

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL

---

January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003 - 6:00pm  
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

## M I N U T E S (SC 2002-18)

Faculty/Position	Name	6:00	9:00
President	Mike Hudema	✓	✓
VP Academic	Mat Brechtel	✓	✓
VP External	Anand Sharma	✓	✓
VP Finance	Steve Smith	✓	✓
VP Student Life	Kail Ross	x	x
Undergrad Board of Governors Rep.	Mike Reid	✓	✓
Residence Halls Association	George Slomp	✓	✓
U of A Athletics Board			
Agric/Forest/HomeEc	Paul Reikie	✓	✓
Agric/Forest/HomeEc	Teodora Alampi	✓	✓
Arts	Chris Bolivar	✓	✓

Arts	Kyle Kawanami (Kara Deringer)	✓	✓
Arts	James Knull	✓	✓
Arts	Matt Oberhoffner (Hector Macintyre)	✓	✓
Arts	Alexis Pepin	✓	✓
Arts	Laura Roberts	✓	✓
Arts	Vivek Sharma	✓	✓
Arts	Paul Welke	✓	✓
Business	Jamie Kidston	✓	✓
Business	Meena Rajulu	✓	✓
Business	Holly Tomte	x	x
Education	Charles Beamish	✓	✓
Education	Daljeet Chhina	x	x
Education	Allison Ekdahl	✓	✓
Education	Mandeep Gill	✓	✓
Education	Janet Lo	✓	✓
Engineering	Margaret Laffin	✓	✓
Engineering	Paige Smith	✓	✓
Engineering	Chris Jones	✓	✓
Engineering	Michelle Vigeant	✓	✓
Engineering	David Wepler (Louis Bezuidenhout)	x	✓

Law	Paul Varga	✓	✓
Medicine/Dentistry	Miranda Richardson (Patricia Tsang)	✓	✓
Medicine/Dentistry	Jeffrey Cao	✓	✓
Native Studies	Valerie Knaga	x	x
Nursing	Leta Fuhrman	✓	✓
Open Studies			
Open Studies			
Pharmacy	Kurt Greene	✓	✓
Physical Education			
Rehabilitation Medicine	Adelaine Wong	✓	✓
Faculté Saint-Jean	Lisa Clyburn	✓	✓
Science	Chamila Adhietty	✓	✓
Science	Kimberly Dary	✓	✓
Science	Katie Grant	✓	✓
Science	Aisha Khatib	✓	✓
Science	Tereza Elyas	✓	✓
Science	Chris Samuel	✓	✓
Science	Steven Schendel	✓	✓
Science	Kimmy Williams	✓	✓
General Manager	Bill Smith	x	x

Speaker	Gregory Harlow	✓	✓
Recording Secretary	Helen McGraw	✓	✓

**Guests of Council:**

Bequie Lake

Johan Boyden

2002-18/1                    CALL TO ORDER (6:12)

2002-18/2                    NATIONAL ANTHEM "O Canada:"

Led by Hudema

2002-18/3                    University of Alberta CHEER SONG "Ring Out a Cheer"

Led by Smith

2002-18/4                    SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

Schendel/Khatib moved to appoint Tereza Elyas as a councilor for the faculty of science the remainder of the 2002-2003 academic year.

**Carried**

Congratulations to Elyas.

The following individuals were named guests of council:

Bequie Lake, Johan Boyden

The electronic system was inoperative, so we had to go old-skool while delivering comments and voting. The speaker requested that all members stand while delivering comments.

2002-18/6                    APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

SMITH MOVED TO adopt LA 02-18.09 -15 as agenda items

**Carried**

2002-18/8                    APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Hudema/Alampi moved to approve the minutes

CHANGES TO THE MINUTES

Smith: Pulling out of CASA is **not** the only way...

Samuel is not the first nor the only councilor to fill in for recording secretary.

**Approved**

2002-18/9

**REPORTS**

**Hudema:** Media coverage has been excellent so far with the tuition campaign. We have several events planned for this week and next week, and we encourage your participation. The big rally is taking place on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 in front of University Hall, and we really need to make a big push with this event. The posters we have handed out to each faculty can be put up anywhere other than a painted surface. Also, petitions have been included in our last agenda package, so photocopy those and pass them around your faculty. The ECO office will be doing their annual report next week. They have several projects planned for the near future.

**Brechtel:** My report includes the names of faculty members who sit on two boards that are very influential to the add/drop deadline. Hopefully, we can get this done by early February. I've also been working to coordinate faculty handbooks and student council handbooks, among other things.

**Sharma:** The tuition fight is the main thing on my plate right now. I'll be circulating sign up sheets for volunteers. I encourage all councilors to participate. EAB has already met before classes began, and have been working quite hard, so please sign up for a couple shifts to help out. Meeting with the chancellor and other student senators, which will hopefully result in some support from John Ferguson in the future. Tying up some loose ends re: CASA, but that issue (as well as CAUS) will not start up until after the 18<sup>th</sup>. Also, I'm encouraging any faculty members to write letter to oppose differential, and I would encourage any councilors to do the same. I'd also like to briefly touch on the Student Finance Board decision, which was affected by three faculties (Medicine, Business and Law) giving presentations to SFB. As a result, we lost an opportunity to defeat differential. I am very disappointed in the three faculties for not consulting with us before making these presentations.

**Smith:** My report is before you. I'd like to draw your attention to the SU web-board that has been in use by hacks and non-hacks alike. Please log on so you can both communicate with your constituents and sink further into hackdom.

**Ross;** Absent (attending to Antifreeze duties i.e. Drinking).

**Reid:** I have nothing to report.

#### **Engineering Report:**

**Jones:** Engineering Week's future is unclear, since we have to move all events scheduled to take place in Quad to off-campus, and move several on-campus events to SUB. Friday is the 12<sup>th</sup> Country Crusade, it's open to everyone and very fun (just ask Knull). There are also many more activities scheduled for next week.

#### **Law Report:**

**Varga:** This Friday will be "Friday Afternoon Beer Social". A couple other events are also up and coming.

2002-18/9a

SMITH/SAMUEL MOVED THAT Student's Council, upon the recommendation of the Committee for Council Reform And Progress, approve the proposed changes to the Standing Orders of Student's Council.

*Please bring supporting documentation from the Nov. 19, 2002 meeting.*

Welke: Will question period stay where it is?

Smith: Yes.

**Carried**

2002-18/10

QUESTION PERIOD

**Bolivar:** I don't like how we do classroom speaking daily. Aren't we taking up student's time and forcibly giving them information that is otherwise readily available?

**Hudema:** We've talked to as many professors as we could. Our presentation time is less than two minutes, and we think the issue is important enough to justify that time. Students need more motivation than just looking at a poster. We always check with the professor before speaking, and our presentations are shorter than most election presentations.

**Clyburn:** Why didn't councilors get sent Christmas cards, as has been traditionally done?

**Hudema:** We thought it was too time consuming. If you would like me to give you a Christmas card, I can get you one on student dollars.

**Varga:** What does general anarchy on Jan 17<sup>th</sup> entail?

**Hudema:** It was pretty much a joke, and we've encouraged students to demonstrate in a peaceful manner.

**Sharma (councilor):** Since when did we decide to wage war on the University administration and burn

these bridges (citing where in the world is Roderick D. Fraser?)?

**Hudema:** We are actively working with the admin to go to the government. As far as Dr. Fraser's travel budget goes, we feel that attacking his travel budget is entirely in order. We're trying to get students involved in this debate, and we felt that this activity was a good way to do so.

**Adhietty:** What's happening with the Travel Cuts lawsuit?

**Smith:** It's going to trial, unless we have an acceptable settlement before then.

**Welke:** Doesn't Antifreeze and Freeze the Frees running concurrently create a paradox that would endanger the universe?

**Hudema:** We tried to conglomerate the two, but that idea was opposed by the VP Student Life.

**Jones:** It seems that the food and beverage businesses of our SU are underperforming. Does the VP Ops and Finance have any information as to why this is happening, and does he have any possible solutions?

**Smith:** One aspect is that our margins are not being maintained. In L'Express, our staff costs are out of whack, and in the Plant, we're not getting enough people coming through the door. Our senior managers are working on these problems. This budget does include a business underperformance reserve to cushion this problem.

**Schendel:** What do you think the Add/Drop deadline should be extended to?

**Brechtel:** I feel the national average of ten (10) days is appropriate, I wouldn't be willing to have an extension to seven (7) days or less. Ideally, it would be ten (10) [in-class] days, although it might be eight (8). As it is right now, it's only five (5).



**Schendel:** What happened with our media stunt today with Lyle Oberg?

**Hudema:** We have decided to delay the presentation of a check to Dr. Oberg until later.

**Sharma:** Has the Law Students Association or the Medical Students Association taken a stance on differential formally?

**Varga:** No, we haven't taken an official stance.

**Cao:** I brought a statement from the MSA to attach to the agenda for our report. It says that basically we understand the concern for quality, but we have concerns that need to be addressed first. We need to find a mutually agreeable solution. I was surprised by the comments made by the Executive that the MSA fully supports differential tuition. What gave you that impression?

**Sharma:** I talked to the chair of the SFB. Doug Ogram said they would not move forward on differential unless SFB approved it. In essence, the MSA was advocating for the passing of differential through the SFB. The MSA, LSA and some of the students in the respective faculties have said that they are not concerned with differential, since the proposal is grandfathered. We have to take care of potential students as well as current students. These faculty associations have bought into the argument that these increases will lead to an increase in quality. We do not believe this to be true, rather, we have studies to the contrary. I find it interesting that the LSA doesn't have an official position, yet one of their representatives has spoken to SFB about it.

**Williams:** What is the MSA trying to say? Do they support differential?

**Cao:** it says we are fundamentally opposed to differential, and we only will support it if there is more financial aid provided.

**Williams:** Is it true they don't care because it's grandfathered?

**Cao:** When I e-mail my constituents, I don't receive and reply e-mails. I personally feel there is a sense of political apathy, although I am unwilling to make generalizations about the entire faculty. I think if we take out the grandfathering, we might be looking at potential legal problems.

**Sharma (councilor):** You're either in support of differential or against it. What is your answer?

**Cao:** It's not that black and white, if there is no increase in financial aid, my understanding is that the MSA is opposed. If differential tuition goes through, we need to increase financial aid. We're saying that we understand the need to maintain the quality of our education. I hope that answers your question.

**Brechtel:** Could Councilor Varga please comment on the statements of the Vice-President External?

**Varga:** We had met with the Student's Union, and still had issues with certain questions. We decided to not take an official position because there is no way we could have had a unanimous position on the issue. Also, the LSA taking a position does not affect the issue. Quite honestly, the majority of law students support differential. Also, the grandfathered clause comments are unfounded. None of us have said anything to that effect. From the LSA point of view, the presentation to the SFB was precautionary. We wanted to make sure that it was possible to maintain our financial security should the proposal go through.

**Brechtel:** If there were any unanswered questions that the LSA had, why were they not brought to the SU?

**Varga:** You did reply, but I don't know if the answers were satisfactory to the LSA.

**Hudema:** Has there ever been a policy passed by the LSA? Has there been any attempt at open consultation to get feedback, or any presentation to give the opposition side of the differential issue?

**Varga:** No formal consultation has been made. We see the virtues and the downsides and we're trying to be pragmatic.

**Hudema:** Has there been any consultation with other faculties, such as the students who will actually be affected by these increases?

**Varga:** No, not that I know of.

**Sharma:** Is councilor Cao aware that a good number of students in the faculty that have signed a petition opposing differential? What kind of consultation has been made to students?

**Cao:** I personally handed out the petition, and although I can't speak for all medical students, I personally am against differential. When I collected the petition, I was surprised at the number of medical students opposed to differential tuition. I'm not sure if there was any individual consultation made between the MSA and the students. The statement the MSA has drafted makes sense, and I agree with much of it.

2002-18/11

### APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

*Please see document SC 02-18.01*

**Kidston:** what was the freezer and other equipment for?

**Smith:** Pieces of equipment at the plant broke down. Rather than repair them, which was not smart, we bought new ones. This came from the Contingency Reserve in the budget.

2002-18/12

### LEGISLATION

2002-18/12a

SMITH/HUDEMA MOVED THAT Student's Council approve the proposed amendments to Article XII of the Constitution to take effect May 1, 2003, which the Executive Committee considers to be representative of the changes recommended by the Committee for the Finding and Realization of Changes to Elections (First Reading)

Point of Privilege

*Please bring supporting documentation from the Nov. 19, 2002 meeting*

**Carried (referred to IRB)**

**Clyburn:** I don't think anybody has the relevant documents in hand.

**Harlow:** It's been part of our effort to save paper. However, since councilors are responsible individuals that should have brought their information, the point of privilege is well taken, although it's not something that should warrant automatic tabling of the motions.

2002-18/12b

Brechtel/Smith moved that Student's Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 9100 respecting the Involvement Recognition Awards of the Student's Union (SECOND reading)

*Please bring supporting documentation from the Dec. 3, 2002 meeting*

**Brechtel:** We are adding two awards from SUBway. One is available to any student, the other is restricted to an employees of SUBway.

Brechtel/Slomp moved an amendment to add an additional criterion reading "actively involved in extra-curricular activities in the University and or community" and to modify section b to reflect the addition of that criteria.

**Friendly**

**Carried (Unanimous)**

2002-18/12c

JONES/SMITH MOVED THAT Student's Council approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 8451 respecting Faculty Association Membership Fees (SECOND reading)

*Please bring supporting documentation from the Dec. 3, 2002 meeting*

**Jones:** This is a minor change to make the registrar's office happy. Currently, there is a distinction between current and visiting students. The registrar's office cannot make this distinction in their software, so we have changed it so that visiting and current students are both within the scope of the bylaw.

**Carried**

2002-18/12d

SMITH/CLYBURN MOVED THAT Student's Council approve the proposed amendments to Bylaw 100 to take effect May 1, 2003, which the Executive committee considers to be representative of the recommendations of the Committee for the Finding and Realization of Changes to Elections (FIRST Reading).

*Please bring supporting documentation from the Nov. 19, 2002 meeting*

**Smith:** Currently, there is no mechanism to fill vacant seats, and this amendment would first take a look at the person who finished next in the voting, and secondly to give Faculty Associations

Smith/Welke moved to refer Bylaw 100 to IRB

**Carried**

2002-18/12e

SAMUEL/DERRINGER MOVED THAT Student's Council approve the changes to Bylaw 1200 (First Reading)

*Please bring supporting documentation from the Nov. 19, 2002 meeting*

**Samuel:** These changes, will, in effect, prohibit former executives from sitting on DIE board within one year of leaving office. Mr. Kawanami's intention in moving these changes are to ensure DIE board is as politically neutral as possible.

**Reid:** This is not necessary, as we already have a nominating committee to select appropriate members.

**Smith:** Why, when it only required a simple majority and was still defeated, do we think we'll be able to get a 2/3 majority? And it's an ad-hoc selection committee, not a nominating committee.

**Jones:** This is not a good use of our time, we're searching for a problem that doesn't exist.

Sharma (councilor)/Welke called to question.

**Carried (Opposition: Samuel)**

**Defeated**

2002-18/12f

SMITH/HUDEMA MOVED THAT Student's Council approve the proposed amendments to Bylaw 2100 to take effect May 1, 2003, which the executive committee considers to be representative of the recommendations of the committee for the finding and realization of changes to elections (FIRST reading)

*Please bring supporting documentation from the Nov. 19, 2002 meeting*

**Smith:** There are several things that these changes will accomplish, one of the more controversial ones being that a candidate will not have to through the CRO to talk to the external media. Also, I feel that I have been elected undemocratically, although won't resign, I would like to rectify the situation by instating a system of preferential balloting, so a candidate would need greater than 50% of the vote. We're also changing rules regarding slates, placement of posters, joke candidates, rules governing the ability of current executive members to endorse candidates, and several others. This is only first reading, so I encourage councilors to vote it through that we may debate the specifics later on.

**Brechtel:** I don't think this process is appropriate. We should take a bylaw and make changes, not scrap it and create a new one.

**Smith:** We introduced this, and council told us to bring it back as bylaw. Constantly making little changes created a patchwork bylaw, which was generally incoherent. We needed to rewrite in its entirety, in order to make it consistent. Also, we should be debating the bylaw's merits, not my bylaw writing technique.

Smith/Slopp moved to suspend the standing orders regarding appointment of guests of council.

**Carried**

Smith moved to appoint Mustafa Hirji as a guest of council.

**Carried**

**Hirji:** Perhaps there is an alternate way to write these bylaws that would satisfy both concerns of Brechtel and Smith.

**Sharma:** I have read the bylaws through, but we seem to have complicated the issue the way we've done it.

**Harlow:** If this is carried, it will go back to IRB. Keep this in mind, council.

Brechtel moved to reconsider.

**Out of Order**

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry: **Roberts:** Can we debate this point by point right now?

**Harlow:** Yes, this would be a good time to debate principles of the changes.

**Beamish:** Why are we getting rid of the CRO as a go-between for external media and the candidate.

**Welke:** I supported this change because the platform of the candidate should speak louder than anything, and getting the attention of the media should not be relevant.

**Hudema:** This was intended to keep it so that all candidates had equal opportunity to speak with the media.

**Kidston:** There seems to be no difference between the current and proposed formats. If you want to talk to the media, you should be able to talk to the media.

**Reid:** We should be careful tinkering with these election bylaws, as they represent a large number of years of history. None of us actually have the documentation in hand.

Reid/Bolivar moved to postpone this motion to next council meeting.



Smith moved to withdraw the main motion.

**Failed: Not unanimous**

**Samuel:** It is appalling that so many of us have neglected to bring our information with us. We knew this was going to be on the agenda, and we should have brought our relevant information. The responsibility is not that great.

**Hudema:** There will not be a huge principle debate next meeting, regardless of whether or not councilors have documentation present.

**Reid:** I disagree that there would not be any debate taking place had we the relevant information present. I would also disagree with the acting recording secretary [Samuel] that we are somehow being negligent in forgetting our previous agenda packages. We might have lost them or forgotten them, after all, we are human. If there is a condition that we will have full documentation printed next meeting, I will withdraw my motion to postpone.

Reid moved to withdraw the motion to postpone.

**Withdrawn: Unanimous**

**Brechtel:** We're missing the point of a first reading. If we want to debate things that do not belong to the nuts and bolts of the motion. Things like "candidates speaking to external media" do not actually belong to the principles of the proposed changes. I am opposed to withdrawing the change regarding external media, as it could create an uneven playing field. Also, changing the election date was designed to help potential candidates with their course loads. However, the time while I was a VP-elect had a more negative on my academics than the elections. Having elections in January would hurt more than having it in March. Also, joke candidates, while beneficial, should not receive the same funding as a regular candidate. The preferential ballot system assumes that the voters have enough knowledge of all the candidates, and that is too presumptuous. It's not practical on our campus. I don't agree with enough of these amendments to vote for the motion.

**Carried (Abstention: Reid) Referred to IRB**

**Hudema:** Council can support or not support these individual changes on second reading, where these kinds of debate should take place.

Jones/Slopp moved to call the previous question.

### Carried

2002-18/12g

SMITH/SAMUEL MOVED THAT Student's Council approve the proposed amendments to Bylaw 2400 to take effect May 1, 2003, which the executive committee considers to be representative of the recommendations of the Committee for the Finding and Realizations of Changes to Elections (First Reading)

*Please bring supporting documentation from the Nov. 19, 2002 meeting*

**Smith:** This one will be easier to debate on first reading, as there is one main idea behind the changes, we don't want to have faculty associations electing councilors in different ways from one another.

**Jones:** It's necessary to maintain faculty autonomy. We cannot have such levels of uniformity. We need to follow the words of chairman Mao, and let a thousand flowers bloom.

**Hirji:** The government of Canada does not run the provincial elections for them. We should not be controlling the faculty associations. Mr. Kawanami, Ms. Cleary and myself do not feel these recommendations are consistent with what FARCE recommendations.

**Beamish:** Councilors should be brought to council in a standardized manner, as it's not fair to have these current discrepancies, since we all have an equal voice in council.

**Brechtel:** We think that these changes will do two things: increase voter turnout, as well as standardize the faculty elections. It is also impossible for a single CRO to attend all these faculty forums. This is a big ugly bylaw.

**Smith:** [*outraged*] Point of Personal Privilege

**Harlow:** Denied.

*[Smith would later comment outside of council that he would tolerate personal attacks, slander and false accusations, but would not stand for an insult to his bylaws]*

**Ekdahl:** I'm opposed to these changes, since in education, we have student's in practicum, which will make it unfair to those students, since they would be unrepresented if the election took place while they were away.

**Sharma:** I've been around quite a bit, and I know this: there are a lot of irregularities and problems with our electoral system. We need to make this a fair process. We don't want to have the legitimacy of our elections questioned because of these irregularities.

Slomp/Hudema moved to call the previous question

**Carried**

**Carried (Opposition: Welke) Referred to IRB**

SMITH/SLOMP MOVED TO make 2002-18/13b and 2002-18/14a special orders of council.

**Carried**

2002-18/X

**SPECIAL ORDERS**

2002-18/13b

BRECHTEL/SMITH MOVED THAT Students Council nominate one (1) councilor to serve on the Academic Affairs Board for the remainder of the 2002/2003 school year.

**Williams, Jones, Sharma (councilor), Alampi and Lo were nominated.**

2002-18/14a

Congratulations to **Sharma (councilor)**.

SMITH/HUDEMA MOVED THAT Student's Council, upon the recommendation of the ad hoc committee for the selection of Deputy Returning Officers, appoint Alexandros Hagsavas, Haley Cleary and Scott Cabianca as Deputy Returning Officers of the Student's Union, to serve until April 30, 2003

**Carried**

[*Quorum was lost*]

Sharma (councilor)/Slomp moved to adjourn

2002-18/17

ADJOURNMENT (9:16)