate for more gender-neutral bathrooms that are regularly accessible.
 - Advocate for Palestinian students and against hate speech at the university.
 - Arts students are completely under-regarded by the university.
 - As a low-income person, being at a university disqualifies me from things I used to really enjoy for my wellness.
 - Better representation to surrounding communities, like Strathcona County and their transit system.
 - By seeing more female and gender-diverse individuals in governance positions.
 - Choices that positively impact all students not just pockets of them.
 - Continuing to check in with students about emerging/changing issues in classes.
 - Finances are still a major issue.
 - Have some more teeth. Organizing meaningful strikes.
 - Helping to speak up against the university when they endorse controversial or ethically ambiguous people or companies
 - It would be nice to have more feminine voices on the UASU team.
 - Lack of a position for the freedom of oppressed civilians in Gaza by Israel is not okay.
 - Let's actually TRY to stop the tuition hikes instead of this half attempt.
 - More consultation of EDI councils.
 - More representation from WOC (Women of Color).
 - No more Coca-Cola fund in order to support Palestine.
 - Stop profs from forcing students to pay for third-party services.
 - Stronger emphasis on student debt solutions and job market struggles.
 - The UASU helps provide a lot of student groups through the student group services.
 - More transparency when the SU is advocating for students.
 - Stop tuition hikes. Advocate for more academic services and support.
 - Take no prisoner. Go harder on the U of A board.



- You stood up for Ukraine but made lukewarm, 'neutral' statements about Palestine. There is a genocide going on. Shame on you.
- 2. Advocacy for Student Representation and Engagement:
 - Electing people who aren't in it just for the image/resume.
 - I feel like the UASU is doing what they can but I don't feel like university management is listening.
 - I feel like I am represented nicely already since we have a black student association.
 - I think for the most part the current team is doing well.
 - I think the student union represents the same ideals I have as a student, I just think they can push back more and be more public about advocating for or against government policies.
 - I think the students unions try their best to push back against the government and UofA bureaucracy, but I don't really see the two listening very much.
 - I think we shouldn't have to pay to get enrollment verification documents.
 - I want less representation of differences and more of similarities.
 - I want more Muslim representation.
 - I would like safety to be a priority and concerns about the LRT and unsafe public transit to be addressed.
 - Little commitment options for awareness and advocacy group memberships who want to be involved but cannot make large commitments.
 - More consultation of EDI councils.
 - More student surveys.
 - More Campus Saint Jean representation.
 - Maybe there were more I was unaware of, but petitions for students to sign for/against certain change would be nice for students to feel more involved themselves.
 - More consultation of EDI councils.
 - More representation from WOC.
 - More student surveys
 - More Campus Saint Jean representation.
 - Maybe there were more I was unaware of, but petitions for students to sign for/against certain change would be nice for students to feel more involved themselves.
 - More consultation of EDI councils.



- More representation from WOC.

Advocacy Concerns – Student Comments

- An accessibility panel so people with a variety of accommodations and conditions can weigh in and ensure disabled students aren't left out.
- By increasing election turnouts
- CSJ feels very underrepresented.
- Currently need more ALES and agriculture representation.
- First of all, it would be nice to have the photo of UASU reps somewhere on campus, to know who represents the student body. It would be nice to at least know them too.
- Getting more International students on the managing board.
- Gender equality, and more listening to student voices. And act like a union representing students, not a social club business. Meet with students and student groups more often and with transparency.
- Have a sound moral code whether than worry so much about being sued etc.
- Have students vote regularly to stay involved rather than just execs.
- Have the elected student council members sometimes talk to students in person in-between their classes to solicit feedback and garner opinions more effectively rather than solely relying on digital means of communication.
- Having representatives from each faculty and from each student group/community (e.g., First People's House, the Landing).
- I feel like having further diversity of perspectives from our student leadership would help create more representation of the student body, The university is so proud of the stride program encouraging women and gender minorities to get involved in student leadership and yet we don't have any women elected to UASU this year
- I feel like there just aren't many people running for UASU positions and so there aren't many options, as well as there's not much information about any of it.
- I feel quite disconnected from the student body right now being in pharmacy, maybe having a med/dent/Pharm/nursing representative so events and stuff reaches echa and msb.



- I like that they are perks polls that allow students to have a voice.
- I think everyone would be better represented if the UASU elections weren't so much about politics and padding CV's. Students want to feel seen, and heard, not represented by a clique of people who we rarely, if ever, get to meet or interact with.
- I wish the UASU had more POC and diversity. It's all just white males who go by he/him.
- I'd like opportunities to learn more and get to know the students behind UASU, it might help putting faces to names :)
- I'm already really happy about the current action to halt tuition increases.
- Include some older students in decision-making. Stop charging the entire student body for U-Pass. I don't care if there was a majority vote in 2015 to share the cost among everyone. It's not fair to require students who drive and have extra expenses like vehicle registration and insurance, gas, parking, and vehicle maintenance to pay for the commute of students who don't have nearly as many expenses. It's as ridiculous as drivers expecting commuters to pay for their vehicle costs.
- Include those with disabilities more.
- Keep putting out surveys so we can express our opinions.
- Less positivity, overall the student populace is of fairly grim temperament.
- Maybe tone down the focus of making minority groups the priority and just see us as all students.
- More females would be nice to have in student body. But I understand why they don't run because of the safety of the matter and men tend to overpower women and discredit them. (Not this current student body, they seem great!)
- More importance on have access to buildings/classes for students with mobility aids.
- More strongly oppose tuition hikes.
- Neurodiversity.
- Reach out directly to the student groups affected by decisions the UASU makes. You can't get every single voice in the UASU's more general committees, so go directly to those groups that already exist on campus or ask on perks



- The UASU tends to forget to consider physical accessibility for events and other initiatives, so having a disabled individual on the leadership team could help fix this. But, I think that finding someone could be tricky, as disabled people often have limited energy that we'd rather spend on school and on staying alive than on extra commitments.
- Women, women of color, gender diverse people. we don't want all men again.
- You do not speak up on issues of significance. For instance, taking an anti-genocide stance on Palestine.

Appendix D- Student Comments: Safe Spaces

1. Security Measures:

- A place a woman can be alone at night without being harassed.
- Safety to be a priority and concerns about the LRT and unsafe public transit to be addressed.
- Visibility without the feeling of exposure (ex. frosted glass, decent lighting), surveillance without invasion (i.e. other staff/students frequenting the space).
- Security cameras in the area so if something happens there is evidence.
- Increased security personnel in the area so that if a threat arises it can be dealt with, but they need to be well trained and unbiased or else they can potentially serve as a threat to others.
- Clean (lots of the areas around campus are very dirty making it uncomfortable) and making study spaces only accessible with student id one card would make me feel much safer.

2. Sensory Consideration and Comfort:

- Anything low sensory, so less harsh lighting, much quieter, fewer people, basically just calming and accessible.
- Access to plugins for computers and iPads, comfy chairs to focus, spaces to be loud and quiet, access to food.
- Comfort, quiet, not feeling judged, ergonomically designed.
- Comfortable furniture that you trust won't break. Accessibility to get in and out of the space.



- Quiet atmosphere, inclusivity and respect for all minority groups, non-judgmental attitude from others occupying the same safe space (if not committing any offense or deliberately doing something wrong).
 - Addressing Harassment and Discrimination:
 - As many students likely do not have stable incomes yet, it would be great if continued effort could be directed toward keeping tuition and textbooks affordable.
 - Finances are still a major issue. I feel like the UofA doesn't offer enough scholarships, especially for a university of such prestige. I'd like to see that considered when we advocate for financial aid.
3. Inclusivity and Accessibility:
- Advocate for more transparency with what our money is being spent on and advocate for lower costs.
 - Better represented to surrounding communities, like Strathcona County and their transit system!
 - Choices that positively impact all students not just pockets of them.
 - Especially in light of what's been going on lately, I think it's important that our university stands up for their students and allows the university to be a safe space for everyone, while excluding things that go against their principles.
 - By seeing more female and gender-diverse individuals in governance positions.
 - Representation of and advocacy for "majority" groups, i.e., white Christian students.
 - Having more people from different backgrounds in the SU.
4. Privacy and Autonomy:
- A safe space is a place where criticism and judgment aren't in the room. A safe space is somewhere someone could go and take a nap without worrying of their belongings getting stolen or being paranoid of being made fun of.
 - A safe space should be comfortable, able to accommodate the needs of those who use it, and free from discrimination and harassment.
 - A safe space on campus would be safe at all hours, including early morning hours and late night hours to accommodate for late night studiers.



- A space that is well-maintained and clean, with different types of seating to do work but also relax when needed. There is a lot of foot-traffic.
- 5. Infrastructure and Facilities Improvement:
 - Arts students are completely under regarded by the university. Our buildings suck, especially fab. Industrial design doesn't even have drinkable water, let alone a water fountain.
 - Cheaper parking. Please.
 - Choices that positively impact all students not just pockets of them.
- 6. Infrastructure and Facilities Improvement:
 - A place that fosters community, collaborative spaces, not broken infrastructure.
 - Access to plugins for computers and iPads, comfy chairs to focus, spaces to be loud and quiet, access to food.
 - Bright lights, good seating, and staffing helps me to feel safe in a study space.
 - Clean (lots of the areas around campus are very dirty making it uncomfortable) and making study spaces only accessible with student id one card would make me feel much safer.
 - Comfort, quiet, not feeling judged, ergonomically designed.
 - Comfortable furniture that you trust won't break. Accessibility to get in and out of the space.
 - Free of judgment, comfortable and inclusive/accessible seating.
 - Good security (physical or technological via one card access), well-lit, clean, and not secluded. It also isn't a space that promotes hostile exclusivity.
 - Having more quiet and low sensory areas for autistic students.
 - Having easy access to staff members and the public information to contact the people needed in a certain situation.
 - I like a very quiet and private space, like the old John Scott library with the cubicles for studying in. I am autistic so I don't study well in the open concept environments with distractions, but they are nice for group work. I love sub for socializing though.
 - I love how in the library there are safe spaces, the "zones." I like how you get to pick your area where you want to be, and the students around you respect that.



- Quiet atmosphere, inclusivity and respect for all minority groups, non judgmental attitude from others occupying the same safe space (if not committing any offense or deliberately doing something wrong) and large degree of seclusion from external environment and other public spaces.
- Quiet, natural life (plants, water, nature, etc.), comfortable seating, kind people, open but cozy space.
- Seats, warmth, and a table. Campus has gotten very cold very quickly and there is literally no place to sit and study.
- There should be more safe spaces. The landing wasn't very welcoming when I went. I always felt I was intruding on the people already there. And there is not much space to work besides other people's offices.
- Visibility without the feeling of exposure (ex. frosted glass, decent lighting), surveillance without invasion (i.e. other staff/students frequenting the space).
- We need more quiet, calm spaces for students. The campus is profoundly busy which is overwhelming and nerve frazzling. Also if you have a large gap between classes it would be nice to have more spaces to stretch out and relax. There are students with sensory sensitivity who need more quiet spaces away from the crowds.
- Access to plugins for computers and iPads, comfy chairs to focus, spaces to be loud and quiet, access to food.
- Anything low sensory, so less harsh lighting, much quieter, fewer people, basically just calming and accessible.

Safety Concerns – Student Comments

7. Safety and Security Concerns:
 - Lack of gender-neutral washrooms.
 - Feeling unsafe due to the presence of security officers.
 - Feeling unwelcome on campus due to access issues with the onecard.
 - Anti-queer rhetoric from security guards.
 - Catcalling.
 - Feeling uncomfortable and unsafe due to the presence of certain individuals on campus, including



- homeless people engaging in aggressive behavior, drug use, and theft.
- Feeling unsafe due to smoking, vaping, and the presence of homeless individuals on campus grounds.
- Feeling unsafe at night in certain areas of the campus.
- 8. Incidents of Assault and Harassment:
 - Witnessing assault without adequate response from campus security.
 - Homophobic and transphobic behavior from individuals.
 - Bullying and unwelcoming behavior in residence.
 - Racist comments and lack of mutual respect from students and professors.
 - Sexist remarks from engineering professors.
 - Feeling intimidated by a large police presence.
 - Bigoted opinions shared on social media platforms associated with the university.
 - Feeling unsafe due to encounters with shady individuals on campus.
 - University's response to events affecting marginalized communities, including the calling of police and lack of acknowledgment of protests
- 9. Accessibility Concerns
 - Lack of left-handed desks in lecture halls.
 - Accessibility issues for disabled students being an afterthought.
- 10. Institutional Policies and Practices:
 - New regulations impacting LGBTQ+ support.
 - University platforming individuals with racist and anti-transgender views.
 - University's handling of protests and marginalized voices.