Tuesday July 12, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

2005-06/5 PRESENTATIONS
“Partnerships: Students & the University” – by Graham Lettner, President
Please see document LA 05-06.01

2005-06/7 REPORTS
2005-06/7c Justin Kehoe, Vice President (Student Life)
Please see document LA 05-06.02

2005-06/7d Samantha Power, Vice President (External)
Please see document LA 05-06.03

2005-06/7e Jason Tobias, Vice President (Operations and Finance)
Please see document LA 05-06.04
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Students’ Union’s budget is unsurprisingly restrictive. So short of flexing Mr Tobias’ creative accounting skills to free up resources, there is a limit to what we can achieve on our own. However, the SU is in a great place to forge partnerships with other groups that have the effect of allowing us access to much greater resources and thus much greater opportunities. If done properly, this is not only smart business sense, but also a way to extend the relevance and imagination of the Students’ Union far beyond its current state.

SPECIFICS:

• Alumni Connections
  o Provide mentorship and professional development for students
  o Establish vibrant personal ties for past, present and future alumni
  o Leverage fundraising possibilities for University

• Community Engagement
  o Expand learning opportunities for students
  o Provide both volunteer and for-credit hands-on educational experience
  o Grow stature and relevance of U of A students in the wider community
  o Raise the University’s prestige and importance in the City of Edmonton

• Faculty-student connections
  o Promote value-added student involvement to the educational environment
  o Increase ties and communication between professors and students
  o Enrich learning opportunities for University without large investment of resources.

CONSIDERATIONS:

Maintaining separate entity status and position while creating new ties to the University.
Slow-moving nature of University governance
Widespread enthusiasm for student experience and increased engagement
Opportunity for continuity, and for ongoing benefits for students
Good Evening Council,

This past Wednesday, I attended a Health and Wellness Focus Group at the Royal Glenora Club with President Lettner. The Minister wanted to hire our President, and made the comment “yummy” after I introduced myself. Overall, this was a good opportunity for the VPSL to be involved in more serious advocacy efforts that are not directly related to the External portfolio.

As this is the first year the VPSL is a member of General Faculties Council, I will be taking over the reins as the SU representative on the **Campus Law Review Committee**.

The three **Student Life Committees** have met once since our last Council meeting. **WOW** Planning Committee is continuing to develop the theme, and tasks are being delegated to the awesome coordinators. I discussed WOW plans with the Manager of Programming and Licensed Activities for a final time before his leave, there will be some changes to the format used in previous years. There have been several meetings with different groups concerning their involvement in WOW.

An **SU Volunteers** focus group was formed, stemming from discussions had at an Executive & Service Director lunch. Volunteer issues are on the radar for many people, and we hope that the cooperation will benefit all groups in strengthening our SU volunteer base.

After being sidetracked with less important organizational concerns regarding the **Webboard**, I have a renewed focus on what needs to be taken care of before its triumphant return.

At the time of this Council meeting, I will have examined the **Revolutionary Speakers Series**, possibly attended a **CAC** meeting, met with **President Samarasekera**, planned a **bar programming** initiative with President Lettner, and explored **campus campaign** possibilities with Vice Presidents Power / Johnson.

History Quiz: the first person who can name for me the VPSL and SAC from the last three years will win a prize from the Office of the Vice President (Student Life).

**Upcoming:**

- **July 13:** Student Life Advisory Committee, WOW Planning Committee, and Programming Committee meetings
- **July 15-17:** Potential vacation
- **July 26:** Tour of South LRT Station
June 28–July 12 More work on the Affordability Review documents. We’re preparing a response, and it’s more complicated than I imagined. The deadline is July 30th, so we’ve got time.

July 4 ~ Met with the City of Edmonton Youth Council to talk about relevant issues we can both work on. I received a call from Kim Krushell a few days later, and she mentioned she’ll be working on making the CEYC a more viable advisory body to City Council by providing more support and structure. I offered to help on the initiative and will be attending the July 18th meeting for that purpose. For those interested in contributing to the CEYC just let me know and I can put you in contact.

In that same phone call from Councillor Krushell, she mentioned the next post secondary issue she’ll be working on is the residential property tax charged to those on residences, which is great news.

Campus Campaigns planning is going well. Sarah, Brett (the CCC) and I are making good progress on event planning and timelining. Our hope is to engage more students in issues affecting their lives through education of those issues. I hope to work with different campus organizations and student groups to make events relevant to students. We’re also looking at ways to collaborate with campus groups to promote each others events and resources.

CAUS ~ Started writing the Ad plan for the Affordability Review campaign. We took ideas generated at the last CAUS meeting to the marketing department who is now creating a message around those ideas. It will most likely incorporate the I Heart Alberta Education logo.

Rural Tour ~ We’re working with Brett Bergie, the PSE coordinator at Public Interest Alberta, to coordinate rural tour ideas. PIA is doing a rural tour based on the Affordability Review and CAUS members have agreed to provide support and information, as well we had a rural tour planned and didn’t want overlap in who we were reaching.

President Indira ~ We had a meeting yesterday with the new The meeting went really well, she’s very interested in what students have to say and keeping in close contact with student representatives. We discussed campus involvement and the pressures that are on students as well as joint provincial lobbying efforts that the University should be working on.
Final Budget: The Final budget is completed and is waiting to be (or has potentially been) ratified by BFC. Copies will be made available to Councilors upon ratification.

Questions, comments and rude remarks should be directed to the VPOF during question period.

Respectfully,

JT