

STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

Tuesday January 6, 2009
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

LATE ADDITIONS (SC 2009-18)

2009-18/1 SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

2009-18/2 PRESENTATIONS

2009-18/2b Welcome back address- Presented by Janelle Morin, President. Sponsored by Janelle Morin, President

2009-18/2c Restricted Access Overview- Presented by Janelle Morin, President. Sponsored by Janelle Morin, President

Please see document LA 09-18.01

2009-18/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

2009-18/5 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

2009-18/6 GENERAL ORDERS

2009-18/7 INFORMATION ITEMS

2009-18/7f UASUS/USSR document

Please see document LA 09-18.02

2009-18/7g Beverly Eastham, VP External- Report

Please see document LA 09-18.03



It's your education: don't get priced out.

Acting on Council's Mandate: Restricted Access Campaign Overview

Prepared for Presentation to Students' Council 6 January 2009
Janelle Morin, SU President

Background: Why Are We Acting?

1. Council Policies:

Council sets priorities within its framework of legislative policy; this is a concerted Institutional push to realize those priorities.

Council Policies Restricted Access campaign will act on:

- Scholarships and Bursaries
- Academic Materials
- Deferred Maintenance
- Tuition
- Student Loans
- Position at the Board of Governors - Tuition
- Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees
- Involvement
- International Student Differential
- Affordable Housing

2. Growing Problems:

Statistics on costs and access are showing alarming trends, this year in particular.

- Textbooks have increased at 280% the rate of inflation since 1998
- Housing rates in Edmonton rose 40% in three years
- Rent is poised to balloon another 8%, following previous 8.7% and 10% increases
- In real dollars, tuition has tripled since 1991 and risen 30% since 1998
- Food Bank numbers are skyrocketing, with new usership up 6-10 fold from historical yearly averages and overall food requested estimated to double
- The current economic crisis is hitting students from several fronts, as RESPs dissipate, available jobs decrease, and bursaries become less available, while costs simultaneously increase

Broader and Deeper: Beyond the Yearly Tuition Debate

As the numbers indicate, the problems are systematic, deep, and encompass a great deal more than simply tuition or rent increases. We use the Board decision every year to highlight

these problems and apply public pressure to the government through the media because it is an ideal media forum and a good public barometer for how much students care about the costs of their education.

Further, this campaign extends beyond the borders of the Students' Union, and is a joint initiative with the Graduate Students' Association and the Residence Halls Association. We have also extended an invite to students from Grant MacEwan and NAIT, we are looking for ways to involve high school students who are potential PSE attendees, and are attempting to involve alumni, professors and non-academic staff on campus.

We have coordinated the campaign into four pillars:

1. Lobbying Initiatives

Involves presenting the problems to the university and the government, as well as both small tangible and large systematic ways to address the problems. The SU Executive is responsible for this aspect of the campaign. The other three pillars help leverage these arguments to provide the university and the government with an incentive to act.

2. Public Messaging

Through media, ensuring the public is aware of the vast problems students and potentials students face. Again, the SU Executive will be primarily responsible for this aspect of the campaign.

3. Stakeholder Involvement

By far the most ambitious aspect of the proposal, our Stakeholder Involvement initiatives will be expanded on below.

4. Day-of BoG Event

To capitalize on the media attention of our yearly Board lobbying initiative, we will engage as many students and stakeholders as possible in this morning-of rally. The event will have food, entertainment, visual aids, multiple groups coordinating individual efforts, and will be heavily advertised.

Stakeholder Involvement Expanded: A Grassroots Approach

In December, we held a meeting with students from around campus to gauge interest in being a part of the campaign. There was a great deal of support for the upcoming initiatives, and much enthusiasm for doing individual, specifically tailored demographic initiatives.

Central Project Teams:

Aden Murphy and Jesse Hahn: Visual Materials

Rachel Dunn and Steve Melenchuck: Materials Distribution

Kory Matthewson and Nick Dehod: Creative Outreach Strategies

Beverly Eastham and Kyla Fisher: Classroom Communications

Michael Schwake: Audio-visual Support

Group Outreach and Projects:

To be determined

Volunteer Initiatives for Students:

- Support the project coordinators, group efforts, and come to the day-of event
- Join the Facebook group, website and blog.
- Send a letter to your MLA from the central website
- Create your own project

How Will We Measure Success?

Because this campaign is attempting to take a new approach, we want an explicit system for measuring effectiveness. We will be considering the following factors approaching the end of the campaign:

- How many students did we reach and engage with the overall message?
 - Number of scarves handed out
 - Number of handbills handed out
 - Number of volunteers signing up
 - Number of classrooms spoken to (or students based on numbers tally)
 - Number of Facebook group members
 - Number of hits to website/ blog
 - Number and quality of group offshoot initiatives
 - Number of students attending our Day-of Event
 - Were the students who attended engaged and enthusiastic?
 - Have we, by

- How much media attention did we garner?
 - Number of op-eds published in rural papers
 - Number of articles in local and national newspapers
 - Number of radio appearance requests
 - Number of television clips
 - Number and quality of alternative media coverage
 - Number of letters to the editor in the Gateway
 - Number of ads and quality of bought campus media coverage

How many Decision-Makers did we influence?

- Number of MLA letters sent from central website
- Number of letters sent to Deans and Administration
- Number of Board members voting against the increases
- Number of MLAs speaking to PSE and student access in session or question period
- Will the administration and campus community support our access projects following the January campaign?
- Will the administration and/ or the Board issue a student-friendly public statement about student access and cost pressures?
- Will the administration and/ or the Board agree to begin or step up lobbying initiatives concerning student finances and PSE access?
- Will the Provincial Legislature table our letter as an official document?
- Will the Provincial Government agree to change or reopen public policy on PSE access?

Section II: Probationary Period

The UNDERGRADUATE SCIENCE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES must meet the Conditions outlined in this section on an ongoing basis. Failure to do so shall result in the Derecognition of the UNDERGRADUATE SCIENCE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES.

- 1) The UNDERGRADUATE SCIENCE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES must demonstrate that it honestly seeks to be the Faculty Association for the FACULTY OF SCIENCE. The UNDERGRADUATE SCIENCE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES must diligently and faithfully seek to satisfy the Conditions of Probation and requirements of Bylaw 8350.
- 2) The UNDERGRADUATE SCIENCE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES must maintain Student Group Status.
- 3) The UNDERGRADUATE SCIENCE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES must submit Biweekly Reports to the Students Union Vice President (Academic) every second week. The reports must contain the following elements.
 - a) A summary of the progress on and adherence to the points outlined in Section III of the Conditions of Probation.
 - b) A detailed financial summary that includes all incoming revenues with corresponding receipts and all expenses incurred by the organization with corresponding receipts.
 - c) Attached Constitution, Bylaw and Policy updates.
 - d) Attached Minutes of any meetings conducted.
 - e) Attached Summary of any events held or services provided.

Section III: Final Review

The UNDERGRADUATE SCIENCE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES must meet the Conditions outlined in this section by MONTH DAY, YEAR as outlined in Section I. Marked progress towards meeting these conditions must be demonstrated throughout the Probationary Period.

- 1) The UNDERGRADUATE SCIENCE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES must meet the following Conditions with regards to Governance Structure.
 - a) A ratified Constitution and/or Bylaws which contains the following elements.
 - i) All elements required by Bylaw 8350 Part II Sections 1.a. to 1.g.
 - ii) The official name and acronym of the Faculty Association.
 - iii) The procedure for the appointment of a Faculty Association Deputy Returning Officer (FADRO).
 - iv) The determination of which positions will hold financial signing authority and clear requirements of transparency and accountability.
 - v) The procedure for the impeachment of executive members.
 - vi) The procedure for the creation and amendment of Operating Policies.
 - vii) The roles and mandate of the Science Council of Departmental Associations.

- a) A budget must be developed which includes all assets and expected income and expenses.
 - b) Operating Policies regarding Finances must:
 - i) Clearly outline security and responsibility surrounding finances as vitally important.
 - ii) Clearly outline mechanisms for maintaining accountability and transparency surrounding finances.
 - iii) Expressly forbid the following:
 - A) The use of petty cash to reimburse executives for expenses.
 - B) The spending of funds by an executive outside their fiscal year.
 - C) Reimbursement for unauthorized expenses.
 - c) For the Probationary Period all expenditures will adhere to the following restrictions.
 - i) Any expenditure between \$200 and \$750 shall be brought to the attention, by email, of the Students' Union Vice President (Academic).
 - ii) Any expenditure over \$750 shall be subject to the approval of the Students' Union Vice President (Academic). If the Students' Union Vice President (Academic) does not respond to the request within two business days of receiving it then tacit approval will be assumed by both parties.
 - iii) Any financial violation of the UNDERGRADUATE SCIENCE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES constitution, policies or Conditions of Probation will automatically trigger that any expenditure over \$200 shall be subject to the approval of the Students' Union Vice President (Academic).
- 3) The UNDERGRADUATE SCIENCE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES must meet the following Conditions with regards to Representation and Advocacy.
- a) A professional relationship must be established and maintained between the UNDERGRADUATE SCIENCE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES and with both the FACULTY OF SCIENCE and the Students' Union.
 - b) Official representation on behalf of the students of the FACULTY OF SCIENCE must be provided by the UNDERGRADUATE SCIENCE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES to:
 - i) The Dean of the FACULTY OF SCIENCE.
 - ii) Any and all committees and councils requiring student input within the FACULTY OF SCIENCE (including but not limited to Science Faculty Council and any and all Departmental Councils).
 - iii) The Science Council of Departmental Associations.
 - iv) The Vice President (Academic) of the Students Union.
 - v) The Council of Faculty Associations.
 - c) Advocacy on behalf of the students of the FACULTY OF SCIENCE must be done towards both the FACULTY OF SCIENCE and the Students' Union.
 - d) Demonstrate that the UNDERGRADUATE SCIENCE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES is in touch with the students in the FACULTY OF SCIENCE and is accurately representing and advocating on their behalf.

Report to Students' Council

January 6, 2008

Beverly Eastham, Vice-President (External)



Hello Council,

I hope you all had a wonderfully relaxing break and are enjoying a productive start to 2009. Here is a brief update on some of the things that are happening in my portfolio.

Meetings Update

Dec 1-3: CAUS Budget Submission meetings and Open House

Dec 5: SU Christmas Party for Kids

Dec 11: Senate Provincial Affairs Committee Meeting

Dec 12: Senate Plenary Meeting

Dec 17: Exec Retreat (at Mr. Dollansky's fine abode)

Dec 18: Exec/Dean of Students Lunch Meeting

Dec 19: EAS Meeting

Dec 20-30: VPX Away on Holidays

Jan 5: RESTRICTED ACCESS CAMPAIGN START

Senate Update

The second senate meeting of this year was held on December 12th. The meeting included several different "brainstorming" activities in which Senators discussed the direction they would like to see the Senate take in the coming years. Also, all of the Senate Committees are currently going through a review of their Terms of Reference and updating them.

Restricted Access Campaign

As most of you are aware, the Students' Union launched the Restricted Access Campaign this Monday January 5th. The campaign will continue, officially, until the 23rd of January which marks the Board of Governors decision regarding tuition and rent increases. I'm reasonably certain that Janelle will be covering most of the items related to the campaign in her report so I shall leave it to these two final things: wear your red scarf! (available at the SU office) and visit the campaign website at www.restrictedaccess.ca

CAUS Update

CAUS hosted its annual joint Open House and Holiday Party with ACTISEC on December 3rd. Several of our counterparts and stakeholders were in attendance and the new venue was excellent.

CAUS is making the switch from banking with TD to banking with Scotiabank. This is largely due to TD's unwillingness to grand CAUS a credit card. This has been highly inconvenient for many of the financial activities that CAUS is required to perform on a day-to-day basis. Our sister organization, ACTISEC, banks with Scotiabank and has not had a problem qualifying for a credit card. As our finances are quite similar to ACTISEC we expect there to be no problems in our application for the wonderful plastic card that everyone loves so much.

>>IMPORTANT NEWS: For some time now we have been hearing rumours that Mount Royal will be turned into a university sometime in the (reasonably) near future. There has not been an official announcement from the government yet (and you will hear immediately from me should

one be made), but it is looking like this is something that is very likely to happen before the end of the 08/09 executives' term. Over the holiday break I was able to meet with Jenn Prosser (CAUS Vice Chair) and Matt Koczker (ACTISEC Chair and VPX for Mount Royal College) to discuss the implications that this change would have for our two provincial lobby organizations. CAUS and ACTISEC will be continuing to work together and come up with a plan for how both of our organizations will continue to operate should Mount Royal become a university. As it looks like we will not know if Mount Royal is becoming a university until it actually becomes one, we are making sure that the necessary planning and discussions are taking place now in an effort to mitigate the need for last-minute, rushed planning. ACTISEC/CAUS will be holding a joint conference at the end of January to discuss the possible options that our organizations have and I shall be providing updates to you on this topic as they come.

EAS Update

The last EAS meeting was held on December 19th and served mostly as a chance for the EAS members to talk about issues that we are all facing at our respective campuses and wrapping some things up before the holiday break. The next EAS meeting is scheduled for this Friday, January 9th. We will be working on planning for the City Council presentation that we are hoping to make and will also be discussing issues of affordable housing/secondary suites and LRT/U-Pass related issues. Things have been going extremely well this year with EAS. We are continuing to have regular, and productive, meetings, keeping minutes, and looking for areas that can benefit from collective student initiative.

CASA Update (and chaos in Ottawa)

CASA has hired a new Policy and Research Officer, Spencer Keys. He officially started on Monday, January 5th and I will be meeting with him to discuss what the Policy Committee has been doing this week.

The CASA Lobby Conference will be held in March this year (assuming nothing else unexpected happens at the federal level). As this conference is usually held in November, but has been required to change due to the parliamentary calendar the Lobby Conference will also be combined with the AGM, which is usually held in March/April. Together the new conference has been dubbed "Combi Con"

We are hoping to get Zach Churchill, CASA National Director, and Dan Murphy, CASA Membership Relations Officer out to our of our council meetings in late January/early February. Stay tuned for more announcements about when this visit will be. Zach and Dan will likely present on who CASA is, what CASA does, and will also be more than happy to answer any of your question or address your concerns.

We Want YOU!

Are you thinking of running in the exec elections? If not, now is a good time to start thinking about what you might want to be doing next year. If being and SU executive seems like something you would be interested in, please come and talk to myself or any of the other executives. We would be more than happy to entertain your questions and provide you with any information that you may need.

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

Cheers,

~ B