

STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

Tuesday, May 13, 2008
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

LATE ADDITIONS (SC 2008-02)

- 2008-02/3 **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**
- 2008-02/3b Executive Committee- April 30th and May 7th, 2008
Please see document LA 08-02.01
- 2008-02/5 **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**
- 2008-02/5a Council Administration Committee-Report
Please see document LA 08-02.02
- 2008-02/6 **GENERAL ORDERS**
- 2008-02/6c **BRAGA MOVES THAT** Students' Council appoint (1) member to Alberta Public Interest Research Group Board
- 2008-02/6d **CLARKE MOVES THAT** Students' Council appoint (1) member to the Bylaw Committee
- 2008-02/6e **DOLLANSKY/FLATH MOVE THAT** Students' Council appoint (1) member to the Council Administration Committee
- 2008-02/6f **DOLLANSKY/MORIN MOVE THAT** Students' Council ratify the tenant lease agreements as tabled
- 2008-02/7 **INFORMATION ITEMS**
- 2008-02/7d Nick Dehod resigns from Bylaw Committee- May 11, 2008
Please see document LA 08-02.03
- 2008-02/7e General Information Regarding the APIRG Board for SU Councillors
Please see document LA 08-02.04
- 2008-02/7f Janelle Morin resigns from the Council Administration Committee- May 12, 2008
Please see document LA 08-02.05

2008-02/7g Beverly Eastham, VP External- Report

Please see document LA 08-02.06

2008-02/7h Janelle Morin, President- Report

Please see document LA 08-02.07

2008-02/7i Executive Goals

Please see document LA 08-02.08

2008-02/7j Roberts' Rules of Order Tip Sheet

Please see document LA 08-02.09

Executive Committee Report to Students' Council May 13, 2008

- 1. The following motions were passed at the April 30, 2008 Executive Committee meeting.**
 - a. GAMBLE/DOLLANSKY MOVED THAT the Executive Committee approve an expenditure not to exceed \$30,000.00 from the 2007/2008 Special Project Reserve. The breakdown is: \$10,000 for an election reserve, \$10,000.00 for SUB expansion and \$10,000.00 for improved signage in SUB
- VOTE ON MOTION 5/0/0 CARRIED

Executive Committee Report to Students' Council May 13, 2008

1. The following motion was passed at the May 7 Executive Committee meeting:

- a. MORIN/BRAGA MOVED THAT the Executive Committee approve a budgeted expense not to exceed \$2,280.00 for Alena Manera the Associate VP Student Life to attend COCA in Ottawa June 6 -11,2008.

VOTE ON MOTION

4/0/0 CARRIED

University of Alberta Students' Union

Report to Students' Council Council Administration Committee

May 13, 2008

Hello Council:

A few items of interest to report for Council's edification:

CAC has modified and approved its standing orders. These changes include:

- elimination of Councillor remuneration
- elimination of the clause prohibiting Council from providing food
- elimination of the clause stating the meeting time of CAC
- delegation of the authority to cancel any Council retreat to the Chair of Council
- two grammatical errors

For more details on these changes, please see the minutes of yesterday's CAC meeting.

As per Council's request, CAC passed a motion as follows:

MCKINNEY/ KUSTRA MOVE THAT CAC direct the CRO and VP Operations and Finance to investigate financial and technical implications of online voting and report back no later than June 2nd, 2008.

Until further notices, all CAC meetings will be held on non-Council Tuesdays at 6:00 pm. Reminders will be sent to Council, as all Councillors are encouraged to attend as de facto non-voting members.

Further, I will be stepping down as chair and CAC has tabled the election of a new chair until next meeting.

Yours,
Janelle Morin
(Soon-to-be-Former) Chair of CAC

11 May 2008

Dear Madame Speaker:

I am hereby resigning my position on the University of Alberta Students' Union Bylaw Committee.

Please contact me via e-mail (ndehod@ualberta.ca) if there are any questions.

Thank you,

Nick Dehod



The Alberta Public Interest Research Group

What does an APIRG board member do????

- APIRG, the Alberta Public Interest Research Group is a student funded, student directed non-profit organization that exists to provide students with the resources to be active citizens.
- Membership on our board is comprised of nine undergraduate students elected in general elections every March who may serve up to three one-year terms, and the SU appointed rep.
- The APIRG board is responsible for overseeing all of APIRG's operations. Board member duties include budgeting, organizing events, creating publications, setting annual priorities, reviewing funding applications, developing and maintaining policy, doing community outreach, and hiring staff to manage the resource centre. Board decisions are made using a consensus-based decision making process.
- APIRG currently has an attendance policy in place to which you would be expected to adhere. Meetings are generally bi-weekly and can be expected to last approximately 2 hours. There are less meeting times during the summer months. Meeting times/days will be set by the board at board retreats so as to accommodate everyone's schedules.
- There are three board retreats per year. The transition retreat has already occurred but we request the SU rep to attend the other two; one near the beginning of September, and one at the beginning of January. The dates for these retreats will be set by the board.
- The specifics of the attendance policy are available upon request. Please email ariel@apirg.org for details.
- As the SU rep you would be the primary channel of communication between the APIRG board and the Student's Union, we rely on you to keep us apprised of any events or activities that would be of relevance to APIRG or its operations. Likewise you would be able to keep Student's Council aware of APIRG activities. This would entail getting acquainted with some historical knowledge about APIRG, which APIRG board, staff and long term volunteers can assist you with. As the SU rep you would be expected to work in the spirit of and towards fulfilling, the APIRG mandate.

If you have any comments, questions or concerns, don't hesitate to get in touch.

In solidarity,

Ariel Bowering

Board Coordinator

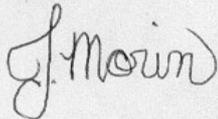
APIRG - Alberta Public Interest Research Group
HUB International Mall – 9111, 112th St.
University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB T6G 2C5
Ph: (780) 492-0614 Fax: (780) 492-0615 email: apirg@ualberta.ca
www.apirg.org

LA 08-02.05

Dear Students' Council:

Please accept this letter as my resignation from the Council Administration Committee.

Thank you in advance,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Morin".

Janelle Morin

Report to Students' Council

May 13, 2008

Beverly Eastham, Vice-President (External)



Hello Council,

The past month has been very busy with transition retreats and other transition activities. Here is a brief look at what I have been up to:

Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) Transition

The CASA transition was held in Canmore from April 18th – April 20th. This was an excellent opportunity to meet with both the outgoing and incoming executives from CASA's western region, discuss how things are done at other Student Unions and Associations, and learn more about CASA. Janelle and I will be attending CASA's Policy and Strategy conference at the end of the month and I feel that we both have a better idea of what we can hope to accomplish in CASA after having attended the transition.

Executive Retreat and Transition

From April 30th – May 5th the incoming and outgoing executives went to Kramer Pond for our transition retreat. Prior to this retreat I had been transitioning the external portfolio with Steve, and the retreat was an exciting, fun and, at times exhausting end to this process.

Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) Transition

From May 8th – 11th I was back in Canmore for the CAUS transition. The amount of snow we received was a little unexpected, but again, this was another great transition retreat. During the four days that we spent transitioning I was able to discuss many issues with our counterparts from Calgary and Lethbridge and I am eager to work with them during the rest of the year. I am also excited to announce that I was elected as the chair of CAUS for 2008/2009.

2008 Provincial Budget

Those of you who have been following the provincial budget announcements will already be aware that the following has been granted to post-secondary students through the 2008 budget:

- reduction of the interest rate payable on student loans from Prime + 2.5 per-cent to Prime;
- doubling the monthly part-time earning exemptions for student loans to \$800 from \$400;
- removing restrictions on scholarship earnings for student loans;
- increasing annual student loan limits to \$13,300;
- a 5 per-cent increase to the student living allowance for student loans; and
- tuition fee increases continued to be limited to the rate of inflation.

The provincial government also recently announced that the Alberta scholarship program will be increasing with a \$7.3-million investment to the Alexander Rutherford Scholarship. The investment will enable students from Grades 10 to 12 with an average between 75 and 79.9 per-cent to earn up to \$1,500 towards post-secondary studies.

I hope that you are all settling into summer and your new role as Councilors nicely. If you have any questions feel free to ask me before, during or after Council or stop by my office in 2-900.

Cheers,
Beverly

Report to Council Edition 1.0

Janelle Morin, President 2008-2009

May 13, 2008

Dear Right Honourable and Esteemed Members of Council:

After a tumultuous first two weeks, our executive remains enthusiastic and energetic, and they are already actively pursuing their goals. As for myself, here are a few of the areas I've been busy with:

Executive Goal-setting

Our time in Kramer Pond at Buck Lake included developing a knowledge-base of issues and processes, after which we spent a long day goal-setting and strategizing for the upcoming year. You will see some of the results of these goals attached, as per the request at last Council meeting.

CASA (Canadian Alliance of Student Associations) West

The member schools of CASA West (including a handful of schools from Alberta and British Columbia) met to discuss orientation, media training, lobbying strategies, and external goals. As pending members, I felt it was important to understand the structure and policies of CASA in order to effectively assert our goals into its lobbying framework. The sessions were very dense but also quite valuable for assessing the future usefulness of CASA to the U of A SU.

CAUS (Council of Alberta University Students)

Last week saw Bev and myself (as well as ye olde Governor Janz and Vice President Dollansky) in Canmore transitioning for next year with the SU executive members of U of C and U of L. We were very much on the same page with many of our goals, and have decided to conditionally work towards advances in housing, tuition and deferred maintenance. Prior to the transition, we also met with Minister Horner with the other members of CAUS, a result of which was substantial movement on the elimination of property taxes on residences.

Board of Governors

On Monday, May 12, I attended my first official BoG meeting, the most substantial result of which was the yearly passing of SU fee increases: a CPI increase to our union dues; a 4.6% increase to the Access Fund to mirror tuition increases; and the implementation of a referendum-approved Nursing Students' Association fee.

Other News, Etc.

I had the chance to talk with former Prime Minister Kim Campbell after her appearance in the Prime Ministers Conversation Series event hosted by the university. I was pleasantly surprised to hear her enthusiastic thoughts on consultation, even on a national level, and feel we can learn much from such wisdom.

Awesome Person(s) Du Jour Award

This shout-out goes to the Administration team at the Students' Union. Magically, I arrived home from retreat and things were printed, turned over, organized, filed; meetings were set, life was orderly... I am definitely not used to this!

Let me know if there are ever any questions or concerns. I would be happy to talk with you about any SU-related matters!

Cheers,
Janelle

Council of Faculty Associations

Individual Attention

Visit Faculty Association Executives on their home ground. Listen to the wants and needs they express and facilitate them.

Academic and Nonacademic Advocacy

Encourage Faculty Associations to take their role as the representative of their students seriously. Aid them in their efforts to represent student concerns to the Faculties.

Fall Retreat

Plan and execute a comprehensive fall retreat (held on campus), which will provide Faculty Associations with the knowledge and resources they require. Develop yearlong communication between Faculties and with the Students' Union.

Academic Materials

Canadian Roundtable on Academic Materials Summer Conference

Fully cooperate with the Bookstore so that the University of Alberta will continue its' leadership on the issue of Academic Materials Affordability. Further convince other Universities of the importance and potential for progress of this issue.

Fall Academic Materials Campaign

Run an On Campus Campaign focused on making instructors aware of the cost of Academic Materials, their rights when selecting Textbooks, and the alternatives available (such as course packs). Focus on engagement of instructors and education of what actions they can take.

Teaching and Learning

Course Evaluations (USRI)

Participate in the development of course evaluations that more accurately evaluate instructors and better captures constructive student feedback.

Student Advisor Evaluations

Explore having the Administration implement student feedback and/or evaluations of Student Advisors. The intention of having student input is to improve the quality of this service.

Formative Feedback

Support and expand the pilot project.

Professor of the Week

Reevaluate the intention and focus of the program; adjust it as required.

'Learning Survey'

Conduct a survey, jointly with the Administration, of instructors exploring what traits make a good/great student. Provide this information in a form they can benefit from. Use this information in the Teaching and Learning dialogues as an essential half of the equation.

Writing

Continue the observation and constructive criticism of past VP Academics.

Technology

Constant Vigilance

Monitoring the general implementation of technology and ensuring that student concerns are raised. Ensure technology benefits teaching and learning; and is not an end unto itself.

WebCT (Learning Management System)

Be engaged in the review process and assertively raise student concerns while the feedback is being sought.

BearTracks/Scat (Registration System)

Evaluate the impending upgrade to BearTracks and determine the strategy the Students' Union will follow after that point.

Student Body Communication and Engagement

General Faculties Council - Student Caucus

Engage the general student body and make them aware of how important these positions are. Ensure that the Student Caucus vacancies are filled.

Academic Relations Group

Utilize as a forum to sound out the Student At Large opinion on various topics, follow up on recommendations and questions that come out of it.

Departmental Associations

Encourage Faculty Associations to provide support to and communicate regularly with their Departmental Associations. Aid them indirectly through their Faculty Associations.

Scholarships and Bursaries

Raise student awareness of the Scholarships and Bursaries available to them. Seek great ease of use in the application process.

2008/2009 Executive Goals

May 13, 2008

Prepared by: Beverly Eastham, Vice-President (External)



To: Janelle Morin, President

Summary of VPX Goals

Rural Tours

- Meet with community groups and interested parties
- Increase the number and/or length of rural tours
- Continue to use rural media as a means for communicating student concerns and issues to the citizens of the province

Strengthen the Edmonton Alliance of Students (EAS)

- Ensure that members of the EAS stay connected and continue to discuss issues affecting students in the Edmonton area
- Look for areas where the members of the EAS can work together in order to make gains on student issues

Attainable/Affordable Housing

- Work with the University, provincial government and municipal government
- Hold a housing week or event in conjunction with the University of Calgary Students' Union's housing week
- Work with the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) to further develop advocacy plans regarding affordable student housing

Elimination of Municipal Property Tax on Residences

- Continue to work with the University, provincial government and municipal government

Tuition Stability in Legislation

- Look for support of the University
- Develop a new approach to lobbying efforts

Deferred Maintenance

- Ensure students are not paying for deferred maintenance
- Ensure that the province dedicates funding to the University to pay for deferred maintenance
- Work with CAUS to further develop lobbying efforts

Communication with Students

- Capitalize on the UASU's Centenary year
- Continue to increase the involvement and effectiveness of the Campus Planning and Action Committee (CPAC)
- Look for new ideas and alternate methods of communication
- Develop better awareness of SU advocacy activities

Increase Quality of Education

- Work with the University and provincial government

Textbooks

- Work closely with the Vice President Academic
- Start working towards movement on this issue at a federal level

Federal Lobbying

- Ensure membership in the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations is approved as directed by last year's council
- Develop and implement a federal lobbying strategy

Tuition

- Continue to advocate for tuition being tied to CPI
- Ensure tuition levels are equal to reasonably summer savings for students

Effective Advocacy and Lobbying

- Prepare for possible federal election in the summer or fall
- Work with the Vice President Operations and Finance to create an elections war-chest

Support for Environmentally Sustainable Initiatives

- Use data to push the University to be more sustainable
- Work with the Vice President Student Life to further sustainability initiatives

Student Loans

- Lobby for the elimination of parental contribution restrictions and for a greater proportion of non-repayable assistance

Scholarships/Bursaries

- Work with the University and provincial government
- Lobby for an increased value and number of scholarships and bursaries for continuing undergraduate students
- Lobby for increased numbers of needs based and involvement based scholarships and bursaries

2008/2009 Executive Goals

May 13, 2008

Prepared by: Kristen Flath, Vice-President (Student Life)



While these are some of the more important goals for the year, this is by no means an exhaustive list

1. ADVOCACY

- a. Health Plan – We are one of the only universities in Canada without a health care plan for students. The possibility of a universal opt-out would give students the option of coverage without the obligation to purchase a plan.
- b. Sustainability – Environmental concerns are becoming increasingly important to students, something that we need to recognize. The SU needs to lead by example by way of our own operations and our advocacy to the University.
- c. Residence – After the recent events with Lister, it is more important than ever to ensure that students' voices in residence are heard and that the residence system is open and transparent.
- d. Mandatory Non Instructional Fees – Transparency and accountability for mandatory fees is essential for students. I want to ensure continued progress is made towards clarity in MNIFs.

2. SERVICES

The services continually suffer from a lack of funding and resources. I want to promote partnerships with the University, especially in regards to Student Group Services, the Environmental Coordination Office of Students, and the Campus Food Bank, to increase the quality of the services we provide. In addition, I want to ensure the services have the resources and the space necessary to effectively serve students.

3. PROGRAMMING

- a. Developing the Sustainability Advisory Committee – Student feedback and support is essential to helping the SU meet student needs. With SAC, we aim to get students involved in the way the SU approaches sustainability.
- b. Student development - In the past the SU has focused on programming for its entertainment value. There has been a recent shift towards considering the value of programming that promotes student development, such as last year's Travel Week, which I would like to see continue.

- c. Programming through student groups – Thousands of students are involved in groups across campus. If we can support the events that they hold, we can create a stronger community.

2008/2009 Executive Goals

May 12, 2008

Prepared by: Steven Dollansky, Vice-President (Operations and Finance)



Summary of VPOF Goals

- *Develop and executive an effective General Manager hiring process* – in conjunction with the rest of the incoming executive, staff, previous executives, and other interested parties I will be focused on ensuring the transition in the General Manager position flows smoothly. Bill has been with us for 17 years and will be greatly missed, but it is my goal to ensure we use this opportunity to build on his great work and move our organization in a positive direction.
- *Build the foundation for SUB expansion* – begin consultation with the Dean of Students and Provost surrounding the future expansion of our building. SUB has become the centerpiece to our campus as a center for student services, relaxation/study space, and successful business environment, which has lead to the burden of overcrowding and the need for more space. It is my goal to ensure the University recognizes the important role of our building and commits to financially assisting SUB's expansion.
- *Secure space for the Campus Food Bank* – work with the Vice President Facilities and Operations and the Provost to find a suitable location for the Campus Food Bank and facilitate the negotiation of a contractual agreement surrounding space within my term.
- *Streamline and expand the student group granting process* – work with the Dean of Students to expand the University's contribution to the granting process while working to reduce barriers to accessing these funds. I will also work with Council to ensure that staff is being utilized in the granting procedure when possible in order to reduce the more specific involvement of the grant allocation committee and encourage a more broad oversight role.
- *Solicit donations from external parties to student awards and the Access Fund* – investigate the feasibility of registering the Access Fund as a charity (like the Student Involvement Fund) in order to establish a permanent system to attract third-party investment.
- *Finalize major changes to our business operations and contracts* – ensure that all of the proposed renovations are completed on schedule and on budget. I will also finalize the food court tenant contracts and the single source cold beverage agreement.
- *Establish a permanent Elections Reserve* – create a reserve, funded by an annual contribution, that can be used to fund the Students' Union's election campaigns.
- *Conduct a Students' Union spending audit* – identify areas for possible spending reductions, compare our expenditures to similar Students' Unions, and encourage efficient budgeting in all departments.

2008/2009 Executive Goals

May 13, 2008

Prepared by: Janelle Morin (President)



There are a few over-arching themes to my goals this year, as per my election platform and its development in my first few weeks in office. They are loosely as follows:

Academic:

1. Support COFA (inclusively as student groups but exclusively as per recommendations of VP Academic) through direct interaction and focused, responsive meeting of needs
2. Tie USRIs to targeted training for professors with deficiencies in certain areas: this is a project I hope to have secured for implementation in September 2010
3. Explore the feasibility and then work towards creating a system for student advisor feedback
4. Re-implement some facsimile of the Revolutionary Speakers Series

External:

1. Use all tools at our disposal when appropriate to further ongoing and new concerns of undergraduate students
2. Ensure the elimination of property taxes on residences
3. Promote the creation of new government-funded residences
4. Develop a more specific advocacy framework for tuition and explore options of how to best achieve an effective strategy for lobbying on tuition decreases, using reasonable summer savings as an indicator
5. Use the centenary as leverage in all external lobbying
6. Encourage active student participation in the federal election

Operations and Finance:

1. Help develop SUB expansion plans
2. Hire an effective, dynamic General Manager
3. Ensure granting systems in place are appropriate and as streamlined as possible for ease of use and access
4. Examine and ensure operating policies are up-to-date and functional

Student Life:

1. Increase the sustainability of our internal operations and those of the university
2. Push joint funding models for services in conjunction with the university to ensure they shoulder their share of the financial responsibility
3. Promote student group events and help to support groups in appropriate and solicited ways

4. Support residence communities in their advocacy initiatives
5. Continue the Wall of Gold activities calendar

Communication and Outreach:

1. Engage students with our message, programs and services through use of alternative media and outreach strategies
2. Respond personally to emails, Gateway in a timely manner
3. Ensure website is up-to-date
4. Publicize to students relevant decisions being made at BOG and GFC, or other important bodies as appropriate

RRO Tip Sheet

You lucky duckies better use this!

This gives you a barebones rundown of what to say when you would like to speak in Council.

The following motions do not require you to be recognized by the Speaker.

Points of: Parliamentary Inquiry, Information, and Order are made by calling them out. Once recognized by the chair – or in the case of a PoI, once being recognized by whoever is speaking – ask your question. Points do not have to be well-taken by the Speaker. In other words, they can just shut you down. Speakers are also not required to take a PoI.

To call division, i.e. to have the vote counted, just call out “Division!” This is different from moving that the vote be counted because this happens *before* the first vote is done, whereas the other motion is usually done because the 2/3 vote is too difficult to decipher by an oral vote.

To appeal the decision of the Speaker say, “I appeal from the decision of the chair.”

To be recognized in the meeting, hold up your placard and wait for the Speaker to address you. After being addressed, say “Thank you Mme. Speaker...” and continue with the purpose of why you are speaking.

To make a motion, wait to be recognized and proceed with “I move that...”.

To second a motion, the Speaker will ask something to the effect of “Is there a seconder for this motion?”, at that time, raise your placard. Whoever’s placard is seen as raised first, will be considered the seconder and the Speaker will say something like “Thank you Councillor X” or “Councillor X seconds”.

Specific Motions:

The following motions require that you be recognized by the Speaker before proceeding. You should begin the following with Mister/Madame Speaker.

To amend a motion – “I move to amend X.”

→ There are several different ways to amend a bill/policy/etc.

- “I move to amend X by removing the word(s)

_____.”

You can remove specific words from the bill/etc.

- “I move to amend X by inserting the word(s)

_____ after _____.”

You can insert specific words into the bill/etc.

- “I move to amend X by replacing the word(s)

_____ with _____.”

You can replace specific words in the bill/etc,

- “I move to amend X by removing section 3.”

You can remove whole sections of the bill/etc.

- “I move to amend X as is stated in front of you.”

You can write down specific amendments and give

them to the Speaker, who will read your amendments out as they are read. This is a good way of putting your motion forward if you have substantial amendments.

To commit to a committee of Council a specific task, you say “I move to commit the motion to the ___ (ex: Council Administration Committee).”

You are not required to give a timeline, but if the motion is time-sensitive, it is recommended. To put a timeline on it, just add something like “and that the motion be dealt with and return to Council by _____.”

To table a motion – “I move to table the motion until _____ (meeting date).”

To postpone the motion indefinitely, which essentially defeats the motion, say “I move to postpone the motion indefinitely.”

To move the previous question, i.e. move to vote. “I move the previous question.”

To have the vote counted. Many motions require a 2/3 vote and many votes are done by a simple call of “aye” and “nay”. If you feel that the oral 2/3 is too close for call, you can ask that the vote be counted. Raise your placard ASAP so that the speaker knows of the urgency of your motion. Once recognized, say “I move that the vote be counted.” And the vote will be done by hand and counted.

To suspend the rules say “I move to suspend the rules”. You will have to say which rules you are suspending. “I move to suspend Standing Orders.” “I move to suspend Appendix 3 of Standing Orders.” etc. etc.

To adjourn the meeting just say, “I move to adjourn.”