

**Tuesday, April 10, 2018  
6:00PM  
Council Chambers, University Hall**

**LATE ADDITIONS (SC 2017-22)**

**2017-22/1 SPEAKERS BUSINESS**

**2017-22/2 PRESENTATIONS**

**2017-22/2a *Presentation Title:* President's Farewell Address**

***Abstract:***

- Every year, the President gives an address to thank Students' Council for their hard work and leadership over the term. President Banister will provide brief comments covering our year.

***Presenter(s):***

- Marina Banister - President, Students' Union

**2017-22/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**2017-22/4 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORT**

**2017-22/5 OPEN FORUM**

**2017-22/6 QUESTION PERIOD**

**2017-22/7 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**2017-22/6a USHAKOV/SCOTT MOVE**, upon the recommendation of Policy Committee, to approve the renewal of the Health & Wellness Policy in its second reading.

**2017-22/6b USHAKOV/HOWIE MOVE**, upon the recommendation of Policy Committee, to approve the renewal of the Food Policy as is.

**2017-22/6c PIASECKI/USHAKOV MOVE**, upon the recommendation of Policy Committee, to approve the renewal of the Residence Policy as is.

**2017-22/6d HOWIE/USHAKOV MOVE**, upon the recommendation of Policy Committee, to approve the renewal of the Campus Saint-Jean Linguistic Accessibility Policy as is.

**2017-22/8 GENERAL ORDERS**

**2017-22/8a** **USHAKOV MOVES** to approve the 2018 Fiscal Year Residence Association Fees for the following residences, as presented below:

- HUB: \$45.00/year
- International House: \$50.00/year
- Newton Place: \$40.00/year
- Lister Hall: \$75.00/year
- Residence St. Jean: \$67.00/year

**2017-22/9** **INFORMATION ITEMS**

**2017-22/9a** Report from the President.

See SC-2017-22.01.

**2017-22/9b** Report from the Vice-President (Student-Life).

See SC-2017-22.02.

**2017-22/9c** Report from the Vice-President (External).

See SC-2017-22.03.

April 10, 2018

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Students' Council

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Hello Council,

After four years on council, I can officially say that this is my last written report to Council! It has been an honor to serve as the President of the University of Alberta Students' Union. It has been a busy time at the University of Alberta. Please find an update on my work below.

## **University**

### Protest

As you all know, there was a protest on Friday April 6 where hundreds of students, staff, and faculty braced the -25 weather to stand in opposition to the recently passed budget by the University of Alberta, Board of Governors. Given that the concerns from the campus community continue to be ignored by senior administration, we now call on the Government of Alberta to not accept the budget presented by the University.

### Board of Governors

Although another meeting of the Board of Governors has not been called, I did sit in on a teleconference which was intended to update the Board of the "situation" at the University. I have a Board Finance and Property Committee meeting on April 18.

## **External**

### CAUS

VP Larsen and I attended the Council of Alberta University Students' Advocacy Week. It was a great week of meetings where we talked to government and opposition about post secondary issues. A personal favorite moment was when a Government Minister asked for an update on the UofA situation and told me that she would be surprised if the government accepted the budget given all the opposition from students, staff, and faculty. VP Larsen can update more.

### Media

Myself as well as the Vice-Presidents have been doing several media interviews about what is happening at the University of Alberta in regards to budget cuts and cost increases.

## **Internal**

We are creating an internal political code of conduct for our staff, which is intended to make sure the organization stays non-partisan.

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**Marina Banister**, *President*

2-900 SUB • 780 492 4236 • marina.banister@su.ualberta.ca

Myself and the other Vice-Presidents have been focusing on transition as much as possible during this busy time with University advocacy. I am very pleased that many of the incoming vice-presidents have been fully participatory in University advocacy strategy thus far.

**Closing Remarks**

My Winter semester office hours will be Tuesdays from 12:00PM-1:00PM in SUB 2-900! Feel free to drop by if you have any questions or would like to discuss anything.

Thank you for reading my report and happy to answer any questions you may have.

Marina Banister  
UASU President

April 9th, 2018

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Students' Council

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Dear Council,

I cannot believe it is finally time to write my final report for the year. It genuinely feels like I started just last week, the year has flown by and it really has been an honor and a privilege to serve students this year.

Here are some of my last updates for you all:

### **Last Clash Bash**

This FRIDAY is the Last Clash Bash! There will be plenty of great activities throughout the day and a celebration in the SUB Atrium in the evening time! Come out and celebrate a successful year before exams take over.

### **COSA**

Council of Student Affairs has met. The committee is undergoing revision and will be changing in the year to come to fit in with General Faculty Council as a student voice providing insight on many decisions that go to GFC regarding student affairs. I am interested in seeing this committee develop a louder, more impactful voice over the years.

### **CORA**

Council of Residence Associations has had its last meeting for the year. We are looking at connectivity in Residences; the university has issues a Request for Information, and will be looking at third party providers for better Internet for those living in residences.

### **Chief Librarian, Vice Provost Selection**

I am sitting on the selection committee for a new Chief Librarian, Vice Provost of Learning Services. We are nearing the end of the process and a decision and offer should be made in the next two weeks.

### **Housing for Students Who Parent Committee**

The University will be doing an assessment for housing for students who parent. This will be a thorough consultation done in the next twelve months to ensure the university supports this demographic of students in the most efficient way possible.

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**Ilya Ushakov**, *Vice President Student Life*

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### **Residence Association Fees**

Have had a meeting to look at the assessment of Residence Association Fees, we want to ensure that the process is simple for students and Residence Associations in order to have a strong everlasting advocacy and programming within residences.

### **Landing Board**

The Landing held a town hall about potentially coming under the Students' Union as a service, the negotiations are still under way but a lot of productive conversations are happening. I can see this being in the realm of possibility sometime in the summer.

### **Campus Activities Board**

Have edited the job description for the chair and the Terms of Reference. The application is now live for next year with the board having more of an oversight function providing key assessment, evaluation and recommendations in regards to events and programming within the Students' Union.

### **Mental Health Committee**

Committee is still going strong, with a vision to publish a Mental Health Strategy for the Students' Union this year. Thorough consultation will begin over the summer to ensure student voice is captured within this strategy as it is meant to improve the student life experience here at the University of Alberta.

Thank you for the fantastic year and best of luck in all your future ventures!



Ilya Ushakov

Date: April 9, 2018  
To: Students' Council  
Re: Report to Students' Council

Hi Council,

Foremost, my apologies again for being on the Late Additions. My week last week was 24/7 and again I wouldn't have been able to do this report justice if I did it on Wednesday.

I've said this a lot, but last week was by far the most intense of my time here at the UASU. The amount of work that myself and student leaders put in over the past few weeks is astounding. A special thanks to staff, in particular Jon Mastel the Director of Political Research and Affairs, for work in ensuring that we were able to make such a impact at the provincial level last week. I would also like to highlight that our incoming, Adam Brown, was very much thrown into the fire and did a fantastic job representing the UASU in meetings at the highest levels. Their support and support from across the province was unreal and I am thrilled for the next steps.

Finally, this will be my last report as VP External. I believe strongly that it will show that myself, and the entire executive, are primed to finish out the year strong. I am thankful to have been able to work with all of you over the years and am excited to continue in a new role. For anyone who has known me over the years, the immortal words of Drake "started at the bottom and now we're here" really does apply.

## Council of Alberta University Students



CAUS Mixer 2018

The Council of Alberta University Students had a fantastic Advocacy Week. You can find more on the hashtag #advoweeek and @CAUS on almost all social media platforms. Some of the highlights:

- CAUS facetime with Premier Notley in a public forum. This is extremely substantial, as we know that our counterparts in other organizations have not been able to do so, including



University presidents. The Premier's time is incredibly valuable and we are thankful to have anytime with her at all, especially over budget week.

- Meetings with 12 members of Cabinet, including Minister of Finance Joe Cici and Minister of Minister of Advanced Education Minister Marlin Schmidt. All members of cabinet have been supportive of different aspects of platform.
- 27 meetings with 42 members of the Legislative Assembly. Highlights include caucus meetings with the United Conservative Party, Alberta Party, and Liberal Party. All have been supportive of some aspect of our advocacy work and we are thrilled to work with some amazing partners.
- All incomings and outgoings from all CAUS institutions in attendance. Often some folks are not capable of attending so this was a great start for the incoming CAUS delegates.

The week was a remarkable success. If you also account that CAUS currently has no staff support (normally would have 2 full time staff), this was an amazing week.

As well, the subject of the UASU protests was a consistent theme of the week. CAUS as an organization will be making a statement in support of the #notpublicgood efforts and all of our provincial partners will comment as well. We received unprecedented support from the Minister Schmidt himself, in the form of public statements supporting students calls to curtail the budgeting practices at the University of Alberta and across the province. We also received new information, that we can expect multiple announcements over the summer on the post-secondary file, and legislation in the near future. It remains important that pressure continues to build on this government to hold to these timelines, as uncertainty in the Funding Frameworks and Tuition reviews are leading factors in the University of Alberta's budgeting practices. Specifically, support for regulating international student tuition is at a critical stage, as we must ensure that public opinion appears to support some baseline predictability for these students.

## In the News/To Note/Protest

### 'U of A! Not OK!': Students, faculty and staff protest University of Alberta fee increases

'If you're an international student living in Lister, odds are you're going to rethink coming back next year'

Travis McEwan · CBC News · Posted: Apr 06, 2018 7:12 PM MT | Last Updated: April 6



CBC Coverage

There has been widespread coverage of Friday's protest here at the University of Alberta. I won't flag all of it, however, I do want to highlight a few things for council to be aware of and to approach critically.



Foremost is statements like the following, made by President Turpin and some senior administration;

"Our international fees are among the lowest in Canada. Our residence fees are very, very affordable in comparison to our comparative set of universities. The fees that are being charged at the University of Alberta are well below the national average."

According to Statistics Canada data, international students in an arts and humanities program at the undergraduate level faced fees of \$20,395 this year at the University of Alberta and \$18,338 at the University of Calgary." - [CBC Edmonton](#)

The University of Alberta is making a concentrated effort to create two narratives, in particular around the fees and tuition of international students;

(1) is that international tuition at the UofA is competitive in terms of cost, which the above information outright disproves. In fact, institutions across the province, notably the University of Calgary have lower tuition and fees for international students. In addition, the University of Calgary has made prudent financial decisions which have allowed for it freeze international student tuition inline with the domestic student tuition freeze. The only comparable institution in the province has been capable of freezing and addressing costs, however, the University of Alberta senior administration has not.

(2) is that international students "must pay the full cost of their education and cannot be subsidized by public dollars". As far as I can ascertain, this is nowhere within policy or writing, as well, the university has never produced a number as to the cost of educating a international student and refuses to do so. All together this argument I believe to be a fabrication to build support for charging international students a higher cost. I believe the university sees an opportunity to play to stereotypes and miss-information within the general public and I am disappointed to see the university engage in this line of reasoning. For more information, please see the [Council of Alberta University Students International Student Affordability, Employment, and Housing in Alberta: Preventing Student Exploitation in Post-Secondary Education](#).

"Without stable and viable public funding institutions will argue that it is reasonable for universities in Alberta to increase costs to students to make up for revenue shortfalls. International students exist within an unregulated policy area that turns them into a much-needed revenue generation tool. Without regulation, these short-sighted tuition increases may price out students, create an over-reliance on international tuition, and ultimately allows for an unsustainable funding model for public universities."

Council should also be aware the the Ministry of Advanced Education has not accepted the University of Alberta's budget and does not intend to do so for some time. This means that the University of Alberta Board of Governors is completely within their right to call a meeting of the board to review the budget. It also means that the Ministry still is within its right to reject, or send back, the budget for further review. Continued pressure from students and stakeholders is critical to ensure that this happens, and I urge council to remain active on this file.

**To Note:**

- Myself, Jon, and incoming VP EX Adam Brown are preparing for changeover at both the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations and Council of Alberta University Students. Without getting to far ahead of ourselves as an organization, we hope to take leadership roles in these associations this year.
- Last Clash Bash is this Friday, I hope to come later in the night, but encourage all councillors to check out programming
- Fine Arts Building is having a roundtable on Wednesday to discuss security issues in the building. I would push all representatives this may affect to attend.
- I was extremely awkward in the presence of the Premier had have not felt that way since I first met Minister Schidt and the beginning of the year. Wild times.

Cheers,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Reed Larsen', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Reed Larsen