

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

**Changeover Meeting
May 1, 2001 - 5:00 p.m.
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall**

MINUTES (SC 2000-24)

2000-24/1

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:11 p.m.

2000-24/2

NATIONAL ANTHEM "O Canada:"

Church led Council in the singing of the National Anthem.

2000-24/3

University of Alberta CHEER SONG "Ring Out a Cheer"

Poon led Council in the singing of the University of Alberta Cheer Song.

2000-24/4

ROLL CALL

Kelly read the attendance roll for Council.

2000-24/5

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Zwack/Speer moved that the agenda of the 2000-24 meeting be approved.

Item SC2000-24/10b regarding the General Faculties' Council Student Caucus was withdrawn.

Consensus

2000-24/7

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Poon/Harlow moved that the minutes of the 2000-23 meeting be approved.

Consensus

2000-24/8

REPORTS

- a. Leslie Church, President
 - An oral report was provided at the meeting.
 - **Church** thanked Council for allowing her absence, along with **Varvis** and **Agard**, from the last meeting. A good time was had by all at the U2 concert in Calgary. U2 t-shirt: \$46.00. Three tickets to the concert: \$400.00. Stella getting puked on: Priceless.
 - **Church** also thanked those councillors who attended the Stephane Dion presentation at the Myer Horowitz Theatre: the venue was full, and many kind words came from Dion's office.
 - **Church** attended the Premier's Dinner as a guest of Eric Newell, where Ralph Klein recognized rising student costs and tuition as a governmental concern.
 - **Church** and **Samuel** attended the TravelCUTS meeting in western Ontario, and there has been a preliminary decision on behalf of the parties of the suit.
 - Congratulations to **Agard** for orchestrating an excellent CASA regional transition retreat: all incoming and outgoing CASA members from Alberta and British Columbia were present, and it was a great success.
 - The Executive just returned from their Retreat to Scenic Edson, and **Church** is excited about the incoming team.
 - Regarding the Letter to the Editor submitted to the Edmonton Journal under the name of the Executive, the Journal has printed a retraction and an apology, and it is officially understood that the Executive did not write this letter.
 - **Church** will be providing a final report, an SU Annual Report, and staff appraisals, as well as facilitating the CAUS changeover within the next month.

- b. Christopher Samuel, Vice-President Academic
- An oral report was provided at the meeting.
 - Attended the TravelCUTS meeting.
 - **Samuel** was glad of some resolution regarding the letter to the Edmonton Journal.
 - **Samuel** sat with Lyle Oberg as part of the most recent CAUS meeting, and was encouraged by Oberg's views on post-secondary education.
 - **Samuel** met with the acting Vice President Finance and Administration for the University, presenting him with a list of the SU's ongoing concerns. **Samuel** is optimistic about the progress made on several issues.
 - The Executive Retreat was an incredible experience, and the new Executive is hoping to raise the bar of deviancy within the Students' Union.
 - **Samuel** thanked Council for an excellent year, and expressed the hope that he performed well.
- c. Naomi Agard, Vice-President External
- An oral report was provided at the meeting.
 - It's been a fast and productive year. Currently, **Agard** is wrapping up transition for both the SU and CASA (whose transition conference went well), as well as loose ends around the office, which are numerous.
 - Regarding the recently dropped provincial budget, the only new funding apparent was an initiative for faculty retention and improvement, applicable to Engineering, Computing Sciences, Business, and Medicine. All other information was from old announcements, although it is heartening that affordability and rising tuition are becoming a significant issue.
 - This year, the External portfolio has focussed particularly on pushing issues in terms of outdated policies such as the parental contribution clause in student loans. **Agard** expressed the wish that these initiatives be continued.
 - Finally, **Agard** thanked Council for the amazing opportunity it has granted her, and for its dedication and commitment.
 - **Agard's** final report will be available relatively soon, and she will be facilitating the CASA AGM.

- d. Gregory Harlow, Vice-President Operations & Finance
 - An oral report was provided at the meeting.
 - The preliminary budget is prepared for Council's approval.
 - **Harlow** is wrapping up transition.
 - Finally, **Harlow** thanked Council for its support, and for facilitating his achievements.

- e. Jennifer Wanke, Vice-President Student Life
 - An oral report was provided at the meeting.
 - Meetings with Campus Security are wrapping up.
 - Labatt's has finally sent Antifreeze prizes.
 - **Wanke** is spending time archiving photos and mementos for the year.
 - The Handbook is going well.
 - Hiring is still ongoing.
 - Retreat was successful, with lots of work and team-building.
 - **Wanke** thanked Council for a great year.

- f. Mark Cormier, Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative
 - An oral report was provided at the meeting.
 - The most recent Board Safety and Health meeting looked at counteracting workplace accidents.
 - **Cormier** is wrapping up transition with incoming Board of Governors Representative Chris Burrows, and attended a meeting with **Samuel, Church,** and Burrows.
 - **Cormier** will be available this summer to serve as a resource for Burrows.
 - **Cormier** thanked Council for its help and support of the student body.

- Business Faculty Report
 - An oral report was provided by **Jorgensen**.
 - At the Labatt's Corporate Street Hockey Tournament, the students walloped all the competition.
 - Beer Gardens sold out on Wednesday, and was quite successful.
 - The Accounting Club has been successful in its initiative of providing free tax assistance.
 - **Jorgensen** introduced John Watkins as the new President of the Business Students' Association.

- Education Faculty Report
- An oral report was provided by Coles.
- Transition is ongoing, although there is still one position vacant on the new Executive.
- Graduation was a great success.
- The Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, held at the Old Spaghetti Factory, was a success.
- A session with the Alberta Health Working Group addressed the current crisis with HIV and AIDS.

2000-24/9

QUESTION PERIOD

Veale: Why does the new agenda not reflect the changes this Council made to its Standing Orders?

Varvis: That is a question to address to the new Speaker.

2000-24/10

LEGISLATION

2000-24/10a
ARTICLE VIII-
FINANCE

CHURCH/HARLOW MOVED (THIRD READING) THAT Students' Council, upon the unanimous recommendation of the Access Fund Board, approve the changes to Article VIII of the Constitution regarding Finance.

Harlow introduced the motion. The marketing and advertising plan for the Access Fund has been included in the agenda, as requested.

25/6/3 Carried

2000-24/10c
BYLAW 7600
STUDENTS' UNION
INFORMATION
REGISTRIES

HARLOW/CHURCH MOVED THAT (SECOND READING) Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 7600 Respecting Students' Union Information Registries.

30/0/2 Carried

2000-24/10d
BYLAW 7800
STUDENT
FINANCIAL AID AND
INFORMATION

HARLOW/CHURCH MOVED THAT (SECOND READING) Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 7800 Respecting Students' Union Student Financial Aid and Information Centre

Carried

2000-24/10e
BYLAW 8100
DIRECTOR OF
STUDENT GROUPS

HARLOW/CHURCH MOVED THAT (SECOND READING)
Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 8100 Respecting the Director of Student Groups of the Students' Union

32/0/0 Carried

2000-24/10f
BYLAW 8300
STUDENT HELP

HARLOW/CHURCH MOVED THAT (SECOND READING)
Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 8300 Respecting Student Help

29/0/2 Carried

2000-24/10g
BYLAW 8700
STUDENT
OMBUDSERVICE

HARLOW/CHURCH MOVED THAT (SECOND READING)
Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 8700 Respecting the Student OmbudService of the Students' Union.

28/0/0 Carried

2000-24/10h
BYLAW 8900
STUDENTS' UNION
SAFEWALK

HARLOW/CHURCH MOVED THAT (SECOND READING)
Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 8900 Respecting the Students' Union Safewalk Service

29/0/0 Carried

2000-24/10i
BYLAW 800-
HONORARIA &
SALARIES PAID BY
THE STUDENTS'
UNION TO TERM
AND ELECTED
EMPLOYEES

HARLOW/CHURCH MOVED THAT (SECOND READING)
Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 800 Respecting the Honoraria and Salaries Paid by the Students' Union to Term and Elected Employees.

Harlow introduced the motion. The major change to this bylaw is with regard to the Deputy Returning Officers of the SU General Election. Because there are three DROs now, instead of the familiar two, the need seems to have been eliminated for the referendum bonus of \$100.00 per question.

Poon: This is not appropriate; referenda are very labour-intensive and take a good deal of dedication on the part of DROs.

Church: The objective of this change is not to reduce the salaries of the DROs, as this was an oversight of the Personnel Review Committee last year. The Chief Returning Officer does not receive any such bonus, which is not appropriate. There are provisions in the job description for drastic changes to workload, which can be applied as the need arises. The current wording does not present the opportunity to seek the best possible solution for every situation.

24/2/5 Carried

**2000-24/10j
BYLAW 390 -
CAMPUS
RECREATION
ENHANCEMENT
FUND**

HARLOW/WANKE MOVED THAT (SECOND READING) Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee approve the proposed changes to Bylaw 390 Respecting Campus Recreation Enhancement Fund of the Students' Union.

30/0/0 Carried

2000-24/11

NEW BUSINESS

2000-24/11a

WANKE/AGARD MOVED THAT Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, support the expenditure of no more than \$8000.00 for the production of 5 issues of a Summer Gateway.

Wanke introduced the motion. This proposal is for two issues in July, and a subsequent three issues in August. Publication is heavier near the end of the summer to facilitate current editors getting lucrative summer jobs without having to worry about the newspaper. This expenditure is not necessarily a loss, as it will provide summer training for the editors, and the amount of advertising could even prompt a profit. There are lots of students on campus during the summer, and the SU feels it important that it have a publication on hand for the Games.

Carried

2000-24/11b

HARLOW/SAMUEL MOVED THAT Students' Council upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee approve a budgeted expenditure not to exceed \$5375.00 for the Executive Committee to attend the CCSA conference in Calgary from June 8-12.

Harlow introduced the motion. Many of the portfolio-oriented conferences have been amalgamated into one conference, which ultimately will save the SU a good deal of money, especially considering that this particular conference will be held in Calgary, so airfare does not have to be considered. This is an excellent orientation to Canada's universities and the structures of their student unions.

Jorgensen: Is this the actual cost of the conference?

Wanke: The breakdown is \$425.00 for registration; \$145.00 per night's accommodation; and a \$30.00 *per diem*. This adds up to slightly less than the requested amount.

Carried

Zwack's and Speer's abstentions were noted.

**2000-24/11c
PRELIMINARY
BUDGET**

HARLOW/CHURCH MOVED THAT Students' Council approve the Preliminary Budget as tabled.

Carried

**2000-24/11d
IMAC COMPUTER
PURCHASE**

HARLOW/SAMUEL MOVED THAT Students' Council approve the purchase of an IMAC Computer with RAM upgrade & the specified budget line transfer as tabled.

Carried

**2000-24/11e
ENGINEERING
AUTONOMY & ACCESS
FUND TRANSFER**

POON THE ELDER/BRINDLE MOVED THAT Students' Council approve the addition of a referendum to the next Students' Union Elections regarding a) autonomy for the Engineering Students' Society; b) the transfer of \$1,013,664.00 in Excess Reserves to the Engineering Students' Society for the purpose of c) creating a new campus bar.

Poon the Elder introduced the motion. The SU has a joke motion every year, but it is usually unfunny and anticlimactic. This motion, contrariwise, is both titillating and providing a viable service to students. The Engineering Students' Society does not feel that its voice is being heard on campus, and wants better representation. Therefore, it has drafted this motion, proposing the ultimate solution, which is the erection of a new campus bar.

Gall: Thanks to the Engineers for this proposal, which is both innovative and fiscally responsible. Does the cost stipulated in the motion include the cost of the piano and the pianist identified in the diagram?

Brindle: This is a very innovative and brainy component of the motion – these costs will be satisfied by an agreement with the Arts Co-op Program.

Poon the Elder: There is no reason to hoard the Access Fund surplus.

Roesch: Does this give the Engineering Bridge newspaper autonomy?

Brindle: The Engineering Students' Society has already, magnanimously, granted the *Bridge* autonomy. This would not affect that.

Jorgensen: There is an eight-story drop for the fireman's pole – what does the ESS plan to do about risk management?

Weppler: This is a super high friction pole. If one wanted to go down quickly, one would be forced to lube up.

Harlow: Will there be an inscription at the base of my statue?

Brindle: There will be, depending on your wishes.

Church: Why does **Harlow** get a statue, while I do not?

Brindle: You will get one outside the building.

Wanke: If this is intended to be a student zone, by GFC policy it would still be governed by the SU.

Brindle: No doubt it would.

Klaassen: The ESS should not get any funding until the Education Students' Association is paid by the SU for **Samuel's** window cleaning.

Harlow/Samuel moved to refer this motion to the Internal Review Board.

Brindle opposed the motion. Council, he argued, is capable of deciding where students would most prefer to imbibe alcohol.

Harlow: This is an item of great importance, and IRB is better capable of deciding how to word my inscription, and give it considered thought.

Lazin: Since this motion refers to a different term, would it not disappear after changeover?

Varvis: No.

Lazin: That is ... probably ... good.

Vote on main motion: 24/4/8 Carried

Jorgensen's and Speer's abstentions were noted.

**2000-24/11f
EXECUTIVE
AUTONOMY**

CHURCH / SAMUEL MOVED THAT Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, grant the Executive Committee full political and financial autonomy from Students' Council, while allowing it to retain jurisdiction over all monies collected by the Students' Union, and pay One Dollar (\$1.00) per year to retain offices within the Students' Union Building.

Church introduced the motion. This is an issue of the utmost seriousness and complexity. The Executive Committee feels strained by the undue political influence of Students' Council, and that it should be allowed to perform with the freedom guaranteed by having won an election. This work should be done in an arena free of the political agendas or manifestos perpetually imposed by Council.

Brechtel: If this motion passes, does this mean that we will no longer have to attend meetings?

Harlow: Absolutely not. Meetings will continue to be held, but there will be no motions.

Brindle: Can the minimum rent be raised from \$1.00 to \$5.00?
This was adopted as a friendly amendment.

Harlow: The 1951 Council defeated a motion proposed by the Executive Committee, which clearly shows that Council is chafing the Executive's freedom and creative spirit.

The Secretary, for posterity, asked which motion this was.

Harlow: Does it matter?

17/13/2 Carried

The Speaker exercised her privilege to quash the vote, as well as the motion.

Harlow/Samuel moved a Challenge to the Chair.

The ruling of the Speaker was upheld 24/5/1.

2000-24/13

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Wanke:** The final episode of *Survivor* is on Thursday night at the Power Plant. Come as your favorite Survivor, and prizes will be given out. There will also be a draw for a trip for two somewhere nice!

2000-24/13b
PRESIDENT'S
ADDRESS

President Leslie Church gave an address at this point.

It has been an absolute pleasure to have been involved with the Students' Union. This SU is entering its 93rd year, and put into context with the age of the province of Alberta, it is impossible not to see the impact that we have made. Looking back through *Gateway* coverage of war years and watching Executives going on tours of duty is only a fraction of what makes this an exceptional body. Working for the last four years for an organization run and directed by students has been a privilege.

It occurs to me that my involvement in the SU has meant more to me than my degree during my time at the University of Alberta. My heartfelt advice to all students is to become involved with this amazing organization in any way you can, to take the extra step. I understand that I am preaching to the choir, but don't let your involvement stop with Council.

I am continually awed by this University, and it gives me tremendous pride to be a graduating student and a past-President. I must offer my thanks to the SU staff of over 300 employees, who contribute above and beyond what is asked of them, putting both heart and soul into building campus life. Thanks as well to all councillors, volunteers, committee members and coordinators, who have evidenced amazing energy in making campus come alive for this year.

I would also like to thank outgoing Speaker Stella Varvis, whose work must never be underestimated. As someone who has served as Speaker myself, I can say that it is not as simple as Stella makes it appear. Thanks also to Sarah Kelly, Council's Recording Secretary, in particular for her behind-the-scenes work.

My feelings for this organization, and for my time here, can be encapsulated by this phrase: *We are committed to showing the way, upholding the right, bringing solutions, not problems, and providing hope.* Thank you for an amazing year.

**2000-24/13c
COUNCILLOR OF
THE YEAR**

Varvis presented the Councillor of the Year Award to Tim Poon, about whom his fellow councillors said:

"He is a very outspoken and committed councillor."

"He has provided service and sagacity to Council."

"He makes Council interesting!"

"Yay!"

Honorable Mention Awards were presented to Janna Roesch and Chris Veale, about whom their fellow councillors said:

"Chris shows dedication and principles at Council."

"Janna is very active and provides great insight. It is clear that she truly cares about the issues."

"Chris keeps tabs on the Executive, and ensures that nothing is overlooked."

"Janna is an outspoken hard worker!"

"Janna and Chris, because they know their stuff!"

**2000-24/13d
ADDITIONAL
PRESENTATIONS**

At this point in the meeting, **Poon the Elder** took the floor to present additional honors to various members of Council. Presentations were made to thank **Kelly, Varvis, Cormier, Church, Samuel, Agard, Harlow, and Wanke**.

Poon the Elder: Five years ago, I decided to become a Campus Ambassador, and a General Faculties' Council representative, just to see how the University works – and does not work. All you members of Council have one thing in common: your commitment to students. As with everything else, the Students' Union is not perfect, but I have, and have had, every confidence in your continuing dedication and commitment, and the outstanding caliber of the people in this room.

2000-24/14

ADJOURNMENT

Church/Poon moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:06 p.m.