

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL

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Tuesday October 15, 2002 - 6:00 PM  
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

## MINUTES (SC 2002-13)

Faculty/Position	Name	6:00	9:00
President	Mike Hudema	✓	✓
VP Academic	Mat Brechtel	✓	✓
VP External	Anand Sharma	✓	✓
VP Finance	Steve Smith	✓	✓
VP Student Life	Kail Ross	✓	✓
BoG Undergrad Rep.	Mike Reid	✓	✓
Agric/Forest/HomeEc	Paul Reikie	✓	✓
Agric/Forest/HomeEc	Teodora Alampi	✓	✓
Arts	Chris Bolivar (Mat Johnson)	✓	✓
Arts	Kyle Kawanami	✓	✓
Arts	James Knull	✓	✓
Arts	Matt Oberhoffner	✓	✓
Arts	Alexis Pepin	✗	✗
Arts	Laura Roberts (Sherisse Szymczak)	✓	✓
Arts	Vivek Sharma	✓	✓
Arts	Paul Welke (Michelle Kelly)	✓	✓
Business	Jamie Kidston	✗	✗

Business	Meena Rajulu	✓	✓
Business	Holly Tomte	✓	✓
Education	Charles Beamish	✓	✓
Education	Daljeet Chhina	✓	✓
Education	Allison Ekdahl	✓	✓
Education	Mandeep Gill	✓	✓
Education	Janet Lo	✓	✓
Engineering	Margaret Laffin	✓	✓
Engineering	Paige Smith	✗	✗
Engineering	Chris Jones	✓	✓
Engineering	Michelle Vigeant	✓	✓
Engineering	David Wepler	✓	✓
Law	Paul Varga	✓	✓
Residence Halls Association	George Slomp	✓	✓
Medicine/Dentistry	Miranda Richardson	✓	✓
Medicine/Dentistry	Jeffrey Cao	✓	✓
Native Studies			
Nursing			
Open Studies			
Open Studies			
Pharmacy	Kurt Greene	✓	✓
Rehabilitation Medicine	Adelaine Wong	✓	✓
Faculté Saint-Jean	Lisa Clyburn	✓	✓
Science	Chamila Adhietty	✓	✓
Science	Kimberly Dary	✓	✓
Science	Katie Grant	✓	✓
Science	Aisha Khatib	✓	✓

Science	Constantino Renzi	×	×
Science	Chris Samuel	✓	✓
Science	Steven Schendel (Lindsay Eales)	✓	✓
Science	Kimmy Williams	✓	✓
President Athletics			
General Manager	Bill Smith		
Speaker	Gregory Harlow	✓	✓
Recording Secretary	Helen McGraw	✓	✓

**Guests of Council:** Kory Zwack, Tyler Botten, David Zeibin

2002-13/1                    **CALL TO ORDER** 6:10pm

2002-13/4                    **SPEAKER’S BUSINESS**

Teodora Alampi was named the new Councilor from Ag/For

Kory Zwack, Tyler Botten, David Zeibin were named Guests of Council.

2002-13/6                    **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

HUDEMA/SAMUEL MOVED to approve the agenda

SHARMA MOVED to add the Late Additions

**Carried**

2002-13/7                    **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION**

2002-13/7a                    Anand Sharma – GATS, FTAA Presentation

**Withdrawn**

2002-13/8                    **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

ROSS/SAMUEL MOVED TO approve the minutes of the Oct. 1 meeting

P3. "Hass" should be spelled "Haas"

p. 5. WRT differential tuition, **Cao** said "Although I personally don't support it, I can't say whether med students in general do."

p.11 after pointing out that there are levels of greenness in campus green spaces, **Kawanami** elaborated: "for example there is a difference between quad and the green area in front of Stadium parkade."

**Samuel's** first comment should read "What binds us to support the LRDP?"

p. 14 **Smith's** assumption of the position of speaker was in fact greeted by general glee from council, not boos.

2002-13/9

## REPORTS

2002-13/9a

**Mike Hudema, President**

Went to a conference at Waterloo where I attended my first engineering party; it was great. The delegation from Harvard was very interested in the environmental initiatives that we have undertaken. There are FTAA events coming up next week; teach-ins on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Went to the University's AGM; disappointed with some of the president's remarks wrt accessibility. Disappointed with funding solutions task force; general solution seems to be taxing students, consolidating classes, increasing class size and offering more professional classes. Will bring concerns to Minister of Education and media. Working on Eco incentives with SUB and HUB vendors.

2002-13/9b

**Mat Brechtel, Vice-President (Academic)**

As always, I attended lots of meetings. They weren't all interesting but I will tell you about all of them anyway. I went to: GFC, GFC Exec, Facilities Development Committee (looking at expanding Foote Field), Dean of Students selection committee, Academic planning committee, AAB (political policies), Teaching and Learning committee (possible formative evaluations). MC for Alumni pride awards. Learned lots about GATTS and FTAA from Anand and Mike. Talked to Assoc. Dean of Medicine to find out about their proposal for differential tuition. Attended release of funding solutions task force; equally disappointed with the findings of the committee.

**2002-13/9c****Anand Sharma, Vice-President (External)**

Written report provided. Thanks to my fantastic EAB. Congrats to the Arts students for a fantastic Oktober Fest campaign; the fact that one of their colors is orange is all the better. CASA policy committee minutes will be sent out by e-mail. My door is always open; please come talk to me. EAB members were not pleased with Council's decision to override their decision wrt the second delegate to be sent to the CASA conference.

**2002-13/9d****Steve Smith, Vice-President (Operations and Finance)**

Please see document LA 02-13.01

**2002-13/9e****Kail Ross, Vice President (Student Life)**

In addition to working through hellishly unproductive exec meetings, I revised Orientation and WUSC bylaws. The WOW budget is hovering around the break-even mark.

**2002-13/9f****Mike Reid, Undergraduate Board of Governors Rep**

Online registration seems to have gone well. Computer glitches fixed. Academic advising will come online and will be a new version of the abandoned Star Report. Business will soon have its first honors program (Batchelor of Commerce).

**2002-13/9g****Kurt Greene, Pharmacy**

Please see document SC 02-13.01.

**2002-13/9g****Adelaine Wong, Rehabilitation Medicine**

Halloween party: drink specials, prizes for costumes. Renovated lounge. Details of new physio program (masters) being finalized. We're fundraising for our grad next year; come see me if you want to by chocolates!

**2002-13/9h****External Affairs Board**

Please see document LA 02-13.02

2002-13/10

QUESTION PERIOD

**Kawanami:** Can anything be done about the dire shortage of cheese pizza at the SUB Pizza Hut outlet?

**Smith:** I'll check the lease, but I don't believe it contains a cheese pizza provision.

**Ekdahl:** Why is there such a bias against dairy products at food court outlets?

**Smith:** I'll check the lease, but I don't believe it contains a dairy product provision.

**Jones:** Given the SU's health and environmental focus this year, why do we sell cancer sticks in SUBMart?

**Smith:** Because the demand is there.

**Cao:** The med students are hosting their annual Monster Mash fundraiser in Dinwoodie as they have for many years. This year they will no longer receive profits from drink sales, as they have in the past, and the only revenue will be from ticket sales. Ticket sales, however, go largely to renting Dinwoodie. How can the SU justify robbing the medical class of 2006 of such important fundraising revenue?

**Smith:** I will discuss the issue with the Senior Manager (Entertainment and Programming) and the Operations Manager (Venues) but be aware that Dinwoodie lounge doesn't make very much money;

**Kawanami:** The executive's left hand doesn't seem to know what its other left hand is doing wrt the Nader/Eco conference budget. Council was assured that this would be a near break-even venture; how did things go \$6,000 worth of wrong?

**Smith:** The main problem was anticipating a 50:50 split between the cheap student tickets and the higher priced general ones; in fact, the ratio was closer to 90:10. This alone accounts for the deficit.

**Bolivar:** Where did the 50:50 number come from? Why did we make this assumption?

**Smith:** There was a feeling that the Nader event held a significant off-campus appeal. Indeed, if we looked at the total number of people who **wanted** to attend, the ratio was probably reasonable. However, since the event sold out and the students usually got their tickets first, it didn't actually

work out that way.

**Knull:** Where will the unbudgeted \$6,304.42 come from?

**Smith:** Likely the special projects reserve (from the Coke agreement)

**Johnson:** Mr. Sharma, what do you think about the Nader/Eco Conference budget gong show?

**Sharma:** This is the first year we've held the conference; surely a lot of things could have been done better. It's unfortunate that the event ran a deficit.

**Reikie:** The ticket ratio suggests that this was a valuable event for students, as they snapped up the tickets so quickly. Could the expense be recategorized?

**Smith:** Actually, we cooked the books as much as possible before bringing the budget to council. Just kidding. This was a service to students but it should still have broken even.

**Reid:** Could we please see a list of event sponsors to the next council meeting?

**Hudema:** You betcha.

**Hudema:** Was I not also involved in budgetary decisions for the Eco Conference?

**Smith:** You were involved, but not very influential.

**Hudema:** Speaking of budget misallocations, did the U of C SU not spend \$9000 sending their entire council on a house boating trip?

**Ross:** It's true. And if we didn't have an Eco Conference, we could have too!

**Samuel:** Why was the political policy on national lobby organizations not rescinded before the presentation on national lobby associations?

**Sharma:** This is not a formal motion, so on the advice of other exec members and councilors, the policy was not rescinded. Jumping the gun before having a thorough discussion would not be prudent and would not serve students.

**Jones:** Is the exec planning to comply with the bylaw 500 that requires their public statements to be approved in an exec meeting and brought to council for ratification (e.g. Hudema's comments to the journal re the university's AGM)?

**Hudema:** My comments were in line with the SU's political policies.

**Sharma:** Jones is correct, but would he suggest that the exec should never make statements without council approving them? Where does our role as a spokesman of the

organization come in?

**Jones:** You don't need exec approval beforehand; you just have to report it to them.

**Kawanami:** How are our relations with the students of RDC?

**Hudema:** I talked to their president today and **Steve Smith** will be meeting with their Registrar's office next week. Our relations with them are quite favorable and we intend to have an agreement soon.

**Zwack:** Do U of A students at RDC pay full or half fees?

**Smith:** RDC students are considered off-campus students and thus pay part-time student fees. The intent is to change the scheme so U of A students would pay SU fees to RDC.

**Samuel:** In LA 13.05 (proposed amendments to the universities act, esp. BOG) there's no mention of a goal to have the BOG elected, which I believe was one of **Sharma's** campaign platforms. Why wasn't this included?

**Sharma:** I ran on nine or ten things. As an elected official, you learn that you have to compromise. I don't recall running on that; I think it was **Hudema** as I don't really deal with the BoG. I would be in favor of an elected BoG, though; I'll bring it up at the next CAUS meeting.

**Smith:** I made some comments about the universities act and the SU's ability to collect fees, esp. wrt the ESS referendum fee; why weren't they included in the CAUS document?

**Sharma:** The error will be rectified.

**Clyburn:** What was CAUS's stand on the FTAA and GATS

**Sharma:** CAUS opposes them in principle.

**Sharma (Councilor):** Would it not be more effective to lobby solely for the removal of the education clauses in the FTAA, rather than the abandonment of the entire agreement?

**Hudema:** That is indeed the focus of our campaign.

**Zwack:** Who brought the FTAA policy forward at the CAUS meeting and how did U of A vote?

**Sharma:** The voting delegate brought the motion forth and voted on it. It was passed unanimously.

**Zwack:** Does the exec plan to continue contravening political policies?

**Sharma:** This happened only once. The voting delegate regrets what happened.

**Hudema:** I was the voting delegate. We put the policy forward because we didn't think a policy about the

educational impacts of the agreement would be passed, so we moved a broader policy, hoping it could be amended to an agreeable form. Unfortunately, it passed unanimously right off the bat.

**Jones:** Does Smith have a comment as to why the synopsis of the SU's current cash flow situation is not here?

**Smith:** I committed only to look into it, not actually to do anything. I'll look into it and provide something at the next meeting that may or may not be detailed or effective.

**Botten:** The money allocated to the external media campaign is 131% and 123% of the external affairs and CAUS budgets; what impact will this have on CAUS marketing on campus?

**Sharma:** This money would come from the special projects reserve. The external media campaign is the major project for CAUS and the U of A. The CAUS and CASA budgets both increased and are prepared to assist the campaign.

**Zwack:** Why is U of A covering all of the costs of the media campaign? Will we be reimbursed as we have been in the past?

**Sharma:** U of L is not in a good financial position because their bar is losing money; our last meeting was in Lethbridge as they couldn't afford to come to Edmonton. Athabasca is small and doesn't collect many fees. U of C claims poverty but spent \$9,000 on a house boating trip. U of C is responsible for Calgary and area; we are only subsidizing Lethbridge. U of A is proud to take a leadership role in the campaign and put our resources towards it. Having the campaign represent 100,000 students, rather than 20,000 makes our voice much stronger.

**Kawanami:** How much money is in the special projects reserve?

**Smith:** We budget \$50,000 but it depends on Coke sales; it looks like we will have more this year.

**Jones:** We passed an operational policy wrt the use of the intercom system, but apparently a member of the exec has not been abiding by that policy. Could the guilty party please throw himself upon the mercy of council?

**Sharma:** I love the intercom system; it allows me to achieve massive productivity gains. I was unaware of the intercom policy. Many staff members find the policy draconian; what is the point of an intercom if you can't use it? I will respect

the wishes of council until the policy can be rescinded.

**Hudema:** Council has already made its direction known wrt this policy; you are in violation of this policy, as well as council's direction wrt double siding in printing and photocopying.

**Sharma:** It sucks to be me. I've made every effort to comply with the double-siding policy.

**Ekdahl:** How many times does "I don't know how to use my computer" work as an excuse?

**Sharma:** It was just a joke. I'm not the most computer-savvy person but I do my best.

**Reid:** What precedent is Sharma concerned that council is setting by appointing a different person to go to the CASA meeting?

**Sharma:** The rejection of a candidate based on qualities that were not reflected in the minutes. I do not like having to reject a committee's decision without justification. This contravenes the democratic decision made at EAB. EAB was not pleased with the results.

**Reid:** Was a democratic decision not made at Council? Is it not Council's job to consider committee recommendations and accept, amend or reject them as it sees fit?

**Sharma:** This is absolutely council's job. However, it shouldn't reject committee recommendations without good reason.

**Wepler:** The fact that **Sharma** was not provided with the justifications brought up at the meeting to tell the rejected SAL suggests communication problems within the exec.

**Smith:** Sharma and I discussed this issue at great length after the last meeting and I would take issue with the insinuation that there is poor communication amongst the exec. This "middle of the roadish hand is certainly communicating with that left hand."

**Samuel:** What's new with the add-drop deadline?

**Brechtel:** I resent the insinuation that this is a token question. There was a surprising amount of resistance from the university, particularly from associate deans. They believe that students are using this time to class shop, thus precluding other students from enrolling in the class. They seemed surprised to learn how far behind U of A is compared to other schools. We will now be studying some actual statistics from the registrar's office on enrollments and withdrawals.

**Kelly:** Are exceptions made for weekly classes that begin at the end of the add-drop period?

**Brechtel:** I am assured that exceptions are made for students whose first lectures ended an hour before the add-drop deadline but I'd like to see this policy become the rule, rather than the exception.

**Gill:** 15 days is a long time to be behind; won't teachers be upset that some students are missing so much instructional time?

**Brechtel:** My goal is 10-days. Students can make decisions for themselves; if they enroll in a class 10 days late, they should make that choice knowing that they will have to catch up on the missed material.

**Samuel:** Why was the October GFC meeting cancelled?

**Brechtel:** At the request of the chair, the president of the university. No reason was given but rumor is that it was because he was traveling.

2002-13/11

### APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

*Please see document SC 02-13.02.*

**Kawanami:** It seems that many operating policies are political policies masquerading; in disguise; will this trend continue?

**Smith:** This is certainly a politically charged operating policy. However, a political policy dictates how the SU stands on an issue; an operating policy dictates how the SU will conduct its affairs.

**Kawanami:** Why does the exec feel it necessary to circumvent Council's jurisdiction over political policies?

**Smith:** Council is welcome to reject the policy if it disagrees with the politics behind it.

**Reid:** Would the speaker please characterize the policy as either political or operational in nature?

**Harlow:** This policy directs the exec and staff of the SU in their day-to-day operations and is thus an operational policy.

**Smith:** As the motion approving this policy is not actually contained in the executive committee report, discussing at this point is moot. It will be brought to the next meeting of council with the next executive committee report.

2002-13/12

### LEGISLATION

**2002-13/12a**  
**Political Policy -**  
**Garneau**

SHARMA/SAMUEL MOVED THAT Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the External Affairs Board, adopt the proposed Political Policy **Garneau**.

*Please see document SC 02-13.03.*

**Sharma:** Due to a terrible titular error, EAB accidentally approved the Exec's Garneau political policy (which is presented here), rather than theirs. It is disheartening to learn that certain regions of Garneau are being bought out for university expansion. We want our community to like us, we don't want them to be hostile to us.

**Carried (20/6/7)**

**2002-13/12b**  
**Political Policy -**  
**Differential Tuition**

SHARMA/CLYBURN MOVED THAT Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the External Affairs Board, renew the Political Policy **Differential Tuition**.

*Please see document SC 02-13.04.*

**Sharma:** Confirming our opposition to differential tuition is crucial given the rumblings in the faculties of Law and Medicine and Dentistry.

BRECTHEL/SAMUEL MOVED TO refer the policy back to EAB, with the instruction that they consider the similar AAB policy and consider amalgamating the two.

**Brechtel:** I agree with the policy in principle. However, the process is flawed: AAB and EAB have separate and distinct policies on differential tuition which puzzles and bothers me. The original policy expires in April and the issue will come up again in a few weeks; let's consolidate the policies and make the changes necessary to make the policy pertinent to this year.

**Carried (Unanimous)**

**2002-13/12c**  
**Political Policy -**  
**Tuition Policy**

SHARMA/SAMUEL MOVED THAT Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the External Affairs Board, rescind the Political Policy **Alberta's and the University of Alberta's Tuition Policy**.

*Please see document SC 02-13.05.*

**Smith:** With this Executive, it is dangerous to have a policy on the books requiring the SU to support something “by whatever means are necessary;” it should be rescinded.

**Zwack:** The U of A SU can have a different policy than CAUS. Until a new policy is brought forth, this one should be kept as we should always have a policy regarding tuition.

**Sharma:** So much has changed in the last 6 months that this 33-page policy is now redundant. We have tuition policies through CAUS; getting rid of this irrelevant policy is just housekeeping.

**Defeated (15/19/6)**

2002-13/12d  
Political Policy –  
Accessibility to  
Computer  
Technology

BRECHTEL/BEAMISH MOVED THAT Students’ Council, upon the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Board, adopt the proposed Political Policy **Accessibility to Computer Technology**.

*Please see document SC 02-13.06.*

SAMUEL/SLOMP MOVED TO strike the clause stating: “and whereas attending this University should be limited only by academic qualifications.”

**Samuel:** This statement is so strong as to deserve a policy of its own and doesn’t belong here.

**Beamish:** This is the very foundation of the policy. The reason we need computers on campus is because access to computers should not be a limiting factor in ones education.

**Wepler:** A more relevant statement would be “should not be limited by access to computers”

JONES MOVED TO amend the amendment to read “amend the clause to read ‘and whereas attendance at this university should be limited by academic qualifications, not by possession of a computer.’”

**Friendly**

**Slomp:** This policy is not the place to introduce the idea of limitations due to academic qualifications.

HUDEMA MOVED TO amend the amendment to read “and whereas attendance at this university should not be limited by possession of a computer.”

**Carried 35/0/2**

**Carried 35/0/2**

**2002-13/12e**  
**Political Policy -**  
**Technology on**  
**Campus**

BRECHTEL/BEAMISH MOVED THAT Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Board, adopt the proposed Political Policy **Technology on Campus**.

*Please see document SC 02-13.07.*

**Brechtel:** This policy is in response to concerns about the Faculty of Engineering's restrictions on calculators in exams.

**Carried 34/3/3**

**2002-13/12f**  
**Political Policy -**  
**Academic Materials**

BRECHTEL/BEAMISH MOVED THAT Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Board, adopt the proposed Political Policy **Academic Materials**.

*Please see document SC 02-13.08.*

**Brechtel:** The fact that I need to propose this policy scares the bejezus out of me. Microsoft made a huge equipment and money donation to the University of Waterloo. In exchange, the university agreed to change the language taught in its computer science classes from C++ to C#, a Microsoft language. This policy expresses our opposition to companies having influence on curriculum.

HUDEMA/SLOMP MOVED TO amend the policy to read: "BIRT the SU of the University of Alberta opposes donations to the University that allow outside organizations to influence curriculum."

**Hudema;** The policy as written unfairly binds the SU and suggests that we approve of donations that we may in fact not.

**Oberhoffner:** This changes the entire stance of the policy from a proactive to a reactive one.

**Carried 31/6/2**

JONES/SHARMA MOVED TO REFER the policy to AAB for reworking and to address the concerns raised in council.

**Jones:** Computers are evil and this policy is overly broad. For example, what if the Canadian government offered \$5M to bring back the Canadian Studies program? The policy is also needlessly exclusive; not all changes to the curriculum need be negative. The groups (students and professors) affected should be able to examine the proposed changes and decide whether to accept or reject them. This policy as it stands should not be passed and needs to be revised.

**Brechtel:** This does not need to be referred to AAB because the concerns raised are irrelevant. The government is so fantastic at inserting itself in university affairs because it controls the purse strings; this should not be the case. Furthermore, the government doesn't give donations, they give grants which are not covered by this policy. While curriculum changes may or may not be problematic, those changes should originate from within the university, not at the behest of outside influences.

SHARMA (COUNCILOR)/ROSS MOVED the previous question  
**Carried (Unanimous)**

**Defeated (14/24/2)**

REIKE/VARGA MOVED TO add "in a way that the learning opportunities of students are compromised" to the end of the BIRT.

**Jones:** The policy as amended no longer means anything; of course we oppose things that compromise learning opportunities of students.

**Varga:** An open-ended policy best addresses the situation.

**Hudema:** We should oppose external organizations influencing curriculum.

**Brechtel:** This amendment defeats the original meaning of the policy, namely to oppose external influences on curriculum in principle. Even if the changes are for the betterment of students, curriculum decisions should not be made under coercion.

KAWANAMI/KNULL MOVED TO suspend Standing Order 30  
**Defeated 23/12/5**

Roll call (**Knnull, Reid, Smith, Samuel, Hudema**)

**Defeated 23/13/4**

**2002-13/17**

**ADJOURNMENT (9:15)**