

STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

Tuesday April 1st, 2014
TELUS 134

LATE ADDITIONS (SC 2013-24)

2013-24/1 SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

2013-24/2 PRESENTATIONS

2013-24/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

2013-24/4 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

2013-24/5 QUESTION PERIOD

2013-24/6 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2013-24/6f **CHAMPAGNE/BATAL MOVED THAT**, upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, Students' Council approve the Transit Policy in second reading based on the following principles:

- *Public transit is a common and important mode of transportation used by University of Alberta students that improves the quality of life of all members in the community and helps reduce our carbon footprint;*
- *The post-secondary transit pass (U-Pass) provides a more affordable public transit option for students than a regular monthly adult pass;*
- *The U-Pass is to be implemented in the academic years consistent with the referendum conditions;*
- *Public transit expansion would allow improved access to commute within the service area for University of Alberta students;*
- *Smartcard technology would reduce the possibility for U-pass fraud and reduce the need for a U-Pass replacement fee;*
- *Students enrolled in Spring and Summer classes spend a significant amount of time commuting to and from Campus and therefore should be able to take advantage of the Spring and Summer U-Pass regardless of their full-time or part-time enrollment status.*

Please see document LA 13-24.01

2013-24/6g **LAU/BATAL MOVED THAT** upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, Students' Council approve the Internationalization Policy in second reading based on the following principles:

- *The number of international students in Canada increased by 148 percent*

*from 2002 to 2011, and those transitioning from temporary to permanent resident status increased by only 16 percent from 2002 to 2011. The rate of international students transitioning from temporary to permanent resident status in the past decade has not kept up with the pace of international student enrollment in Canadian post-secondary institutions**

- *The University of Alberta clearly recognizes the importance of international students*
- *A diverse student body and institutional internationalization is a fundamental feature of a high-quality university education*
- *Although post-secondary institutions may charge international students more than domestic students, international students should not bear the burden of an institution's financial deficits*
- *The International Student Differential Fee limits the geographic diversity of our international students because it selects for students in regions where more affluent families can afford education abroad*
- *The International Differential Fee is a fabricated fee by post-secondary institutions and is not regulated by the Government of Alberta or the Public Post-Secondary Institutions' Tuition Fees Regulation*
- *International students have less access to Scholarships and do not have access to Government Student Loans. Furthermore, scholarships available to international students are of complex requirements and difficult to renew and/or regain if lost*
- *An enhanced campus experience may increase engagement and retention of international students. Research has shown that the lack of integration with domestic students, little accessibility of on-campus housing, and the inadequate quality of career-related programming are the top three issues for international students studying in Canada**
- *Employers in Canada value cultural awareness and global experiences as important attributes in a multicultural work environment*

Please see document LA 13-24.02

- 2013-24/6h** **HODGSON MOVES THAT** on the recommendation of Audit Committee to revoke the Engineering Students Society's Faculty Association Membership Fee.
- 2013-24/7** **GENERAL ORDERS**
- 2013-24/7b** **HAMID/SPEAKMAN MOVE TO** recommend the following 6 candidates to be interviewed for the University Senator positions by the 2014-2015 Nominating Committee.
 Connie Luu
 Jeffry Kochikuzhyil
 Marina Banister
 Dylan Hanwell
 Harini Kav
 Zafir Kanji
- 2013-24/8** **INFORMATION ITEMS**
- 2013-24/8h** BFC Summary Report
 Please see document LA 13-24.03
- 2013-24/8i** GAC Summary Report

Please see document LA 13-24.04

2013-24/8j Policy Committee Summary Report

Please see document LA 13-24.05

2013-24/8k Health and Dental plan Summary

Please see document LA 13-24.06

2013-24/8l Students' Council and GFC Election Results

Please see document LA 13-24.07

2013-24/8m Adam Woods, VP External- Report

Please see document LA 13-24.08

2013-24/8n Brent Kelly, BoG Rep- Report

Please see document LA 13-24.09

PUBLIC TRANSIT

WHEREAS public transit is a common mode of transportation used by University of Alberta students that benefits the quality of life of all members in the community;

WHEREAS the U-Pass is to be implemented in the academic years consistent with the referendum conditions;

WHEREAS the post-secondary bus pass provides a more affordable public transit option for students than a regular adult pass;

WHEREAS public transit expansion would allow improved access for University of Alberta students to commute within the service area;

~~WHEREAS light rail transit (LRT) is an efficient and reliable form of public transit;~~

Comment [A1]: Removed because PC felt it was repetitive. The term "Public Transit" in Edmonton covers both the bus and the LRT.

WHEREAS Smartcard technology would reduce the possibility for U-pass fraud and reduce the need for a U-Pass replacement fee;

~~WHEREAS University of Alberta students enrolled in spring and summer classes spend a significant amount of time commuting to and from campus;~~

~~WHEREAS University of Alberta students enrolled in spring and summer classes should be able to obtain a spring and/or summer U-Pass regardless of the student's full-time or part-time enrollment status;~~

Comment [A2]: Added to reflect the need to negotiate a part-time spring and summer U-Pass since. Currently, only full-time students get to use it. Even if a student is part time, they would have to commute to campus 5 days/week for most classes since terms are very short and classes run every day.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union advocates that the regional municipalities and transit services carefully monitor service demand arising from U-pass implementation, consider input from stakeholders and commit all resources necessary to maintain reliable, safe and timely service;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union advocates for a more affordable option than a regular adult pass for ~~part-time~~ spring and summer students;

Comment [A3]: We already have a pass for full-time students. We do not have one for part-time spring and summer students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union negotiate a new, long-term U-Pass contract to be implemented upon the expiry of the current contract; ~~and~~

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union advocates that the regional municipalities and transit services expand their current service systems, prioritizing ~~LRT,~~ ~~and the~~ implementation of Smartcard technology, to better meet the needs of the University of Alberta students; ~~and~~

~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union advocate for the integration of Smartcard technology into the One Card system.~~

Comment [A4]: There is a need to reduce U-Pass fraud and find a solution to the way fees are managed. One suggestion is integration into the one card system through smartcard technology. That way students are less likely to forget it.

INTERNATIONALIZATION

WHEREAS the number of international students in Canada has increased by 148 percent from 2002 to 2011¹;

WHEREAS the number of international students transitioning from temporary to permanent resident status increased by 16 percent from 2002 to 2011¹;

WHEREAS the rate of international students transitioning from temporary to permanent resident status in the past decade has not kept up with the pace of international student enrollment in Canadian post secondary institutions;

WHEREAS the international student differential Differential Fee (IFD) represents a serious threat to affordability and accessibility;

WHEREAS international students have less access to merit-based and need-based aid, and do not have access to Government student loans;

WHEREAS renewable scholarships for international students are important for their financial planning and cannot be regained if lost;

WHEREAS post secondary institutions may charge international students more than they cost to educate;

WHEREAS international students should not bear the burden of an institutions' financial deficits;

WHEREAS the University of Alberta and the Students' Union clearly recognizes the importance of international students;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta does not require educational institutions to charge international student differential fees; -International Differential Fees (IDFs);

WHEREAS the Public Post-Secondary Institutions' Institutions Tuition Fees Regulation makes no provisions for international student differential fees; -does not regulate International Differential fees (IDFs);

WHEREAS the international student differential Differential Fee limits the geographic diversity of our international students;

WHEREAS international students may work in Canada for up to three years after completion of their program and may also apply for landed immigrant status; -

WHEREAS a diverse student body and institutional internationalization is a fundamental feature of a high-quality university education;

WHEREAS an enhanced campus experience may increase engagement and retention of international students;

WHEREAS recent surveys have shown that: a) integration with domestic students, b) accessibility of on-campus housing, and c) quality of career-related programming are the top three experiences international students seek in their post-secondary experience;

~~WHEREAS studying abroad is a unique and highly valuable experience that all University of Alberta students should be able to access;_~~

WHEREAS the transfer credit system plays a pivotal role in enhancing the quality of internationalization at the University of Alberta; and

WHEREAS cultural awareness and global experiences are highly sought-after attributes by potential employers.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall support accessible post-secondary education for international students at the University of Alberta;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall not support the Board of Governors of the University of Alberta increasing- International Differential tuition -Fees for international students;_

~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall advocate to the University to provide international students with the support and services needed to help them achieve success in the pursuit of a quality undergraduate experience; and~~

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union ~~advocates~~ shall advocate that to the University of Alberta for ~~provide~~ clear and transparent transfer credit processes at the faculty, Campus Alberta, national, and international levels;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall advocate the University of Alberta to improve access to merit-based and need-based aid for international students;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall advocate the University of Alberta to restructure renewable scholarships to provide more predictability;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall lobby the Government of Alberta for regulation of the International Differential Fees (IDF) to provide predictable tuition rates for international students;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall lobby the Federal Government to issue multiple-entry visas to ALL international students;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall advocate that the Federal Government increase the number of permanent residencies for undergraduate international students issued each year in the Canadian Experience Class;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall advocate that the Federal Government expand the Federal Skilled Worker Class immigration program's fast track stream eligibility to include undergraduate international students;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall encourage the University of Alberta to actively foster opportunities that allow local students to interact with international students;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall advocate that the University of Alberta improve housing quality and accessibility for international students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall lobby the University of Alberta to improve career-related programming and services for international students.

References:

¹ Postsecondary Student Information System (PSIS), *Statistics Canada*. Accessed on February 23, 2013. <http://www5.statcan.gc.ca/cansim/pick-choisir?lang=eng&id=4770019&pattern=4770019&searchTypeByValue=1>



BUDGET and FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: March 26th 2014

Time: 5.03 pm

2013 – 2014

Motions

| | | |
|----|---|--------------------------|
| 1. | <i>SCHIAVONE/HODGSON</i> moved to <i>approve the agenda for March 26, 2014 as tabled.</i> | <i>CARRIED 4/0/0</i> |
| 2. | <i>HAMID/LE</i> moved to <i>approve the minutes for February 26, 2014 as tabled.</i> | <i>CARRIED 2/0/2</i> |
| 3. | <i>SCHIAVONE/HODGSON</i> moved that <i>pending the approval of the Executive Committee, the Budget and Finance Committee recommends Students' Council approve the 2014/2015 Students' Union budget.</i> | <i>CARRIED 4/0/0</i> |
| 4. | <i>HODGSON/SCHIAVONE</i> moved to <i>adjourn the meeting.</i> | <i>CARRIED 4/0/0</i> |



GRANT ALLOCATION COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: March 27th 2014

Time: 5.03 pm

2013 – 2014 *MEETING 21*

Motions

| | | |
|----|--|--------------------------|
| 1. | <i>LE/HWANG</i> moved to <i>approve the agenda for March 27, 2014 as amended.</i> | <i>CARRIED 5/0/0</i> |
| 2. | <i>NGUYEN/HWANG</i> moved to <i>approve the minutes for March 13, 2014 as tabled.</i> | <i>CARRIED 2/0/3</i> |
| 3. | <i>LE/LAU</i> moved that <i>the Grant Allocation Committee approves the 2013/2014 Golden Bears and Pandas Legacy Fund recommendation of \$180,751.61.</i> | <i>CARRIED 5/0/0</i> |
| 4. | <i>LE/HWANG</i> moved that <i>the Grant Allocation Committee approves the 2013/2014 Golden Bears and Pandas Legacy Fund recommendation of \$60,000 from the Golden Bears and Pandas Legacy Fund reserve.</i> | <i>CARRIED 5/0/0</i> |
| 5. | <i>HWANG/LAU</i> moved to <i>adjourn the meeting.</i> | <i>CARRIED</i> |



POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: **March 25, 2014**

Time: **6:07 pm**

2013 – 2014 **MEETING #17**

Motions

| | | |
|----|--|-------------------------|
| 1. | CHELEN/BATAL moved that <i>the March 25, 2014 agenda be amended to include a discussion item on the Tuition Policy.</i> | <i>CARRIED</i> 8/0/0 |
| 2. | LAU/BATAL moved that <i>the March 25, 2014 agenda be approved as tabled.</i> | <i>CARRIED</i> 8/0/0 |
| 3. | BATAL/LAU moved that <i>the March 11, 2014 minutes be approved as amended.</i> | <i>CARRIED</i> 6/0/2 |
| 4. | BATAL/LAU moved that <i>the Policy Committee approves the Internationalization Policy as amended.</i> | <i>CARRIED</i> 7/0/1 |
| 5. | LAU/BATAL moved that <i>the Policy Committee recommends the Internationalization Policy to Students' Council in second reading.</i> | <i>CARRIED</i> 7/0/1 |
| 6. | BATAL/BINCZYK moved that <i>the Policy Committee approves the Transit Policy as amended.</i> | <i>CARRIED</i> 7/0/1 |
| 7. | CAJINA (CHAMPAGNE/BATAL) moved that <i>the Policy Committee recommends the Transit Policy to Students' Council in second reading.</i> | <i>CARRIED</i> 8/0/0 |
| 8. | BATAL/CHELEN moved that <i>a special meeting of the Policy Committee be held on March 31, 2014 from 4:00 pm to 6:00pm.</i> | <i>CARRIED</i> 6/0/0 |
| 9. | BATAL/LAU moved that <i>the meeting be adjourned.</i> | <i>CARRIED</i> 6/0/0 |

UASU Health & Dental Plan

Background: Definitions, Historical Context, and Projections

The *plan premiums* are the amount paid by the SU to the insurer (Desjardins) and the plan administrator (studentcare.net/works. This is strictly to purchase the package of benefits and services required to provide a Health & Dental Plan to SU members.

The *plan fees* are the total amount paid by students, and includes premiums as well as an amount allocated to the SU Reserve Fund, which was initiated at the Plan’s inception to ensure long-term cost stability, and the ability for the SU to engage in long-term strategic planning.

As your plan administrators and consultants, studentcare.net/works performs an analysis of the Plan’s claims experience, uses our leverage and negotiation to control inflation and administrative expenses, and ultimately presents the lowest insurer quoted rates to the SU for consideration. The table below is a simplified formula of how premiums are calculated.

Perhaps most important to note is that claims drive 90% of the cost of the Plan.



The results of the renewal analysis conducted by studentcare.net/works, as confirmed by Desjardins and presented to the Health & Dental Plan Committee, are as follows:

| 2014-15 PLAN PREMIUMS | Health | Dental | Total |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Plan Premiums (2014-2015) | \$ 116.44 | \$ 11.01 | \$ 227.45 |
| Current Plan Premiums (2 Year Guarantee 2012-14) | \$ 106.44 | \$ 107.28 | \$ 213.72 |
| Percentage Change in Premiums | 9% | 3% | 6% |

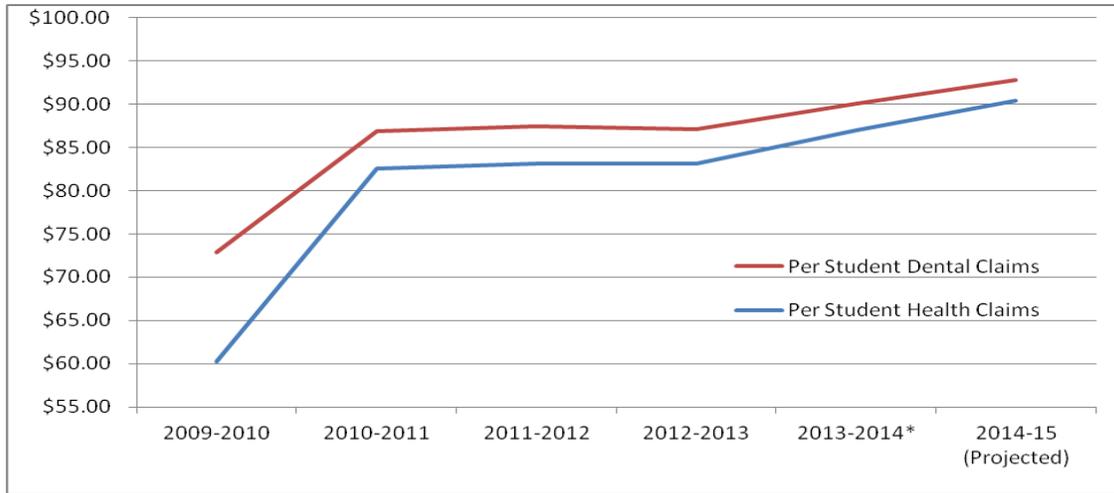
Background: Impact of Past Strategies

The previous Insurer, Sun Life, was quoting premium increases as high as \$237.00 in 2012. Judging market conditions to be right for a competitive RFQ (Request for Quotes), studentcare proposed undertaking a competitive evaluation process and the SU agreed. This strategy resulted in lower costs in the short term, allowing the SU to build up financial reserves to offset the inevitable cost increases.

A key strategy recommended by studentcare.net/works when contemplating a transition to a new insurer is to negotiate a 2 Year Premium Guarantee: to ensure optimum cost stability as the operational changes to the Plan and impact on claims are fully realized.

In combination, these strategies saved SU members over \$1 million dollars from 2012-2014. However, this is not a “magic bullet” that can be employed frequently. We are now coming to the end of a 2 Year Premium guarantee, and must begin the next phase of planning ahead.

Trend: Steadily Increasing Claims



Recommended Plan Fees & Planning Ahead

| 2014-15 PLAN FEES (recommended by HDPC) | Health | Dental | Total |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Current Plan Fees (2013-14) | \$ 110.27 | \$ 111.69 | \$ 221.96 |
| Recommended Percentage Increase | 7.0% | 4.3% | 5.7% |
| Recommended Plan Fees 2014-15 | \$ 118.00 | \$ 116.50 | \$ 234.50 |
| Plan Premiums (2014-2015) | \$ 116.44 | \$ 111.01 | \$ 227.45 |
| U of A 0.25% Admin Fee | \$ 0.30 | \$ 0.29 | \$ 0.59 |
| SU Reserve Fund Contribution Amount | \$ 1.27 | \$ 5.20 | \$ 6.46 |
| <i>Estimate Gross Contribution to Reserve Fund (using Current Enrolment + 2%)</i> | <i>\$ 26,061.48</i> | <i>\$ 105,837.09</i> | <i>\$ 131,898.57</i> |

After significant deliberation at 2 meetings, the Health & Dental Plan Committee unanimously decided to recommend this fee increase for 2 reasons:

- 1) **To continue to build the Reserve Fund**, but reduce the amount per student to mitigate cost impact due to higher premiums. This is a balanced approach, consistent with the long-term planning goals established during the original referendum and Plan implementation.
- 2) **To prepare for even higher-than-projected Claims** in 2014-15, due to the potential for new dental office or vision care provider to open in SUB. Should the SU agree to lease space in SUB Lower Level to a dental office, optometrist or paramedical practitioner, the increased awareness and access will lead to higher claims. For example, studentcare.net/works has analyzed the impact of dental offices on campus for other student unions and concluded that the impact on claims could be between 30% - 50%.

Higher claims due to improved access isn't necessarily negative: if more students will be able to take advantage of their benefits because of a convenient location then that may be part of the Plan's purpose and mandate. However, higher claims will mean higher premiums in future years, and the HDPC recommends continued building of the reserve fund now to build capacity, and to spread out the potential fee increases in a measured, incremental way.

The Executive and HDPC will continue to meet with studentcare.net/works over the coming months to review their recommended strategies and best-practices for balancing the impact of health and dental providers as tenants.



| | |
|---|--|
| Students' Union Elections Office Phone: (780) 492-7102 Email: cro@su.ualberta.ca | |
| To: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Craig Turner Speaker, Students' Council ➤ Petros Kusmu President, Students' Union ➤ Dustin Chelen Vice President (Academic), Students' Union ➤ Rebecca Taylor Student Governance Advisor, Students' Union ➤ Garry Bodnar Director, General Faculties Council |
| From: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Wayne DeFehr Chief Returning Officer |
| Subject: | 2014 Students' Council and GFC General Election Results |
| Date: | April 1, 2014 |

In accordance with Students' Union Election Bylaws, I am pleased to announce the results of the March 2014 Students' Council and General Faculties Council Election.

The Students' Council and General Faculties Council General Elections were held on March 20 and 21, 2014. Our election was held in compliance with Bylaws 1500, 2300, 2400, and I am satisfied that they were fair and that the results reflect the will of the electorate. All appeals of my decisions and rulings have been resolved and no recounts have been requested.

Results

The Students' Union would like to congratulate the following individuals who were elected by students in their faculty during the March 2014 General Election:

| <i>Students' Council</i> | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <i>ALES</i> | Justis Allard |
| <i>Arts</i> | Zhaoyi Chen Marina Banister Bashir Mohamed Samer Sleiman Bo Zhang |

**University of Alberta Students' Union Elections
2014 Students' Council & GFC General Election Results**



| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| | Tymothy Jaddock Travis Dueck (Councillor in Waiting) Stephen Schiavone (Councillor in Waiting) Jesse More (Councillor in Waiting) Evan Tran (Councillor in Waiting) Mohammed Rahall (Councillor in Waiting) Belinda Wong (Councillor in Waiting) |
| Augustana¹ | Stephanie Gruhlke |
| Business | Brittany Bryce Sade Babatunde |
| Education | Katie Horvat Brendan Fedoski |
| Engineering | Kevin Jacobson Andy Wong Shubham Garg Shubham Gaur |
| Faculté Saint-Jean | Colin Champagne |
| Native Studies | Harley Morris |
| Open Studies | Humza Makhdoom |
| Science | Natalia Binczyk Aiman Zeineddine Vivian Kwan Insung Peak James Hwang Umer Farooq Jamie Hudson Ali Qadri (Councillor in Waiting) Lok To (Councillor in Waiting) Thomas Dang (Councillor in Waiting) Dawson Zheng (Councillor in Waiting) |

| General Faculties Council | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| ALES | Michael Huang |

¹ Augustana Elections were held with the Executive and BoG General Election

**University of Alberta Students' Union Elections
2014 Students' Council & GFC General Election Results**



| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Arts | Marina Banister Bashir Mohamed Tymothy Jaddock Travis Dueck Cole Goshulak |
| Education | Alexandria Wolfe |
| Engineering | Andrew Fontaine Kevin Jacobson |
| Faculté Saint-Jean | Patrick X. Cajina |
| Pharmacy | Faizath Yallou |
| Science | Fahim Rahman Aiman Zeineddine James Hwang Vivian Kwan Umer Farooq Ali Qadri Lok To Dawson Zheng Janelle Schroder Victor Do (Councillor in Waiting) Sara Dziarmaga (Councillor in Waiting) |

Note 1: Vacant positions left on Students' Council for the 2014 – 15 term:

| Faculty | Number of Seats |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Education | 1 |
| Nursing | <u>1</u> |
| TOTAL | 2 |

Note 2: Vacant Positions left on GFC for the 2014 – 15 term:

| Faculty | Number of Seats |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| ALES | 1 |
| Arts | 3 |
| Business | 3 |
| Education | 3 |
| Engineering | 3 |
| Medicine and Dentistry | 1 |
| Nursing | <u>2</u> |
| TOTAL | 16 |

NOTE 3: Alberta Pharmacy Students' Association (APSA), Education Students' Association (ESA), Interdepartmental Science Students' Society (ISSS), Collective Body of Arts Students (CBAS) made use of the SU online elections system.

The following dates were presented to Council during the summer (2013) and remained unchanged during the course of the election.

March 11 – Nomination Deadline & Mandatory Candidates' Meeting
March 12 – Campaign Period Begins
March 20/21 – Voting Days

Polling stations were set-up in the following locations for the election: SUB, and Campus Saint-Jean.

We had a wonderful troupe of Poll Clerks to help out with the physical polling stations.

Closing Remarks

The CRO would like to congratulate those students who put their names forward for candidacy for seats on both Students' Council and GFC.

The CRO would like to express thanks Kadidia Diallo for serving as the 2013-2014 DRO. In addition, the elections office appreciates the hard work of Jason Ward and Whitematter for their help in administering the online voting system.

Congratulations to all candidates for their hard work!

April 1, 2014

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Council (for April 1 meeting)

Introduction

Hello Council,

Sorry for the late report. It's been pretty ridiculous trying to catch up to everything, and I've got a big class project due tomorrow that is not anywhere near completion yet so hopefully I have your understanding. Without any further ado, I'll get right into it.

The Premier's Resignation:

Obviously you've all heard about this by now, but the real question is how or if it has effect on us. The answer is an absolute yes, both in terms of what's happening now and what will be coming up for my successors term. While the Council of Alberta University Students' will continue meeting with MLA's (especially with our Lobby week starting on the 30th) it is highly unlikely that given the current circumstances the government will be looking to move on any of our issues.

While our Minister is now the Premier and has kept the Ministry of Advanced Education, these kinds of government decisions are going to be left to whoever the newly elected leader is. We as student leaders should continue to direct our ideas at MLA's in the meantime in hope they will take action after a new Premier has been elected, but right now all attention is turning towards the leadership contest.

I am optimistic that our new VP External will advocate to Leadership candidates and bring student attention towards it. The PC Party has determined that any PC member can vote, and therefore any person can vote so long as they have a PC membership. This will be a race that directly elects a new Premier, and if every student in Alberta voted it would likely decide the election. While that probably wouldn't happen, we can still have effect on its outcome.

Meeting with Minister Lukaszuk:

Earlier last week Petros Kusmu, Navneet Khinda, Beverly Eastham and I all met with the Minister of Jobs, Skills, Training, and Labour Thomas Lukaszuk. During this meeting, one of the main topics was the recent budget and the Summer Temporary Employment Program. It appears as though funding has been made available for its revitalization, and combined with the Ministry of Advanced Education they would look to create a new and different system.

It largely sounds like this new employment program would focus more in meaningful employment than simply just employment. The old STEP program would fund a wide variety of jobs ranging from servers to charity workers. The new employment program would focus more on finding summer positions for students based on the degree they were taking. This will likely provide fewer jobs in the end, however will still ensure progress towards creating summer employment opportunities for students.

As I've been saying all year, I am optimistic now that we finally know a program will almost certainly be created moving forward we should be able to have a roundtable on the topic of student employment so that we can have actual input from institutions all across Alberta. Due to yet more government "shuffling" it is unlikely this

roundtable will occur during my term, but I am optimistic that my successor and the Council of Alberta University Students' will be able to see it done.

Canadian Alliance of Students' Associations:

The Annual General Meetings of the Canadian Alliance of Students' Associations does not typically deal with that much policy, however we did see a few motions passed that were policy related. The one big one was related to how CASA presents its policies, and how we should develop our policies moving forward. In the end, representatives from across the country adopted a version that is similar to how Ontario's provincial students lobby organization. It would take a while to explain, so I will just provide you the link to their policy page. <http://www.ousa.ca/policy/> Ultimately I think this was a good decision, and will move CASA in the direction of having more substantive policy briefs and information for its members.

There were also a number of policy updates and amendments, though no policy was altered dramatically. If you want further details on any of these we can set up an appointment to go over it. CASA made amendments to policies surrounding province of origin differential tuition, deferred maintenance, PSE in trade agreements, integration of student loans, condemnation of private for profit universities, mental health policy framework, youth unemployment, credit transferability, and a large discussion around commercialization of research that President Kusmu effectively killed because that's how he rolls.

Finally, there were also a number of changes proposed regarding CASA's membership requirements which I hope to briefly cover in my oral report as writing it out would confuse everyone, including me. Overall, CASA AGM was a good experience, and though the organization has been dealing with some struggles of late, it was great to see student leaders from all across the country do their best to improve the situation.

Council of Alberta University Students:

So next Monday is the start of CAUS' lobby week in which we spend the majority of our time meeting with as many MLA's as possible. While I have yet to see the final list yet, it is likely that after our advocacy week we will have met with nearly all-82 MLA's in the province. If there are any left after that, I will make it a priority to try and sit down with them before the end of my term. CAUS will be advocating on our usual issues, mandatory non-instructional fee's, student financial aid, and funding for post secondary.

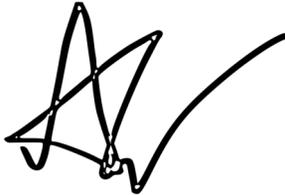
I would also like to state that the U of C VP External and Chair of CAUS was accepted to compete in "Red Bull: Can You Make It". Until he returns I am the "unofficial" acting Chair of CAUS and will be in that role for the entire advocacy week. Conner will return to his responsibilities as Chair when he returns home and I wish and his team luck in getting from London to Berlin.

Additional Information:

Two small tidbits for you, the first being that President Kusmu and I are currently trying to set up a meeting with Mayor Iveson. It is unclear whether it will be the current Executive or incoming Executive that actually take the meeting. In addition, I will be attending one (and only one) government tuition working group meeting. I am thrilled that we finally have student representation on this committee, and look forward to throwing in my two cents before I'm out the door.

That's all I have to report at this time.

Thank you for your time,



Adam Woods

Vice President External 2013-2014 | [University of Alberta Students' Union](#)

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Office of the UNDERGRADUATE BOARD OF
GOVERNORS REPRESENTATIVE

April 1st, 2014

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Council

Hey Council,

Not too much to report since last meeting; there haven't been any meetings of the Board. There was a meeting of the General Faculties Council, however. As you've no doubt heard, a motion in GFC was passed towards the establishment of a Fall Reading Week "Green and Gold Week" at the University of Alberta. This is a profoundly positive development that has been literally years in the making. I'm glad I was there to witness – and vote in favor of – this great initiative. The first Fall Reading week is planned for the Fall of 2015, if I'm not mistaken.

That was the most significant development at General Faculties Council. I did have the opportunity to ask about the Arts Centre downtown. Funding for the project was not included in the 2014 Provincial Budget – which in my understanding was a crucial element for the success of the project. Provost Amrhein reassured me and GFC that the project is still moving forward despite this setback; they are hoping for the crucial funding in future budgets.

In Solidarity,

Brent Kelly

Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative 2013-2014 | [University of Alberta Students' Union](#)



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