

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Tuesday, January 23, 2018 Council Chambers, University Hall

We would like to respectfully acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Cree, Dene, 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 and work towards the decolonization of Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:00PM

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (SC 2017-17)

2017-17/1 SPEAKERS BUSINESS

Announcements - The next meeting of the Students' Council will take place on Tuesday, February 6 at 6:00pm at Campus St. Jean. Travel arrangements are detailed in the WhatsApp.

A Gateway photographer is present to update their stock photos of Students' Council.

2017-17/2 PRESENTATIONS

2017-17/2a *Presentation Title:* Executive Goals Update - Presented by the 2017/18 Students' Union Executive

Abstract: The Executive Team will provide an update on their goals to Students' Council.

Presenters:

- Marina Banister, President
- Robyn Paches, Vice-President (Operations and Finance)
- Reed Larsen, Vice-President (External)
- Shane Scott, Vice-President (Academic)
- Ilya Ushakov, Vice-President (Student Life)

PACHES/USHAKOV SPONSORED the *Executive Goals Update* at the January 23, 2018 meeting of Students' Council.

BANISTER: Delivered an update concerning the Executive's progress in the areas: (a) welcoming students on Campus, (b) supporting student culture, (c) bringing students

back to Campus, and (d) establishing a predictable and affordable future for students. Emphasised that a report concerning student rights in relation to a Charter is under development. Announced that an information page/listing of student rights will be published as an interim solution.

SCOTT: Noted he is ensuring accessibility to resources, services, and supports. Determined his focus on free and open academic materials and a syllabus database.

USHAKOV: Announced that a UofA Mental Health Strategy is under development. Noted the BearsDen software is under reconsideration. Noted a InfoLink Live Event Calendar is under development for early February. Announced ongoing consultation on the Lister Meal Plan.

PACHES: Expressed concern in relation to the exponential growth of requests for aid from the Access Fund. Reported Room at the Top and Dewey's seen increases in the the amount and variety of events. Reported that the SU has secured two positions on the Centre LRT Consultation Group. Announced the ongoing development of his report on UofA building maintenance.

LARSEN: Noted the million per year Provincial grant for mental health is being dispersed. Reported on his advocacy to create a direct application process for City of Edmonton entry-level positions. Noted he is advocating for Provincial regulation of mandatory non-instructional fees.

SPEAKER: Extended the presentation by fifteen minutes via acclimation.

2017-17/2b *Presentation Title:* Identity Matters! and UASU Got This

Abstract: A presentation on the research that the Students' Union completed this year on identity in undergrad student governance and a new project they are conducting to encourage diverse representation in student governance.

Presenter:

• Shane Scott, Vice President (Academic)

SCOTT/THIBAUDEAU SPONSORED a presentation from the Vice President Academic at the January 23rd meeting of Council. See SC-2017-17.09.

SCOTT: Noted a study, <u>Identity Matters!</u>, investigated the participation of women and minorities in high levels of student governance. Clarified the central focus on the research as trying to understand whether identity contributes to participation in governance. Noted the survey received just under 2000 responses and yielded quantitative and qualitative data. Established that, in keeping, the <u>"UASU Got This"</u> Campaign will encourage underrepresented students in becoming leaders.

2017-17/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Ilya USHAKOV, Vice President (Student Life) - Report.
Robyn PACHES, Vice President (Operations and Finance) - Report.
Shane SCOTT, Vice President (Academic) - Report.
Reed LARSEN, Vice President (External) - Report.
Marina BANISTER, President - Report.

2017-17/4 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORT

Audit Committee - Report. Bylaw Committee - Report.

Council Administration Committee - Report.

Finance Committee - Report.

Nominating Committee - Report.

Policy Committee - Report.

Board of Governors - Report.

Landing Board of Directors - Report.

Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Ad Hoc Committee - Report.

Gateway Student Journalism Society - Report.

General Faculty Council - Report.

CJSR 88.5 FM Radio - Report

2017-17/5 OPEN FORUM

2017-17/6 QUESTION PERIOD

2017-17/7 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2017-17/7a Bill #5 - Students' Council Legislative and Committee Structure Reform - Second Reading

HOWIE/CHRISTENSEN MOVED to approve the second reading of Bill #5, on the recommendation of Bylaw Committee, based on the first principles listed below.

First Principles (Approved January 8, 2018):

- 1. Bylaw 100 is the premiere piece of legislation of Students' Council, housing much of the administrative and operational regulations of the body.
- 2. Legislation within Bylaw 100 is loosely defined with little direction given surrounding the procedures and protocols of the various forms of legislation. There are currently legislative processes for the creation of bylaws, political policies, and the budget that are described in Students' Council's standing orders, but are not reflected in bylaw. As these processes do not change year to year and are binding, they should be reflected in bylaw.

- 3. The legislative process of approving bylaws shall be clarified in Bylaw 100 to mandate each piece of legislation go through first and second reading, with second reading being drafted by Bylaw Committee.
- 4. The legislative process of approving policies shall be clarified in Bylaw 100 to mandate each piece of legislation go through first and second reading, with second reading being drafted by Policy committee.
- 5. The legislative process of approving the budget shall be clarified in Bylaw 100 to mandate the first reading of budget principles and the itemized budget be drafted by Finance committee.
- 6. In light of DIE Board Ruling 2017-02, there is a lack of clarity surrounding the timing of the start up meeting and first meeting of Students' Council as defined in Bylaw 100.
- 7. Bylaw 100 shall be amended to allow the startup meeting to occur anytime within April.
- 8. Bylaw 100 shall be amended to relax the mandated timing of the first meeting of each Students' Council term from before May 7 to before May 15 of each year.
- 9. In light of recent discussions surrounding committee structure, four new categories of committees will be defined with definitions including, but not limited to:
 - a. "Legislative" committees
 - i. Committees whose mandate include a delegated, legislative function of Students' Council.
 - Audit, Bylaw, Policy, Council Administration, Finance, and Nominating Committee shall be reclassified as "Legislative" committees.
 - ii. These committees shall have a closed membership of only elected members of Students' Council or Designates.
 - iii. These committees shall be recurring.
 - $\begin{tabular}{ll} iv. & The list and mandate of these committees shall remain in \\ & Bylaw 100. \end{tabular}$
 - v. These committee shall only be created or eliminated through two readings of Students' Council amending Bylaw 100.
 - b. "Oversight" committees

- Committees whose mandate include providing recommendations on internal and external Students' Union policies and providing guidance, advice, oversight, or other information to the organization on a general topic.
- ii. These committees may have an open membership of elected members of Students' Council, unelected individuals, or both
- iii. These committees shall be recurring.
- iv. The list and mandate of these committees shall be housed in the Bylaw 100 Schedule B.
- v. These committees may be created, approved, or formalized by a simple majority vote of Students' Council.
- vi. These committees shall only be eliminated by two majority votes of Students' Council amending the Bylaw 100 Schedule B at two separate meetings occuring not less than one week apart.

c. "Ad hoc" committees:

- i. Committees whose mandate is narrow surrounding a particular topic, initiative, project, or investigation.
- These committees may have an open membership of elected members of Students' Council, unelected individuals, or both.
- iii. Expire at a designated time not to exceed 1 year.
- iv. The list and mandate of these committees shall be housed in the Bylaw 100 Schedule B.
- v. These committees may be created, approved, formalized, eliminated or renewed by a simple majority vote of Students' Council or the Executive committee.
- vi. Ad hoc committees may also be referred to as "task forces."

d. "Operational" committees:

- i. Committees whose mandate is to serve a specific operational function of the Students' Union.
- ii. These committees may have an open membership of elected members of Students' Council, unelected individuals, or both.

- iii. These committees shall be recurring.
- iv. The list and mandate of these committees shall be housed in the Bylaw 100 Schedule B.
- v. These committees may be created, approved, or formalized by a simple majority vote of Students' Council or the Executive committee.
- vi. These committees shall only be eliminated by a simple majority vote of Students' Council or the Executive Committee.
- 10. The definition of "standing committee" shall be eliminated.
- 11. Under the new classification, all formalized committees shall be eligible for the administrative support of Discover Governance or the Students' Union, as needed.
- 12. The current "Bylaw 100 Schedule" shall be renamed "Bylaw 100 Schedule A".
- 13. A new "Bylaw 100 Schedule B" shall be created.

See SC-2017-17.10

HOWIE: Noted that the amendments are intended to clearly define committee classifications and allow committees flexibility in selecting their classification within the structural reform.

SANDARE: Inquired into how committee classifications would be affected.

HOWIE: Responded that amendments to Bylaw 100 *Schedule B* classifications can be made as a motion moved by simple majority at Students' Council.

SCOTT: Reiterated his reservations about Bill #5 as exclusionary. Acknowledged, however, that the Second Principles follow in the spirit of the First Principles.

SPEAKER: Emphasised that councillors should approve *2017-17/7a* if they believe the Second Principles to appropriately represent the First Principles as approved on *SC 2017-15*.

LARSON/BANISTER MOVED to amend the item 17.2.d to remove a repeat of the word "question".

Accepted as friendly.

THIBAUDEAU/CHOI MOVED to amend the *Schedule B §8.1* to represent fifty percent plus one of the permanent voting membership as per Bylaw discussions. Accepted as friendly.

LARSON: Inquired into the rationale for a limited committee attendance policy.

CHRISTENSEN: Responded that Bylaw did not wish to implement committee attendance regulations stricter than those which applied to Students' Council.

25/1/0 - CARRIED

2017-17/7b Student Events Initiative Referendum Question

PACHES/CHRISTENSEN MOVED to approve the Student Events Initiative referendum question, on the recommendation of Bylaw Committee, as listed below.

The Students Events Initiative (SEI) is defined as follows:

- Renovations to the Myer Horowitz Theatre;
- The creation of additional event and support space in the Students' Union Building (SUB);
- An increase in grants for student group events by \$100,000 per year;
- An increase to funding for featured programming of \$100,000 per year;
- An expanded student ticket discount program for events on-campus and in the larger community; and,
- Commitments from the University of Alberta to invest in renovations to the main floor of SUB to create an accessible north entrance, to appropriately invest in necessary building infrastructure, and, to continue with the student management of common areas through the year 2050.

The conditions of the fee shall include:

- 1. The fee will be reduced to 50% per semester until substantive project completion.
- 2. The fee and included grants will be indexed to inflation.
- 3. Students enrolled in the Faculty of Augustana will be exempt from the fee.
- 4. Students who are enrolled in programs (including, but not limited to, project, thesis, internship, practicum, and study abroad) that exclusively take place outside of the Universal Transit Pass service area are eligible to opt-out of this fee.

Do you support a fee of \$16.50 per undergraduate student per semester in each of the Fall and Winter semesters, and \$8.25 per undergraduate student enrolled in the Spring/Summer semester, to support the Student Events Initiative?

PACHES: Established that the motion was drafted by Bylaw Committee and reviewed by Finance Committee. Noted that the First Principles for the Student Events Initiative referendum were formatted within the standardised template which impartially details the facts for students to make an informed decision.

26/0/0 - CARRIED

2017-17/7c Engineering Students' Society FAMF - Referendum Question

CHRISTENSEN/HOWIE MOVED to approve the Engineering Students Society FAMF referendum question, on the recommendation of Bylaw Committee, as listed below.

The Engineering Students' Society (ESS) is the student faculty association for the Faculty of Engineering. As an undergraduate engineering student, you are currently charged a Faculty Association Membership Fee (FAMF) of \$7.00 per semester. The proposed increased membership fee of \$20.00 per semester will provide engineering student groups on campus with access to more funding.

The conditions of the fee shall include:

- 1. It shall be distributed according to the framework approved by the University of Alberta Students' Union Students' Council and is subject to the oversight of the Audit Committee.
- 2. The same fee will be applied to full-time and part-time students.
- 3. Students who are not on campus (on a co-op term or study term abroad) will not be charged the membership fee.
- 4. The fee shall not be charged in the Spring/Summer semester.
- 5. Students may opt-out of this fee by contacting the ESS before the add/drop deadline of each semester.
- 6. The fee will have a two (2) year lifetime with an expiry of September 1, 2020.

Do you support a Faculty Association Membership Fee increase for the Engineering Students' Society from the current \$7 per student, per semester to \$20 per student, per semester effective September 1st, 2018?

CHRISTENSEN: Noted that Bylaw reviewed the proposal and has no outstanding concerns.

26/0/0 - CARRIED

2017-17/8 GENERAL ORDERS

2017-17/8a SCOTT/BILAK MOVED to approve the proposal for a FAMF Referendum for the Organization for Arts Students and Interdisciplinary Studies.

SCOTT: Emphasised that councillors must vote on whether the proposal is a responsible use of money and not according to whether councillors believe the student group merits the funds.

BILAK: Commended OASIS on its planning and organisation. Supported the referendum as it (a) increases grant funding, (b) produces Arts events, and (c) creates a discount card for students.

HASSAN: Expressed concern over the extent of OASIS consultations, especially in light of the low-turnout at the OASIS Town Hall.

BANISTER: Opposed the referendum citing limited consultation and limited accountability in the use of funds. Suggested OASIS, an organisation in its infancy, should return next year with a stronger proposal.

WILSON: Noted his preliminary, informal consultations have shown support for the FAMF Referendum

LIU: Opposed the Referendum on the basis of her unofficial consultations which revealed a general unawareness of OASIS.

SCOTT: Noted the Faculty of Arts is large and decentralised which limits the possibility of widespread consultation and engagement.

BROPHY: Suggested FAMF Referenda are internal matters, the merit of which is to be considered by a given faculty. Posited Students' Council should consider only whether a proposal is following process and not attempt to evaluate its merit.

ANGUS: Clarified that OASIS is reforming its organisational structure and implementing a better procedure for granting. Stated that OASIS hopes to connect with students that do not have faculty associations. Reaffirmed OASIS's commitment to ensuring its financial decisions are publicly available.

LIU: Responded that OASIS should first improve its structure, procedure and consultation before receiving additional funding. Suggested OASIS represents a small portion of Arts students, specifically those within political science.

BANISTER: Suggested OASIS presently has a lack of relevance to Arts students and needs time to grow. Urged OASIS to engage with the social sciences, humanities, and the fine arts as a whole. Noted that OASIS did not utilise the Faculty mailing list to engage with students.

ANGUS: Noted ArtsCon is intended to expand engagement to varied departments throughout the Faculty of Arts. Emphasised that short time period for the FAMF makes it a low risk decision which can be reevaluated within two years.

WILSON: Hoped that the FAMF and OASIS will empower small departments to form their own associations.

14/10/2 - CARRIED

Angus abstains.

2017-17/8b SCOTT/LARSEN MOVED to approve the proposal for a FAMF Referendum for the Educations Students Association.

24/1/0 - CARRIED

2017-17/8c SCOTT/HOWIE MOVED to approve the proposal for a FAMF Referendum for L'Association des Universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean.

HOWIE: Opposed the proposal as it neither had the full support of the association nor the students. Suggested the proposal return next year after better planning and a greater degree of due diligence.

BANISTER: Opposed the proposal citing a limited consultation.

PACHES: Offered his assistance to the association in writing a proposal in-line with Students' Council standards.

FLAMAN: Inquired into the status of an aforementioned grant that had not arrived from the Dean of Students Office. Noted former executives of the association have vocalised opposition to the proposal.

SCOTT: Responded that while \$20,000 was purported to be missing, the real sum was \$5,000 and was received as a Campus Association Grant. Supported the Association's intent to create an international student scholarship.

3/22/1 - FAILED

2017-17/9 INFORMATION ITEMS

2017-17/9a Report from Vice President (Student Life)

See SC 2017-17.01

2017-17/9b Report from the President See SC 2017-17.02 2017-17/9c Report from Vice President (Academic) See SC 2017-17.03 2017-17/9d Report from Vice President (Operations and Finance) See SC 2017-17.04 2017-17/9e Report from Vice President (External) See SC 2017-17.05 2017-17/9f Executive Committee Motion Tracking See SC 2017-17.06 2017-17/9g Student Council Motion Tracking Sheet See SC 2017-17.07 2017-17/9g Students' Council Attendance See SC 2017-17.08 2017-17/9h Votes and Proceedings, SC-2017-16-OP-20170109 - Tuesday, January 9, 2018 SC 2017-17.09 2017-17/9i *Identity Matters! and UASU Got This* Presentation SC 2017-17.10 2017-17/9j Bill #5 - Students' Council Legislative and Committee Structure Reform - Second Reading SC 2017-17.11

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:10PM.