

*University of Alberta Students' Union*

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

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Saturday April 30, 2005 – 6:00 p.m.  
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

- 2004-28/3            **SPEAKER'S BUSINESS**
- 2004-28/3a           Election report compiled by Dane Bullerwell, Chief Returning Officer.  
Please see document LA 04-28.01
- 2004-28/6            **PRESENTATION**
- 2004-28/6a           Legal Update (Juicy) – Presented by the Executive Committee.
- 2004-28/7            **REPORTS**
- 2004-28/7b           Jordan Blatz, President  
Please see document LA 04-28.02
- 2004-28/7c           Lisa McLaughlin, Vice President (Academic)  
Please see document LA 04-28.03
- 2004-28/7c           Alvin Law, Vice President (Operations and Finance)  
Please see document LA 04-28.04
- 2004-28/9            **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**
- 2004-28/9b           Executive Committee Report April 30, 2005  
Please see document LA 04-28.05
- 2004-28/13           **NEW BUSINESS**
- 2004-28/13e           **MOTION BY KIRKHAM, ORDERED THAT** Students' Council mandate  
that the Students' Union Webboard and all archived or related content  
remain online and intact until May 31, 2005.
- 2004-28/15           **INFORMATION ITEMS**
- 2004-28/15d           Operating Policy 11.06 – Smoking Policy

Please see document LA 04-28.06

**2004-28/15e**

Operating Policy 11.25 – Alumni Room

Please see document LA 04-28.07

**2004-28/15f**

Document submitted by Councillor Pandya.

Please see document LA 04-28.08



## Students' Union Elections Office

Phone: 780.492.7102 – Email: cro@su.ualberta.ca

<b>To:</b>	○ Mr. Gregory Harlow Speaker, Students' Council
<b>From:</b>	○ Dane Bullerwell Chief Returning Officer, Students' Union
<b>Subject:</b>	Council Replenishment Order
<b>Date:</b>	Friday, April 29, 2005

On April 12, Students' Council amended Bylaw 100 to read:

29. (1) Where a Councillor position is vacant, the Chief Returning Officer will offer the position to the most successful candidate in the last election for that Faculty not currently holding Students' Union office and who has not yet declined appointment to that Council position.

“Most successful” is understood to mean the candidate who would have been elected to Students' Council had ballot counting continued as if there had been another seat available. The order below reflects the order in which candidates would have been elected, had there been an unlimited number of seats available in each faculty. Candidates who ranked below None of the Above are not listed. Council seats will be automatically offered in the order listed.

**Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics**  
(None)

**Arts**

1. Tim Schneider
2. Al-Amyn Sumar

**Augustana**  
(None)

**Business**  
(None)

**Education**  
(None)

**Engineering**  
(None)

**Faculté St. Jean**  
(None)

**Law**

1. Jonathan Tieman

**Medicine & Dentistry**  
(None)

**Physical Education & Recreation**  
(None)

**Science**

1. Kassim Rekieh
2. Yuan Hao

For a record of candidates elected to Students' Council, please refer to my submission dated Wednesday, April 6.

Respectfully submitted,

Dane Bullerwell  
Chief Returning Officer

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Report for Students' Council  
Jordan Blatz  
President  
April 30, 2005

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Good evening Council,

Here are the things that have been keeping me busy over the past week:

**Budget:** The provincial government announced their budget on April 13<sup>th</sup>. The highlights of the budget included a 6% operating grant increase in each of the next three years for a three year total of 19.4% (with compounding). \$250 million was announced to start off the Access to the Future endowment and some significant capital money for our University. The 6% increases in the operating grant are significant because they 'fill the gap' meaning that the University will not be running an operating budget deficit. The University will also not need to continue with their 'reallocations' and there won't be any loss in the 'core professoriate'. This budget should give the SU a stronger position heading into next year's tuition debate because the University can no longer rely on the deficit argument for raising tuition. However, from what I have heard in the past week or two, I do not expect the University to not propose a maximum tuition increase (whatever that may be with the new tuition policy) next year. They have rolled out new priorities including:

- Funding unfunded undergrads
- Eliminating scheduled 'reallocations'.
- Finishing negotiations with NASA and AAS:UA
- Funding unfunded grads
- Matching money for research
- Addressing deferred maintenance

The SU will need to be prepared to argue why no (or lower than the maximum) tuition increases should be a higher priority than the list I just mentioned.

**Augustana:** Everything is on track with Augustana. I have sent a letter to John Pattison and Acting-Dean Roger Epp, confirming that the Augustana Registrar will be collecting our fee for us for the 2005/2006 year. I also spoke with Dr. Epp about securing space for an SU service kiosk. The SU should hear back on this shortly.

**Pembina:** At FDC on last Friday, Lisa did a great job of representing the Students' Union and the students of Pembina Hall. Unfortunately, the FDC voted in favour of re-purposing Pembina Hall into academic space. The Provost committed to start having a discussion with the new SU and GSA Presidents soon regarding the go forward on this issue. The discussion could take place as part of the Budget Advisory Committee.

**CCSA:** I sent a letter to the organizing committee at VCC addressing some of our concerns and the letter was signed by 24 other student associations. We received a response from the organizing committee on April 26, a week after the deadline that we set. I will be working on a response to the organizing committee. Nonetheless, I would like to encourage the new SU Exec to go to CCSA, so that the U of A SU can be at the table to address our concerns. If we give up on CCSA, it is going to die and that would be a sad day for our future executives considering the potential that CCSA offers to new student leaders.

**Transition:** Graham and I have wrapped up most of our transition prior to retreat. Thanks for being such a great sport Graham!!!

**Upcoming:**

- Retreat!!!!!!

April 27, 2005

Dear Carl and Phyllis,

Bill has passed me Ron Ritter's response to our concerns regarding the over-collection of the supplement to the Health Services Fee. I would like to express our appreciation to the University, and especially to Mr. Ritter, for the work and the prompt action.

We have discussed this matter at Executive Committee and would like to offer the following response.

We are willing to accept the University's explanation with regard to the Rate Variance and the Volume Variance, and this removes approximately \$186,000 from the problem. However, we have reservations in the matter of the Interest/Finance Variance, which accounts for another \$170,000 or so.

Mr. Ritter states that our (the SU's) calculations:

*... assumed that the internal loan functioned similar to an operating line of credit with a sliding interest scale. In actual fact the internal loan was a standard amortizing fixed rate (6.875%) loan with annual payments. The reason for this is as follows. The internal loan program forms part of our mid-term investment strategy. Every internal loan reduces our capacity to purchase mid-term bonds for the University's investment portfolio. To ensure that there is no opportunity cost to the University's operating budget we set the interest rate on internal loans based on the Alberta Capital Finance Authority's rates at that time. This approximates the yield we would have received on a high quality (AAA) provincial bond issue of similar duration. This difference explains \$170,000 of the variance.*

We are not as willing to concede this point because the Agreement (Article 5.01) states as follows:

*The balance, from time to time, shall be charged a carrying cost equal to the interest factor which would, if the University elected to borrow the same, be charged by the Alberta Municipal Financing Corporation to the University for funds for the Project.*

While it is not entirely clear from the documentation whether the interest rate should be fixed or variable, the wording in the Agreement, in our view, strongly implies a variable rate. If that was not the intent, why didn't the wording say "fixed rate" rather than "a carrying cost equal to the interest factor which would, if the University elected to borrow the same, be charged by the Alberta Municipal Financing Corporation to the University for funds for the Project"? After all, the parties knew at that time what the rate was, and

could therefore have been much more precise with the Agreement wording if the intent was to fix the rate.

Having said that, and despite our significant concerns regarding this item, we would be willing to concede on this point as well but only if we can reach an agreement on the remaining, and much larger, issue – the University’s failure to credit UHS surpluses to the Project Account.

In his e-mail to Bill, Mr. Ritter makes the following comment with regard to that issue:

*Under Approach B you bring the Health Services operating budget into the calculation, which would entail a wide range of judgmental and qualitative issues.*

We have very significant problems with that contention for the following reasons:

1. The SU did not “bring the Health Services operating budget into the calculation”; as we noted in our original submission, that dimension was incorporated in the Agreement for very good reasons. The Agreement recognizes those reasons by making the following unequivocal statement (Article 5.03):

*To the extent that the Health Services operations of the University produce an excess of revenue over expenses, that excess shall be used to reduce the outstanding balance of the Project Costs Recovery Account.*

2. We do not agree that this issue entails any “judgmental and qualitative issues”. The published UHS accounts, as a component of the University’s Financial Statements, must portray UHS financial performance as accurately as reasonably possible, which means that the judgmental and qualitative issues must be considered and resolved prior to publication. The University has been producing its accounts, including departmental accounts, in a certain way for a long time, and there is no reason to amend that approach just because this provision exists in our Agreement concerning UHS.
3. Anticipating your possible response, we cannot accept a contention that the clear provisions of Article 5.03 are in any way nullified by the fact that the Agreement was not signed. The letter from Jamie Fleming (to which the Agreement was attached) clearly states:

*As part of this process, I want to confirm that in the absence of any other documentation, we intend to operate in accordance with the Health Services Relocation Agreement (copy attached), which has been discussed with you, but has not been executed.*

This passage indicates a University commitment to honour that Agreement with the SU even in the knowledge that the Agreement had not been signed.

4. We firmly believe that the intent of the parties is completely clear – that any surpluses returned by UHS (i.e., an excess of revenues over expenses) will be credited to the Project Cost Recovery Account. While we recognize that this situation may create unfortunate difficulties for the University, the facts remain that the intent of both parties was clear, that UHS surpluses should have been credited to the Project Account, that this was not done, and that the failure to do so resulted in students being charged the Supplementary Fee long after it should have been removed.

So where does this leave us?

We have re-calculated our numbers based on the following assumptions:

- We have accepted the University’s explanation in relation to the Rate Variance, the Volume Variance and the Interest/Finance Variance; these changes have been incorporated into our revised calculations.
- We have assumed that UHS recorded surpluses of \$150,000 in each of Fiscal 1996-97 and 1997-98 – years for which we do not have financial statements.
- We have removed the calculation of interest on a credit balance – meaning that the spreadsheet does not end up charging the University interest on over-collected fees.
- We have ceased to credit the Project Account with UHS surpluses from the point at which the loan had been repaid (by a combination of student fees and UHS surpluses).

With those changes made, as shown on the attached spreadsheet, it appears that the University should have ceased collecting the fee with effect from September 1999, and that the failure to do so has resulted in an overpayment by students in the amount of \$1.014 million.

That is an extremely troubling sum, for both parties, and it is most unfortunate that the SU was not provided with an accounting in respect of this matter following our request to Mr. Al O’Brien (then Acting Vice-President - Finance) in March 2001. To our recollection the topic was discussed with Mr. O’Brien in a subsequent meeting, but no accounting was ever forthcoming. Had we received a statement at that time we could have acted before the problem became as large.

That, though, is “water under the bridge”, and we must find a way to resolve this issue.

One area in which we could be willing to concede some ground on this topic, with Council approval, revolves around our concern for the financial and functional well being of University Health Services. As we have noted before, UHS “is a widely used and



highly valued student service, and anything that damages its interests runs a risk of damaging the interests of students.” With the aim of avoiding that kind of damage, and with Council approval, we could agree to waive a portion of the over-collection (say, \$250,000) provided that it remains within UHS as an operating reserve.

This, though, would still leave a sum of approximately \$764,000 at issue.

We would appreciate receiving your views on how this significant student issue can be resolved.

Sincerely,

Jordan Blatz  
President

c.c. Mr. Ron Ritter  
Students' Council  
Executive Committee  
Bill Smith – General Manager

**Report to Students' Council, April 30, 2005**  
Lisa McLaughlin, Vice-President (Academic)  
For period April 12-30, 2005

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**Dear Council:**

As of the time I am writing this report (Thursday night), I am unsure (actually, doubtful) that I will be in attendance at Saturday's meeting because my roommate and I are moving all afternoon and evening and meeting with our landlord. Unfortunately, this is the only day on which we could do so and the timing for renting a van worked out such that I may not be able to make it to Council on time and possibly not at all. I apologize for this, especially since we've had such troubles getting quorum, but cannot do anything about it. I trust you will have a wonderful meeting without me and I will see you on May 6 for our changeover meeting. Here is what I've been up to lately:

❖ **PROJECTS:**

- **Transition galore** – I have spent numerous hours imparting wisdom (I hope) and advice (hopefully good) upon my successor, Mat. Hopefully I have covered everything and he is more prepared than he was a month ago.
- **24/7 SUB** – Met with Dr. Connor recently to update him on the usage statistics during final exams, which were high. I am writing a report reviewing the initiative, costs, and usage and making recommendations for continuation of the project and funding should it continue.
- **Academic Survey** – The survey was e-mailed to 5,000 students on Tuesday, April 12 and we had received more than 1,200 responses as of Monday, April 25. We are accepting responses until April 29 and will then begin analyzing data.
- **SU Academic Plan submission** – Met with Cassie (UPIO) after the Apr 12 meeting of Council to discuss Council's feedback and the direction of the submission. She has been working away on this throughout the past few weeks, in addition to other things. It is about ready to be submitted. Because I will not be at

❖ **VPA COMMITTEES:**

- **Apr 25 – AAB** – AAB has been discussing the Working Group on Teaching and Research's final report entitled *Integrating Research and Teaching at the University of Alberta: Creating a Foundation for an Inquiry-Based Life* throughout the past couple of months. Because this has become such a widely discussed topic within the University this year and because AAB has developed a fairly deep understanding of the topic, the committee has developed a discussion paper to provide background and perspective on the report and its recommendations. AAB voted unanimously in favor of adopting this document.

❖ **UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES:**

- **Apr 14 – GFC ASC SOS**
- **Apr 21 – GFC ASC**
- **Apr 22 – GFC FDC**
- **Apr 28 – E-Learning Plan Development Committee**

**❖ OTHER MEETINGS:**

- **Apr 19** – Met with FDC’s undergraduate student rep and with the GSA and Pembina Hall Students’ Association to prepare for the Apr 22 meeting of FDC.
- **Apr 25 – 29** – Various coffee meetings with Carl, Gretchen, and Ellen to review and wrap up the year.

**❖ EVENTS:**

- **Apr 16** – SU Appreciation Party
- **Apr 20** – Introduced Revolutionary Speaker Series for Morgan Spurlock’s lecture.
- **Apr 22** – Ellen Schoeck’s Retirement Reception – Gave a speech on behalf of undergraduate students.

Well, that’s about it. It’s been a slice, Council, and in the event I don’t see you at a changeover meeting next week, best wishes to you all in the future!

**Report to Students' Council**  
**April 30, 2005**  
**Alvin Law – Vice President (Operations & Finance)**

Hello Council

Woot woot! Almost outta here! Gotta say its been an interesting year, and its been crazy busy right up till the end, squeezing the Prelim budget in on the last day of my term.

There's been good times, bad times... good people, bad people... but most importantly, I leave knowing that I tried to help the people that I feel are often neglected on this campus; unfortunately, in my eyes, these people also are composed of the greatest numbers. These are the people who know what is important in life and are at University to learn about themselves, to learn about their world and to have a little bit of fun doing it. Maybe I succeeded, maybe I didn't, but I did find out a lot about a few certain types of people. I spent time understanding people within this organization, from councilors, to permanent staff, to student employees and I found something that only few will understand.

I had a lot more to say in this 'almost last' report, but if any of you are really interested in it, come talk to me as a person and I will share.

(rant goes here)

Out of all that has happened this year, I have received a clichéd lesson, but more importantly, I have experienced first hand this lesson that life is truly precious, and I for one will no longer waste it on meaningless minutia.

Some of you might take away something similar, some of you might not have gained anything from your experience, but I think **one of the most important things you can realize is when to move on**. For me, that time has come, and I wish pretty much all of you well.

Thank you for an interesting year.

Alvin Law

Executive Committee Report to Students' Council April 30, 2005

**1. The following motions were passed at the April 28, 2005 Executive Committee Meeting.**

- a. TAYLOR/LAW MOVED THAT the Executive Committee accept the discussed recommendations relating to the web board.

**VOTE ON MOTION 4/0/0/ CARRIED**

- b. ABBOUD/LAW MOVED THAT the Alumni Room usage policy be changed to state that it shall be available for booking during the spring and summer session daily after 3:00 pm.

**VOTE ON MOTION 4/0/0/ CARRIED**

- c. TAYLOR/LAW MOVED THAT the Executive Committee approve the tabled changes to the Smoking Policy.

**VOTE ON MOTION 4/0/0/ CARRIED**

# ***THE STUDENTS' UNION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA***

## **OPERATING POLICY STATEMENT**

<i>Policy Number:</i>	<b>11.06</b>	<i>Effective Date:</i>	<b>February 7, 1995</b>	<i>Page</i>	<b>1</b>	<i>of</i>	<b>1</b>
<i>Responsibility for Policy:</i>	<b>Executive Committee</b>						
<i>Subject Matter</i>	-	<i>Category:</i>	<b>OPERATING POLICY (GENERAL)</b>				
	-	<i>Specific:</i>	<b>SPACE</b>				
	-	<i>Topic:</i>	<b>Smoking Policy</b>				

### **Introduction:**

Due to numerous persons citing both health and building concerns and under the direction of Students' Council, the following policy was drafted.

### **Policy:**

- 11.06.1 The Students' Union Building and all Students' Union owned and/or operated businesses, including the PowerPlant patio area, shall be non-smoking establishments effective May 1, 2005:
- 11.06.2 Any Building user in violation of this policy may be asked to extinguish their cigarette by any staff member of the relevant SU business. Those who refuse to do so will be asked to leave the Building.

### **Policy History:**

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Board/Committee</b>	<b>Date of Council Approval</b>
Created	March, 1993	Executive Committee	March 16, 1993
Updated	January 27, 1995	Executive Committee	February 7, 1995
Updated	July 3, 2002	Executive Committee	July 23, 2002
Updated	April 18, 2005	Executive Committee	
Updated	April 28, 2005	Executive Committee	

# ***THE STUDENTS' UNION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA***

## **OPERATING POLICY STATEMENT**

<i>Policy Number:</i> <b>11.25</b>	<i>Effective Date:</i> <b>February 7, 1995</b>	<i>Page</i> <b>1</b> <i>of</i> <b>1</b>
<i>Responsibility for Policy:</i>	<b>Executive Committee</b>	
<i>Subject Matter</i> - <i>Category:</i>	<b>OPERATING POLICY (GENERAL)</b>	
- <i>Specific:</i>	<b>SPACE</b>	
- <i>Topic:</i>	<b>Alumni Room</b>	

### **Introduction:**

The Alumni Room is designed for a variety of purposes. While it is primarily intended as a quiet study area, it may also be booked from time to time for special functions. This policy outlines the circumstances under which the room may be booked, and the procedure for booking it.

### **Policy:**

- 11.25.1 Persons wishing to book the Alumni Room may do so through the Students' Union Receptionist in Room 2-900 SUB. The appropriate Scheduling Form is to be completed in its entirety.
- 11.25.2 The room will only be booked for functions after 5:00 p.m. Monday to Thursday, and after 3:00 p.m. on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday during fall and winter session
- 11.25.3 The room will only be booked for functions after 3:00 p.m. Monday to Sunday during spring and summer session
- 11.25.4 The Alumni Room will not be available for bookings during exam weeks.
- 11.25.5 A damage deposit of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) will be required.
- 11.25.6 Functions booked in the Alumni Room will also be subject to the provisions of Policy 11.14 (Booking of Students' Union Facilities), Policy 11.15 (Assessment of Rental Charges), and Policy 11.22 (Liquor Functions).
- 11.25.7 Alumni Room Bookings must be approved by the Vice-President (Operations & Finance). The Executive Committee shall be informed of bookings of the Alumni Room.

<b><u>Policy History</u></b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Board/Committee</b>	<b>Date of Council Approval</b>
Created	October 28, 1993	Executive Committee	November 2, 1993
Updated	January 27, 1995	Executive Committee	February 7, 1995
Updated	April 28, 2005	Executive Committee	

Dear Council, I am done exams, and therefore have too much time on my hands, so I took the liberty of putting forth this very unbiased and accurate\* ballot, because we always do awards at year's end. And "because we've always done it this" way is a legitimate excuse for voting in favor. Vote Yes. Sincerely,

Councilor Pandya

**P.S. :** In a "screw-you" to preferential, this is first-past-post-voting. So there!

**P.P.S:** I'm kind of old and forgetful, so if I forgot anyone a) I'm sorry and b) You're not getting your e-mail, because names (and most ballot orders) were gleaned from the Council Listserve.

**"The Gotta Represent, Yo" Award for Faculty of the Year:**

- Arts
- Ag/For
- Business
- Education
- Engg
- Fac. St. Jean
- Law
- Med./Dent.
- Native Studies
- Nursing (Pick this one)
- Phys Ed./Rec. (or this one)
- Science
- None of the Above

**"The New Science Award" for Most Truant Faculty:**

- Arts
- Ag/For
- Business
- Education
- Engg
- Fac. St. Jean
- Law
- Med./Dent.
- Native Studies

- Nursing
- Phys Ed./Rec.
- Science
- None of the Above

**Best Show by a Perma-Proxy:**

- Chelli Kelly
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the above

**"Rookie of the year" – Best Show by a First-Year Councillor:**

- Tamara Larter
- Tara Thompson
- Catrin Berghoff
- Jamaal Montasser
- Trevor Panas
- Chelsea Baron
- Lillian Patz
- Chelsy Shillington
- Kelli Taylor
- Graham Lettner
- Brock Debenham
- Omer Yusuf
- Keith Vandersluis
- Sean Clovechok
- Cameron Lewis
- Nandini Somayaji
- Gabrielle Donnelly
- Sarah Colpitts
- Aaron Johnson
- Leah Bennett
- Scott Nicol
- John Chandler
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Chris Samuel
- None of the above

**Best show from a by-elected Councillor:**

- Keith Vandersluis
- Lillian Patz
- John Chandler
- Chelsy Shillington
- Sarah Colpitts
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the Above

**Speaker of the Year (and no, Harlow, the fact that you called me fat and revoked my speaking privileges has nothing to do with the fact that NOTA**

**appears above you on the ballot. None whatsoever. ☺):**

- None of the above
- Harlow
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Interim Speaker of the Year:**

- Josh Bazin
- Darren Lau
- Chris Samuel
- Jordan Blatz
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the above

**Best Allusion to a Councilor's Relative:**

- Harlow's hot sister
- Smith's 'ugly-lesbian-nun-sister-with-a-boyfriend'
- Lettner's three bastard children\*\*
- Bazin's Mom
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the Above

**"Best-Councilors-Until-They-Were-Kicked-Off-For-Doing-Something-Stupid" Award for Best Councilors Until They Were Kicked Off For Doing Something Stupid:**

- Adam Knisely
- Steve Smith
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the Above

**"The Dave Weppler Award" For A Competent Hack Who's Been on Council A Really, Really Ridiculously Long Time:**

- Gary Wicentowich
- Stephen Kirkham
- Matthew Wildcat
- Chris Samuel
- Shawna Pandya
- Josh Bazin
- Justin Kehoe
- Chris Laver
- Erica Skopac
- Leah Bennett
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the Above

\* And by "unbiased and accurate," I actually mean "the most highly biased and wildly



