

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

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Tuesday February 28, 2006  
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

2005-23/2

SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

2005-23/2a (i)

The Budget and Finance meeting for Wednesday March 1, 2006 has been CANCELLED. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday March 8, 2006 at 5 pm.

2005-23/6

REPORTS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

2005-23/6d

Graham Lettner, President

Please see document LA 05-23.01

2005-23/8

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

2005-23/8a (i)

Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement Board – Case 12: Relating to removal of Councillors.

Please see document LA 05-23.02

2005-23/9

GENERAL ORDERS

2005-23/9e

**KIRKHAM ORDERED THAT** Students' Council direct the Office of the Registrar and Student Awards to cease the collection of the "Faculty Student Funds" for the Faculty of Law and Campus Saint-Jean effective immediately.

Please see document LA 05-23.03

2005-23/9f

**KIRKHAM ORDERED THAT** Students' Council censure the Executive Committee for knowingly and willingly contravening the directive of Students' Council made in item 2005-22/6a(i).

2005-23/99

**CROSSMAN ORDERED THAT** the Executive Committee submit a letter of apology to both Student's Council and the Gateway no later than March 6th, 2006 for the events leading up to the February 16th, 2006 meeting of Student's Council on the following grounds:

1. That the Executive Committee did not provide information on the Travel Cuts lawsuit sufficiently in advance of the emergency meeting of February 16th, 2006.
2. That given the deadline for leaves of absence related to the 2006 elections, the Executive Committee did not schedule the emergency meeting of Council related to the Travel Cuts lawsuit sufficiently early to allow councillors to scrutinize documents and debate the issue.
3. That given points 1 and 2, the Executive committee compromised individual councillor's abilities to adequately and effectively represent their constituents.
4. That these actions compromised Student's Council's trust in the Executive Committee, and by extension the Student's Union's effectiveness and legitimacy as an organization.

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## President's Report

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Meeting date: Tuesday, February 28, 2006

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

A few things of note: with two months remaining, a lot of focus will be put on the budgeting process and next year's budget. As principles and proposals come forward, Council should have a keen interest in new budget initiatives.

### SPECIFICS:

- Rural Tour

On February 9<sup>th</sup>, Don Ivseon, Colin Robertson and I traveled to Valleyview as part of our rural tour schedule. We made three presentations to a total of over a hundred high school students, and met with a city councilor and the town manager of Valleyview. We were very well received, much appreciated for the time we took to travel out there, and questioned thoroughly by soon-to-be university students.

- Board of Governors: Budget

The Board of Governors reviewed the budget on February 10<sup>th</sup>, and the Board Finance and Property Committee passed this years budget on February 24<sup>th</sup>: the budgets now awaits final approval by the Board on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

- Profile Building Task Force

The last meeting of our task force meets tomorrow. The Executive Assistant and I have refined the methods for implementation of our recommendations this week and will present them to the task force then. I will be coming back to Council at the next meeting with a presentation on the findings of our task force.

- Travel CUTS lawsuit

UBC was the last school to ratify the settlement agreement, and they did so February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Discussions are not centering around the creation of a non-profit company to administer our stake in Travel CUTS. We have tentative travel plans for Toronto near the end of March to meet with the other plaintiff schools to engage in talks around the creation of this new company.

- Ski Trip

Last week, my roommates and I were off skiing in Banff. Price tag: one Ralph cheque.

**D.I.E. Report to Students' Council February 28, 2006  
Late Additions**

**The Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement Board have made the following rulings:**

Style of cause: *Students' Council vs. Goebel and Hao*

Ruling: #12

Date heard: February 21, 2006

Appearing for the D.I.E. Board::Presiding Chair: Alex Ragan,Tribunes: Joel David, Amanda Nielsen

Appearing for the Applicant: Greg Harlow, Speaker of Students' Council

Case summary:

The Students' Council is requesting the removal of Councilors Philip Goebel and Yuan Hao from Students' Council because of lack of attendance to Council meetings as required by Bylaw 100, part V section 20(d).

Facts:

Councilor Goebel did not attend nor appoint a proxy to attend over 20 Council meetings to date. Councilor Hao attended two meetings early in his mandate and ceased to attend. No proxy has ever attended in his place. Councilor Hao is a member on both the Grant Allocation Committee and the University Policy Committee. He has not attended any meeting of these committees since being appointed in September, 2005.

The councilors' lack of attendance is aggravating difficulties in reaching quorum and interfering with the good operations of Council and its two committees. Council has attempted to contact both councilors by email, leaving phone messages and sending a letter. Neither councilor has heeded these requests to attend meetings regularly. Both have ignored a written request to resign.

Relevant legal provisions:

Bylaw 100, Part V section 20 reads in part:

20. Each voting member of Council, or their proxy, will:

...

c. Attend to the maximum extent practicable all meetings of any board, committee, or task force of which they are a member; and,

d. Be responsible for regular attendance at meetings of Council...

Findings and remedy imposed:

The DIE board finds that Councilors Goebel and Hao have not met or made a reasonable effort to meet the criteria of “regular attendance” as stated in section 20(d) of Bylaw 100 and therefore are removed from their seat on Student’s Council.

Recommendations:

A future case may show a lack of attendance that is less obvious than the facts of this case but still below a level expected of elected officials. In the absence of better direction from council, this Board may be in a quandary on how to decide such a case. In particular, Bylaw 100 could better define what constitutes “regular attendance”. There could be a mandatory proxy system initiated after a certain number of meetings missed and/or a recall system for councilors.

The Discipline, Interpretation And Enforcement (D.I.E.) Board functions as the judiciary branch of the Student’s Union, and is responsible for interpreting and enforcing all Student’s Union legislation. If anyone has any questions regarding the D.I.E. Board, feel free to contact the Chair, Alex Ragan, at [ea@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:ea@su.ualberta.ca).