

STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

Tuesday November 18, 2008
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

LATE ADDITIONS (SC 2008-16)

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 2008-16/1 | <u>SPEAKER'S BUSINESS</u> |
| 2008-16/2 | <u>PRESENTATIONS</u> |
| 2008-16/3 | <u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT</u> |
| 2008-16/5 | <u>BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS</u> |
| 2008-16/5a | BOG report
Please see document LA 08-16.01 |
| 2008-16/5b | Audit Committee report
Please see document LA 08-16.02 |
| 2008-16/5c | Budget and Finance Committee report
Please see document LA 08-16.03 |
| 2008-16/7 | <u>INFORMATION ITEMS</u> |
| 2008-16/7d | Steven Dollansky, VP Operations and Finance-Report
Please see document LA 08-16.04 |
| 2008-16/7e | Kristen Flath, VP Student Life-Report
Please see document LA 08-16.05 |
| 2008-16/7f | Beverly Eastham, VP External
Please see document LA 08-16.06 |

Hello Council,

The last Board meeting I attended on Friday, November 7th was the quickest one I have attended, mostly consisted of the passage of administrative procedures. A considerable amount of discussion was dedicated to updates regarding the financial meltdown and the implications it will have on the universities portfolio and the PSE community. Endowments at many schools are used to pay professors and many other schools have lost considerable amounts of revenue from their endowments. It will be interesting to see how the PSE community adapts over the next few years.

I thanked the Administration and gave Cudos to the team that was involved in the Beartracks upgrade and expressed that this was an excellent example of where students and the university can work well together to create a solution that is beneficial to all stakeholders. This sparked sharp disagreement between one of the Governors and the Provost over some comments relating to Peoplesoft, but no action will be taken at this time on the IBM/Peoplesoft contract. Congratulations anyway to Mr. Kirkham and the team at the Bay building who made this program happen.

Government Relations committee was interesting. In the midst of the financial crisis, everyone is trying to figure out what the ramifications are going to be for the Universities funding and the provincial governments plans for PSE.

If you want to see any of the public agenda packages, feel free to come and see me after council.

CAC will be held on the next off-council Tuesday (25th) so I look forward to seeing you there!

Michael Janz

University of Alberta Students' Union

Report to Students' Council

Audit Committee

2008-2009/AC /08

Dear Council:

At the Wednesday November 12th, 2008 meeting of the Audit Committee:

- 1) The committee reviewed the profit and loss statements for the four months ending August 31st, 2008 for ECOS and the Marketing/Media department of the Students' Union. Several questions were raised of minor concern regarding timing issues reflected in these statements, along with other minor concerns from an operational perspective. Follow-up from senior management has been requested to help answer these questions.

- 2) The committee reviewed the credit card statements of the current and previous executive along with credit card holding staff members during the periods of April to May and May to June. Several concerns were noted. In many cases, receipts were not provided for many items. Follow-up from senior management has been requested to help rectify or clarify some concerns.

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For specific details and questions, please feel free to refer to the minutes posted.

At the next meeting on Wednesday, November 26th at 1815h, the committee plans on reviewing the follow-up responses provided for the above two notes, continuing our departmental P&L review, credit card review, and reviewing documentation expected to be submitted by GSJS [The Gateway] for the purposes of D.F.U. disbursal.

Sincerely,

Zachary Fentiman

Report to Students' Council

Budget & Finance Committee

2008-2009/BFC /08

Dear Council:

At the Wednesday November 12th, 2008 meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee:

- 1) The committee reviewed the operational plans of L'Express/L'Express Catering, Cram Dunk, Juicy, and the Facilities department of the Students' Union. Product differentiation and market growth was discussed at length during the review of the Students' Union food service operations. The committee is expecting follow-up from senior management to specific questions raised regarding these operational plans.
- 2) The committee discussed what capital improvements to RATT they would ideally like to see in the future. Potential improvements were discussed in terms of feasibility and customer satisfaction.

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For specific details and questions, please feel free to refer to the minutes posted online.

At the next and final meeting of the trimester on Wednesday, November 26th at 1700h, the committee plans on continuing the scheduled operating plan review and reviewing any follow-up responses provided. This process allows BFC members to familiarize themselves with the various needs of SU departments (for budget preparation next trimester, of course), and acts as an opportunity to check-in with SU departments.

Sincerely,

Zachary Fentiman

Report to Students' Council

November 18, 2008

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



To: 2008/2009 Students' Council

Important Initiatives

- Augustana and Campus St. John Fees – This issue has been an area of concern over the past few weeks. We have been notified by the Augustana Students' Association that they are not interested in our offer to begin charging full time membership fees and then transfer approximately \$17 to them. This would allow for them to lower the amount of the FAMF that they charge from \$62.50 to \$45 per semester. While the reasoning for this decision has been difficult for me to comprehend, John will be continuing to discuss the issue with them in the days ahead. My view is very simple. The SU has an obligation to provide support to the satellite campuses for services that we cannot provide and that support must be at a level that calculated transparently and accountable to both parties.
- SUB and PAC Expansions – Conversations continue. Ms. Flath may be the best person to ask questions on the PAC topic.
- Operating Plan Review – BFC will complete the review of operating plans ahead of schedule at the next meeting. The committee has been functioning effectively and efficiently throughout the year and has been a model for others to follow. My thanks go out to the members of BFC.
- Access Fund charitable status – we have found a way that we can allow for charitable donations to be made to the Access Fund by using the Student Engagement and Involvement Fund which is already a registered charity. We are in the process of making the necessary amendments and will be looking into the feasibility of hiring on a part time position to solicit donations in the Winter semester.
- October numbers – are in and look to be quite positive. I am meeting with our finance department between writing this report and attending Students' Council to get my questions answered.

Other issues

- Coke Contract –Everything is just about finished here with the exception of our input into the distribution of scholarships and bursaries. We met with Student Awards to discuss our need for student input into the allocation of the Coke scholarships last week, and we are awaiting their response regarding the feasibility of the proposal.
- SUB signage – we have started to develop a plan to revitalize the signage and way finding in the Students' Union Building. We will be working with the University to develop the idea further, with hopes that we will have new signage in place by the end of my term.
- Student's Finance Board – I will be out of the office on Thursday and Friday to attend a meeting of the Government of Alberta Student's Finance Board. I will be available via email at any point during that time.

Hello Council,

Here is an update on what has been happening the past couple of weeks.

AASHE Conference – I spent some time last week in North Carolina for the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Learning Conference. It was an opportunity to meet other students, staff, and faculty from across North America and talk about what everyone is doing to promote environmental sustainability on campus. Some interesting ideas came out of the conference that I hope to either work on myself or pass to my successor. It was also great to see that ECOS, as a student-run service, is providing programs of comparable or better quality than many university-run initiatives across North America.

Sustainability Initiatives – Composting is still going well, we are waiting until after Christmas break to roll it out for the students to use. The search for Styrofoam alternatives is still going, although now we have found some feasible alternatives and are just trying to determine what the impact on the cost of our products would be.

Health Plan – Last week I met with the Health Plan Advisory Committee to make sure they were comfortable with the outcomes of our discussions with the health care providers. We are still moving ahead with discussions.

Campus Law Review Committee Working Group – The working group struck to discuss the inclusion of guidelines for Associate Deans to follow in the discipline process has come to an agreement. Originally, we had hoped to include in the policy several factors for ADs to consider when disciplining a student. After much resistance from the ADs, we have all agreed to include a term that would encourage students to present any mitigating factors in their case, while respecting their right to not provide evidence that would incriminate them.

Antifreeze and Kids' Christmas Party – The planning for these events has been going very well, Alena has been working very hard on both projects. If you are interested in volunteering for the Christmas Party, please send her a note.

FA Health Plan – John and I met with representatives from the MSA and LSA to discuss progress on their health plan. They have been involved in a very thorough selection process and have decided on a provider. The SU will play a role in contract negotiations to ensure we are signing a contract that we are comfortable with.

PAHC – We have had several meetings with Dean Robinson and Dean Mahon over the construction of a Physical Activity and Health Centre. We have not discussed student fees for the project, as per our policy. These discussions have been very productive, and have revolved around the possibility of student space in PAHC and creating a holistic

wellness centre. Right now the discussion has focused on timelines and the scope of the project.

Health Centre Advisory Group – We had our second meeting of HCAG a couple of weeks ago. An interesting discussion emerged over the question of whether or not Students' Counseling Services was within the purview of our group. This is likely a topic that will come up again at our next meeting. At the meeting, the Associate Director of the Health Centre committed to not asking for a student fee increase in the next three years, which was really great to hear.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Ask during council, stop by the office, or send me an email at vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca.

Report to Students' Council

November 18, 2008

Beverly Eastham, Vice-President (External)



Hello Council,

Currently in the external portfolio...

High School Leadership Conference (HSLC): Success!

The 10th annual HSLC was held on November 7th and 8th and saw over 150 high school students from around the province in attendance. Our guest speakers were all a hit, and the workshop facilitators and group leaders did an absolutely amazing job! My immense thanks go out to all the student volunteers who helped to make HSLC the success that it was, and also to my AVP, Karen Lawrence, for doing a great job of organizing the conference.

Meetings, Meetings, Meetings!

As per usual, my weeks have been filled with a great variety of meetings. Here is a brief summary of the more 'official-type' meetings that I have had since my last report:

- Oct 29: EPC Meeting (discussed need for a policy on public, private partnerships (P3s))
- Oct 30: Student Financial Assistance Appeals Committee
- Oct 31: Edmonton Alliance of Students (EAS) meeting with Councillor Don Iveson
- Nov 12: Public Interest Alberta (as CAUS Chair)
- Nov 13: CAUS teleconference
- Nov 16: Meeting with Harry Chase, Liberal PSE Critic (as CAUS Chair)
- Nov 16: Public Hearing on Secondary Suites

Secondary Suites Update

Some of you will be familiar with this issue from last year, but for those of you who may not be as familiar; the City of Edmonton is working amending the bylaws surrounding secondary suites in an attempt to encourage owners of illegal secondary suites to come forward and upgrade to legalized suites. This is being done in a two phase process and a public hearing for the second phase (which included the addition of garage and garden suites) was held last night. I attended the hearing and spoke on behalf of the SU to say that we are very pleased with the work the city has done on this issue, but would like to see some of the parking requirements relaxed in areas around the university and in areas surrounding major transit routes, such as the LRT.

After some discussion as to the process and some of the concerns that had been raised by the community groups, Council decided to refer the bylaw amendments back to the Administration for some revision and further consideration. The issue will come back to Council on January 19th.

EAS Update

The EAS had a very productive meeting with Councillor Don Iveson on October 31st in which we discussed affordable student housing, the secondary suite legalization and bylaw amendment process, transit/LRT/U-Pass things, and the possibility of the EAS presenting our priorities and initiatives to City Council. The EAS was scheduled to have a meeting on Nov. 14th, but this has been postponed until this coming Friday, Nov. 21st.

CAUS Update

As mentioned in a previous report, CAUS prepared a budget submission that outlined the priorities we would like to see in the provincial budget. As it is budget consultation time, CAUS has several meetings scheduled to discuss our submission with government officials which I will be attending as CAUS Chair. The entirety of the CAUS Council will be meeting with Minister Horner on December 1st to discuss our budget submission.

Yesterday, at our meeting with Harry Chase, CAUS submitted the petitions on affordable housing/residences and deferred maintenance that many of you would have signed. These will be introduced in the House as soon as they are approved by Parliamentary Council.

CASA Update

Currently, most of my work with CASA involves working with the rest of the CASA Policy Committee members to ensure that the policies that we were directed to develop are finished in time for the CASA Lobby Conference, at which time they will hopefully be adopted by the membership.

The annual CASA Lobby Conference will take place slightly later than usual this year, due to the timing of the federal election. Lobby Con is scheduled for January 31st to February 7th and will be held in Ottawa (of course).

As always, feel free to email, call or schedule a coffee meeting if you have questions.

Cheers,

~ B