

STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

Tuesday July 27, 2004 – 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

2004-08/5 PRESENTATIONS

2004-08/5a "NODA Region 1 Conference Proposal presentation" by Norma Rodenburg, Transitions Programs Manager.

2004-08/6 REPORTS

2004-08/6a Jordan Blatz, President

Please see document LA 04-08.01

2004-08/6b Lisa McLaughlin, Vice President Academic

Please see document LA 04-08.02

2004-08/6c Alex Abboud, Vice President External

Please see document LA 04-08.03

2004-08/6d Alvin Law, Vice President Operations and Finance

Please see document LA 04-08.04

2004-08/6e Duncan Taylor, Vice President Student Life

Please see document LA 04-08.05

2004-08/7 QUESTION PERIOD

2004-08/7a **KNISELY** - To the Chief Returning Officer: There was a discussion in IRB concerning who is and isn't a member of the Students' Union, largely for the purpose of determining who should be allowed vote in elections. One issue that came up was when ID numbers are electronically authenticated before a person is given a ballot, was what criteria (i.e. courses taken, admission status, etc.) is taken into account when the response comes back from the university's computers. According to the University of Alberta, who is a member of the Students' Union for the purposes of an election?

Please see document LA 04-08.06

2004-08/7b

KNISELY - Mr. President: We're starting to see a number of changes and additions to the operating policies by the Executive Committee. Are these incidental changes arising on an as-needed basis, or is the Executive Committee implementing a plan of revising and modernizing operating policies?

BLATZ - Mr. Speaker: As members of the Executive Committee have needed to reference Students' Union operating policies throughout the course of our work, we have noticed policies that are outdated or no longer appropriate. The recent changes to these policies reflects an effort to remedy this, although no official plan to revise and modernize our existing policies has been made at this time. Thank you.

Report for Students' Council
Jordan Blatz
President
July 27, 2004

Good evening Council,

I will be at council tonight following my class. I am pleased to report that I got the highest mark in my class on the midterm last week. Thank you for your continued patience as I attend this class. I really appreciate it, as it is important to me personally, however, it is also important to my job as everything we are learning can be applied to my role as President.

The following is a list of things that I have been working on since last meeting:

Note: For the past several weeks I have been trying to fulfill an order given to me by Council to replenish the D.I.E. Board. This has proven to be difficult and frustrating for a number of reasons. The first being confusion surrounding how to replenish the D.I.E. Board, the second being difficulties in achieving quorum (The Chair of D.I.E. Board has not responded to our emails, therefore is probably away on holidays for the summer), and the third being that we only received two applications and we needed three. I believe that due diligence has been done in trying to replenish the D.I.E. Board, however, due to the circumstances outlined above, this has not been feasible. Furthermore, with the timeline of trying to achieve quorum and scheduling meetings, D.I.E. Board will most likely not be able to meet until September. Therefore, I recommend that Council wait until September to replenish the D.I.E. Board with the Tribune Selection Committee according to schedule. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns feel free to talk to me after council or email me.

1. **Meeting with Dr. Carl Amrhein** – I had a fantastic meeting last week with our Provost, Carl Amrhein. We discussed Augustana (see below), the Celebration of Post-Secondary Education, the Provincial Education, Dewey's (see below), and a Quality of Education Survey. For the Celebration, I gave a proposal to Carl asking him for official support of the event, donations of door prizes (bookstore gift certificates, free semester of tuition, etc), and help in promoting the event to the University community. Carl really liked the event and will be taking the proposal to the Executive Planning Committee (EPC) for approval this week or next.
2. **Augustana-** I have had numerous meetings in the past week about Augustana. The most important being the meeting I had with Carl Amrhein. We discussed the merger and I was able to get approval for funding for an Augustana Transitions Coordinator 'in principle'. Val Stewart, Bill Smith, and I are putting together a budget and job description in order to get final approval from the University for this position.

3. **Provincial Election Strategy** – We have continued to meet to discuss the upcoming provincial election. We have talked about the coalition campaign with CAFA/ACIFA/ACTISEC/CAUS, advertising mediums, lawn signs, and a few other things. With each day that passes, it is looking more and more like a November or later election. However, we will be prepared for any and all eventualities. More on this to come.
4. **Dewey's** – In my meeting with Carl we discussed the Dewey's issue and our lease with the Powerplant. He told me that he had signed off on a letter to the SU and GSA, guaranteeing the GSA social space and resolving this long-term issue for the Students' Union. We are waiting to receive a copy of the letter and we will be resigning a lease for the Plant shortly.
5. **Week of Pancake Breakfasts :**
 - a. Wednesday, July 21st – The Honorable Minister of Justice, Dave Hancock. Mike Horler, Alex, Duncan and I had the opportunity to have a lengthy chat with the Minister. We discussed the upcoming election, student finances, and parental contribution requirements. The Minister was interested in hearing more about what we had to say and we have a meeting scheduled with him on August 19th.
 - b. Thursday, July 22nd – The Honorable Minister of Economic Development, Mark Norris. Mike Horler, Alex, and I had an opportunity to quickly meet and chat with Mark. We discussed the upcoming election and PSE in general.
 - c. Monday, July 26th – The Premier's Breakfast. Mike Horler, Alex and I attended the Premier's Breakfast. I had the opportunity to chat with Steve West, the Premier's senior advisor and the following MLA's: Ray Danyluk, Wayne Cao, Mary O'Neil, Richard Marz, Karen Kryzcka, and the Minister of Health Gary Mar.
6. **Other meetings/events:** Staff Picnic, meeting with Jessica Lamb to discuss the Access Fund, a meeting with Duncan, Lisa, and Alex to discuss the next Senate Task Force, meeting with Alex, Mike Mahon, Susan Green, and Doug Mann to discuss the upcoming fundraising campaign, and meeting with Bill Smith and Michael Beaver from Aramark to discuss and hopefully finalize a deal to expand the Varsity Mealcard to our Students' Union owned and operated businesses.

That is all for now. I hope that everyone is enjoying the wonderful weather and having a great summer.

Report to Students' Council, July 27, 2004

Lisa McLaughlin, VP (Academic)

For period July 20-27, 2004

Is it just my imagination, or does it seem to you that I have been doing a lot of Council reports lately? ☺

This past week:

July 20: SU/GSA meeting

What: This was an opportunity to meet the Executive of the GSA and to discuss ways we might work together and the sort of relationship we hope to maintain throughout the year.

Met with Registrar's Office re: SU Survey participation

Met with my Associate VPA

July 21: SU Staff BBQ with your beloved Executive cooking up a storm!

July 22: Executive Committee meeting

Met with CNS re: SU Survey participation

July 23: Met with Jeannie Stanley, Director of Student Services in the Faculty of Science to discuss their new cohort programming initiative

What: The Faculty of Science is trying a new cohort program this fall, wherein new first-year students are registered into 1 of their choice of 6 blocks of 3 science courses that science students usually take in their first year (e.g., Chem 101/161, Bio 107/108, Physics 124, Math 113, Stat 151)

Met with Academic Technologies for Learning (ATL) to discuss the 2004 SU Survey and develop a timeline and process

July 26: Executive Committee meeting

As you can see, my schedule hasn't exactly been jam packed lately, so I've had an opportunity to invest my time in projects, including the SU Survey, putting together a proposal for a pilot study of online mid-term course evaluations, developing a scope and questions for a quality of education or academic issues survey, as well as ideas for the CoFA retreat, a seminar series on the societal impacts of post-secondary education, and a student covenant. The wheels have been a-turnin'!

Phone: 492.4236

E-mail: vp_academic@su.ualberta.ca

Upcoming:

- July 28: Academic Planning Committee (APC) for 4 (!) hours
What: Discussions pertaining to E-Learning, University Faculty Awards and Recognition, the Academic Plan, and joint degrees
- July 29: U of A budget session to learn about budgeting process
- Various: SU Survey work sessions
- August 3: Academic Affairs Board (AAB) @ 5:30 PM Lower Level SUB
Potential agenda items: Ideas for UTS Panel (see below), Review of Calendar Policy 23.5.6 Absence from Exams, Plan for Mid-term Evaluation Pilot
- August 5: Meeting regarding implementing the Code of Student Behaviour at Augustana
- August 9: "What Good Teachers Do, What Good Teachers Think, What Students Value" – Panel discussion at 18th Annual Orientation for New Professors hosted by University Teaching Services
What: I will be giving a short presentation and entertaining questions about what students find valuable for learning.
E-mail me with your thoughts about what professors can do (in and out of the classroom) to help students in their learning (and enhance their university experience).

More work to be done on the SU Survey, the quality of education/academic issues survey, the mid-term course evaluation plan, and the CoFA retreat.

Alex Abboud, Vice President External
Report to Students' Council
July 27th

K-Days Means Pancake Breakfasts

In the last week, we've had the opportunity to attend Pancake Breakfasts in the Constituencies of both Dave Hancock and Mark Norris. Both were very productive, as we got to meet both Ministers, and have brief discussions with them. We're in the process of setting up a meeting with Minister Hancock to further discuss issues surrounding student debt.

The Premier's Breakfast was held on Monday the 26th. Though not as productive as the one held in Calgary during Stampede, we were nonetheless afforded the opportunity to meet many MLAs, and to discuss the issues with them. In particular, conversations with Steve West and Ian McClelland were very beneficial.

Senate

I went for lunch with the other student Senators (Lorne Randa, M. Mustafa Hirji, and Janet Lo). We discussed ideas for what we'd like the Senate to focus on in the coming year, and came up with a few suggestions for me to bring forward at the brainstorming session (see below).

The Students' Union executive also worked on fleshing out a vision statement for a Senate Task Force on the Student Experience.

We had a Senate brainstorming session this morning with Chancellor Newell, consisting of the Senate office, the Executive Committee, and a few other members of the Senate. We discussed what has and has not worked in the past, and came up with ideas for what committees, as well as the Senate as a whole, can work on this year. There are two proposals for task forces that will be coming forward to the next plenary meeting in September. Chancellor Newell brought forth the idea of a Task Force on Aboriginal Education, while I brought forth the proposal for the Task Force on the Student Experience. Chancellor Newell, and the gathered Senators, endorsed the idea of doing both task forces in the coming year. Over the next month, I will be working with the Senate office and Senator Heike Juergens to prepare a formal proposal in time for the September plenary. Overall, this was a very productive meeting, and served as a great start to the Senate's year.

Provincial – Campus Alberta Quality Council

The composition of the Campus Alberta Quality Council was announced today. Former U of A Provost and Vice President Academic Doug Ogram is the Chair. The Council will review all new proposals for the granting of degrees, among other tasks.

More Provincial – Election

Continue to work on preparing our campaigns for the provincial election. Meeting with both the coalition and at the U of A SU level to plan activities. More ideas will be brainstormed at EAB this Thursday.

More and more signs are pointing towards a November election, but we're still aiming to be ready for an earlier writ drop.

Meetings

- Susan Green (U of A VP External Relations), Doug Mann (Director of Development), and Mike Mahon (Dean of Phys Ed), to discuss the Capital Campaign.
- Tracy Salmon (Alumni Affairs), with Ariana to discuss potential SU involvement in Alumni Weekend.
- Staff Picnic, where I barbecued Hot Dogs for the better part of two hours. Not really a meeting, but didn't fit in anywhere else.

Upcoming

- U of A Budget Review Session (Thursday, July 29th)
- External Affairs Board (Thursday, July 29th)
- Meeting with Susan Green (Tuesday, August 3rd)
- Senate Internal Affairs Committee Meeting (Wednesday, August 4th)
- CAUS Meeting (Sunday, August 8th)
- CAUS Presentation to SPC, Liberals, and New Democrats (Monday, August 9th)
- Meeting with ETS – myself, ECOS Director Allison Lennie, and GSA President Alexis Pepin (Tuesday, August 10th)
- Developing Municipal Lobby Document. I'm hoping to meet with as many City Council and Mayoral candidates as I can in late August and early September.
- Continued meetings with the Coalition, and continuing to work on our campaign. We've set August 15th as the deadline to have the campaign sketched out.

Report to Students' Council
July 27, 2004
Alvin Law – Vice President (Operations & Finance)

Dear Members of Council, even though it was a short week, I've still got lots to report:

Access Fund: Had a quick meeting with Jessica Lamb, the Associate Director of the Access Fund to discuss policies regarding the fee and administration. Concerns were brought up and a plan was set out for our board meeting which is next week.

Bar Revitalization: Things are still trudging along with some bumps and curves. New paint for RATT is done, stage in the Powerplant has been modified, lighting adjustments for Powerplant is currently being done, new food and menu design is being worked on, have a meeting on Thursday to discuss the details on the marketing and new logos.

ESS Loan: Met with several Executives from the Engineering Students' Society to discuss the possibility of a loan to help in covering expenses related to the ETLC Information Services Desk.

Staff Picnic: The exec and myself had a jolly good time barbequing some burgers and hot dogs for our staff. People were happy, stuffed full, and things were going great until the rain started pouring. Food was great, and much thanks to Jerry Daley and Duncan for starting my bbq.

Student Groups Granting: Had the first Student Groups Granting session while in office this past Wednesday. Was the first of a series of very long nights, we went through applications from approximately 12 groups, and gave out \$6945.90 out of a total \$13 160.90 requested.

Undergraduate Survey: Myself, along with Duncan, Lisa, and Alex met with Cheryl and Stanley from ATL for a long meeting to discuss details on the survey. The whole time was spent hashing out timelines and processes on what needs to occur in the next few months in order to set ourselves up for a successful survey.

Duncan Taylor – Vice President Student Life Council Report July 27th

Paid a visit to the GSA: Had a brief GSA/SU exec meeting to discuss relations between the two organizations, and talked about each others projects for the upcoming year. On the SL side of things, talked about the Workplace Health and Wellness Committee and some of the overarching 'Student Needs'

A brief discourse on "Ship Night": Met with Daina from the Plant and Karen Ross from the LHSA with respect to 'Ship Night' this year. Agreed that we liked the way things went last year, and talked about some cost sharing issues and how to ensure the security of the bars.

Undergraduate Student Survey: The exec has decided to go with ATL, a group associated with the Faculty of Extension to help us facilitate the survey. Meeting involved reps from ATL, The VPs Academic, Op-Fi, External and Student Life to brief ATL on our plan, get the skinny on ATL's abilities and to hammer out a firm timeline for this project. Things are now going to be kicked into high gear on this project.

Looking at Powerplant Menu Items: Meeting to talk about name of new menu items and how to describe them on the menu. Came up with some good ideas and will be meeting again soon to finish this up.

Inevitable Bar Revitalization Meetings: More and more! BRP is proceeding well, with painting in RATT done. Decore/Uniforms/Staffing issues discussed. Programming for the year pretty well finalized in RATT, Powerplant and Dewey's.

SLB/WPC/PC: More news from the funnest committee in existence. SLB went over the Student Involvement Card (issues about how to distribute it) and the "Stress Busters Program" which is shaping up to a number of low-key activities in Dinwoodie. WPC had updates on WOW from the coordinators and some group time. Schedule almost finished, and the design order has been submitted. Programming Committee went over the Scheduled programming for the upcoming year, and as well was introduced to the idea of having a monthly "SU NEWS" program played on SUB stage over the noon hour to update on programming initiatives, athletics highlights and a few news items within the organization. Going to need to find people with some knowledge of movie making, splicing and dicing to pull this thing off. Rest assured though – the casaba will be rocked on this initiative.

David Hancock's Pancake Breakfast: Accompanied the President and the VP External, as well as Mr. Mike Horler to the Edmonton-Whitemud Pancake Breakfast. Provided moral support for the discussion of issues with respect to student finances.

Exercise: Getting into a firm routine to keep my trim figure.

A lunchtime extravaganza with SU employees: Flipped burgers at the SU staff BBQ. Narrowly missed getting soaked in a rainstorm. Good times, Good times.

Discussion about Senate Task Force: Discussed potential topics for a new senate task force with the President, VP Academic and External. Senate proposed a Student Life task force; the exec came up with an idea on modifying it to "The Student Experience" and will be meeting with Heike Juergens.

Up and Coming!

CFB Board Meeting: Dealing with issues arising from last year and CFB staffing issues.

Bar Revitalization: You know the drill. Same old, same old.

Meeting with Housing and Foods: As it says.

More Talk on the SU Survey: We're getting this thing done, yo.

Lunch with Jadene Mah:

Student Life Meeting w/ Alumni:

DIE Board interviews

SLB/PC/WPC

Hey Mr. Tambourine Man, play a song for me, in the jingle jangle morning I'll come followin' you.

Bonus points to whoever can find the hidden message first in this week's "VPSL Report", and correctly identify the meaning.

vote Students' Union Elections Office

To:	Students' Council
From:	Dane Bullerwell Chief Returning Officer, Students' Union
Subject:	Response to Question on Membership & Voting
Date:	Tuesday, July 27, 2004

In response to Councillor Knisley's question:

To the Chief Returning Officer: There was a discussion in IRB concerning who is and isn't a member of the Students' Union, largely for the purpose of determining who should be allowed to vote in elections. One issue that came up was when ID numbers are electronically authenticated before a person is given a ballot, what criteria (i.e. courses taken, admission status, etc.) is taken into account when the response comes back from the university's computers.

According to the University of Alberta, who is a member of the Students' Union for the purposes of an election?

Bylaws 2100, 2200, and 2400 give all members of the SU the right to vote in Executive Elections, Councillor Elections, Referenda, and Plebiscites. (See s.81 of 2100, s.70 of 2200, s.62 of 2400.) These bylaws define membership through the definition in Article I of the Constitution. Since Article I of the Constitution has been repealed, there is no single place in the SU Constitution or bylaws that clearly defines who is a member of the organization, at least for the purposes of elections.

The Students' Union has signed an Information Sharing Agreement with the Registrar's Office, which gives the Elections Office access to the Registrar's OASIS student database. Students in the database are labeled as either Undergraduate or Graduate, presumably based on their status as specified in Section 21.1.1 of the University Calendar. The Registrar provides the Elections Office with the names, faculties, and ID numbers of all Undergraduate students included in the database.

The information from the Registrar's office includes **only** Full and Part-time Undergraduate students who are registered for classes in the Winter semester in which the election takes place, or in the case of by-elections, the semester in which the by-election takes place. Students registered in the Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters are not included in the list of voters.

Students in the Faculty of Extension are not included in the data dump from the OASIS database unless they are also enrolled in an undergraduate degree program. Open Studies students are included in the OASIS database as Undergraduate students.

The Post Secondary Learning Act (s. 95 (2)(a)) permits Council to pass bylaws governing the requirements for membership in the Students' Union. If Council feels there is ambiguity in who is allowed to vote, it could use its authority under the Act to define membership. In the absence of such direction from Council the Elections Office will continue to query the University database in the manner done in the past. Any changes to the extent of information we receive may necessitate a re-negotiation of the Information Sharing Agreement.

I thank the Councillor for his question, and invite any other Councillors with questions about our Elections to contact me via email at cro@su.ualberta.ca.

Dane Bullerwell
Chief Returning Officer, 2004/2005