2002-19/8 **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Complete minutes (with attendance).

2002-19/9 **REPORTS**

2002-19/9a SMITH MOVED THAT Students’ Council approve the report of the Internal Review Board.

Please see document LA 02-19.01

2002-19/9b SMITH MOVED THAT Students’ Council approve the report of the Financial Affairs Board.

Please see document LA 02-19.02.

2002-19/9c Steve Smith, Vice President Operations & Finance

Please see document LA 02-19.03.

2002-19/9d Mike Reid, Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative

Please see document LA 02-19.04.

2002-19/9e Medical Students’ Association Report.

Please see document LA 02-19.05.

2002-19/12 **LEGISLATION**
SMITH/SAMUEL MOVED THAT Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Internal Review Board, approve the proposed changes to Article XII of the Constitution (SECOND Reading).

Please see document LA 02-19.06.

NEW BUSINESS

SMITH MOVED THAT Students' Council approve an expenditure from the Student Financial Aid and Information Centre Reserve, not to exceed $8110.05, for the purchase of furniture in the Student Financial Aid and Information Centre.

Please see document LA 02-19.07.

SMITH MOVED THAT Students' Council ratify the appointment of Parbeer S. Grewal as an alternate member of the Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement Board, to serve until October 31 2003.
University of Alberta Students’ Union

STUDENTS’ COUNCIL

January 7th, 2003 – 6:00pm
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

M I N U T E S (SC 2002-18)

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<tr>
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CALL TO ORDER (6:12)

NATIONAL ANTHEM "O Canada:"

Led by Hudema

University of Alberta CHEER SONG "Ring Out a Cheer"

Led by Smith

SPEAKER’S BUSINESS

Schendel/Khatib moved to appoint Tereza Elyas as a councilor for the faculty of science the remainder of the 2002-2003 academic year.

Carried

Congratulations to Elyas.

The following individuals were named guests of council:

Bequie Lake, Johan Boyden

The electronic system was inoperative, so we had to go old-skool while delivering comments and voting. The speaker requested that all members stand while delivering comments.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

SMITH MOVED TO adopt LA 02-18.09 -15 as agenda items

Carried

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
Hudema/Alampi moved to approve the minutes

CHANGES TO THE MINUTES

Smith: Pulling out of CASA is not the only way...

Samuel is not the first nor the only councilor to fill in for recording secretary.

Approved

2002-18/9

REPORTS

Hudema: Media coverage has been excellent so far with the tuition campaign. We have several events planned for this week and next week, and we encourage your participation. The big rally is taking place on January 16th at 4:30 in front of University Hall, and we really need to make a big push with this event. The posters we have handed out to each faculty can be put up anywhere other than a painted surface. Also, petitions have been included in our last agenda package, so photocopy those and pass them around your faculty. The ECO office will be doing their annual report next week. They have several projects planned for the near future.

Brechtel: My report includes the names of faculty members who sit on two boards that are very influential to the add/drop deadline. Hopefully, we can get this done by early February. I’ve also been working to coordinate faculty handbooks and student council handbooks, among other things.
Sharma: The tuition fight is the main thing on my plate right now. I’ll be circulating sign up sheets for volunteers. I encourage all councilors to participate. EAB has already met before classes began, and have been working quite hard, so please sign up for a couple shifts to help out. Meeting with the chancellor and other student senators, which will hopefully result in some support from John Ferguson in the future. Tying up some loose ends re: CASA, but that issue (as well as CAUS) will not start up until after the 18th. Also, I’m encouraging any faculty members to write letter to oppose differential, and I would encourage any councilors to do the same. I’d also like to briefly touch on the Student Finance Board decision, which was affected by three faculties (Medicine, Business and Law) giving presentations to SFB. As a result, we lost an opportunity to defeat differential. I am very disappointed in the three faculties for not consulting with us before making these presentations.

Smith: My report is before you. I’d like to draw your attention to the SU web-board that has been in use by hacks and non-hacks alike. Please log on so you can both communicate with your constituents and sink further into hackdom.

Ross: Absent (attending to Antifreeze duties i.e. Drinking).

Reid: I have nothing to report.

Engineering Report:

Jones: Engineering Week’s future is unclear, since we have to move all events scheduled to take place in Quad to off-campus, and move several on-campus events to SUB. Friday is the 12th Country Crusade, it’s open to everyone and very fun (just ask Knull). There are also many more activities scheduled for next week.

Law Report:

Varga: This Friday will be “Friday Afternoon Beer Social”. A couple other events are also up and coming.
SMITH/SAMUEL MOVED THAT Student’s Council, upon the recommendation of the Committee for Council Reform And Progress, approve the proposed changes to the Standing Orders of Student’s Council.

*Please bring supporting documentation from the Nov. 19, 2002 meeting.*

Welke: Will question period stay where it is?

Smith: Yes.

**Carried**

**2002-18/10**

**QUESTION PERIOD**

**Bolivar:** I don’t like how we do classroom speaking daily. Aren’t we taking up student’s time and forcibly giving them information that is otherwise readily available?

**Hudema:** We’ve talked to as many professors as we could. Our presentation time is less than two minutes, and we think the issue is important enough to justify that time. Students need more motivation than just looking at a poster. We always check with the professor before speaking, and our presentations are shorter than most election presentations.

**Clyburn:** Why didn’t councilors get sent Christmas cards, as has been traditionally done?

**Hudema:** We thought it was too time consuming. If you would like me to give you a Christmas card, I can get you one on student dollars.

**Varga:** What does general anarchy on Jan 17th entail?

**Hudema:** It was pretty much a joke, and we've encouraged students to demonstrate in a peaceful manner.

**Sharma (councilor):** Since when did we decide to wage war on the University administration and burn
these bridges (citing where in the world is Roderick D. Fraser?)?

**Hudema:** We are actively working with the admin to go to the government. As far as Dr. Fraser’s travel budget goes, we feel that attacking his travel budget is entirely in order. We’re trying to get students involved in this debate, and we felt that this activity was a good way to do so.

**Adhihetty:** What’s happening with the Travel Cuts lawsuit?

**Smith:** It’s going to trial, unless we have an acceptable settlement before then.

**Welke:** Doesn’t Antifreeze and Freeze the Frees running concurrently create a paradox that would endanger the universe?

**Hudema:** We tried to conglomerate the two, but that idea was opposed by the VP Student Life.

**Jones:** It seems that the food and beverage businesses of our SU are underperforming. Does the VP Ops and Finance have any information as to why this is happening, and does he have any possible solutions?

**Smith:** One aspect is that our margins are not being maintained. In L’Express, our staff costs are out of whack, and in the Plant, we’re not getting enough people coming through the door. Our senior managers are working on these problems. This budget does include a business underperformance reserve to cushion this problem.

**Schendel:** What do you think the Add/Drop deadline should be extended to?

**Brechtel:** I feel the national average of ten (10) days is appropriate, I wouldn’t be willing to have an extension to seven (7) days or less. Ideally, it would be ten (10) [in-class] days, although it might be eight (8). As it is right now, it’s only five (5).
Schendel: What happened with our media stunt today with Lyle Oberg?

Hudema: We have decided to delay the presentation of a check to Dr. Oberg until later.

Sharma: Has the Law Students Association or the Medical Students Association taken a stance on differential formally?

Varga: No, we haven't taken an official stance.

Cao: I brought a statement from the MSA to attach to the agenda for our report. It says that basically we understand the concern for quality, but we have concerns that need to be addressed first. We need to find a mutually agreeable solution. I was surprised by the comments made by the Executive that the MSA fully supports differential tuition. What gave you that impression?

Sharma: I talked to the chair of the SFB. Doug Owram said they would not move forward on differential unless SFB approved it. In essence, the MSA was advocating for the passing of differential through the SFB. The MSA, LSA and some of the students in the respective faculties have said that they are not concerned with differential, since the proposal is grandfathered. We have to take care of potential students as well as current students. These faculty associations have bought into the argument that these increases will lead to an increase in quality. We do not believe this to be true, rather, we have studies to the contrary. I find it interesting that the LSA doesn't have an official position, yet one of their representatives has spoken to SFB about it.
**Williams:** What is the MSA trying to say? Do they support differential?

**Cao:** It says we are fundamentally opposed to differential, and we only will support it if there is more financial aid provided.

**Williams:** Is it true they don’t care because it’s grandfathered?

**Cao:** When I e-mail my constituents, I don’t receive and reply e-mails. I personally feel there is a sense of political apathy, although I am unwilling to make generalizations about the entire faculty. I think if we take out the grandfathering, we might be looking at potential legal problems.

**Sharma (councilor):** You’re either in support of differential or against it. What is your answer?

**Cao:** It’s not that black and white, if there is no increase in financial aid, my understanding is that the MSA is opposed. If differential tuition goes through, we need to increase financial aid. We’re saying that we understand the need to maintain the quality of our education. I hope that answers your question.

**Brechtel:** Could Councilor Varga please comment on the statements of the Vice-President External?

**Varga:** We had met with the Student’s Union, and still had issues with certain questions. We decided to not take an official position because there is no way we could have had a unanimous position on the issue. Also, the LSA taking a position does not affect the issue. Quite honestly, the majority of law students support differential. Also, the grandfathered clause comments are unfounded. None of us have said anything to that effect. From the LSA point of view, the presentation to the SFB was precautionary. We wanted to make sure that it was possible to maintain our financial security should the proposal go through.

**Brechtel:** If there were any unanswered questions that the LSA had, why were they not brought to the SU?

**Varga:** You did reply, but I don’t know if the answers were satisfactory to the LSA.
Hudema: Has there ever been a policy passed by the LSA? Has there been any attempt at open consultation to get feedback, or any presentation to give the opposition side of the differential issue?

Varga: No formal consultation has been made. We see the virtues and the downsides and we’re trying to be pragmatic.

Hudema: Has there been any consultation with other faculties, such as the students who will actually be affected by these increases?

Varga: No, not that I know of.

Sharma: Is councilor Cao aware that a good number of students in the faculty that have signed a petition opposing differential? What kind of consultation has been made to students?

Cao: I personally handed out the petition, and although I can’t speak for all medical students, I personally am against differential. When I collected the petition, I was surprised at the number of medical students opposed to differential tuition. I’m not sure if there was any individual consultation made between the MSA and the students. The statement the MSA has drafted makes sense, and I agree with much of it.

2002-18/11

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Please see document SC 02-18.01

Kidston: what was the freezer and other equipment for?

Smith: Pieces of equipment at the plant broke down. Rather than repair them, which was not smart, we bought new ones. This came from the Contingency Reserve in the budget.

2002-18/12

LEGISLATION
SMITH/HUDEMA MOVED THAT Student’s Council approve the proposed amendments to Article XII of the Constitution to take effect May 1, 2003, which the Executive Committee considers to be representative of the changes recommended by the Committee for the Finding and Realization of Changes to Elections (First Reading)

Point of Privilege

Please bring supporting documentation from the Nov. 19, 2002 meeting

Carried (referred to IRB)

Clyburn: I don’t think anybody has the relevant documents in hand.

Harlow: It’s been part of our effort to save paper. However, since councilors are responsible individuals that should have brought their information, the point of privilege is well taken, although it’s not something that should warrant automatic tabling of the motions.

Brechtel/Smith moved that Student’s Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 9100 respecting the Involvement Recognition Awards of the Student’s Union (SECOND reading)

Please bring supporting documentation from the Dec. 3, 2002 meeting

Brechtel: We are adding two awards from SUBway. One is available to any student, the other is restricted to an employees of SUBway.

Brechtel/Slomp moved an amendment to add an additional criterion reading “actively involved in extracurricular activities in the University and or community” and to modify section b to reflect the addition of that criteria.

Friendly

Carried (Unanimous)
JONES/SMITH MOVED THAT Student’s Council approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 8451 respecting Faculty Association Membership Fees (SECOND reading)

*Please bring supporting documentation from the Dec. 3, 2002 meeting*

**Jones:** This is a minor change to make the registrar’s office happy. Currently, there is a distinction between current and visiting students. The registrar’s office cannot make this distinction in their software, so we have changed it so that visiting and current students are both within the scope of the bylaw.

*Carried*

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SMITH/CUBYBURN MOVED THAT Student’s Council approve the proposed amendments to Bylaw 100 to take effect May 1, 2003, which the Executive committee considers to be representative of the recommendations of the Committee for the Finding and Realization of Changes to Elections (FIRST Reading).

*Please bring supporting documentation from the Nov. 19, 2002 meeting*

**Smith:** Currently, there is no mechanism to fill vacant seats, and this amendment would first take a look at the person who finished next in the voting, and secondly to give Faculty Associations

Smith/Welke moved to refer Bylaw 100 to IRB

*Carried*
SAMUEL/DERRINGER MOVED THAT Student’s Council approve the changes to Bylaw 1200 (First Reading)

*Please bring supporting documentation from the Nov. 19, 2002 meeting*

**Samuel:** These changes, will, in effect, prohibit former executives from sitting on DIE board within one year of leaving office. Mr. Kawanami’s intention in moving these changes are to ensure DIE board is as politically neutral as possible.

**Reid:** This is not necessary, as we already have a nominating committee to select appropriate members.

**Smith:** Why, when it only required a simple majority and was still defeated, do we think we’ll be able to get a 2/3 majority? And it’s an ad-hoc selection committee, not a nominating committee.

**Jones:** This is not a good use of our time, we’re searching for a problem that doesn’t exist.

Sharma (councilor)/Welke called to question.

**Carried (Opposition: Samuel)**

**Defeated**
SMITH/HUDEMA MOVED THAT Student’s Council approve the proposed amendments to Bylaw 2100 to take effect May 1, 2003, which the executive committee considers to be representative of the recommendations of the committee for the finding and realization of changes to elections (FIRST reading)

*Please bring supporting documentation from the Nov. 19, 2002 meeting*

**Smith:** There are several things that these changes will accomplish, one of the more controversial ones being that a candidate will not have to through the CRO to talk to the external media. Also, I feel that I have been elected undemocratically, although won’t resign, I would like to rectify the situation by instating a system of preferential balloting, so a candidate would need greater than 50% of the vote. We’re also changing rules regarding slates, placement of posters, joke candidates, rules governing the ability of current executive members to endorse candidates, and several others. This is only first reading, so I encourage councilors to vote it through that we may debate the specifics later on.

**Brechtel:** I don’t think this process is appropriate. We should take a bylaw and make changes, not scrap it and create a new one.

**Smith:** We introduced this, and council told us to bring it back as bylaw. Constantly making little changes created a patchwork bylaw, which was generally incoherent. We needed to rewrite in its entirety, in order to make it consistent. Also, we should be debating the bylaw’s merits, not my bylaw writing technique.
Smith/Slomp moved to suspend the standing orders regarding appointment of guests of council.

**Carried**

Smith moved to appoint Mustafa Hirji as a guest of council.

**Carried**

**Hirji:** Perhaps there is an alternate way to write these bylaws that would satisfy both concerns of Brechtel and Smith.

**Sharma:** I have read the bylaws through, but we seem to have complicated the issue the way we’ve done it.

**Harlow:** If this is carried, it will go back to IRB. Keep this in mind, council.

Brechtel moved to reconsider.

**Out of Order**

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry: **Roberts:** Can we debate this point by point right now?

**Harlow:** Yes, this would be a good time to debate principles of the changes.

**Beamish:** Why are we getting rid of the CRO as a go-between for external media and the candidate.

**Welke:** I supported this change because the platform of the candidate should speak louder than anything, and getting the attention of the media should not be relevant.

**Hudema:** This was intended to keep it so that all candidates had equal opportunity to speak with the media.

**Kidston:** There seems to be no difference between the current and proposed formats. If you want to talk to the media, you should be able to talk to the media.

**Reid:** We should be careful tinkering with these election bylaws, as they represent a large number of years of history. None of us actually have the documentation in hand.

Reid/Bolivar moved to postpone this motion to next council meeting.
Smith moved to withdraw the main motion.

**Failed: Not unanimous**

**Samuel:** It is appalling that so many of us have neglected to bring our information with us. We knew this was going to be on the agenda, and we should have brought our relevant information. The responsibility is not that great.

**Hudema:** There will not be a huge principle debate next meeting, regardless of whether or not councilors have documentation present.

**Reid:** I disagree that there would not be any debate taking place had we the relevant information present. I would also disagree with the acting recording secretary [Samuel] that we are somehow being negligent in forgetting our previous agenda packages. We might have lost them or forgotten them, after all, we are human. If there is a condition that we will have full documentation printed next meeting, I will withdraw my motion to postpone.

Reid moved to withdraw the motion to postpone.

**Withdrawn: Unanimous**

**Brechtel:** We’re missing the point of a first reading. If we want to debate things that do not belong to the nuts and bolts of the motion. Things like “candidates speaking to external media” do not actually belong to the principles of the proposed changes. I am opposed to withdrawing the change regarding external media, as it could create an uneven playing field. Also, changing the election date was designed to help potential candidates with their course loads. However, the time while I was a VP-elect had a more negative on my academics than the elections. Having elections in January would hurt more than having it in March. Also, joke candidates, while beneficial, should not receive the same funding as a regular candidate. The preferential ballot system assumes that the voters have enough knowledge of all the candidates, and that is too presumptuous. It’s not practical on our campus. I don’t agree with enough of these amendments to vote for the motion.

**Carried (Abstention: Reid) Referred to IRB**
Hudema: Council can support or not support these individual changes on second reading, where these kinds of debate should take place.

Jones/Slomp moved to call the previous question.

**Carried**

SMITH/SAMUEL MOVED THAT Student’s Council approve the proposed amendments to Bylaw 2400 to take effect May 1, 2003, which the executive committee considers to be representative of the recommendations of the Committee for the Finding and Realizations of Changes to Elections (First Reading)

*Please bring supporting documentation from the Nov. 19, 2002 meeting*

Smith: This one will be easier to debate on first reading, as there is one main idea behind the changes, we don’t want to have faculty associations electing councilors in different ways from one another.

Jones: It’s necessary to maintain faculty autonomy. We cannot have such levels of uniformity. We need to follow the words of chairman Mao, and let a thousand flowers bloom.

Hirji: The government of Canada does not run the provincial elections for them. We should not be controlling the faculty associations. Mr. Kawanami, Ms. Cleary and myself do not feel these recommendations are consistent with what FARCE recommendations.

Beamish: Councilors should be brought to council in a standardized manner, as it’s not fair to have these current discrepancies, since we all have an equal voice in council.

Brechtel: We think that these changes will do two things: increase voter turnout, as well as standardize the faculty elections. It is also impossible for a single CRO to attend all these faculty forums. This is a big ugly bylaw.

Smith: [outraged] Point of Personal Privilege
Harlow: Denied.

[Smith would later comment outside of council that he would tolerate personal attacks, slander and false accusations, but would not stand for an insult to his bylaws]

Ekdahl: I’m opposed to these changes, since in education, we have student’s in practicum, which will make it unfair to those students, since they would be unrepresented if the election took place while they were away.

Sharma: I’ve been around quite a bit, and I know this: there are a lot of irregularities and problems with our electoral system. We need to make this a fair process. We don’t want to have the legitimacy of our elections questioned because of these irregularities.

Slomp/Hudema moved to call the previous question

Carried

Carried (Opposition: Welke) Referred to IRB

SMITH/SLOMP MOVED TO make 2002-18/13b and 2002-18/14a special orders of council.

Carried

2002-18/X

SPECIAL ORDERS

2002-18/13b

BRECHTEL/SMITH MOVED THAT Students Council nominate one (1) councilor to serve on the Academic Affairs Board for the remainder of the 2002/2003 school year.

Williams, Jones, Sharma (councilor), Alampi and Lo were nominated.

Congratulations to Sharma (councilor).

2002-18/14a

SMITH/HUDEMA MOVED THAT Student’s Council, upon the recommendation of the ad hoc committee for the selection of Deputy Returning Officers, appoint Alexandros Hagisavas, Haley Cleary and Scott Cabianca as Deputy Returning Officers of the Student’s Union, to serve until April 30, 2003

Carried
[Quorum was lost]
Sharma (councilor)/Slomp moved to adjourn

2002-18/17  ADJOURNMENT  (9:16)
The Internal Review Board carried the following motions at its meeting of January 17, 2003:

1. SMITH/WEPPLER MOVED THAT the Internal Review Board recommend to Students’ Council that it approve the following referendum question to be on the ballot of the 2003 Students’ Union general election, to be held March 5 and 6, 2003:

“Do you support:
   a) the elimination of Article VIII, Section 3e of the Students’ Union constitution, which reads: “Pursuant to a Referendum passed on 6 and 7 March 1991, the sum of One Dollar and Fifty-Eight Cents ($1.58) per Fall, Winter, Spring or Summer Term, from each full-time and part-time student's Students' Union fees will be allocated to the Student Financial Aid and Information Centre Fund.” and the cessation by the Students’ Union of the collection of this fee, which totals approximately $110 000 per year;
   b) an amendment to Article VIII, Section 2 to increase the Students’ Union fees of each full-time and part-time student’s Students’ Union fees of $1.58 per Fall, Winter, Spring or Summer Term, which would offset the loss of the $110 000 in (a); and
   c) a transfer of those funds currently in the Student Financial Aid and Information Centre reserve to the Students’ Union’s general reserves?”

Carried: 5/0/0

SMITH/SAMUEL MOVED THAT the Internal Review Board approve the following petition question as meeting the clarity requirements of Bylaw 2400:

“We the undersigned call upon the Students' Union of the University of Alberta to hold a referendum regarding the following question: Do you support the increase of the student services fee by $1 per term per full-time student, and $0.50 per term per part-time student, so that the University of Alberta Sexual Assault Centre may continue to operate its current services?”

Carried: 5/0/0

SMITH/SAMUEL MOVED THAT the Internal Review Board recommend to Students’ Council that it repeal Bylaw 5200.

Carried: 3/2/0

SMITH/WEPPLER MOVED THAT the Internal Review Board approve the elimination of one (1) Council seat from each of the Faculties of Engineering, Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics, and Business, and the addition of one (1) Council seat. To each of the faculties of Arts, Science, and Nursing.

Carried: 4/0/1
The Financial Affairs Board carried the following motions at its meeting of January 21, 2003:

MOVED THAT the Financial Affairs Board approve the disbursement of $61 272 from the APIRG Fund to the Alberta Public Interest Research Group.

MOVED THAT the Financial Affairs Board approve the transfer of $2 500 from line 8516 (Production Costs) of Budget 528 (CASA) to line 8516 (Production Costs) of Budget 521 (External Affairs).

MOVED THAT the Financial Affairs Board recommend to Students’ Council that it approve an expenditure from the Student Financial Aid and Information Centre Reserve, not to exceed $8 110.05, for the purchase of additional furniture in the Student Financial Aid and Information Centre.
SWM Seeks Council’s Approval
Report to Council
Steve Smith, Vice President (Operations and Finance)

SWM who enjoys being cold and uncomfortable seeks individual to platonically share tent in front of University Hall, because it is freakin’ cold trying to warm an entire four-person tent with only one person’s body heat. Individual should enjoy talking hack and engaging in idle electoral speculation (UPDATE: I am pleased to report that Councilor Samuel filled this position admirably.)

SWM who enjoys never setting foot inside his class seeks respectable GPA. GPA should enjoy scorn and neglect.

SWM who enjoys being able to talk hack at all hours of the night seeks more councilor involvement on the Students’ Union webboard (webboard.su.ualberta.ca/index.php), since thus far only councilors Jones, Samuel, Kawanami, Weppler, Roberts, Slomp, Welke, and Kidston have created identities. Councilors in question should enjoy feeding SWM’s mania for laying the hack down.

SWM who enjoys non-confrontationalism seeks successful resolution of conflict between the Students’ Union and a group of students seeking to set up an organic food co-op on campus. Resolution should involve the Students’ Union not running the co-op, and likely only acting as a tenant for it.

SWM who enjoys rewriting law seeks to reduce size of Students’ Union operating policy manual by roughly 50%. Operating Policy should enjoy being clear, concise, and non-pointless.

SWM who enjoys democratic procedural rules seeks new chair for University Board of Governors. Chair should refrain from heckling speakers, calling the question unilaterally, and sitting right next to the University President during meetings.

SWM who enjoys not working on tuition-related issues seeks to stop working on tuition-related issues. New issues should involve either bylaws or budgets.

SWM who enjoys Board and Committee meetings seeks meeting times for his Boards and Committees, notably FAB and IRB. Meeting times should enjoy being cancelled on short notice when committee members, who had previously offered their assurances that they would be attending, fail to show.

SWM who enjoys not being accused of media whoreishness seeks explanation from those members of the Executive Committee who insist on calling him a media whore. If SWM were a media whore, wouldn’t he spend more than $40/year on haircuts?
MIKE REID  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS  

REPORT TO STUDENTS’ COUNCIL  
21 January 2003

1. Board Meeting of 17 January 2003

Final tuition result:
   General tuition increase of 6.9%.
   Program fees to be implemented in LL.B, M.D., and MBA programs.
   B.Com. will NOT be subject to program fees.

The remainder items on the agenda were tabled until the next meeting of the full Board.

2. Finance and Property Committee Meeting on 10 January 2003

a) Tuition

The Committee passed the tuition proposal advocating a 6.4% general increase and program fees in all four programs (LL.B., M.D., MBA, and B.Com.)

There was heavy discussion focusing on whether to implement program fees or to go with a general increase of 7.5%.

b) Budget Update

The base operating grant from the Alberta government is expected to increase by only 2% for 2003-2004 and another 2% for 2004-2005.

However, these are expected increases in expenses for 2003-2004:

   Academic Salaries          4.25%
   Non-Academic Salaries      4%
   Alberta Health Care Premiums 10%
   Employment Insurance      3%
   Workers Compensation      7%
   Canada Pension Plan       10.1%
   Pension                   10%
   Supplementary Health Care 17%
   Dental                    13%

Utilities are also expected to rise 11% for 2003-2004. The Alberta government has suspended the utility rebate that it once gave to the University.
The University is hoping it will again receive a lump-sum payment to cover all “indirect costs of research” expenses. **If this occurs, the general tuition increase should be revisited.**

University expects to hit its budgeted target for 2002-2003.

A further 1% base operating reduction across all faculties and administrative units is expected, on top of the $14 million in cuts already planned.

c) The Zeidler Family Gastroenterology Health and Research Centre

Approved an expenditure of $750,000 for planning and design. This will be adjacent to the HRIF facility. Capital Health Authority is expected to pay operating costs of the building. The facility can eventually be constructed for $6.5 million, with private donations in place.

d) Approvals for forwarding to the Board – Sale of right of way

Approved a motion to grant a utility right-of-way to the City of Edmonton for LRT construction. Market value compensation is estimated to be about $1.2 million.

e) LRDP Update

Sector planning to begin on 7 out of the 19 campus sectors.
Travel Demand Management study to begin soon in consultation with the City of Edmonton. Review of Sustainability committee has been struck; completion expected March 2003.

3. Upcoming

Finance and Property Committee meetings: February 28, April 16, June 13
Board meetings: March 14, May 2
Greetings class,

With the looming Board of Governors meeting regarding differential tuition, the MSA has received e-mails from concerned students regarding the MSA stance on differential tuition. Many rumors have been circulated, and we would like to dispel them as quickly as possible. Our stance is a compilation of views from you, the students, via e-mails and personal discussions. Over the past few months, we have offered all students countless opportunities to express their views in order to achieve the best possible consensus on opinion.

The MSA has never been in favor of differential tuition, and has never portrayed this to the Faculty, Students' Union, or other groups on campus. We are fundamentally opposed to the differential tuition, however we would like to maintain the quality of education that the Faculty is known for. We have had countless meetings and discussion groups with the Faculty since mid-summer in attempts to understand why the Faculty and University feel the need to pass the financial burden on to the students.

We will continue to voice our views against the increase in tuition to as many individuals and groups as possible. We also feel the need, however, to look out for the Class of 2007 in the scenario that a differential tuition is implemented. We will continue to lobby the government for increased provincial funding for medical education, as well as work with the Faculty to lobby for an increase in loan limits should an increase in provincial funding not come in the next year. We have expressed the concerns highlighted in the attached document many times to the Faculty, and they in turn have been very receptive.

Hopefully this dispels many of the rumors floating around campus. Please donot hesitate to contact us with any further questions or concerns you may have.

Regards,
The MSA executive

University of Alberta
Medical Students' Association Executive
President: Christina Demianczuk
VP External: Hussein Unwala
VP Internal: Erika Persson
VP Finance: Cyndie (Cynthia) Horner
VP Administration: Kathryn Lanuke

Office Phone: (780) 492 7639
Office Fax: (780) 492 7614
e-mail: msaufa@ualberta.ca
website: www.msa.ualberta.ca

2-45 Medical Sciences Building
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
T6G 2H7
December 16\textsuperscript{th}, 2002

We, the Medical Student’s Association, realize that we are living through an era of fiscal constraints. Medical students recognize the financial pressures faced both by the Faculty of Medicine and the University of Alberta in funding medical education in Alberta. While we are \textbf{fundamentally opposed} to the current plan of financing the Faculty’s deficit through an increase in student tuition, we also realize the importance of maintaining the quality of education our Faculty is known for. With respect to the faculty’s proposed differential tuition increase, the medical students have raised several concerns which we feel must be addressed:

1. Do the increases in tuition need to be so drastic? The proposed tuition increase will raise Medicine’s tuition to AT LEAST $12,000 within three years. This DOES NOT include any annual, university-wide percentage increases by the Board of Governors of the University. Such extreme tuition increases implemented at the University of Western Ontario in 1998 (from ~$4900 to $10,000) had a significant affect on their class demographics. Is our proposed increase really necessary?

   \textbf{Our Proposed Solution: } We implore the Faculty to review their proposed tuition increase. With hopes of keeping Medical School in Alberta accessible, limit the annual tuition to a maximum of $10,000.

2. If differential tuition is implemented, the students need assurance that University funding to the Faculty does not decrease from current levels. Furthermore, realizing that the current Faculty administration will be changing over the next five years, students would like assurance that another tuition increase will not be implemented in the near future. The current increase in tuition should not set precedent for further funding problems experienced by the Faculty.

3. Can we be assured of the allocation of the funds from the proposed increased tuition (20% to the University, 20% to student bursaries, 60% to fund new programs and increase spending for current programs)? What “new programs” specifically are being planned?

   \textbf{Our Proposed Solution: } We would like to be assured, in writing to the Medical Student’s Association, that the planned disbursement funds from the proposed increased tuition (20% to the University, 20% to student bursaries, 60% to programs) be strictly enforced. If any differential tuition increases are approved, a committee should be formed to discuss the distribution of this substantial increase in Faculty funding. As the students are subsidizing this increase, we believe that there should be substantial student input on the spending of the 80% returned to the Faculty. That is, we would expect a strong voice on bursary arrangements, and funding for new and existing programs. An ideal breakdown would be 50% Faculty and 50% Students for such a committee.
The Medical Students Association’s Goals:

1. To raise awareness of the financial stress placed on the medical student. We hope to accomplish this by:
   - Using the media to inform the public on financial issues facing both the current medical student and the medical students of the future.
   - Informing government officials from the perspective of the medical student, through letter-writing campaigns to MLAs, discussion with the Minister of Education, etc.
   - Creating a financial survey for medical classes so that we can assess the current financial situation of Alberta’s medical students. The hope is that such a survey would shed some light on the current loan situation of students, and also offer future classes a means of comparison.

2. To lobby the Students’ Finances Board for reform to the current loan program for Medical Students.

3. Amidst all the fervour, to assure to youth that aspire to practice Medicine that such a career is still very possible. We hope to achieve this by:
   - increasing our involvement with youth in Alberta, particularly those that are under-represented in Medicine. This would include educating youth about resources and encouraging those who might feel that medical education is financially non-viable to continue to consider this career.

4. To assure that if differential tuition is passed, then the burden to Medical Students will be as minimal as possible. We hope to accomplish this by:
   - working with PARA to assure that residents get the optimal financial benefits, be that either an increase in income or an extension of interest-free debt relief. Another option is to increase the amount of loan forgiveness for those who remain in Alberta for their residency or practice.
   - working with the Faculty and the Students’ Finance Board on mutually agreeable solutions, and lobbying the government to increase its financial aid programs for students.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Demianczuk            Hussein Unwala
President                        VP External
Medical Student’s Association    Medical Student’s Association
Constitution

ARTICLE XII - ELECTIONS

1. All members of the Students' Council will hold office for a term of one (1) year.

2. The Students' Union General Elections will be held annually on a successive Wednesday and Thursday between the second Wednesday of February and the third Thursday of March, inclusive, voting to be by secret ballot.

3. The Students' Council members to be elected will be the Executive Committee and such others as may be specified by legislation enacted under the authority granted by this Constitution.

4. The right to vote in the elections, as provided for by legislation enacted under the authority granted by this Constitution, will be extended to all members of the Students' Union defined as being full members or associate under Article VIII, Section 2.

5. Members of Students' Council not coming within Section 4 of this Article will be elected by such procedure as will be prescribed by legislation enacted under the authority granted by this Constitution.

6. If there is only one (1) nomination for any of the offices which constitute the Executive Committee, or for the Undergraduate Student Member of the Board of Governors, every such election will take the form of a ratification. Such ratification call will consist of the support of the majority of the voters casting ballots for that position in that election.
CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE XII - ELECTIONS

1. All voting members of the Students’ Council shall hold office for a term of one (1) year, and all terms shall expire concurrently on a date to be stipulated in bylaw.

2. The Students’ Union General Elections will be held annually on a successive Wednesday and Thursday between the second Wednesday of February and the third Thursday of March, inclusive, voting to be by secret ballot.

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**SUB TOTAL** $11,317.80

**GST** $792.25

**GRAND TOTAL** $12,110.05

**Student Financial Resources Centre - Furniture Requirements**

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