
**Tuesday, September 20, 2016
Council Chambers, University Hall**

We would like to acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Cree, Saulteaux, Métis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux territory; specifically the ancestral space of the Papaschase Cree. These Nations are our family, friends, faculty, staff, students, and peers. As members of the University of Alberta Students' Union we honour the nation-to-nation treaty relationship. We aspire for our learning, research, teaching, and governance to acknowledge continuing colonial violence and respect Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (SC 2016-10)

Meeting called to order at 6:02 PM.

2016-10/1 SPEAKERS BUSINESS

2016-10/1a Announcements - The next meeting of the Students' Council will take place on Tuesday, October 4, 2016 at 6:00pm at Campus Saint Jean, Room TBD.

2016-10/2 PRESENTATIONS

2016-10/2a 2016/17 Executive Goals - Presented by the Students' Union Executive
Sponsored by: Councilor Hammond

HAMMOND/FLAMAN MOVE to allow this presentation.

Councilor Howie to VP Sandare:

Why is the University of Lethbridge the baseline for mental health funding?

Vice President Sandare's Response:

UL is the smallest University and smaller FLE count. If we change to per student model, they won't be negatively affected with respect to funding. We want to make sure they have an equitable amount.

Governor Champagne to VP Sandare:

How will changing tax credits into grants work if students don't pay a lot of income tax?

Vice President Sandare's Response:

They are tuition tax credits that are usually given to parents (for majority of students) when filing taxes. Govts have funds allocated for tuition tax credits, asked for them to move into grant. Idea: sliding scale model, student is able to

get upfront money to pay for expenses. If there are upfront grants, then it will increase access for students to attend University.

Governor Champagne to Vice President Sandare:

Does that model take into account living costs if they move away from home? Tax credits are 1 advantage they can apply vs. students who live in the city have lower costs who live at home?

Vice President Sandare's Response:

It will be an income based model instead of demographic based model which will consider those who don't need financial aid. Regardless of which group, everyone will get grouped by income so every student has access to funding.

Councilor Prochnau to VP Ghossein & VP Sandare:

Mental health funding won't happen until next budget in March/April funding. What's plan B if there's no money next election?

Vice President Sandare's Response:

If there are 2 years left in the term, they are more willing to push for things that matter to them. The minister that deal with grants also deals with mental health. We are able to get money back since due to a consistent voice. The baseline based on FLE can be easily transitions between governments. It will still be predictable/sustainable.

Vice President Ghossein's Response:

There's an advisory committee on post-secondary mental health. The govt is committed to hearing out student representatives. The model is not arbitrary, it's easily transferable from 1 govt to another because now we have an exact measure of how we determined that amount. It's difficult to get a plan B, comes down to philosophical question. There's many ways to subsidize parts of it with grants or are we comfortable with increasing fees for students to access mental health services. It's ultimately up to council for mental health service funding.

Councillor Hammond to Vice President Banister:

Question re funding for flexible course loads. What are the other reasons? EG Business limits credits so cannot take full course load.

Vice President Banister's Response:

"Mental health and other reasons" refers to Student Accessibility Services provides accommodations to students that need extra time. In the calendar, it states that students who require accommodations through SAS to take a reduced course load are still eligible for scholarships/financial aid that say you need a full course load to be eligible. You don't have to disclose reasons for accessing SAS to professors by getting a letter from SAS. Accelerated/extended degree options and make sure more classes are offered. Also, addressing

concerns where students have to extend their degree because they couldn't enrol in a required class.

Councilor Larsen to Vice President Sandare:

If there were any comments on the tuition cap in 2017. What about lowered tuitions in general as soon as we have a new govt that could be discussed.

Vice President Sandare's Response:

Tuition falls under ALR. Minister bringing tuition funding to cabinet in the next couple of weeks, may know by October. We're looking at when the tuition cap is removed. Idea of rolling tuition back to '92 levels, having tuition tied at CPI or having tuition tied at CPI or reduction tuition. We wanted to have tuition at same level as NFL - have lowest tuition in the country but tough because govt is in a massive deficit so tie it back to CPI is something that could happen. In 92 - change in govt that added modifiers which caused a huge spike in tuition and is still in effect.

Councilor Monda to Vice President Ghossein:

What are we aiming for regarding Residence Association autonomy?

Vice President Ghossein's Response:

Residence associations became student residences association. Their financials are going to be reviewed this year with audit committee similar to faculty association financials. Before, residence services were collecting that money, a lot of micromanagement with their budget wouldn't happen because they would be liable about how they're spending funds. For autonomy with student groups in general, any changes made to student groups, student group disciplines in general will affect residence associations EG suspending events, or election policies/procedures. We would have more control over this. For programming, it's tied to financials as long as they respect community standards and are compliant.

Governor Champagne to Vice President Sandare:

Can we ask the government to recognize and invest in the post-secondary sector by increasing funding instead of lowering tuition?

Vice President Sandare's Response:

Regarding advocacy asks, we're pushing for UA get more capital funds in order to repair things EG giving CSJ better labs, repairing campus building, pushing to give UA money and all the money received is tied to something, ensures it goes to the right places. For access to University, grants is one of the best ways to help students access U so by lowering tuition then acceptance rates go down because it forces more people into institution even if they can't handle it vs. grants allow people who want to access university are able to regardless of income. It's not putting too much restraint, it targets groups that need it at most.

President Rahman's Response:

Believes that budgets are a reflection of priorities, firm believer that universities are always broke so if he advocates on behalf of U, he doesn't have a guarantee that where the funds will be allocated EG funding for the university experience, services, administration so that's why he's hesitant.

2016-10/2b

Should the UASU Support the \$15 Minimum Wage? - Presented by Vice President Sandare
Sponsored by: Vice President Sandare

Please see SC 16-10.01

Vice President Banister to Vice President Sandare:

Regarding voting for the change in minimum wage. What's the implication if we vote YES or NO?

Vice President Sandare's Response:

If we vote Yes, there's a possibility to gain political capital with the govt, something we can leverage in the future. Con of voting Yes, opens up to where we cap minimum wage which doesn't affect students directly unlike tuition. We may become a catch-all advocacy group which may be ineffective if govt asks us for support. If we vote, No - there's a possibility we could lose political capital.

Vice President Ghossein to Vice President Sandare:

Is there a third voting option for the minimum wage increase?

Vice President Sandare's Response:

3 different options: Vote Yes, Vote No, Stay silent - stand neutral, tell the minister we're not willing to comment at the next meeting.

Councillor DeJong to Vice President Sandare:

Why do we have to vote during this meeting? We haven't had a lot of information on this issue, and I haven't had time to digest this information.

Vice President Sandare's Response:

There wasn't an SC meeting 2 weeks ago. We just want to make sure we have a stance by the end of the month for the teleconference and Calgary meeting.

Vice President Banister to Vice President Sandare:

I'm in agreement with what Councillor DeJong just said as we haven't heard much about this issue.

Councillor Nahid to Vice President Sandare:

This is a question for council, I'm interested in hearing reasons why we vote against this?

Vice President Sandare's response:

3 options: Y / N / silence

Reasons for not supporting should be discussed with council. If we say yes, where does it end. It might not affect all students, many students attend different post-secondary institutions not just the UA.

CHAMPAGNE/ANGUS MOVE to go in-camera

12/13/1

MOTION FAILS.

Councillor Larsen to Vice President Sandare:

Do we know how many students are in Alberta?

Vice President Sandare's Response:

Roughly 200,000 -250, 000 students in Alberta. So, a third of students are affected by this.

Governor Champagne:

So, I recommend we stop debate on this right now since we are openly discussing political strategy, and we mentioned using this decision to gain political capital with the government.

Councillor Ndatirwa to Vice President Sandare:

Of that percentage that you just mentioned of students that we have, how many of them are actually making minimum wage? And what is the ratio of international to non-international students?

Vice President Sandare's Response:

I don't know the ratio, but then again of the 305, 000 mentioned which is 3.1% of Alberta, there are about 70, 000 that are students. We don't know from where, they could be from university, colleges or polytechnics, etc.

GHOSSEIN/PACHES MOVE to go in-camera

MOTION CARRIES.

GHOSSEIN/ HOWIE MOVE to go ex-camera

MOTION CARRIES.

2016-10/3

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Marina Banister, Vice President (Academic) - Report.

Francesca Ghossein, Vice President (Student Life) - Report.

Mike Sandare, Vice President (External) - Report.

Fahim Rahman, President - Report.

Robyn Paches, Vice President (Operations and Finance) - Report.

2016-10/4 **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORT**

Policy Committee - Report.
Finance Committee - Report.
Audit Committee - Report.
Bylaw Committee - Report.
Board of Governors - Report.
CJSR-FM - Report.
APIRG - Report.
The Gateway - Report.

2016-10/5 **OPEN FORUM**

2016-10/5a **Mr. Bondarchuk to Vice President Banister:**

What is one session she liked so far and which ones she's looking forward to?

Vice President Banister's Response:

She liked the session with Minister Marlin Schmidt and Committee Smart session. Sessions she's most excited about mature students in governance and Don Iveson on Friday.

2016-10/6 **QUESTION PERIOD:**

Councilor Howie to Vice President Banister:

If she would like to conclude the report she started.

Vice President Banister's Response:

The struggles of GovWeek: lower turnout than anticipated in the sessions. We tried our best to reach students with marketing strategies. She might have been a little too ambitious with GovWeek. We will engage hundreds of students over the course of the week. She will compile a report for next year's GovWeek should it happen.

Councilor Monda to Vice President Paches:

Questions about affordable booking prices for SubStage.

Vice President Paches' Response:

The high cost is due to AV costs so there should be a requirement of portable AV system to decrease AV costs. Will look into issue further.

Councilor Mahal to Vice President Ghossein:

Finishing report about the #IBelieveYou campaign.

Vice President Ghossein's Response:

It's focused on response re disclosure of sexual assault. This is about support we give survivors once they disclose so we can see disclosure numbers go up due to community support. Once social media videos circulate, she encourages you to make your own.

Councilor Larsen to Vice President Ghossein:

Fees regarding Residence Association

Vice President Ghossein's Response:

There are big implications that affect the way they can plan their year and budget. We gave Dean of Students a deadline until the end of the month.

2016-10/7

BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2016-10/7a

DEJONG MOVES to appoint of two member of Students' Council to the Policy Committee.

Councillor Scott nominates himself and notes a conflict of interest due to a relationship with the Chair of the Policy Committee.

COUNCILLOR LARSON and COUNCILLOR NDATIRWA appointed to the Policy Committee.

2016-10/7b

PACHES MOVES to appoint one member of Students' Council to Finance Committee.

COUNCILLOR SCOTT appointed to the Finance Committee.

2016-10/8

GENERAL ORDERS

2016-10/8

BANISTER/PACHES move to appoint 4 Student Councillors to sit on the PAW Strategic Operating Committee.

COUNCILLOR DEJONG, COUNCILLOR FLAMAN, COUNCILLOR HOWIE AND GOVERNOR CHAMPAGNE appointed to the PAW Strategic Operating Committee.

2016-10/9

INFORMATION ITEMS

2016-10/9a

Report from the President.

Please see SC 16-10.02

2016-10/9b

Report from the Vice President of Operations and Finance.

Please see SC 16-10.03

- 2016-10/9c** Report from the Vice President Academic.
Please see SC 16-10.04
- 2016-10/9d** Report from the Vice President Student Life.
Please see SC 16-10.05
- 2016-10/9e** Report from the Vice President External.
Please see SC 16-10.06
- 2016-10/9f** Report from the Bylaw Committee
Please see SC 16-10.07
- 2016-10/9g** Executive Committee Motion Tracking
Please see SC 16-10.08
- 2016-10/9h** Students' Council Motion Tracking
Please see SC 16-10.09
- 2016-10/9i** Committee Motion Tracking - By Committee
Please see SC 16-10.10
- 2016-10/9j** Committee Motion Tracking - By Date
Please see SC 16-10.11
- 2016-10/9k** Students' Council Attendance
Please see SC 16-10.12

Meeting adjourned at **9:18 PM**.