

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL

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**Tuesday January 15, 2002 - 6:00 pm**  
**Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall**

## **MINUTES (SC 2001-18)**

<b>Faculty/Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Present/absent</b>	<b>Proxy Name</b>
President	Christopher Samuel	Present	
VP Academic	Amy Salyzyn	Present	
VP External	Kory Zwack	Present	
VP Finance	Jamie Speer	Present	
VP Student Life	Jennifer Wanke	Present	
BoG Undergrad Rep.	Chris Burrows	Absent	
Agric/Forest/HomeEc	Shawn Harriman	Present	
Agric/Forest/HomeEc	Brett McNelly	Absent	
Arts	Anand Sharma	Present	
Arts	Brendan Darling	Present	
Arts	Colin Agur	Present	
Arts	Jill Tackaberry	Present	
Arts	Joshua Fraese	Proxy	Alexander Fraese
Arts	Kara Deringer	Present	
Arts	Kyle Kawanami	Present	
Arts	Maureen Melnyk	Present	
Business	Erika Hoffman	Present	

Business	John Watkins	Present	
Business	Jon Sharun	Present	
Education	Charlene Davidson	Present	
Education	Dan Coles	Present	
Education	Jason Baxter	Present	
Education	Krista Blankley	Present	
Education	Stephanie Mendoza	Present	
Engineering	Chris Jones	Present	
Engineering	Cole Nychka	Present	
Engineering	David Wepler	Present	
Engineering	Jason Tobias	Present	
Engineering	Mark Jess	Present	
Law	Brian Loewen	Present	
Residence Halls Association	Shannon Moore	Present	
Medicine/Dentistry	Karen Cheng	Absent	
Medicine/Dentistry	Reyhan Chaudhary	Present	
Native Studies (School of	Pamela McCoy- Jones	Present	
Nursing			
Pharmacy	Lanette Prediger	Present	
Rehabilitation Medicine	Carla Webb	Present	
Faculté Saint-Jean	Lisa Clyburn	Present	
Science	Chamila Adhietty	Present	
Science	Christopher Samuel	Present	
Science	Constantino Renzi	Present	
Science	Helen McGraw	Present	

Science	Mat Brechtel	Present	
Science	Roman Kotovych	Present	
Science	Rupesh Kumar	Present	
Science	Samuel Hillier	Present	
Science	Zaki Taher	Present	
President Athletics	Ryan Schula	Present	
<i>Gateway</i> / Editor in Chief	Dave Alexander	Present	
General Manager	Bill Smith	Absent	
Speaker	Gregory Harlow	Present	
Recording Secretary	Sarah Kelly	Present	

**Observers**

Rebecca Lake, APIRG

Dan Lazin, CUP

Steve Lillebuen, *The Gateway*

Marcus Bence, *The Gateway*

Margaret Busniza, *The Gateway*

Tyson Durst, *The Gateway*

Iain Ilich, *The Gateway*

Timothy Singh, APIRG

Neal Ozano

Chris Boutet, *The Gateway*

Marika Schwandt, APIRG

Scott Harris, APIRG

Emilia Kennedy, APIRG

Alfred Orono, WUSC

Adam Rosenhart, *The Gateway*

Steve Osadetz, *The Gateway*

Tricia Lowrey, *The Gateway*

Karl Ross

Neil Parmar, CUP

Jhenifer Pabillano, *The Gateway*

Andra Olson, *The Gateway*

David Zeibin, *The Gateway*

Tiffany Brown Olsen, CJSR

Crystal Tracy, FACRA

Devon Bryce

Stephen MacEachern

Braden Barr

Mike Reid

Mike McTeague, Athletics

Anita Johnson

Josh Woolsey, CREFC, RAC

Christine Rogerson

**2001-18/1**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m.

**2001-18/2**

**NATIONAL ANTHEM "O Canada."**

**Samuel** led Council in the singing of the national anthem.

**2001-18/3**

**University of Alberta CHEER SONG "Ring Out a Cheer"**

**Hoffman** led Council in the singing of the University of Alberta Cheer Song.

**2001-18/4**

**ROLL CALL**

**Deringer** has resigned due to time constraints.

**McNelly** has been suspended due to lack of attendance.

**Harlow** thanked Council for an excellent year so far.

A roll call was conducted by the Secretary.

**2001-18/5**

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Samuel/Agur** moved that the agenda of the SC2001-18 meeting be approved.

**Jones/Weppler** moved that Council suspend Standing Order #1 and consider items 10a, 10b, 12b, and 12c prior to Question Period.

**Carried**

Late Additions

2001-18/12d – Engineering Students' Society

**Consensus**

**2001-18/6**

**PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION**

**2001-18/6a**

Chris Samuel – Students' Council Survey (2 Minutes).

The results of the Students' Council survey were provided in the agenda package. Council is now presented with the option to act on these results or not. Such action could take the form of a task force, who would generate recommendations according to the results.

**Sharma:** Council should get the chance to look at the review again.

**Renzi:** Results should be referred to IRB, not a new task force.

**McGraw:** Something should be done with the results in front of Council, because all members had a chance to submit their opinions and recommendations.

**Salyzyn:** Input is always welcome, and the results should be dealt with as they stand, and other recommendations can be considered as they are ventured.

**Samuel:** If Council waits to consider these results, any recommendations would be rendered moot, as the term will be coming to a close.

Discussion was terminated due to time constraints.

**2001-18/6b**

Chris Samuel – Organizational Review Mid-Term Report (2

Minutes).

This presentation covered four principal areas of the ongoing organizational review:

- a. Cost apportionment. This is an effort to make the composition of the budget more complete, so that there are fewer expenditures that have to be considered late. This will involve knowing exactly how much each unit costs the Students' Union.
- b. Profitability. The level of negative profitability is being calculated.
- c. Business plan. The SU will no longer be budgeting, but formulating business plans with preliminary budgets.
- d. Quarterly reports, which will be made to the Financial Affairs Board.

**2001-18/6c**

Chris Samuel – Executive Top Three Goals (2 Minutes).  
The Executive goals were provided in the agenda package.

**2001-18/7**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**Samuel/Darling** moved that the minutes of the SC2001-17 meeting be approved.

**Wanke:** Dinwoodie is regularly booked, not solidly.

**Speer:** A combination of wired and wireless e-mail stations will be created in SUB.

**Jones:** Students who know about SUB expansion are supportive of it.

**Consensus**

**2001-18/8**

**REPORTS**

a. Christopher Samuel, President

- A written report was provided at the meeting.
- A Gripe Table signup sheet was made available at the meeting.

b. Amy Salyzyn, Vice-President Academic

- A written report was provided at the meeting.
- The University Teaching Research Fund has approved a pilot project for midterm teaching evaluations.
- Student perspective is needed for communication and transition strategies for the upcoming 4-point grading system.
- Web registration will begin in the spring as a two-track system along with telephone registration. A presentation will be made to Council soon.
- Applications are now available for SU Involvement Awards.

c. Kory Zwack, Vice-President External

- ETS has proposed a universal bus pass plan for \$260 per year per student. This is not acceptable, as Calgary's transit authority has offered \$100 per year per student. Negotiations are ongoing.
- The University logo will be changing.
- The CASA kickoff had Paul Martin's thumbprint on the UA banner.

d. Jamie Speer, Vice-President Operations & Finance

- A written report was provided with the agenda package.
- Operating policies will be coming forward from the Financial Affairs Board next week.
- The FACRA operating policy will be coming forward soon.
- There is a reviewed legal opinion for APIRG.
- SUB expansion detail design meetings are ongoing.
- The Brian Tobin question and answer session was cancelled due to his resignation.

e. Jennifer Wanke, Vice-President Student Life

- Antifreeze was a success, and would not have been possible without all the volunteers.
- Alexis Pepin, Student Activities Coordinator, was thanked for organizing the Inner City Christmas party.
- The Engineering Week wrapup party at the Agricom this coming Friday.

f. Chris Burrows, Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative

- **Burrows** was absent from the meeting.

- g. Medicine/Dentistry Report
  - An oral report was provided by **Chaudhary**.
  - There will be a blood drive from February 11-15.
  - A smoking awareness campaign aimed at junior high school students is being expanded to include sexuality and diabetes education. All faculties are welcome to help.
  - The Medicine web site is up and running.

h. Nursing Report

At this point, there is no Council representative from the Faculty of Nursing.

- i. Executive Committee, Minutes.

Please see Document SC 01-18.05.

- j. Students' Union Boards & Committees Reports  
The Minutes of the various SU Boards and Committees are available on the SU WebPage: [www.su.ualberta.ca](http://www.su.ualberta.ca).

**2001-18/9**

**QUESTION PERIOD**

**Baxter:** When will there be reports on the Inner City Christmas Party, Freshheads, and Antifreeze?

**Wanke:** Not for some time. Sleep and a Senior Manager have both been wanting, and there are other matters to be dealt with first.

**Webb:** \$260 per year for a bus pass is a better deal than the one students currently have – why is this not acceptable?

**Zwack:** It would be unfair to present such a proposal to students who don't currently take the bus.

**Loewen:** A universal bus pass would reduce traffic and the demand on Parking Services, and such points should be used to sell the proposal.

**Zwack:** The point is well taken, but ETS had a flawed system for arriving at that particular price, and those flaws need to be addressed.



**Samuel:** Could the Gripe Table signup sheet be sent to the Faculte Saint-Jean to recruit volunteers?

**Salyzyn:** That is a good idea, although councilor outreach is preferable.

**Jones:** When will the SU introduce secret-ballot voting?

**Samuel:** There are no plans to revise the balloting system. Hopefully there will be online voting soon, and that will address some confidentiality concerns.

**Sharma:** What is the SU doing to combat differential tuition?

**Samuel:** There is currently a tuition model task force; differential tuition doesn't seem to be beneficial, but the task force will be objective. The faculties like the idea because it combats arbitrary spending.

**Jones:** The SU currently has a political policy against differential tuition; does that still dictate the SU's position?

**Samuel:** Both the University and the province want to revisit their old policies on differential tuition. This is an opportunity to mold tuition the way students would want it, rather than simply complaining about what students don't want. If the task force recommends a differential, that political policy will have to be rescinded.

**Jones:** The policy binds the SU to oppose differential tuition, not to wait and see.

**Harriman:** Do we have involvement on long range capital plan for university?

**Salyzyn:** we have involvement in 8-10 avenues of the plan – Sharun was in steering committees – president is on several – gfc got a presentation – went to open house – I can direct you to more information [www.ualberta.ca/consult](http://www.ualberta.ca/consult)

**Sharun:** what's up with silent shopper program?

**Speer:** what a whizz-bang idea

**Poon:** what is the current AF surplus and how much has been disbursed?

**Speer:** ~\$800,000 – approx \$300,000 has been spent in the first term – same this term

**Harriman:** Does the SU have any involvement in the long-range capital plan for the University?

**Salyzyn:** The SU is involved in several avenues of the plan, including the steering and many other committees. For more information, visit [www.ualberta.ca/consult](http://www.ualberta.ca/consult)

**Poon:** What is the current Access Fund surplus, and how much of it has been disbursed?

**Speer:** There is an approximate \$800,000, \$300,000 of which was disbursed this past term. The same amount will be distributed this coming term.

**2001-18/10****LEGISLATION****2001-18/10a**

SAMUEL/SALYZYN MOVED THAT Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 100 respecting the Students' Council (FIRST Reading).

**Wanke:** The President of Athletics position on Council must be changed, to state that any executive member can occupy the Athletics seat.

**Lazin:** The *Gateway* should have a similar change.

**Wanke:** The Editor-in-Chief of the *Gateway* is paid by the SU, and sitting on Council is a formal part of his contract.

**32/2/1 Carried**

**2001-18/10b**

SPEER/ZWACK MOVED THAT Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 5400 respecting the Nominating Committee of the Students' Union (FIRST Reading).

**35/3/2 Carried**

**2001-18/10c**

SHARUN/SAMUEL (Councilor) MOVED THAT Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Internal Review Board, approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 6600 respecting the Dedicated Fees Oversight Boards of the Students' Union (FIRST Reading).

**Sharun** introduced the motion. This bylaw is based upon legal recommendations made to the SU regarding their governance of dedicated fees. This bylaw will get the APIRG started. The bylaw specifies oversight of the fees, not any new power over the boards. Information from these board meetings would be presented to Council, which body is responsible for all the actions of dedicated fees boards. IRB did not want to remove any autonomy from these boards, but rather simply deal with the legalities of the situation.

**Samuel (councilor):** Council has the power to withhold funding from student groups, and this bylaw does not alter or embellish that fact. It would create a 'right hand' for Council, which it needs, because if any of the boards take any questionable action, the SU is responsible for it. The oversight boards would simply make recommendations to Council.

**Loewen:** The proposed bylaw is vague and non-specific, and does not answer the 'duty of care' that the legal opinion speaks of. It would give power to boards that are ill-defined.

**Orono:** The bylaw is not entirely faithful to the legal opinion in any case, as it advised the SU to create bylaws in accordance to students' wishes as articulated in the referenda. The power to withhold or remove monies rejects the spirit of the referenda, and furthermore, the bylaw is ineffective.

**Sharun:** The board is for risk-management purposes, and it is an attempt to represent and protect students, who assume that the money they pay is being well-spent.

**Speer:** Such a bylaw must be consistent with both the wording of the referenda and the Universities Act. The proposed board would only intervene if the dedicated fees boards were in breach of either of these.

**Salyzyn:** This is not the creation of any new power, as the SU has indicated its unique legal position on this matter. Because the monies filter through the SU, the SU itself has a particular responsibility. The oversight board would serve as something of a virus detector.

**Taher:** It is misleading to claim that there are no safeguards in this matter, as it is SU policy that Council can revisit and alter specific details of referenda after six years. Organizations should be required to bring reports forward to Council, as this is an appropriate level of accountability.

**Lake (sponsored):** It is recognized that the intent of the bylaw is good, but the execution brings cause for concern. The bylaw, as it stands, only increases the SU's liability for the actions of dedicated fees boards, and only vaguely defines the powers of such a board. While it is said that the oversight board would only ensure that monies were being spent appropriately, the bylaw also specifies the board's right to interpret and evaluate questions and requests. APIRG requested a dialogue regarding the legality of its own proposal, and instead was presented, very recently, with the *fait accompli* of the bylaw. This motion should be tabled, so that all organizations affected by it can speak to it, and Council itself can be more informed.

**Agur/Melnyk** moved to suspend Standing Orders regarding adjournment.

**27/2 Carried**

**Speer** moved to amend Section 2a to read "campus-wide referenda" rather than "referenda" (friendly).

**Zeiban (sponsored):** No one has objected to the intent of the bylaw, but there are many objections to the manner in which it is being executed, as it seems excessive. The bylaw should be tabled and reworked.

**Samuel:** The legal opinion stated that fees don't exist outside of the SU. They fall under the purview of Council, and all fees are part of SU maintenance. This raises concern for liability, duty, and accountability: the bylaw cannot make the SU more accountable, because the accountability was present from the outset. The bylaw assigns no new powers to Council, but defines the ones already extant. It is deliberately vague, because each organization should be consulted about the composition of its unique sub-structure. The bylaw is the first step in a lengthy process.

**Jess/Moore** moved to limit debate to a further fifteen minutes.

**Wanke:** This should be discussed now, and decided upon.

**Brechtel:** For the purposes of being as informed as possible, debate should not be limited.

**Boutet:** Parties have not had the time to prepare their arguments; thus limiting debate and tabling the motion is appropriate.

11/22/0 **Failed**

**Lazin:** The intent of the bylaw is couched in legal opinion, but the opinion is singular and preliminary. The SU does not have the powers that the Executive believes it to have. The legal opinion specifies that the SU would be sued if it suspended fees for organizations, so such a power as endowed in the bylaw is technically erroneous. The SU should be prepared to seek further legal opinions, as there is no expertise on Council concerning such matters.

**Harris (sponsored):** The motion should be tabled, as the bylaw does not represent the "30,000-foot" analogy promised earlier in the year. The bylaw puts this oversight board in absolute charge of all of these organizations, and it doesn't make any sense.

At this point, **Tackaberry** was appointed interim Recording Secretary, as the Secretary was forced to leave the meeting prior to adjournment.

**Woolsey (sponsored):** The proposed board composition is inadequate in expertise where fiscal matters are concerned.

**Harriman:** The legal opinion does not address the possibility of a Memorandum of Understanding, and without a complete legal opinion, the motion should not be voted upon.

**Samuel:** Such a Memorandum could not sign away the SU's responsibility for the monies involved. The legal opinion is to protect the SU's interests, and its recommendations should be taken seriously.

**Weppler:** Time is required to figure out what Council wants to do.

**Weppler/Jess** moved that the motion be tabled to the January 22 meeting of Council.

**Sharma/Jess** moved that the motion be tabled to the February 5 meeting of Council.

**McGraw:** There is a tendency to avoid these issues, and they cannot simply be pushed further and further back. Those who brought the referendum, and students who voted on them, have a right to this decision being made expediently. The bylaw is not a surprise, and should be dealt with now.

**Speer:** This bylaw was brought to each concerned organization in a timely fashion.

**Boutet (sponsored):** Concerned parties need time to study the bylaw, and a week is not enough time.

**Jones:** Postponing for three weeks would be a luxury, and would make the bylaw irrelevant to any referenda passing in the upcoming elections. It should be revisited in one week's time.

**Sharun:** This should be re-examined in one week, and in the meantime, a meeting of IRB will be called, to which concerned councilors and organizations will be invited. It should be passed for the moment.

Discussion ensued on whether the motion should be tabled for one or three weeks.

**Salyzyn/Jess** moved to call the question.

23/4/0 **Carried**

On the proposal to postpone the motion until February 5: 6/23/0

**Failed**

Discussion resumed on whether or not to table the motion until January 22.

**Samuel:** This would only be delaying the problem. Council will be swamped with, and confused by legal opinion. If it cannot be resolved on this first reading, it should be referred back to IRB.

**Wanke:** Postponing would be detrimental to discussion.

**Brechtel/Mendoza** moved to call the question.

23/6/1 **Carried**

16/11/2 **Carried**

The motion was postponed until the January 22 meeting of Council.

**2001-18/12**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2001-18/12a**

ZWACK/WANKE MOVED THAT Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, approve the Xenex proposal for sponsorship restructuring at a cost not to exceed \$12,500.00.

**Wanke:** The SU has gone from random to defined sponsorship. This proposal would be an investment that would pay for itself in the long run, although it is not specifically allotted in the budget.

**Sharma:** Is there not a conflict of interest owing to the fact that the group putting forth the proposal includes two former SU presidents?

**Speer:** This was considered a positive point, as each has a comprehensive understanding of the SU's internal works.

**Samuel:** A 5:1 return is expected on this investment.

23/4/1 **Carried**

**2001-18/12b**

SAMUEL/SALYZYN MOVED THAT Students' Council appoint seventeen (17) councilors to sit on the 2002 Nominating Committee.

Congratulations to the successful councilors.

2001-18/12c

SPEER/ZWACK MOVED THAT Students' Council, upon recommendation from the Financial Affairs Board, approve an additional expenditure not to exceed \$1250.00 to send five (5) people to the Canadian University Press National Conference in Ottawa January 24-28, 2002. This additional money is to cover the non-member conference fees and per diems.

**Tobias/Jess** moved that the motion be amended to change the amount allotted to four thousand (\$4,000.00) dollars, and that the motion be changed to read *that Students' Council approve an additional expenditure not to exceed \$4,000.00 to send ten (10) people to the Canadian University Press National Conference in Ottawa, January 24-28, 2002. This additional money is to cover conference fees and per diems.*

**Alexander:** This amount would be the maximum safety amount for all editors to attend.

**Samuel:** It seems that *The Gateway* specifically underbudgeted, and it makes this amendment uncomfortable.

**Jones:** It seems ironic for the Executive to suggest that budget results are final.

**Wanke:** The SU/Gateway is not a member of CUP, so non-member fees should be specified.

**Samuel (councilor):** If non-member fees are being offered, why should the SU reject them?

**Salyzyn:** 'Contract by conduct' suggests that accepting non-member fees indicates that one is acknowledging membership, which is against the SU's interests at the moment.

**Loewen:** If, as has been indicated, it has been made clear to CUP that anything it gives the SU is of its own free will, as non-members, the member rates should be considered a gratuitous offer.

**Lazin,** Chairperson of the CUP board of directors, confirmed this assumption.

**Brechtel:** Where would this money come from?

**Speer:** Either the project or contingency reserve of the SU.



**Taher:** The *Gateway* should set a better example by budgeting for such things ahead of time.

**Samuel:** Of the ten people that *The Gateway* proposes should attend this conference, how many attended last year?

**Alexander:** Four.

**Samuel:** In which case, why should they be sent a second time?

**Alexander:** The point of the conference is that it's different every year. There will be different workshops and speakers, and it will be an entirely different experience.

**Renzi/Jess** moved to call the question on the amendment.

29/7/5 **Carried**

11/27/2 **Failed**

28/8/0 **Carried**

**2001-18/12d  
ENGINEERING  
STUDENTS'  
SOCIETY**

SPEER/ZWACK MOVED THAT Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, approve a short term cash flow loan to the Engineering Students Society not to exceed \$2000.00 to be paid back by February 15, 2002.

19/3/0 **Carried**

**2001-18/14**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Kawanami:** Congratulations to **McGraw** and **Kotovych** for their place in the World Debate Championships.

**Sharma:** Model Parliament is taking place this weekend.

**Sharun:** Congratulations to **Speer** for his acceptance to Osgoode Hall.

**Wanke:** Volunteers are needed for faculty competition week.

**2001-18/15**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Brechtel/Agur** moved that the meeting be adjourned at 10:49 p.m.