

*University of Alberta Students' Union*

# **STUDENTS' COUNCIL**

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**May 29, 2001 - 6:00 p.m.**

**Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall**

## **M I N U T E S (SC 2001-03)**

**2001-03/1**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m.

**2001-03/2**

### **NATIONAL ANTHEM "O Canada."**

**Samuel (President)** led Council in the singing of the National Anthem.

**2001-03/3**

### **University of Alberta CHEER SONG "Ring Out a Cheer"**

**Salyzyn** led Council in the singing of the University of Alberta Cheer Song.

**2001-03/4**

### **ROLL CALL**

An attendance roster was passed out by the Secretary.

**2001-03/5**

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was approved by consensus.

#### Late Additions

2001-03/10b – NASA

2001-03/11l – Eugene Brody Funding Committee

2001-03/11m – External Affairs Board

2001/03/11n – CASA AGM

**2001-03/6**

### **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION**

**2001-03/6a**

The Director of Communications, Kirsten Odynski, gave an overview of the Students' Union.

SU Vision Statement: The Students' Union will strive to be an effective advocate of student concerns in front of all audiences, a provider of valued and value-added services and support to its membership, and a responsible business owner and operator.

SU Values Statement: These values are paramount in the pursuit of the SU's vision – rule of law, security and safety, ethics, democracy, dignity, innovation, leadership, and equality.

Strategic Objectives:

- To increase the credibility of the SU for all audiences.
- To track, evaluate and reward progress.
- To institutionalize innovation, planning and strategic leadership.
- To align political, service, and business operations to strategic objectives and principles.
- To foster ownership amongst the membership.
- To secure and allocate resources.
- To increase capability and capacity.
- To communicate – both externally and internally – stressing two-way communication mechanisms.

The SU has four main functions: services, businesses, political ends, and events/activities.

Services: the Access Fund, the Campus Food Bank, the Information Registries, Safewalk, the Student Financial Aid and Information Centre (SFAIC), Student Group Services, the Student Distress Centre, Student Ombudservice, Students' Orientation Services.

Businesses: the Postal Outlet, Dinwoodie Lounge, the Empty Pocket & SUB Games, the Horowitz Theatre, L'Express, the Power Plant, the Print Centre, Room at the Top (RATT), SUBTitles.

On the political side, each of the five Executives serves a different function.

Executive Portfolios:

**President**

- Serves as the Chief Executive Officer and official spokesperson and chief representative to the University, the government, and the community.
- Coordinates the Executive Committee and shepherds the SU in its long-term strategic planning.
- **Samuel's** goals for 2001-02 include the tuition debate, Executive outreach, SUB Expansion, and an organizational review of the SU.

**Vice-President Academic**

- Advocates the interests of students to the administration and faculty, and serves as a representative to the University Administration.
- Sits on 36 boards and committees and is responsible for the SU Involvement Awards.
- **Salyzyn's** goals for 2001-02 include reviewing several aspects of the registration process to ensure that it is as student-friendly as possible; working to minimize the costs of academic materials; and securing midterm teaching evaluations.

**Vice-President External**

- Is responsible for all matters lying outside the University.
- Sits on the Students' Union provincial lobby group, CAUS, and the federal lobby group, CASA.
- Maintains an ongoing relationship and fosters communication with all levels of government, the surrounding community, businesses, media, and other student associations.
- Deals with issues such as government funding and student finance.
- **Zwack's** goals for the year include having the provincial government review the needs assessment criteria; resolving the Universal Bus Pass issue for students; and pushing the federal government for more PSE CHST funding.

**Vice-President Operations & Finance**

- Creates and administers the SU budget, while being responsible for SUB, businesses, and services, ensuring that they are used effectively with students' needs in mind.
- Is responsible for SU fees and referendum-based fee uses and for monitoring the level of the fees.
- Monitors university finances to enable a more informed tuition debate.
- **Speer's** goals for 2001-02 include working on the design aspects of SUB expansion; working to improve customer service and marketing strategies; and reviewing the University budget for cost inefficiencies.

**Vice-President Student Life**

- Brings to life entertainment and programming, including non-academic University issues; Athletics; safety on campus; residences; non-traditional student needs; Orientation; activities and events; publication of *The Gateway*; and publication of the Handbook.
- **Wanke's** goals for 2001-02 include enhancing campus pride and improving VIDS.

SU events include: WOW, the Inner City Children's Christmas Party, AntiFreeze, Live concerts, lectures, films, debates, the High School Leadership Conference, Orientation, and the SU awards ceremony.

#### Composition of Students' Council

- Council is composed of 55 members, including 50 voting and 5 non-voting.
- The non-voting members of Council are the Speaker, the Recording Secretary, the General Manager, the Editor-in-Chief of *The Gateway*, and the Chair of the Recreation Action Committee.
- Voting members include: 8 *ex-officio* members (the Executive Committee, the Board of Governors representative, the President of the University Athletics Board, and a Residence Hall Association representative).
- 42 members are elected from faculties and school associations on the basis of representation by population.
- Students' Council is: the ultimate decision-making body of the SU on issues including political policy, the budget, bylaws, operating policies, and personnel issues.

#### Responsibilities of the Councillor

- To attend meetings and participate actively;
- To sit on boards and committees in addition to Council;
- To participate in activities and events sponsored or organized by the SU;
- To provide feedback on issues;
- To solicit input from the students they represent; and
- To spend at least four hours per month in outreach and communication activities.

### **2001-03/7**

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

### **2001-03/7a**

**Taher/Brechtel** moved that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved.

#### **Consensus**

### **2001-03/8**

#### **REPORTS**

a. **Christopher Samuel, President** - Written Report.

- Unfortunately, a proposal made by **Samuel (President)** to include students on faculty advisory committees was defeated at the most recent General Faculties' Council meeting on Monday, May 28, due to the reasoning that undergraduate students are incompetent. Students are currently on committees to select chairs, deans, and the President of the University.

**Samuel (President)/Salyzyn** moved that Students' Council move *in camera* to discuss an issue of a sensitive nature.

**Carried**

**Brindle/Zwack** moved that Council move *ex camera*.

**Carried**

b. **Amy Salyzyn, Vice-President Academic** - Written Report.

- Despite the disappointment at GFC, two student proposals were approved.
- HTML registration, to a limited extent, may be available this coming spring.
- **Salyzyn** is refining her goals, as well as examining costs and prioritization.
- **Salyzyn** is convocating on June 12.

c. **Kory Zwack, Vice-President External** - Written Report.

- **Zwack** provided the Internet address for the post-secondary accessibility study results.
- The Faculté Saint-Jean opening was a great success, and the new facility is very impressive.
- Regarding the Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board, the Students' Union is taking issue over the current state of its representation. The SU's cycle is different from theirs, in that the SU begins a new term in May, while ETS adheres to the calendar year. Thus, previous Vice-President External Naomi Agard and previous Community Relations Coordinator Blair Miller are still considered at-large representation, and as such, **Zwack** asked for Council's support in withholding support of the new ETS charter until there is action towards restoring the SU's former status on the advisory board.

- d. **Jamie Speer, Vice-President Operations & Finance** - Written Report.
  - Regarding exam registries, the exams on the website are operating the way they are supposed ton biochemistry exams on the registry at present.
  - The first meeting of the Financial Affairs Board is coming up.
  - CUPE negotiations are going well.
  - The SU is working on marketing for the Track & Field Games, as well as customer service.
  - The last meeting of the Access Fund was very productive: the board discussed the current surplus and its operations and marketing strategy. The sponsorship meeting also went well.
- e. **Jennifer Wanke, Vice-President Student Life** - Written Report
  - Thanks to **Clyburn** for inviting the Executive Committee to the opening of the new Faculte Saint-Jean facility.
- f. **Chris Burrows, Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative.**
  - There have been no Board-related meetings since the last Council meeting.
  - Attended the most recent meeting of GFC.
  - The Board Safety & Health committee is meeting on June 14.
  - The Board Finance & Property committee is meeting on June 21.
- h. **Medicine/Dentistry Faculty Report.**
  - There was no representative available to provide a report.
- i. **Nursing Faculty Report.**
  - There was no representative available to provide a report.

**2001-03/9**

**QUESTION PERIOD**

**Brechtel:** Will the conclusions regarding the *in camera* attendance be formalized in a bylaw?

**Speer: Wanke** will look after that.

**Sharma:** Has the President met with any representatives from NASA regarding the impending outsourcing?

**Samuel (President):** Not specifically with NASA representatives, no.

**Sharma:** Has NASA supported students in their interest in lowering tuition to the Board of Governors?

**Samuel (President):** NASA does not sit on the Board of Governors, and as such they have not indicated a position on the issue of tuition.

**Kawanami:** Will withholding support for the ETS charter stop students from receiving information regarding a universal bus pass?

**Zwack:** If this issue continues into the autumn, the universal bus pass question will have to be taken up next year.

**Tackaberry:** Who at the GFC meeting made the statement that undergraduates are incompetent?

**Samuel (President):** The statement was made by Dr. Julian Martin.

**Samuel (Councillor):** Who is in charge of organizing the High School Leadership conference?

**Zwack:** Adam Cook, Community Relations Coordinator, will be organizing it in conjunction with the Senate this year. The conference itself is being expanded this year.

**Samuel (Councillor):** Is this connected to the Alberta Student Leadership conference?

**Zwack:** No.

**Fraese:** Would the implementation of a universal bus pass be a decision of Council, or a referendum question?

**Zwack:** There would be an exhaustive survey of students during the Week of Welcome, followed by the formulation of a contract, which would be discussed in the External Affairs Board and Council, and finally, the approval by Council of a referendum question.

**Jarrett:** Will any attention be given to St. Albert and Strathcona County routes in the universal bus pass?

**Zwack:** These routes are covered by ETS, so yes.

**Sharun:** Will RATT be open during the Track & Field Games?

**Speer:** This has been discussed, and there has been no final decision, but it looks improbable.

**Sharma:** Who has the Executive Committee met with regarding the accessibility study?

**Zwack:** I have not spoken with the Minister of Learning since the accessibility study was released, and a scheduled meeting with Raj Pannu was cancelled. There are no further plans for meetings until the MLA lobbying tour in October.

**2001-03/10**

**LEGISLATION**

**2001-03/10a  
BYLAW 7400 -  
STUDENT  
HANDBOOK**

**SAMUEL (PRESIDENT)/WANKE MOVED THAT (SECOND READING)** Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, approve the changes to Bylaw 7400 respecting the Student Handbook.

29/0/2 **Carried**

**2001-03/10b NON-  
ACADEMIC STAFF  
ASSOCIATION**

**SHARMA/DARLING MOVED THAT WHEREAS** the Non-Academic Staff Association has traditionally been an ally in our fight to lower tuition; and

**WHEREAS** our custodial staff is being threatened by the contracting out of their jobs to private for-profit, non-unionized workers; and

**WHEREAS** 29% of the University of Alberta Non-Academic staff are slated to lose their jobs as a result of a decision to accept proposals from private companies by the Administration,

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Students' Union support NASA in their fight to preserve our janitorial staff's jobs and denounce the attempts of the Administration to contract out to a private company.

**Sharma** introduced the motion. This was brought to his attention three weeks ago. The University's janitorial staff, who have done an exceptional job, are facing the privatization and contracting out of their positions to organizations that are likely privatized and non-unionized.

**Samuel (President)/Zwack** moved that Council move *in camera*.  
**Carried**

**Samuel (Councillor)/Baxter** moved that Council move *ex camera*.  
**Carried**

**Sharun/Brindle** moved to call the question of whether or not to postpone the main motion to the June 26 meeting of Students' Council.  
**Carried**

23/8/1 **Carried**

**2001-03/11**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2001-03/11a  
AWARDS  
COMMITTEE**

**SAMUEL (PRESIDENT)/SALYZYN MOVED THAT** Students' Council appoint one (1) councilor to sit on the Awards Committee for the 2001/2002 school year.

Congratulations to **Kawanami**.

**2001-03/11b  
COMMUNICATIONS  
ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**

**SAMUEL (PRESIDENT)/ZWACK MOVED THAT** Students' Council nominate three (3) councillors to serve on Communications Advisory Committee for the 2001/2002 school year.

Congratulations to **Clyburn**.

**2001-03/11c  
EUGENE BRODY  
FUNDING  
COMMITTEE**

**SAMUEL (PRESIDENT)/ZWACK MOVED THAT** Students' Council nominate two (2) councillors to serve on the Eugene Brody Funding Committee for the 2001/2002 school year.

Congratulations to **Taher** and **Watkins**.

**2001-03/11d  
INTERNAL  
REVIEW BOARD**

**SAMUEL (PRESIDENT)/SPEER MOVED THAT** Students' Council nominate three (3) councillors to serve on the Internal Review Board for the 2001/2002 school year.

Congratulations to **Samuel (Councillor)**, **Sharun**, and **Darling**.

**2001-03/11e  
LEGACY FUND**

**SAMUEL (PRESIDENT)/SPEER MOVED THAT** Students' Council nominate one (1) councillor to serve on the Legacy Fund for the 2001/2002 school year.

Congratulations to **Renzi**.

**2001-03/11f  
STUDENT GROUPS  
COMMITTEE**

**SAMUEL (PRESIDENT)/WANKE MOVED THAT** Students' Council nominate two (2) councillors to serve on the Student Groups Committee for the 2001/2002 school year.

Congratulations to **McGraw** and **Kawanami**.

At this time, **Samuel (President)/Speer** moved to suspend the Standing Orders regarding adjournment.

**Carried**

**2001-03/11g  
CREFC**

**SAMUEL (PRESIDENT)/SPEER MOVED THAT** Students' Council nominate one (1) councillor to serve on the CREFC (Campus Recreation Enhancement Fund Committee) for the 2001/2002 school year.

Congratulations to **Kumar**.

**2001-03/11h  
GATEWAY  
ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**

**SAMUEL (PRESIDENT)/WANKE MOVED THAT** Students' Council nominate one (1) councillor to serve on the Gateway Advisory Committee for the 2001/2002 school year.

Congratulations to **Tobias**.

**2001-03/11i  
WUSC REFUGEE  
STUDENT BOARD**

**SAMUEL (PRESIDENT)/WANKE MOVED THAT** Students' Council nominate one (1) councillor to serve on the WUSC Refugee Student Board for the 2001/2002 school year.

Congratulations to **Tackaberry**.

**2001-03/11j  
SCAAB**

**SAMUEL (PRESIDENT)/WANKE MOVED THAT** Students' Council nominate eight (8) councillors to serve on the Student Council Appeal and Advisory Board for the 2001/2002 school year.

Congratulations to **Tackaberry, Hoffman, Adhihetty, Weppler, Blankley, Fraese, Sharun, and Brechtel**.

**2001-03/11k  
COCA BOARD**

**ZWACK/SALYZYN MOVED THAT** Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee support the current VP Student Life, Jennifer Wanke's bid to run for the COCA Board by approving an expenditure not to exceed \$1950.00 for her to attend COCA next year (2002-03).

**Wanke** introduced the motion.

COCA is the Canadian Organization for Campus Activities, and this year, the conference will be held at CCSA. **Wanke** is asking for Council's endorsement on this motion, because she will need the school's commitment to help her complete her duties next year, should she be successful in her bid to run for the COCA Board.

COCA will pay for everything involved in this endeavor save the conference itself, whose location is currently undetermined. **Wanke** has faith in COCA and its programming abilities, and as programming has dwindled in recent years, the SU and COCA are anxious to try new initiatives on a nationwide level.

Antifreeze as an event has become in demand across Canada, and this is an excellent way to showcase the University of Alberta, because it was the first to introduce such an event. However, the University of Alberta has never nominated one of its people for the COCA board, and it is important to ensure that campuses are sharing their ideas and information.

**Samuel (Councillor)**: What does “conference-other” entail?

**Wanke**: When meals are not covered by the cost of the conference, a *per diem* is appropriate.

**Weppler**: What measures are you taking to ensure that this endeavor does not interfere with your current portfolio?

**Wanke**: This would require approximately ten hours per month of my time, and this is where being a second-term Vice President is valuable, as it enables me to spend this time, which might otherwise be spent orienting myself to the position.

25/3/1 **Carried**

**2001-03/11  
EUGENE BRODY  
FUNDING  
COMMITTEE**

**SAMUEL (PRESIDENT)/ ZWACK MOVED THAT** Students' Council ratify Thomas Lim and Gerald Lim as Student at Large members of the 2001-2002 Eugene L. Brody Funding Committee.

**Brechtel**: Thomas Lim was a poor attendee last year.

**Adhiketty**: Was there a problem with his attendance?

**Taher**: His attendance to Students' Council was poor, but was satisfactory for the Eugene Brody committee.

**Brechtel**: It is important to ensure that people take positions to make a contribution, rather than to take advantage of the privileges they afford.

**Brechtel/Brindle** moved that the name “Thomas Lim” be struck from the motion.

**Carried**

Vote on the main motion as amended: 27/0/0 **Carried**

**2001-03/11m  
EXTERNAL  
AFFAIRS BOARD**

**SAMUEL (PRESIDENT)/ ZWACK MOVED THAT** Students' Council ratify Marc Mahe as a student at large member of the 2001-2002 External Affairs Board.

**Carried**

**2001-03/11n CASA  
ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING**

**SAMUEL (PRESIDENT)/ ZWACK MOVED THAT** Students' Council approve an expenditure not to exceed \$1737.80 for the President, Vice President External and Executive Research Officer to attend the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations Annual General Meeting in Lethbridge, Alberta.

**Carried**

**Sharma's** abstention was noted.

**2001-03/13**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Wanke:** Passes have been put together for parking in Stadium and Education parkades. An e-mail will be sent out soon.
- Agendas will now be available electronically and *via* the SU web page.
- Wanke:** Please be careful to clean up your messes in Chambers after each meeting.

**2001-03/14**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Brechtel/Hoffman** moved that the meeting be adjourned at 9:31 p.m.