

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE — 2023-2024 #40

November 16, 2023

12:34 PM

### ATTENDANCE

Christian Fotang	<i>President</i>
Chris Beasley	<i>Vice President (External)</i>
Pedro Almeida	<i>Vice President (Academic)</i>
Levi Flaman	<i>Vice President (Operations and Finance)</i>
Michael Griffiths	<i>Vice President (Student Life)</i>
Juliana du Pree	<i>Director of Marketing and Communications</i>
Jonathan Olfert	<i>Director of Research and Advocacy</i>
Ari Campbell	<i>External Relations Specialist</i>
Courtney Graham	<i>Assistant Manager, Governance Support</i>

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

GRIFFITHS/FOTANG MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.  
4/0/0 CARRIED

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

BEASLEY/GRIFFITHS MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from November 9, 2023 as presented.  
3/0/1 CARRIED, BEASLEY abstaining.

### REPORTS

#### PRESIDENT

- Met with University staff about Indigenous flag raising ceremony in May. The UASU, under the next Executive team, may be invited to be part of that ceremony.

- Met with University staff about continued support for Palestinian and Israeli students. They are exploring additional resources. FOTANG shared example resources with them that have been created at other institutions.
- With GRIFFITHS and ALMEIDA, meeting in person with Muslim Students' Association representatives and Palestinian students today.
- Participating in governance meetings about accessibility.
- Impromptu TBAC meeting tomorrow, receiving new proposals around international tuition. This may necessitate organizing last-minute consultations.

#### VICE PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)

- With GRIFFITHS, did comms planning and filming explanatory videos around ONEcard access changes. Met with University staff to coordinate some communications efforts.
- Planning to meet with Faculty Councils over November, December, and January.
- Worked on first principles of Quality Academics Policy with Nathan Thiessen for Policy Committee.
- GFC Student Caucus meeting tomorrow.
- Planning to meet with ISA leadership.

#### VICE PRESIDENT (EXTERNAL)

- Last week was CAUS' advocacy week. They met with nine cabinet ministers and nine MLAs about a variety of issues, including gender-based violence and the Summer Temporary Employment Program. The team saw significant engagement with the Minister of Arts, Culture, and the Status of Women.
- Working on CAUS internal items.

#### VICE PRESIDENT (OPERATIONS AND FINANCE)

- Met with Marc on fee governance Bylaw changes left over from last year.
- Bylaw will be constructing referendum/plebiscite questions based on the incoming proposals.
- Finance Committee business ongoing.
- Received a total of two Dewey's washroom quotes.
- Met with ESS leadership.
- EDI committee updates will be forthcoming.
- Meeting with Courtney to discuss DFU deposit collection.

#### VICE PRESIDENT (STUDENT LIFE)

- With ALMEIDA, working on communicating ONEcard access changes to students.
- Several CORA items and supporting FAMF proposals.
- Preparing for Student Groups Committee this week.
- Supporting FOTANG with items to do with student welfare.

## GENERAL MANAGER

- Attending AMICCUS-C and engaging with colleagues.

## DIRECTOR OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Several Executive support roles.
- Annual Survey communications are going out.
- Kudos to ALMEIDA and GRIFFITHS for how well a challenging meeting with University staff was handled.

## DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY

- Off sick most of the week.
- Supporting Executives and staff on student safety and welfare issues surrounding the Israel/Palestine conflict.
- The Annual Survey has started. Lower engagement so far due to the shift in Reading Week, but will still be open until the 4th, and overall turnout should wind up comparable to previous years.
- Completed survey report on quality of education, work-integrated learning, first-generation students, and the Academic Materials Program proposal.
- Completed GFC Student Caucus briefing on a wide range of discussion items. Since the annual report on student aid highlights last year's government-funded aid to Ukrainian students, calls for aid for Palestinian students are likely to come up in discussion at GFC. Provided context for GFC representatives.

## EXTERNAL RELATIONS SPECIALIST

- Been focusing on supporting internal CAUS items.
- Supporting GRIFFITHS in organizing another Students' Council blood bank trip.
- Went to the Recovery on Campus advisory committee. They are now at 20+ Canadian universities. Looking at developing a survey.
- Continuing to support Executives with draft messaging on varied issues.

## STUDENTS' COUNCIL

- FOTANG reminded Executives about upcoming reports.
- There is the possibility of protesters at the upcoming Council meeting. The meeting is also likely to include important presentations. The Executives discussed approaches, preparation options, and availability for attending the meeting in person in the context of CASA advocacy week.

## ACTION ITEMS

### PA Allocation for Bar None SUTV Advertisement

- Due to exceptional circumstances involving the Bar None event, the Executives discussed a one-time request to cover the cost of an SUTV advertisement, the prospect of setting precedents in relationships with student groups, and financial options that the Agriculture Club could pursue for related purposes.

FLAMAN/GRIFFITHS MOVE TO approve \$214.20 from the Project Allocation Reserve for a Bar None 76 SUTV advertisement.  
5/0/0 CARRIED

### PA Allocation for Pronoun Campaign

- The proposal would be for pins that could be used for Executive tabling and to augment the pronoun campaign, which is currently primarily based on electronic communications.
- BEASLEY noted that OASIS distributes these pins as well, and that the supplying organization, The Quiltbag, does good work in Edmonton's communities.

GRIFFITHS/FLAMAN MOVE TO approve up to \$350 from the Project Allocation Reserve for the Pronoun Campaign budget.  
5/0/0 CARRIED

### Special Meeting of Council for Presentations

- GRAHAM polled Students' Council. Most preferred a special meeting rather than longer meetings. All female Councillors voted in favour of an extra meeting, which has become necessary due to emerging challenges in fitting fee proposal presentations into the existing meetings.
- GRAHAM provided suggested dates to fit the fee proposals into the available nights.
- All expected FAMFs and DFUs have submitted proposals except for CJSR, which appears to have missed the deadline.

ALMEIDA/GRIFFITHS MOVE TO direct Governance to schedule a special meeting of Students' Council for November the 28th at 6PM.  
4/0/0 CARRIED

## DISCUSSION PERIOD

### Connection with RBC

- FLAMAN received an email from a concerned student bringing attention to Operating Policy's section on ethical partnership, focusing on RBC for reasons involving relationships with businesses that have been criticized on ethical

grounds. The student requested removal of RBC's on-campus location and ATM. FLAMAN looked into contracts, leases, and financial obligations and explored how the issue had been addressed. Topics discussed included the impact on students whose personal banking is with RBC. FLAMAN will draft a response.

- CAMPBELL has been working on an assessment of banks and credit unions through a climate ethics lens, much of which is applicable. Similar ethical critiques can be applied across the sector.

#### Supports for Palestinian Students

- FOTANG met with the Muslim Students' Association. The 15-day events approval process is obstructing students' ability to organize events such as vigils based on rapidly changing events. He will be meeting with MSA leadership and Palestinian students today.
- FOTANG is communicating with Hillel Edmonton, the Jewish Students' Association, and will be meeting with their leadership.
- FOTANG plans to meet with the chaplains.
- A new group called Students for Justice in Palestine is considering a letter to push the University and the UASU for specific public statements.
- The Executives reviewed and discussed extensive student input from several venues, reflecting many complex viewpoints and ongoing discussions in the community, and potential responses. The Executives discussed issues around antisemitism and anti-Palestinian experiences in the community, as well as how issues of race and discrimination have interacted with the political climate. The Executives discussed appropriate scope of action within its mandate, and options for additional student support and engagement.
- The upcoming Students' Council meeting will be a platform to provide an update on actions taken over the last week and the last month.
- The Executives discussed incidents of related harassment on social media accounts and toward staff.

#### Government of Alberta National Action Plan Funding

- Major conversations with the Ministry of Arts, Culture, and Status of Women have led to an opportunity. A great deal of government funding is currently available and is being allocated in many directions over a four-year timeline.
- The government has made it clear that they want student input in their public consultation survey. BEASLEY has been working with Marketing and Communications and Research and Advocacy on distribution angles to maximize student input.
- The Executives discussed timelines and issues around consultation overload.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 2:26 PM.