University of Alberta Students' Union

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
October 21, 2009

ATTENDANCE: Kory Mathewson President
Leah Trueblood Vice President (Academic)
Beverly Eastham Vice President (External)
Zach Fentiman Vice President (Operations & Finance)
Nick Dehod Vice President (Student Life)
Marc Dumouchel General Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by MATHEWSON at 13:02.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: DEHOD/EASTHAM moved to approve the October 21, 2009 agenda as tabled with the following additions:

   Discussion Period
d) Augustana Visit: October 29th
e) Follow-Up: Why Retreat
f) Journalism School
g) Health Plan Fee
h) Casino
i) Services Breakfast
j) In Camera
k) Tuition
l) Student Engagement with Dean Kennelly

   President MATHEWSON stepped out to take a phone call at 13:07.

   4/0/0 CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: FENTIMAN/DEHOD moved to approve the October 14, 2009 minutes as tabled, with editorial changes to the report of the Vice President (External).

   4/0/0 CARRIED

   FENTIMAN raised an issue with the numbering of minutes and agendas for the executive’s attention. FENTIMAN raised for discussion the possibility of utilizing a universal filing system for administration.

4. ACTION SUMMARIES: Reviewed and updated.

5. STUDENTS’ COUNCIL: DEHOD reminded the executive that there is policy committee this evening, and that changes need to be made to the transit policy.

   EASTHAM mentioned that Bill 10 is being discussed.
6. OLD BUSINESS: No old business.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

a) Conference Request – Culture in Control: Katie Garnham

DUMOUCHEL outlined that this conference is budgeted for.

DEHOD/EASTHAM moved to approve a budgeted expense not to exceed $1725.00 for the Operations Manager (Programming and Venues) to attend a CAPACOA Conference in Calgary from November 6 - 9, 2009.

4/0/0 CARRIED

b) Operating Policy 7.09: Corporate Credit Card (FENTIMAN)

FENTIMAN outlined changes to the Corporate Credit Card policy. The primary change is the addition of the Senior Manager of Marketing and Communications as they have, in the past, used the card of Vice President Operations and Finance. FENTIMAN has confirmed with the Senior Manager of Finance and Administration that this policy change is appropriate.

President MATHEWSON returned at 13:21.

Discussion ensued on the necessity of providing receipts.

EASTHAM/DEHOD moved to approve the changes to policy 7.09.

5/0/0 CARRIED

8. DISCUSSION PERIOD:

a) Social Responsibility Committee Minutes (FENTIMAN)

FENTIMAN the first meeting of the committee went well. However, the committee will probably not be up and running until January, so only one or two projects may be undertaken. Successful meeting nonetheless.

b) Retreat Locations (DUMOUCHEL)

DUMOUCHEL presented some alternative options to the executive, will provide more information next week.

Discussion ensued on executive experiences with the outlined locations, this discussion will continue at the special executive meeting about transition.

c) Executive Transition Retreat

EASTHAM suggested that we have our own separate meeting about the transition retreat.

Action Item: FENTIMAN to set up a meeting exclusively to discuss transition.

d) Augustana Trip: October 29 (TRUEBLOOD)

TRUEBLOOD the visit will take place, unfortunately without DEHOD, on October 29th from 11:00 - 18:00. TRUEBLOOD will remain in contact with the ASA and provide an agenda.

e) ‘Why Retreat’ Follow-up (TRUEBLOOD)

DEHOD thought it was important that we sit down with the senior managers and discuss what resources we could provide that would help them do their jobs. What changes we need to make in the short term, and what we need to be imagining for the long-term.
DUMOUCHEL: Senior managers meeting take place every two weeks on Tuesday mornings or we could set up a separate meeting. Need to pose those questions in advance so the managers have time to prepare.

DEHOD: The goal of this meeting with the senior managers is where we need to go and how we can get there.

DUMOUCHEL: Would like to work with the entire unedited list of questions and have an opportunity to look for themes. DUMOUCHEL is looking for the executive to find some time in December for more strategic direction.

TRUEBLOOD: Is there a possibility of setting up some follow-up time in December from the ‘Why Retreat?’

Discussion ensued on the value of the ‘Why Retreat’ and understanding the resource limitations of the organization.

Action Item: DUMOUCHEL will arrange a meeting with senior managers to think about what the ideal SU would look like.

Action Item: TRUEBLOOD will organize a half-day retreat to get our thoughts together as a why-retreat follow-up with the General Manager attending for half of the time.

f) Journalism School (TRUEBLOOD) TRUEBLOOD: Should we meet with Chancellor Hughes about the possibility of a journalism school?

EASTHAM suggested that we set up a meeting with the Chancellor as she has requested to meet with us anyways.

Action Item: EASTHAM will e-mail the Special Assistant to the Chancellor to set up a meeting for the executive with the Chancellor.

g) Health Plan Fee (DUMOUCHEL) DUMOUCHEL: In conversations with those displeased with the health plan, it appears as if the DFU policy has not been updated to account for the health plan.

DEHOD/EASTHAM/FENTIMAN outlined that the Health Plan is not a dedicated fee, it is a special non-instructional fee.

DUMOUCHEL: The comment made by this parent and others, is that the fee needs to be properly labeled on Beartracks.

Action Item: TRUEBLOOD will make sure that there is time in the next Gerry Kendall meeting for DEHOD/FENTIMAN to talk about clarity around fee labeling.

h) Casino (FENTIMAN) FENTIMAN has volunteered but noted that there is a need for non-Students’ Union employees. The message has been outlined for council.
Discussion ensued on how to communicate to different potential pools of volunteers.

EASTHAM inquired if any of the joint update e-mails with the President of the University’s Office have been sent out this year.

*Action Item: MATHEWSON will follow-up with the website content editor about the Monthly President E-mail Newsletter.*

i) Services Breakfast (DEHOD) DEHOD cannot stress enough how important it is that you attend, and be on time.

j) In-camera Discussion ensued.


EASTHAM will join the executive director of CAUS with advanced education and technology next week.

MATHEWSON: Both we and the minister and getting mixed messages about whether or not these increases need student approval.

MATHEWSON outlined that the change in the leadership at the Graduate Students’ Association has resulted in a change in proposal.

l) Student Engagement with Dean Kennelly MATHEWSON: Dean Kennelly asked after the board planning sessions that he and the Students’ Union have an opportunity to sit down and chat about student engagement. Members of his staff and student group leaders will also be in attendance.

9. REPORTS:

a) President
   - Will e-mail out information about the SU centenary award and creation of the alumni chapter
   - Survey is at 6500 responses, hesitant to continue financial investment in advertising, perhaps update posters with stickers
   - Almost 200 people at the Energy Debate, a great success. Looking forward to the next one January 28th

b) VP Academic
   - Finishing up goal re-evaluation, new grouping of eight priorities, will be in Council agenda for next week
   - Advanced Ed and Tech Next Week
   - Looking interim Governor of Science Students’ Association, must be an undergraduate Science Student.
   - Working with the Festival of Teaching Steering Committee
c) VP External
- Inspiring education conference Monday and Tuesday, about 1000 participants and great speakers. Content will be available online and will be distributed.
- Treasury Board Stakeholder Consultation meeting yesterday
- Advanced Ed and Tech Next Week
- Midterm on Friday
- CAUS meeting in Calgary on Saturday

d) VP Operations & Finance
- Had PAW meeting on Tuesday
- Monday-Wednesday Business Unit Review Days, no substantial surprises
- Considering putting popcorn in Room at the Top as a bar snack
- Midterm tomorrow

e) VP Student Life
- Not sure there would be a student on the committee, attending a Food meeting tomorrow to find out more
- PAW is taking up a lot of time. The new committee for the fee is working well
- Lots of visioning with different services and Orientation, very exciting
- Working on Campus Cup, trying to get the event going
- Is being flown next week to Montreal by studentcare.net/works

f) General Manager
- Worked with Zach and Nick this week on Infolink booth visioning, very exciting
- Helping students to get engaged on campus
- Wire framing of the event calendar happened today
- Several personnel replacements
- Waiting to deal with sponsorship until Nigel is in place
- Travel Cuts sale is complete

10. ADJOURNMENT: MATHEWSON adjourned the meeting at 15:17.