

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL

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Tuesday December 6, 2011  
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

## ORDER PAPER (SC 2011-16)

2011-16/1 **SPEAKER'S BUSINESS**

2011-16/1a Announcements – The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on Tuesday, January 10, 2012

2011-16/2 **PRESENTATIONS**

2011-16/2a SUB Renovation Feasibility Study – Update- Presented by Andy Cheema, VP Operations and Finance. Sponsored by Andy Cheema, VP Operations and Finance.

Abstract:

This presentation will bring Councillors up-to-date on the progress of SUB Renovation Feasibility Study.

2011-16/3 **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

2011-16/4 **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

2011-16/5 **QUESTION PERIOD**

2011-16/5a Councillor Kusmu to VP Csorba,

A constituent told me that the Actuarial Science has been shutdown this year. Is this true? Additionally, what other programs have been shutdown this year? Any other programs on the "chopping-board" for next year?

2011-16/6 **BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

2011-16/7 **GENERAL ORDERS**

2011-16/8 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

2011-16/8a Policy Committee- Summary Report to Council

Please see document SC 11-16.01

2011-16/8b CAC- Summary Report to Council

Please see document SC 11-16.02

**2011-16/8c**

Rory Tighe, President- Report

Please see document SC 11-16.03

**2011-16/8d**

Emerson Csorba, VP Academic- Report

Please see document SC 11-16.04

**2011-16/8e**

Farid Iskandar, VP External- Report

Please see document SC 11-16.05



## POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: **November 15, 2011**

Time: **6:35 PM**

2011 – 2012 # 12

### **Motions**

1.	<b>WOODS</b> moved that <b>the November 15, 2011 agenda be approved as amended.</b>	<b>CARRIED</b> 6/0/4
2.	<b>KHINDA</b> moved that <b>the November 1, 2011 minutes be approved as amended.</b>	<b>CARRIED</b> 6/0/4
3.	<b>WOODS</b> moved that <b>the meeting be adjourned.</b>	<b>CARRIED</b> 6/0/4



# CAC SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: **November 22, 2011**

Time: **5:02pm**

2010 – 2011 **MEETING 16**

## Motions

1.	<i>LUIMES</i> moves to approve the agenda <i>as tabled</i> .	<i>CARRIED</i> 5/0/0
2.	<i>FERGUSON</i> moves to approve the November 8 <sup>th</sup> and November 15 <sup>th</sup> minutes <i>as amended</i> .	<i>CARRIED</i> 6/0/0
3.	<i>ZHAO</i> moved that the meeting be <i>adjourned</i> .	<i>CARRIED</i> 6/0/0

December 1, 2011

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Council

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Hello Council,

## **Board of Governors**

The annual motion on increasing tuition has begun to move its way through University Governance. It came to the Academic Planning Committee (APC) on November 23 and to the Board Finance and Property Committee (BFPC) on November 29. At both occasions I spoke and voted against the motion, focusing mostly on issues of access and student wellness. I presented a power point to BFPC that outlined these issues and focused on why the Board should move to regulate the use of MNIFs.

## **MNIFs**

The Vice President (External) and I have been attending meetings with the University Administration to discuss the regulation of MNIFs. Although the discussions are still going on, it seems that we have hit a point of disagreement on the use of student approval that we will not be able to reconcile. This will be more clear in the next week and we will work in December to come up with a working definition and reporting mechanism for MNIFs.

## **Space**

We are working on the PAW Centre Agreement as a draft final version was just sent our way from the University. The General Manager is working extremely hard on this and we hope to be done by the end of the Semester.

We also met with the Graduate Students' Association about the future of Deweys and the Power Plant. I will be trying to write something this semester that would demonstrate a shared vision for what the space could look like.

## **Fall Reading Week**

We are currently putting together the proposal for the creation of a Fall Reading Week that will ideally go to University Governance early next semester. The proposal will likely be for the creation of a co-curricular week filled with programming to enhance student success. The tentative title is the "Green & Gold Week". The proposal will likely be to cut two instructional days and begin classes one day early. This would mean that the week would occur over the current time that the Remembrance Day break (November 11) takes place. If you have any thoughts or would like another presentation please let me know.

**If you have any further questions, suggestions, or concerns**, please do not hesitate to follow-up with me, either in person at SUB 2-900, by phone at 780-492-4236, or by email at [president@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:president@su.ualberta.ca).

## SU Vice President (Academic) Report

Date: December 1 2011

Hi everyone,

It is hard to believe that we are in December. The weeks since the symposium have been full tilt, and I have been working on a number of initiatives before leaving for the Organisation of Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) Annual "Teaching Quality" Conference in Mexicali, which begins on Monday. I am going with the U of A Centre for Teaching and Learning, which is also funding the trip. I'll make sure to provide Council with a thorough report, especially since this conference marks the end of a long-term research project led by the OECD on teaching quality worldwide. I'm very excited for this conference, and although it will be an intense one, a change of scenery will be nice following a rigorous last two months organizing the symposium.

I have a number of things to report on, so here we go:

### CANADIAN ROUNDTABLE ON ACADEMIC MATERIALS (CRAM)

Over the last few months, I've thrown around the idea of organizing a Canadian Roundtable on Academic Materials. This was a goal of the VPA last year, and I think that it is an excellent goal to make. Back in May, I definitely did not have this on my radar, but as of earlier today, it looks like CRAM is going to happen. This year's edition will likely take place in late February 2011 at the University of Alberta, with the only catch being that it is via teleconference, which mitigates the significant cross-Canada travel and cost issues. Obviously, this is a major undertaking that involves collaboration between the U of A Libraries, Bookstore and various student associations, libraries and bookstores across Canada. However, now that the Undergraduate Research Symposium is done, I've set my sights toward more large initiatives, and this is certainly one of them. My way of thinking is that only 5 months in my term are left, and those months will be spent being as productive and effective as possible.

I met earlier today with the Chief Librarian and Vice-Provost/Director of Library Studies at the U of A to talk about CRAM, and we are all on the same page. A worldwide conference on academic materials was recently held in San Jose, and they accommodated thousands of delegates using the technology "illuminate." We would use the same technology for CRAM.

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Vice-President (Student Life) Yamagishi, Councillor Zinyemba and I have been planning for the potential creation of an International Students' Association, which could be quite similar to the one at UBC: <http://www.ubcinternational.ca/>. I've been putting together an all-star cast of current and former international students and domestic students with international experience to be the think tank for this initiative. Although I made a call on Monday to the UBC ISA, I have not heard back from them. I'll try them again next week.

Councillor Zinyemba and I also attended the monthly U of A Standing Advisory Council on International Engagement (SACIE), where we talked briefly about the symposium and organizing an International Symposium next year that will focus on sharing students' stories about their international experiences.

## UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH: WRAP-UP

Although the symposium is “over,” there are still logistical issues to work on. I’m currently creating certificates for student award winners and writing cheques for the monetary prizes. There are also a few student e-mails that flow in each day and interviews with stakeholders (i.e. the Alumni Association) that generously provided funds for the student awards.

On Saturday, I also convened the URS Team to discuss what went well, what didn’t go so well and what we can do next year for the symposium. Naturally, we spent 5% of the hour speaking about what went well, and 95% of the time on what needs to be better. The URS Team is definitely a focused group, and they know how to kick things into gear.

The SU Marketing Department, a few professors, students and I got together to whittle the 250 or so “What do you want to know?” contest entries down to 4! We managed to do this in 3.5 hours, over pizza and drinks. The four questions are all unique and creative, but there were *many* brilliant ones. It was a hard choice, and not one of the final four choices was unanimous among the judges.

## COUNCIL OF ALBERTA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS E-BOOKS MEETING

I participated in a conference call for one hour with the Lethbridge SU VPA (Andrew), the Chair of CAUS (Duncan) and the Director of Research and Political Affairs of the SU (Justin). We discussed the e-books market in Alberta, and agreed to do more research and come back with a solid plan for one week from now. I definitely know what I’ll be doing during spare time at the OECD conference: more research!

## COUNCIL COMMUNICATION TEAMS

Four councillors met to discuss council communication teams, which will be teams of two councillors that vie to speak to the most U of A students every month. This initiative will be starting up in early January when we get back from the break. I plan on talking to 100 students every week from this point on, in order to engage as many students as possible from now until the end of the year.

## UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS BOARD MEETING

For the first time this year – and perhaps in recent years – the SU met with the student reps on the University Athletics Board, who are all dedicated varsity athletes. We spent a productive hour discussing how the SU can better advertise Athletics events, and vice-versa. I’m really looking forward to the future, where we will see more students attending varsity sports games. We are fortunate to have many stellar varsity athletics teams at the U of A, and I think more students should be out at games.

## BLOGGING

I’ve been blogging consistently this year, and one of my recent posts going up very soon is about what a week looks like for the Vice-President (Academic). It pretty much goes through a few days of the week, hour-by-hour. I think that using Twitter and the SU blog consistently are helpful, especially for those that want to learn more about the SU, but the key to getting more students involved is going out to directly speak with students one-on-one. Blogging is great, but it is not a panacea for students that have yet to be engaged.



<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/governance/executives/blog/>

#### QUESTIONS/INTERESTED IN RUNNING

We're getting to the point where some of you will start making decisions about running for the SU executive. If you are thinking about it, please feel free to come talk to me. The experience has been an outstanding one, and I'll do my best to answer any questions you have. As usual, feel free to contact me at [vp.academic@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:vp.academic@su.ualberta.ca) or at 780.492.4236.

In solidarity,

-Emerson

December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011

To: Students' Council

Re: VPX Report to Council

## Days in the Legislature

The Fall sitting is well under way, and for the first time since I have become VPX, the government is officially doing business with no Party elections to distract them. A few days after coming back from Ottawa I had spent a considerable amount of time in the Legislature. On Monday November 21<sup>st</sup>, Duncan Wojtaszek and I went to Question Period, where the following questions were asked of the Minister of Advanced Education and Technology:

*Ms Woo-Paw: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. For some time now postsecondary students have been expressing their concerns about colleges, universities, and technical institutes basically sidestepping this province's tuition cap and charging high fees that are deemed noninstructional. Institutions are using fees for things such as athletics and recreation technology and registration fees as a way to get around tuition caps. My questions are to the Minister of Advanced Education and Technology. What are you doing to make sure that this practice stops and that students are not literally paying the price?*

*Mr. Weadick: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know the students are extremely concerned about the cost of noninstructional fees, and so am I. It is an issue that we promised the students we would deal with when we met earlier this year. Since meeting with them, I have sent a letter to all of our postsecondary institutions asking them to develop policy on how they will include the students in the discourse around any future fees that will be charged to those students.*

*Ms Woo-Paw: To the same minister: when will students see outcomes?*

*Mr. Weadick: Thank you. We've asked all of the institutions to be back to us with their policies on student engagement within the next 90 days.*

*Ms Woo-Paw: To the same minister: given that the public postsecondary institutions' tuition fee regulations set a model for predictable increases to tuition fees, why not just regulate these noninstructional fees the same way you do tuitions?*

*Mr. Weadick: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. That suggestion has come up from the students, but, you know, we have 26 publicly funded postsecondaries across Alberta, and they're all very different and unique institutions. Some are extremely large; some are smaller and rural. We determined that it would be better if each institution had a chance to look at how they could engage their student body, their students in the process and come up with a way that would work in their institution. We don't believe that one solution would work in every institution across the province.*

Later that day we were back at the Legislature to support Ms. Woo-Paw's Private Member's Bill 506:

**“Be it resolved that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government to review the procedures and rules that determine post-secondary student funding to ensure that student funding meets the diverse and evolving needs of students in the 21st century.”**

The next day we were back at the Legislature for the following for Question Period for where the following question was asked:

*Dr. Taft: Thanks, Mr. Speaker. During her leadership campaign the Premier promised new funding for postsecondary students. The harsh reality is that in the past two years Alberta students have seen millions of dollars cut from grant programs. Students, like all of us, are tired of empty promises. To the minister of advanced education: given the \$3 billion deficit and the already scarce funds in our postsecondary system where and when is the minister going to get this additional funding? Or is he going to break the Premier's promise?*

*Mr. Weadick: Well, thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to stand up and answer that question. You're right. This Premier has spoken often about her commitment to education, to postsecondary education, and to health, and we're pleased with that. This is a very opportune time to talk. We are in budget discussions right now. We're talking about how we can fund the budget into the future. We're also looking at how we can do student finance differently to make sure that we have finances available for those students that need it most as well. So it's going to be a combination of moving forward with new funding for growth within the postsecondaries, new funding for new programs, as well as student finance options.*

*Dr. Taft: Well, Mr. Speaker, a promise is a promise. So what precise timeline and amounts can the minister give us, other than the sort of vague reassurances we just got, as to the new bursaries that the Premier promised?*

*Mr. Weadick: Thank you. The budget will come out early in the new year, and all of those items will be included in the budget, the things that have been promised and discussed as well as some really exciting new things that I think everyone in the House here will be pleased to see. Postsecondary students are being consulted as we speak. We're working with our postsecondaries and looking for lots of great opportunities to continue to grow chances for both rural and urban students to get the best possible education they can.*

*Dr. Taft: Well, since Alberta literally is the richest place on earth, will the minister place accessibility first and restore the millions of dollars that were cut from student grants in the last budget?*

*Mr. Weadick: Thank you. I think you're probably referring to the access to the future, or at least as part of that, because that funding did flow through in support of grants and bursaries. Last year we also made some changes. We removed some small grants but also increased significantly the amount of loans that were available to students because they'd asked us to increase those numbers in both how much they could borrow for living costs and all those things. We've tried to respond to what the students have asked for. The new program where students can volunteer for bursaries that will help them to gain both the experience in the not-for-profit sector and get bursaries and grants that they can use for their education is a wonderful new program that's only new this year. So I think we're doing a lot of good things for the students and for their finances*

Finally, while remaining on the topic of Question Period, here's one Question from Thursday November 24<sup>th</sup> from Lindsay Blackett:

*Mr. Blackett: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand that the minister has asked that postsecondary institutions submit their formal policies for how students will be consulted whenever a new noninstructional fee is considered. However, as recently as this morning students were tweeting about the fact that student consultations on noninstructional fees is not enough. My questions today are to the Minister of Advanced and Technology. Are you going to listen to the students and address these concerns?*

*Mr. Weadick: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On this issue let me be perfectly clear. We do not support the use of noninstructional fees to circumvent the tuition cap for our postsecondaries in Alberta.*

*Mr. Blackett: Mr. Speaker, my next question is to the same minister. Students are concerned that consultations are really just a heads-up on an increase and not an opportunity for input. How will students provide input?*

*Mr. Weadick: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I've made it very clear to the postsecondary institutions that I expect them to seek ongoing and meaningful input from the students if they're considering any type of noninstructional fees. That means that the students will have the chance to ensure that fees are truly noninstructional, for real value, and the students get something in return for these fees.*

*Mr. Blackett: Mr. Speaker, my second supplemental is also to the same minister. As my colleague from Calgary-Mackay asked in this House before, why not just regulate noninstructional fees the same way as they do tuition?*

*Mr. Weadick: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have 21 publicly funded postsecondary institutions in this province, and these are very unique institutions. They're rural. They're urban. They cover a very wide cross-section. We don't believe one size fits all. We believe the measure of our success is finding a system that will work in each school, for each set of students, that will provide the opportunity for input and discussion around noninstructional fees.*

## **Student Finance Board**

While the Lindsay Blackett question was being asked at the Legislature, CAUS, ASEC (Alberta Student Executive Council), and AGC (Alberta Graduate Council), was at the Student Finance Board (SFB). The SFB serves as an advisory body to the Minister of Advanced Education and Technology with regard to Student Financial Assistance. Each group presented to SFB its lobby priorities for the year, and SFB presented its priorities to us. I'm glad to report that 2 of SFB priorities this year is increasing Non-Repayable Aid, and Increasing Debt Forgiveness in Alberta Student Loans.

## **Back to Federal Lobbying**

On Friday November 25<sup>th</sup>, I had to put down my provincial hat, and wear a federal one. I met with Minister Tim Uppal as well as Minister Rona Ambrose that day. Minister Ambrose was announcing a new grant for creative ways of prevent violence against women for students on campus. An Rory and I met with Tim Uppal in his constituency office, to lobby on the UASU priorities.

## **The Council of Alberta University Students**

On Tuesday the Council of Alberta University Students met in Calgary for its 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of this semester (4<sup>th</sup> total). We discussed some of the progress of GOTV on each of our campuses. Possible plans on how to move forward on Non-Instructional Fees. And we approved a new Job Description for Data Entry for GOTV.

Cheers,  
Farid

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

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Tuesday November 22, 2011  
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (SC 2011-15)

2011-15/1

### SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

Meeting called to order at 6:08

2011-15/1a

Announcements – The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on Tuesday, December 8, 2011

2011-15/2

### PRESENTATIONS

2011-15/2a

The Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) - Presented by Duncan Wojtaszak, Executive Director of CAUS; and Zack Moline, Chair of CAUS. Sponsored by Farid Iskandar, VP External/Kelly.

Abstract:

The Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) represents the interests of over 70,000 Alberta university students across Alberta. CAUS represents undergraduate students from the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary and the University of Lethbridge to the public, government and other post-secondary education stakeholders. Based in Edmonton, CAUS is a non-partisan and active advocacy group looking to ensure a fully accessible and high quality system of education in Alberta.

2011-15/2b

Get Out The Vote Campaign - Presented by Farid Iskandar, VP External.

Sponsored by Farid Iskandar, VP External/Woods

Abstract:

The Get Out The Vote Campaign is up for renewal for the Winter Semester. This presentation will orient Council with the work GOTV has done so far. It will then discuss the Plan for GOTV next semester, now that we know we do not have a fall election. We will also include some of the graphics GOTV will be using, as well as the GOTV website.

2011-15/3

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Rory Tighe, President- Oral Report

Emerson Csorba, VP Academic- Oral Report

Colten Yamagishi, VP Student Life- Oral Report

2011-15/4

**BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Kim Ferguson, CAC Chair- Oral Report

Su Su Lian, Audit Committee Chair- Oral Report

Petros Kusmu, Policy Committee Chair- Oral Report

2011-15/5

**QUESTION PERIOD**

**NICHOL/MURPHY MOVED TO** Move in camera

**Motion: CARRIED**

**TIGHE/WOODS MOVED TO** Move ex-Camera

**Question period extended 15 minutes**

**Question Period extended another 15 minutes**

**Question Period extended another 15 minutes**

2011-15/6

**BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

2011-15/6a

**ISKANDAR MOVES THAT** upon the recommendation of the Elections Review Committee, Students' Council approves Bill #14 in first reading to split Bylaw 2000 into the following documents:

1. Bylaw 2100: A Bylaw Respecting the Chief Returning Officer and Elections\ Staff of the Student;
2. Bylaw 2200: A Bylaw Respecting Executive Committee and Board of Governors Representative Elections, Plebiscites and Referenda of the Students' Union;
3. Bylaw 2300: A Bylaw Respecting the Councillor Elections to Students' Council and General Faculties' Council; and
4. Bylaw 2400: A Bylaw Respecting Balloting and Counting of Students' Union Elections.

Speakers List: Iskandar, Woods, Ferguson, Luimes

**Motion: CARRIED**

**ISKANDAR/LUIMES MOVED TO** move a motion from the floor:  
**ISKANDAR/LUIMES MOVED TO** appoint one (1) member of Students' Council to the Elections Review Committee.

**Motion: CARRIED**

2011-15/7

**GENERAL ORDERS**

2011-15/7a

**ISKANDAR/LUIMES MOVED TO** appoint one (1) member of Students' Council to the Elections Review Committee.

**Nominations: Kelly, Le**

**Nominations Closed**

**Appointed: Le**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm**

# Councillor Attendance Records

2010-2011

Attendance

9/13/2011 SC 11-10

9/27/2011 SC 11-11

10/11/2011 SC 11-12

10/25/2011 SC 11-13

11/8/2011 SC 11-14

11/22/2011 SC 11-15

## Council Seats (40 total Name

### Ex-officio Members (6 voting seats)

### Ex-officio Members (6 voting seats)

President	Rory Tighe	0.5	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
VP Academic	Emerson Csorba	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
VP External	Farid Iskander	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
VP Operations & Finance	Andy Cheema	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
VP Student Life	Colten Yamigishi	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Undergraduate Board of Governors Rep	Raphael Lepage Fortin	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

### Faculty Representation (32 voting seats)

ALES	Andrew Fehr	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Arts	Petros Kusmu	Y	Y	Y	Y	0.5	Y
Arts	Navneet Khinda	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Arts	Adam Woods	Y	Y	0.5(p)	Y	Y	Y
Arts	Brent Kelly	Y	Y	Y(p)	Y	Y	Y
Arts	Chaka Zinyemba	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y(p)	Y
Arts	Kelsey Mills	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Augustana (Faculty)	Nathan Sereda	N	N	N	Y	N	0.5
Business	Josh Le			N	Y	Y	Y
Business	vacant						
Education	Vanessa Johnson	N	N	Y(p)	N	Y(p)	Y(p)
Education	Brit Luimes	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Education	Mallory McMurtrie	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y
Engineering	Aaron Eslinger	Y	Y	N	N	0.5	Y
Engineering	Lyndon Crone	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Engineering	Saadq Sumar	Y	0.5	Y	Y	Y	Y
Engineering	Adam Gulyas	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Law	Scott Nicol	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	0.5
Medicine & Dentistry	Rebecca Gould	Y	Y	Y	0.5	Y(p)	Y
Native Studies	vacant						
Nursing	Eric Bellinger	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Open Studies	vacant						
Pharmacy	Sarah Zhao	0.5	Y	Y	0.5	0.5	Y
Phys Ed & Rec	Susan Amer	N	N				
Saint-Jean (Faculty)	Kinnar Power	Y	Y	Y	Y	0.5	Y
Science	Kim Ferguson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Science	Amelie Roberto Charron	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Science	Avinash Karuvelil	0.5	0.5	Y	N	Y	Y
Science	Peter West	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Science	Arun Thomas	Y	0.5	0.5	0.5(p)	0.5(p)	Y
Science	Su Su Liang	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Science	Brett MacGillivray	Y	Y	Y	Y	0.5(p)	Y

### Ex-Officio Members (2 non-voting seats)

Speaker	Michael Ross	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
General Manager	Marc Dumouchel	N	N	N	0.5	N	N

### Resigned:

Josh Le

Samaar Haider

Jake Archie

Elauna Boutwell

Susan Amer