University of Alberta Students' Union STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

Tuesday January 11, 2005 – 6:00 p.m. Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

2004-19/6 <u>REPORTS</u>

2004-19/6c	Jordan Blatz, President
------------	-------------------------

Please see document LA 04-19.01

2004-19/6d Alex Abboud, Vice President (External)

Please see document LA 04-19.02

2004-19/6e Alvin Law, Vice President (Operations and Finance)

Please see document LA 04-19.03

2004-19/6f Duncan Taylor, Vice President (Student Life)

Please see document LA 04-19.04

2004-19/6g Undergraduate Board of Governor Representative

Please see document LA 04-19.05

2004-19/7 <u>QUESTION PERIOD</u>

2004-19/7a SMITH - Have either of the President or the Vice President (External), during the University's Budget Advisory Committee meetings, raised the possibility of hedging its risk of a future increase in the price of utilities using futures or call-option derivatives? If so, what response did they receive? If not, will they commit to doing so at the earliest possibility?

BLATZ - I asked Phyllis Clark, VP Finance and Administration the question posed by Councilor Smith and this was her response:

	"We have been buying on the spot market primarily and have done very well compared to our counterparts at U of C for example. The problem with futures is that if you call it right, you are well off. If you are on the wrong side of the market you are paying big time. Derivatives are more complex in their approach and usually, mean that
	you are taking a risk on your forecast. In the long run, it's hard to beat the market even if you can avoid short term spikes."
	If you would like me to ask her any follow-up questions, let me know.
2004-19/7b	SMITH - Is there any written agreement between the Students' Union and any or all of the University of British Columbia Alma Mater Society, the Queens University Alma Mater Society, and the University of Western Ontario University Students' Council pertaining to the lawsuit featuring the preceding four schools as plaintiffs and the Canadian Federation of Students - Services, Travel CUTS, and the Association of Student Councils as defendants? If so, what are the particulars of this agreement, and whose signature(s) does it bear on behalf of the Students' Union?
	BLATZ - Yes, the University of Alberta Students' Union, the University of British Columbia Alma Mater Society and Queens University Alma Mater Society each have a written agreement with the University of Western Ontario University Students' Council pertaining to the Travel CUTS lawsuit. This agreement retains the services of Mackenzie Lake to represent the preceding four schools as plaintiffs in the lawsuit. Furthermore, the agreement indemnifies the University of Western Ontario University Students' Council from the other schools share of the costs of the lawsuit. Therefore, all four schools have agreed to pay their share of the costs associated with being plaintiffs for the entire length of the lawsuit. Mike Chalk signed the agreement on behalf of the University of Alberta Students' Union.
2004-19/9	BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS
2004-19/9d	Academic Affairs Board Report
	Please see document LA 04-19.06
2004-19/12	NEW BUSINESS
2004-19/12b	MOTION BY LETTNER, ORDERED THAT Students' Union Information desks collect contributions to the Red Cross, specific to their efforts in Southeast Asia.
2004-19/14	INFORMATION ITEMS
2004-19/14c	Operating Policy 11.30 – SUB Stage
	Please see document LA 04-19.07

Report for Students' Council Jordan Blatz President January 11, 2005

Good evening Council,

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

- 1. **Meeting with Premier-** Late last semester we heard back from the Premier and he is still interested in meeting the Students' Union President of Alberta, Athabasca, Calgary, and Lethbridge. I have informed my colleagues of the potential meeting and we are awaiting confirmation from the Premier's office. I will also be meeting with my colleagues in advance of any meeting to make sure that we are all on the same page.
- 2. **International Tuition-** At APC on December 8th, the two tuition related motions were approved (general tuition and international tuition). However, I was able to convince APC to grandfather all current international students from the increase. The motion was also amended to change the differential from 157% to 220% in one year instead of three. It is still very unfortunate that tuition is increasing for international students, however, I believe that this result was the best-case scenario, given the circumstances. I have also received dozens of emails from International students who are extremely grateful to be grandfathered from this increase.
- 3. **Meeting with APC, BFPC, BoG –** At the end of last semester, I met with virtually every member of APC, BFPC, and BoG to discuss tuition issues with them prior to the meetings where tuition is voted on. I found most of these meetings to be very helpful. Although most of the members that I met with are likely to support the increase, many of them were willing to re-consider their decision during the budget approval process if we receive more funding from the provincial government than expected.
- 4. **Tuition Week–** Our tuition events are underway and we received good media coverage on the first day. Our events for the week are as follows:
 - a. Soup Kitchen, Monday, January 10, from 10am until 1pm.
 - i. This event well, but unfortunately we ran out of soup at noon. However, on the good side, that means that we served a couple of hundred students 'hot soup'. Global, CFRN, and CBC covered the event.
 - b. International tuition forum, Tuesday, January 11, from noon until 1pm.
 - c. Touchdowns for tuition, Wednesday, January 12, from 10am until 4pm.
 - d. Rally, Thursday, January 13, from 3pm until 5pm.
 - e. Board meeting, January 14, from 8am until noon.
 - f. Media conference, January 14, immediately following the Board meeting.

I also did an interview with Lynda Steele from Global about the whole week and the upcoming board meeting on Friday.

- 5. Engineering Week The SU decided to lend our support to Engineering Week and book Quad for the purposes of holding Engg week on campus. However, Facilities Management did not approve our booking due to concerns from the Dean of Engineering's office. I am in the process of resolving this situation with the Dean of Engineering and the Provost.
- 6. **ECO/EPIO** We have finished interviews and I am pleased to welcome Colin Robertson as our new Executive Communications Officer and David Cournoyer as our new External Policy and Information Officer.
- 7. Augustana Transitions Coordinator Unfortunately, Mathew Hebert has resigned as ATC as of January 14, 2005. I will be re-posting for this position with reduced hours, however, Mathew has offered to help with the transition process as needed for the next few months.

8. Upcoming:

- Rest of tuition week
- Lunch meeting with Mr. Gilles Duceppe
- BoG meeting
- Community and Government Relations
- Meeting with Don Hickey
- Meeting with Rahim Jaffer
- Meeting with James Rajotte
- Meeting with Rona Ambrose

Council Report: Trip to Ottawa November 23rd-27th Alex Abboud, Vice President External

I spent about five days in Ottawa (November 23rd-27th) observing the CASA Conference, which also afforded me the opportunity to meet with a number of MPs, both in formal meetings and in a more relaxed setting at their reception. I missed the first day and a bit of the conference, which started Monday, as I couldn't leave until Tuesday on account of the provincial election, and my presentation to Edmonton City Council the Monday afternoon. I missed the opening plenary Monday night, as well as a full day of meetings with MPs on the Tuesday. I arrived in the afternoon, in time for the CASA MP reception Tuesday night.

In addition to the meetings described, every day concluded with a debrief, where members went over how their meetings went. It was an opportunity for members to clarify any confusion about policy, or address any concerns that had come up during the day.

MP Reception

At their annual lobby conference, CASA often hosts a reception for MPs, Senators, senior bureaucrats, and other stakeholders. There was a good turnout for the reception, which ran from 5-7, though attendance was somewhat tampered by the fact that a vote (on trans fats) was called for 5:30 that day. At this event, I had the opportunity to speak with a number of MPs, including but not limited to Chuck Strahl (Deputy Speaker), Peter Milliken (Speaker), Peter Mackay (Deputy Leader of the Opposition), Rona Ambrose (Conservative Critic for Intergovernmental Affairs, MP for Edmonton-Spruce Grove), Bill Graham (Minister of Foreign Affairs), James Moore (Conservative from BC), Peter Stouffer (NDP from Nova Scotia). Events like this allow for productive interaction with Members of Parliament, I was impressed by how well the event came off, and how well it facilitated contact with public officials. CASA was also very professional in how they prepared their membership. In years past, there had been some problems with members getting a little carried away (often at the behest of MPs), this year they were very clear with members in terms of their responsibilities, and the members all abided. Attendance was hurt somewhat because a vote was called for 5:30, right in the middle of the reception. Nonetheless, both Senators and MPs turned out in good numbers.

Wednesday

Wall of Debt Media Stunt

CASA erected a Wall of Debt on Parliament Hill as part of a media stunt. The event was covered very well locally; The National Post also covered it nationally. This was part of CASA's continuing Generation Debt campaign. For this particular event they had students at member campuses sign bricks with their debt load, and attached them to

plywood walls. It created quite a strong visual on Parliament Hill, and a number of bureaucrats and public officials were out observing the event.

Meeting with John Maloney (Liberal, Welland)

Welland is the constituency that represents Brock University, and as such Maloney had previously met with representatives from their Students' Union. I attended the meeting with one of them (Nick Brown, VP University Affairs). Maloney has traditionally been receptive to PSE issues, and this meeting served more to reinforce commitments than to discuss the issues.

Meeting with James Bezan (Conservative, Selkirk-Interlake)

Bezan is a new MP. This was a rushed meeting, as Bezan was just coming out of Question Period, and had another commitment immediately afterwards. He listened to the issues, but commented little.

Thursday

Meeting with Rahim Jaffer (Conservative, Edmonton-Strathcona) Jaffer is no stranger to PSE issues, nor to the U of A, being the MP that represents our constituency. He was receptive to the issues, and also agreed to meet with myself back in Edmonton, as he'd like to bring forward some post-secondary policies to the party convention in March, and would like input from the U of A SU. I'll be meeting with him January 18th in Edmonton to follow up.

Meeting with Anita Neville (Liberal, Winnipeg South Centre)

Neville is a member of the Liberal post-secondary caucus, and a strong supporter of our issues. She agreed to bring up many of the issues we discussed in the PSE caucus.

Friday

CASA Plenary Meeting

I observed the organization's closing plenary on Friday. The group discussed a number of policies, as well as structural issues. I was impressed with the commitment, as well as the professionalism of the group. Members openly debated all the issues, and the near majority of the group, particularly on structural issues, treated even those who dissented with respect. I felt the Chair of the meeting was trying to rush through some agenda items, in order to stay on track, but the membership was quite willing to disagree and force the Chair to do the contrary.

At the request of the membership, the plenary finished with a gripe session, where all members (not just voting delegates) were allowed to voice their praises, and more importantly their criticisms about how the Conference went. While it appeared some members weren't enthralled with this, the majority was in favor, and saw the benefit. I saw this as being a very important part of the conference, as a large criticism of CASA in the past has been that it tends to be very cliquish (like a fraternity), and criticism and dissent from members is discouraged. Ending the event with this session says to me that the organization is moving further away from that mentality.

Summary

While I see some problems with the organization, I was overall impressed with how CASA ran their conference, the level of professionalism from the organization, and the respect they appear to receive from members of the federal government. Many MPs had very positive things to say about CASA.

Overall, I am glad I was able to attend this conference, as it allowed me to learn more about CASA, but most importantly to engage in some lobbying at the federal level. This conference afforded me some opportunities that would have been difficult to arrange otherwise, so on a whole I consider this trip to be very productive and beneficial.

Now, to conclude, the Top Moment from the Conference:

"Hey, I know you. You know Mike Reid"

- Edmonton-Spruce Grove MP Rona Ambrose (Conservative), after I introduced myself.

Report to Students' Council January 10, 2005 Alvin Law – Vice President (Operations & Finance)

I hope everyone has had a wonderfully relaxing and rejuvenating holidays! Back to another fun semester of hard work and challenges. It has been a slow few weeks so not too much to report this time. Also note that I will now be providing information in my "coming up" section as available so everyone is able to provide feedback or raise concerns with me before I meet with others. Hopefully this will aid most of you in raising concerns you may have before it is too late.

- **24/7 SUB:** Lisa and I met with Bill Conner and Art Quinney to discuss and address concerns that had been brought up from the Tech Group and EPC from the University. Many of the concerns turned out to be a result of lack of communication on the plan for this initiative. Once all parties were fully briefed on the details, many of the questions answered themselves. Lisa has been coordinating with our Sr. Manager of Marketing and Communication to roll out the marketing campaign for this initiative.
- **CJSR Renewal Contract:** I have been working closely with Charlotte Bourne to finalize the renewal of the CJSR Operating Agreement. Currently, we are discussing what happens to the lease if students decide to not support CJSR financially through a dedicated fee. Some options are to allow CJSR to continue leasing the space until the agreement expires, or to terminate the lease a year after the referendum. It has been pointed out that even though students might not want to support the station financially, it does not imply that they do not support the existence of the station on campus. If any of you have input you would like to provide, please email me ASAP.
- **Health Plan:** Bill Smith met with "STUDENTCARE.NET/WORKS" to negotiate and enter the next stage of the Health Plan process. The results of such negotiations are presented to Council in today's agenda. The proposed contract covers the responsibilities and understandings of both the SU and the health care provider.
- Lois Hole Book of Condolences: I spent some time at Convocation Hall attending the signing of the Book of Condolences for Lois Hole. If any of you are interested in signing or leaving a message, the book will be available at Convocation Hall for the next few days.
- **Student Extracurricular Activity Grant:** Spent several hours with Jim Bowen, Cheryl Luchkow, Mustafa Hirji and other members of the Dean of Students Office to go through and make decisions on SEA Grants, which are grants given through the Dean of Students Office to students who pursue extra activities that benefit

themselves and the greater campus community, provided that they are not related to the students' field of study. We gave away approximately \$9000.

Coming Up:

- FACRA: Have the first board meeting of the year this Wednesday. FACRA has been pursuing changes to their objects and aiming to set out a new statement. This has brought about possible changes to their charitable status which the board generally feels it should not do. As a result, there is limited movement in possible new objects. We will also be reviewing a budgeted professional development expenditure for a board member to attend seminars/courses (less then \$60) in order to help them perform better as a board member. The board will also be discussing a 5 year strategic plan, going digital, and reporting of professional development activities.
- GSJS: The next GSJS meeting will be this Friday at 5:30pm where we will be electing a new chair. Phil Head has resigned as chair due to new commitments. At the meeting, we will be discussing travel policies, a capital authorization for a new computer for the business manager, a plan for producing a summer paper, preliminary discussion about transitioning for a new business manager, and the possibility of setting up a long term computer support plan.
- APIRG: The APIRG Board of Directors is taking a retreat this weekend to train new board members and recap on the past semester and set out a new direction for the next semester. Unfortunately, due to a double booking with GSJS for Friday evening, I will only be able to attend the Saturday meetings. The board will be discussing topics such as:

What is the public interest? How do events funded by APIRG serve the public interest? How does the conference/training fund serve the public interest? What is a Working Group; and how does Working Group funding serve the public interest? What are the top two issues threatening the public interest today? What will APIRG look like in ten years from now?

Duncan Taylor - Vice President Student Life Council Report January 11th

The Health Plan: Going over the final contract and meeting with members of Student care today.

Anti-Freeze: It's begun! Its also why my report is so brief. Met with Labatt people to sort out prizing, coordinators to sort out events and do the crafts. Overall fun time indeed. However the above two have taken so much of my life that putting just those two in a report pretty much covers what I've been up to.

CFB Board Meeting: Talked about new SU funding proposal which we are still working on. Donations are coming in well this year. Still looking into alternate locations. Sigh.

Afríca: Was fun

Coming Up!

Antifreeze WHPAC UAB TRAC Tuition Week Stuff Engg Week Stuff COSA Health Plan meetings Pharmacy advisory committee Meeting with Health Centre and GSA re: Health Centre financials.

Well tonight thank god it's them instead of you.



It's Ukrainian Christmas, and Tuition Increases Make Baby Jesus Cry

BOG Rep Report to Council – January 11, 2005

What's Been Up

Nov 4: Board dinner Nov 5: Board meeting Nov 16: Council Nov 19: PSE Rally Nov 23: Council Nov 24: Meeting with international students Dec 4: SU Staff Christmas Party with the VPA Dec 7: Council Dec 9: GSA Christmas Party Dec 10: BFPC Dec 10: Meeting with Jordan, Alex, and The Reid **Dec 16: HAPPY BIRTHDAY ROMAN!!!** Dec 16: Board dinner

Dec 17: Board retreat Dec 18: Don Hickey open house Dec 25: Gregorian Christmas tobogganing with Councilor Berghoff Dec 31: Councilor Smith exhibitionism (shudder) Jan 3: Ottawa Law wins World University Debating Championships Jan 7: Ukrainian Christmas Jan 7: BFPC Jan 11: Council

What's Coming Up

Jan 10-14: Tuition Week Jan 10-14: AntiFreeze Jan 14: Board meeting Jan 17-21: Law Show Rehearsal Week of Hell Jan 17-21: Engg Week Jan 18: Council

Highlights From January 7th BFPC Meeting

BFPC recommended to the Board of Governors a schedule of increases to rental rates.

We received as an information item changes to parking rates for next year. This is a delegated decision made by EPC. Monthly rates are increasing by an average of 2.5% starting September 1 (general inflation rate). Hourly rates and the visitor daily maximum remain unchanged. Parking discounts for professors emeriti are being phased out, so their rate has also gone up.

BFPC recommended a general undergraduate tuition fee increase of 5.75% for 2005-2006. BFPC also recommended an increase in the international undergraduate student differential fee from 157% to 220% of base tuition, with grandfathering for current international undergraduate students.

The tuition decision will be made this Friday at 8am in Council Chambers. If you want to attend, call the Board office, because security will be checking the list.

Other Stuff That's Completely Irrelevant To My Job

Congratulations to Josh Bazin, who initiated into Delta Chi on November 13, 2004. Just remember what "Bazin" rhymes with: HAZIN'!

For the second year in a row, Delta Chi are Greek God Champions.

Law school is now half completed. I will be articling at Bubbles Car Wash with Mr. Speaker.

Law Show is taking place on Friday the 21st and Saturday the 22nd of January. The Saturday show includes a silent auction. Not only am I performing again this year, but I also choreographed one of the dances. Last year I managed to sell 26 tickets to family, friends and University administration, and the show was fantastic. Tickets this year will be sold in SUB in addition to the Law Building.

Our Lieutenant Governor Lois Hole passed away. She was a wonderful lady, a fantastic role model for Albertans, and will be greatly missed.

And lastly: Russia lost the hockey championships and the Ukrainian election.

Ready to shake it like a Polaroid,

Roman Kotovych Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative

Report of the Academic Affairs Board to Students' Council January 11, 2005

The Academic Affairs Board has met approximately ten times since June 2004 and has discussed a wide range of issues pertaining to the academic portfolio, including such topics as:

Business from June – December 2004:

- Quality of education
 - What is a "good quality" undergraduate education? I.e., How will you know when you have received a quality education? How can we measure quality? Should we measure quality and why?
- The "ideal" university and undergraduate learning experience
 - What is the purpose of a university education? If there were no restrictions, what sort of undergraduate educational experience would we want? What would your "ideal" university education look like?
- Reviewed a proposed policy from the Manager of the Academic Integrity program regarding community standards for academic integrity
- What is a "good" university teacher? Content was used by the VP (Academic) in a presentation and panel discussion for New Professor Orientation in August 2004, hosted by University Teaching Services entitled, "What Good Teachers Do, What Good Teachers Think, What Students Value."
- Reviewed a proposed policy from the Registrar's Office regarding medical notes for missed term work and exams
- The creation of a student guide to academic success at the U of A and resources that currently exist for students
- The student transition experience and whether AAB wishes to research the situation at the U of A and develop a report with recommendations for improving the experience of new students
- CNS modem pool
- Study space at the U of A
- Pros and cons of the implementation of faculty-level appeals processes for cases of academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating, plagiarism)
- Student categories and topic categories for the academic survey
- Trimester system and options for spring/summer programming
- Pros and cons of replacing a number of types of paper communications from the Registrar's Office with e-mail communications
- The Students' Union political policy regarding the appropriate period for the adddrop deadline
- The relationship between teaching and research and the role of research in undergraduate education

- Received a presentation about the final report of the Working Group on Teaching and Research, "Integrating Teaching and Research at the University of Alberta: Creating a Foundation for an Inquiry-Based Life"
 - Guest: Brad Wuetherick, Special Projects Officer, Research Profile Project

In March 2005, two members of AAB, Pat Gamez and Alvin Tong, will be participating along with myself and the AVPA in a panel discussion hosted by University Teaching Services (UTS) on the topic of student learning and the teaching/learning practices that we believe promote effective learning.

Votes:

December 2, 2004 Nowry/Kirkham MOVED that the Academic Affairs Board recommend that Students' Council rescind the current political policy regarding the appropriate period for the add/drop deadline and adopt the proposed political policy regarding the appropriate period for the add/drop deadline.

6/0/0 CARRIED

Anticipated Business for Winter 2005:

- AAB Political policy review, time permitting
- Discussion about creating a political policy to establish the SU's position on the report entitled, "Integrating Teaching and Research at the University of Alberta: Creating a Foundation for an Inquiry-Based Life"
- Discussion to prepare for the UTS panel on student learning
- Discussion about the academic survey
- Discussion about teaching evaluation
- Discussion about the role of technology in undergraduate education at the U of A

Membership:

Lisa McLaughlin	Vice-President (Academic)	Chair
Samantha Power	Associate Vice-President (Academic)	Recording Secretary
Chris Samuel	Student Councilor	Science
Darren Lau	Student Councilor	Science
Stephen Kirkham	Student Councilor	Science
Patrick Gamez	Student-at-large	Arts
Carolyn Nowry	Student-at-large	Science
Sarah Johnson	Student-at-large	Medicine/Dentistry
Alvin Tong	Student-at-large	Science
Mustafa Hirji	Student-at-large	Arts
Suneil Khanna	Student-at-large	Medicine/Dentistry

THE STUDENTS' UNION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

OPERATING POLICY STATEMENT

Policy Number:	11.30	Effective Date:	Page	1 of	1
Responsibility for I	Policy:	Executive Committee			
Subject Matter	- Category:	OPERATING POLICY (GENERAL)			
	- Specific:	SPACE			
	- Topic:	SUB stage			

Introduction:

The Students' Union recognizes that the SUB stage is a high profile area for events that inform and entertain users of the space. Additionally, we also understand that the surrounding relaxation area and office spaces are required to meet a variety of student needs. Therefore, it has become imperative to establish booking and fee protocol. The Students' Union shall extend priority booking to student groups, services within SUB, SUB tenants, and University, respectively.

Policy:

11.30.1	The Operations Manager - Venues is responsible for booking the SUB stage.
11.30.2	The SUB stage may be booked between the following hours: Monday - Friday: Noon - 1:30pm and after 4:30pm. Saturdays and Sundays may be booked at the discretion of the Operations Manager - Venues.
11.30.3	The SUB stage may not be booked during the exam periods <u>as set out by the University Calendar for</u> the respective year. or when SUB is open for 24 hour study.
11.30.4	Groups may book only once per week, two events per month. Groups that book more once per week, two events per month, may have further bookings for that month restricted at the discretion of the Operations Manager – Venues. Bookings must be made no less than 10 working days in advance.
11.30.5	Any events outside the parameters established in 11.30.2 and/or 11.30.4 must be approved by the Executive Committee.

11.30.6The following is the fee outline:

Rates

Type of Event	-	SU Groups	University	Off Campus
Base rate (incl. 1 mic)	per hr	Free	\$50	\$100
Requiring technician	min. 2 hrs	\$18/hr	\$18/hr	\$18/hr
Use of Data Projector	per hr	Free	\$25	\$50
Movie Showing	2 hrs	Free	\$189	\$336

11.30.7<u>11.30.6</u> SUB stage users shall not violate any agreements or contracts the Students' Union has with other parties, or SU policies regarding acceptable content.

Policy History:

Date

Mar 12, 2003

Board/Committee

Executive Committee Executive Committee

Date of Council Approval

April 1, 2003

Created Amended