

**Tuesday, November 5, 2019  
6:00PM  
Council Chambers, University Hall**

We would like to respectfully acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Métis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux territory; specifically the ancestral space of the Papaschase Cree. These Nations are our family, friends, faculty, staff, students, and peers. As members of the University of Alberta Students' Union we honour the nation-to-nation treaty relationship. We aspire for our learning, research, teaching, and governance to acknowledge and work towards the decolonization of Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:02PM.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (SC-2019-13)

2019-13/1 SPEAKERS BUSINESS

2019-13/1a Announcements - The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on **Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 6:00PM** in **Council Chambers** at **University Hall**.

2019-13/2 PRESENTATIONS

2019-13/2a **BHATNAGAR/KONRAD MOVED** to allow a consultation presentation regarding an addition to the "Code of Student Behaviour".  
CARRIED

**Abstract:** UofA Protective Services (UAPS) has identified a need to add to the Code of Student Behavior (COSB) a section which specifically addresses the possession of a weapon on University property. UAPS has observed trends in calls relating to weapons or imitation weapons on campus and wish to address such trends within the COSB. We look forward to presenting the rationale behind what we are trying to accomplish as well as our proposed new wording within the COSB.

***UAPS Presenters:***

- Marcel Roth - Director, University of Alberta Protective Services

See SC-2019-12.01.

2019-13/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Joel AGARWAL, Vice President (Academic) - Report.

Adam BROWN, Vice President (External) - Report.

Luke STATT, Vice President (Operations and Finance) - Report

Akanksha BHATNAGAR, President - Report.

2019-13/4

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORT

Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Committee - Report.

Audit Committee - Report.

Bylaw Committee - Report.

Council Administration Committee - Report.

Executive Committee - Report.

Finance Committee - Report.

Nominating Committee - Report.

Policy Committee - Report.

Student Group Committee - Report.

Translation Committee - Report.

Board of Governors - Report.

2019-13/5

OPEN FORUM

GATEWAY: Inquired, to the chair of Council Administration Committee, as to whether he can provide updates related to the hiring of chief and deputy returning officers in the Elections Office.

BEALSEY: Responded that job postings for these positions remain open on JobKin for the foreseeable future.

GATEWAY: Inquired, to the President, as to why the Students' Union is hosting a town hall on the newly-released provincial budget given that the University already hosted one wherein more than 100 persons attended.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that the University townhall focused on outlining the impacts of the budget whereas the Students' Union Town Hall will give students a chance to discuss, in an open and friendly environment, the best way to respond to the budget.

GATEWAY: Inquired, to President, as to whether the Students' Union is considering protesting the budget like Students' Association of MacEwan University.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that the Students' Union will decide best how to represent students in relation to the budget after hearing their views at the forthcoming town hall. Considered that protest may not be the most effective option for effecting change.

GATEWAY: Inquired, to the President, as to whether the Students' Union will take action to address the rising rates of theft on Campus.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that the Students' Union serves as a member of the University Campus Safety and Security Committee which is investigating how crime occurs on Campus and developing strategies to combat it.

BELCOURT: Inquired, to chair of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Committee, as

to what consultation he will complete in developing a bylaw for engaging with aboriginal students.

SUNDAY: Responded that he will receive direction from the Committee to lead this project forward.

GATEWAY: Inquired, to the President, as to whether the Students' Union will take concrete actions to reduce crime on Campus.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that, beyond coordinating with the University, the Students' Union has neither the jurisdiction nor funding to address this issue.

2019-13/6

QUESTION PERIOD

BHATNAGAR: Inquired, to the chair of Nominating Committee, as to what, if any, measures the Committee could take to fill current vacancies on Council.

CHEN: Responded that the Students' Union could better advertise Council vacancies and simplify the vacancy-petitioning application process by reducing certain requirements, such as nomination signatures.

MCKENZIE: Inquired, to the President, as to why performance based provincial funding would be problematic for the University of Alberta given that it is the leading post-secondary institution in the province.

BHATNAGAR: Noted that the provincial government has not yet laid out the specifics for introducing performance based funding. Responded that performance-based funding is not equitable given that different post-secondary institutions aim to achieve different goals and some metrics primarily reflect conditions over which the University has no control. Suggested that the government will weigh certain metrics to accommodate the features of different institutions.

DRAPER: Inquired, to Councillor Sunday, as to whether he will bring his proposed aboriginal consultation guidelines to Bylaw Committee.

SUNDAY: Responded that he will begin working with Bylaw Committee provided that Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Committee approves his proposed project vision.

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired, to the President, as to why she believes that the Students' Association of MacEwan University will not be effective in protesting the provincial budget.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that the protests will not be as effective as they could be given that the Association did not coordinate their protests with other post-secondary institutions and has not established as clear ask of the government.

KIDD: Inquired, to the chair of Nominating Committee, as to whether she intends to work with Bylaw Committee to reduce vacancy petition application requirements.

CHEN: Responded that, if necessary, she is willing to work with Bylaw Committee to effect the required changes.

MCKENZIE: Inquired into whether the Students' Union Administration have improved their financial data storage hardware and procedures in accordance with the KPMG Audit Report.

STATT: Responded in the affirmative.

SUNDAY: Inquired, to chair of Bylaw Committee, as to why Aboriginal Student Council was not notified that there was a problem categorising them in bylaw.

DRAPER: Responded that Bylaw Committee is amending bylaw to include the Aboriginal Student Council dedicated fee unit as, as of now, bylaw recognises only faculty and residence associations.

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired, to Councillor Blondin, as to whether he can speak about the University's Transition Year Program.

BLONDIN: Responded that the Program is highly supportive open studies access program for Aboriginal students who cannot gain admittance to a faculty via regular admissions.

KIDD: Inquired, to the chair of the Nominating Committee, as to whether the intends to reform the Council vacancy-petitioning signature requirements.

CHEN: Responded in the negative. Considered that, although the signature requirements present a barrier to applicants, changing them would not be fair to members of Council who already had to overcome them.

DRAPER: Inquired, to the Vice President Academic, as to how the Open Education Resources Conference he attended will direct Students' Union action.

AGARWAL: Responded that, to promote open education resources, the Students' Union is giving away \$75,000 for professors and hosts the Be Book Smart Fair for students.

BEASLEY: Inquired, to the President, as to whether there is a risk that the University will use performance metrics to fund its faculties if the provincial government subjects the University to performance-based funding.

BHATNAGAR: Responded in the affirmative.

BOSE: Inquired, to the Vice President Academic, as to whether he will advocate in

support of introducing mandatory mid-term Universal Student Ratings of Instruction surveys.

AGARWAL: Responded in the affirmative. Determined, in addition, that the University improve the accessibility of USRI data.

KONRAD: Inquired, to the chair of Nominating Committee, as to how she believes Council can better communicate to students the value of serving in governance.

CHEN: Responded that the Students' Union needs to make clear how serving as part of Council can aid students in their future professional careers.

2019-13/7 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2019-13/7a **DRAPER/BROWN MOVED**, on behalf of Bylaw Committee, to approve the Second Principles of Bill #5.  
See SC-2019-12.02.

DRAPER: Outlined that Bill 5 assigns the Vice President (External) responsibility for soliciting sponsorship and donations in Bylaw 1100. Considered that collecting more donations will help the Students' Union reduce its reliance on student fees.

BROWN: Supported the motion.

VARGAS ALBA: Emphasised that the Chief Returning Officer needs to make clear to persons interested in running for the Office of Vice President External that its job profile has changed.

BOSE: Inquired into whether funds raised through donations will be used in regular Students' Union operations or will be set aside in a separate fund.

BROWN: Responded that donations would fund specific projects such as the Student Involvement Endowment Fund, capital expenditures, and student services. Noted that he does not intend for the Students' Union to compete with the University in soliciting donor dollars.

BHATNAGAR: Suggested that this new mandate will help the Students' Union tap into its alumni network to raise funds.

**BHATNAGAR/LEY MOVED** to enter the meeting in camera.  
CARRIED

**VARGAS ALBA/TSE MOVED** to suspend Standing Orders to extend the meeting to 9:30pm.  
CARRIED

**VARGAS ALBA/BEASLEY MOVED** to Standing Orders to extend the meeting to

11:00pm or until the agenda is exhausted.

**BROWN/STATT MOVED** to exit the meeting from in camera.  
CARRIED

**CARRIED**

2019-13/7b **DRAPER/BROWN MOVED**, on behalf of Bylaw Committee, to approve the First Principles of Bill #6.  
See SC-2019-12.03.

DRAPER: Clarified that this Bill updates the Bylaw 3000 Schedule to include new dedicated fee units that passed at plebiscite.

CARRIED

2019-13/8 GENERAL ORDERS

2019-13/8a **BROWN/VARGAS ALBA MOVED** to discuss the Students' Union's reaction to the provincial fall budget, and next steps.  
See SC-2019-13.12.  
CARRIED

BROWN: Noted that the Students' Union collected 32 pages of student stories detailing how the new provincial budget impacts them. Outlined that Council could respond to the budget via (a) protest, (b) a public relations campaign, and (c) a letter-writing campaign.

BEASLEY: Expressed concern that the budget will reduce the power of the Students' Union as it will inflict financial hardship on students which will, in turn, prevent them from running for unpaid council seats, attending protests, or continuing their studies. Emphasised that any advocacy needs to be collaborative.

VARGAS ALBA: Suggested that a general strike is needed to effect real change and that other measures would be ineffective. Emphasised that the Students' Union should not be afraid to take bold action even when it may sour their relationship with the government.

KIDD: Proposed running a public relations campaign to change the popular perception of university students as being elite by highlighting the stories of students who are single mothers or the first in their family to receive post-secondary education.

BROWN: Emphasised that the Students' Union needs to develop a clear ask from government before it protests.

BHATNAGAR: Expressed concern that the newly-released budget is a targeted attack on students. Expressed concern that the government does not understand the positive

economic impacts of post-secondary and is using flawed data of unknown origin to calculate the value of funding post-secondary education.

LEY: Noted that Students' Union will lose its status as a legitimate student representative organisation if it does not oppose the budget. Noted that the Students' Union and the University can work together to oppose the budget's reduction in University funding.

BROWN: Expressed concern that protest may, in the eyes of the provincial government, cast the Students' Union as a labour union. Noted that the Executive is working diligently to serve and represent students but that it is hard to show students the value of advocacy.

KONRAD: Inquired into whether the Students' Union may be able to receive increased federal support.

BROWN: Responded in the affirmative.

VARGAS ALBA: Clarified that, although the Students' Union is bound by the Nonpartisan Political Policy, it can oppose the budget. Inquired, to the Vice President External, as to what lessons the Students' Union can take from Ontario.

BROWN: Responded that, in Ontario, student opposition was not effective as their strong protest biased the government against them.

BEASLEY: Proposed rallying students against the budget by demonstrating to them how the budget will make their more expensive in specific dollar terms.

BHATNAGAR: Proposed focusing their government advocacy on the need to increase needs based scholarships and bursaries in line with increasing the cost of education.

BROWN: Noted that the provincial government increases funding for polytechnics as opposed to universities. Expressed concern that students across the province, therefore, are not united in opposing the budget.

LEY: Proposed convincing the provincial government to increase funding to students and universities as it will enhance provincial economic opportunity and social mobility.

BROWN: Expressed concern that, should the Students' Union protest, weak showing would be ineffective.

VARGAS ALBA: Proposed demonstrating, in order to rally students against the budget, that they are paying more to get less.

2019-13/9

INFORMATION ITEMS

2019-13/9a

"Code of Student Behaviour" - Presentation.

- See SC-2019-13.01.
- 2019-13/9b Second Principles - Bill #5.  
See SC-2019-12.02.
- 2019-13/9c First Principles - Bill #6.  
See SC-2019-12.03.
- 2019-13/9d Audit Finding Reports.  
See SC-2019-13.04.
- 2019-13/9e Students' Involvement Endowment Foundation (SIEF) Financial Statement 2019.  
See SC-2019-12.05.
- 2019-13/9f Students' Union Financial Statements 2019.  
See SC-2019-12.06.
- 2019-13/9g President - Report.  
See SC-2019-13.07.
- 2019-13/9h Vice-President (Academic) - Report.  
See SC-2019-13.08.
- 2019-13/9i Vice-President (External) - Report.  
See SC-2019-13.09.
- 2019-13/9j Vice-President (Operations and Finance) - Report.  
See SC-2019-13.10.
- 2019-13/9k Vice-President (Student-Life) - Report.  
See SC-2019-13.11.
- 2019-13/9l Budget Briefing.  
See SC-2019-13.12.
- 2019-13/9m Students' Council Attendance.

See SC-2019-13.13.

2019-13/9n Students' Council Motion Tracker.

See SC-2019-13.14.

2019-13/9o Executive Committee Motion Tracker.

See SC-2019-13.15.

2019-13/9p Students' Council, Votes and Proceedings (SC-2019-12) - Tuesday, October 22, 2019.

See SC-2019-13.16.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:00PM.