

STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

Tuesday, October 2, 2007
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

LATE ADDITIONS (SC 2007-12)

2007-12/7	<u>INFORMATION ITEMS</u>
2007-12/7c	Michael Janz, President-Report Please see document LA 07-12.01
2007-12/7d	Chris Le, VP Student Life-Report Please see document LA 07-12.02
2007-12/7e	Bobby Samuel, VP Academic-Report Please see document LA 07-12.03
2007-12/7f	Steven Dollansky, VP External-Report Please see document LA 07-12.04

President Report
Students' Council: Oct 02/07
Michael Janz
president@su.ualberta.ca

WELCOME NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS!

I was really pleased to see so many candidates interested in getting involved in council and taking action by throwing their names into the hat. Congrats to those who won, and my respect and admiration to those that came close.

One thing I would like all council members to consider is how they get feedback. For example, there is a CBAS meeting Thursday at 4PM. I would fully expect all Arts Council members and GFC members representing Arts students to go to this meeting and learn Arts student concerns just as Science Councilors I'm sure go to UASUS meetings and events. Council outreach starts with all of us networking our council work to our academics and faculty communities.

Life in the hot seat:

So since last council many interesting things have come up

A big welcome to Alex Caldararu who is replacing Colin as our Communications Officer. Alex hails from Queens and brings big ideas and a sharp mind for communications so these election activities should be interesting!

I have been involved in two major Alumni events last week. First, the beautiful and posh Alumni Recognition Ceremony at the Winspear which was absolutely a treat and I met some fantastic people there. Secondly, Chauffeuring alumni around campus in a golf cart on Saturday. It was like Mario Kart with real Carts. Both were great times to chat to individuals who are very well connected and concerned about today's students.

Props to Steve Dollansky and Pam Aranas for the Camp Out in Quad. Very well done my friends! We dominated the Thursday/Friday media and certainly raised the awareness of the student angle of the affordable housing issue to the community. Remember to email your municipal candidates and ask them what they will do for students when it comes to transit and housing!

I had a great discussion regarding the Residence Master Plan with reps from the LHSA, ECV, GSA, U of A Admin, Res Services, and the hired consultant company. It was one of the most insightful and important chances I had to give meaningful feedback into the Residence Master Plan last week. Very Important!

Chris Le and I had lunch with the Aboriginal Student Council and learned about how they approach students advocacy and some of their big issues this year.

I celebrated Teaching and Learning on our campus at our wonderful soiree with the University last Friday and I lament the days when student to teacher ratios were 13-1. Nevertheless, these honored students will go onto accomplish wonderful things on our campus and I wish them all the best. I also think it was great to see some fantastic teachers honored for their work. Now let's make sure that teaching is meaningfully incorporated into their promotions and tenure!

COUNCIL: WHO IS YOUR SPORTSCENTRE SU 'EMPLOYEE OF THE WEEK'?

Janz: Melissa Loais who has been covering Catherine van de Braak's position over the past 2 weeks. Melissa has been cheerful and very careful to ensure that our organization didn't miss a step. Her biggest accomplishment is holding her own in our exec meetings amidst all of our Exec banter and bullying. Well played Melissa!

Chris Lê, Vice President (Student Life)

Council Report 10

2 October 2007

Hello Council,

There was plenty to keep me busy these past few weeks. Read on!

- ❑ **Orientation/WoW Volunteer Appreciation Party:** The evening went very well. The volunteers enjoyed good food and great company in Dinwoodie Lounge. Orientation and WoW gave out lots of prizes, including a trip for four to Kimberley, B.C.! I also recognized 11 WoW Super Volunteers – people who went above and beyond to make WoW a positive and memorable event. These volunteers were Alan Cliff, Carol Dean, Michael Gaultois, Jacqueline Geller, Ali Grotkowski, Nick Leibel, Curtis Mabilangan, Daniel Vincent, Nicole Watts, Rachel White, and Patrick Wisheu.
- ❑ **U-Pass meetings:** Martin Cotts, Chris Henderson, and I met with the transit authorities to give them the UofA's feedback about the U-Pass. Students are generally happy with the U-Pass and its distribution. The transit authorities have been monitoring their routes and are willing to make changes as necessary to accommodate students. I also met with the UofA's U-Pass Administration group and we are planning to have mass distribution in December.
- ❑ **Food Services Advisory Group:** Students met with Lorraine Eriksson from the University and Jeff Marcellus from Aramark to discuss the food service on campus. It was encouraging to see that the University and Aramark open to student feedback and are improving their service to accommodate students.
- ❑ **UofA Student Flu Clinic:** The University Health Centre is running a student-only flu clinic for students in the Myer Horowitz lobby on 30 October 2007. This is the first time that such a clinic has been held, so tell your friends that they can get their shots!
- ❑ **Campus Law Review Committee:** There were changes to the Residence Community Standards that direct the Discipline Officer to take into account any sanctions imposed by Residence Services before making a final decision. This is a good change that will protect students from being penalized twice for the same offence. We also discussed a Practicum Intervention Policy, which laid out a clear procedure for the University to follow if it were to intervene on a student's practicum and an appeal process for the student.
- ❑ **Microwave Project:** I've had positive talks with the libraries and with the University. It's moving along.

- ❑ **Lunch with the Aboriginal Student Council:** Michael Janz and I had lunch with the ASC. We listened to their advocacy efforts with the University and sought their perspective on several issues. They were particularly interested in training for student group leaders/executives.
- ❑ **Additions to the Student Life Committees:** With Amissa Jablonski's hiring as the Transition Programs Manager, I had an open spot on the Student Life Services Advisory Committee. I interviewed several outstanding people and have added two new people to my SLCs. Rachel White will be joining SLSAC, while Nicole Watts will be joining the Student Life Programming Committee.
- ❑ **Campus Food Bank:** We approved the CFB's Standing Rules, which put onto paper how CFB meetings are run. More policies regarding its operations are coming.
- ❑ **Open House:** Brittney Bugler, Pamela Aranas, and I were panelists in the Senate's All Roads Lead to U event. We shared our university experience and took questions from high school students. Here's the best question of the day: how long did you plan to be in university, and how long do you actually expect to be here? The Exec and our associates also manned the SU booth in the Butterdome. I had interesting discussions with prospective students.
- ❑ **Camp Out in Quad:** The event was very fun! Six degrees feels colder at night in a tent than it does during the day. Kudos to Pamela Aranas, the Associate Vice President (External), for coordinating everything. Also, I'd like to recognize Roz VanRietschoten, who volunteered for pretty much the entire event. She helped register students until late in the evening and cooked pancakes all morning.
- ❑ **Blood Donation:** The Exec went to donate blood. Being the competitive bunch that we are, the Exec "raced" to fill a donation bag. Steven Dollansky had the quickest time at 5:19. I was right behind him at 5:22. We enjoyed cookies and juice afterwards. Yum.
- ❑ **World Record Walk:** There is an attempt at the world's largest simultaneous walk on 3 October 2007 starting at 10:15 am at the Alumni Walk. In 2006 Australia took the record from Alberta, and here's a chance to take it back!

Bobby Samuel
Vice President (Academic)
October 2, 2007

Hello Council! So holy crap was September ever busy, no worries it's back to business as usual with a lot of work before us. Here's what I've been up to the last two weeks and my apologies for not getting this earlier to Students' Council.

Goals:

Textbooks – The schools now attending (with student associations and book stores) are Dalhousie, McMaster, SMU, Waterloo, Western, Wilfrid Laurier, UBC, Queens, Saskatchewan, Victoria, Calgary, and Toronto. Currently, we are getting speakers for the conference to shed light on an industry that affects us, but we do not know much about.

Reward Involvement – CSL will most likely present to CoFA either this month or the next. As well, CSL is in the phase of contacting various student groups to establish partnerships between the two, wait and see how this develops. If you're confused about this initiative, feel free to ask me a question during question period.

Scholarships & Bursaries – We are researching comparative distributions of scholarships and bursaries at other schools. The Vice Provosts meeting, at which we discussed this idea, was taken well but a lot of work still needs to be done on this subject.

Technology – Check out ARG.

Teaching & Learning – Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) will dominate my year on the Committee on the Learning Environment (CLE). Alan Cliff will do a presentation on the topic, highlighting weaknesses of the current system and the need for change (just as an anecdote, one of the problems with USRIs are that many of them are that the University average is approximately a 4, you can draw two conclusions from this in which most University teaching is really good or that something needs to be changed about USRIs).

Emerging Issues:

Bear Scat/Bear Tracks – I had a conference call with Stephen that I think went well, I suppose we are trying to find ways to maintain Bear Scat until the next upgrade.

On Bear Tracks advocacy, Brittney and I got a look at PeopleSoft 9.0. We got a look at the planning feature, which is certainly improved over the current Bear Tracks, but we are waiting for a follow-up to look at the actual registration component. As well, I'm scheduling a conference call with Calgary's VP Academic to discuss this issue.

Faculty Associations – Our first CoFA meeting went particularly well as the topic was Transitions, something all FAs encounter and where some do well and others not so much. As well, we met individually with the AUFSJ and AFHE FSA to hype up Professor of the Week.

GFC – Does anyone remember the great consolidated exam debate of 2006/07? If you need a reminder, just ask me a question but the policy changes finally came through the Governance system this year for implementation to occur in the 08/09 year. The exam schedule is now extended. Once classes end in either semester, there is a single day off

and consolidated exams begin on those days. In Fall, consolidated exams run up until December 22, in Winter they run up until 23 days before the beginning of Spring Convocation (for this year, I believe it is either April 28 or 29). Are you mad? So am I as this hurts students in more ways than one. To ensure that students are not hurt by these policies, I'll be following up with the Registrar's Office to ensure we continually monitor this policy and ensure that students' academic success are not hurt by the changes in this academic policy.

Exam Registry – The policy was changed this year to allow professors to either place exams on our exam registry or on their individual website. Currently, we are trying to determine how many classes actually abide by this policy and see where we can move from here. The letter will be sent out later this week and we'll see the response.

Academic Relations Group (ARG) – We had our second meeting at which we discussed Webmail, WebCT, and the Identity Management Service (IMS). Main issues that were brought up were long load-up times for documents as well as the limited functionality. This is part of my larger scheme to be able to accomplish technology advocacy asides from “this needs an upgrade”.

Professor of the Week – Brittney is spearheading this initiative. Posters are up and we could really use nominations for any professor you feel has done an outstanding job in teaching.

Information Sharing Privacy Agreement – this allows us to use private information from the University of Alberta (e-mail addresses, phone numbers, etc.) for our purposes (elections, orientation, etc.). We are in the process of finalizing it with the University, just going over security details.

AASUA – Discussed with Don Perkins the possibility of working together on an “inspirational sessional” partnerships, as well I met briefly with the student representative on the Teaching & Learning committee to go over her responsibilities. The first meeting will be this Friday, at which time we are submitting our topics of discussion. The main thing I'm hoping to discuss are textbooks, but odds are student evaluations are to be the main topic of the day.

Wireless – The University is installing wireless in SUB as part of their campus-wide roll-out. It will be handled by AICT and hopefully this will rectify a lot of our current problems with wireless. More to come at a later date.

VPX Report
October 2, 2007

Hey everyone,

I hope you enjoy the brevity of my report this week. I'm writing this on the fly and don't have a lot of information in front of me. If you have any questions about external advocacy efforts, do not hesitate to ask.

1. Camp-out in Quad
 - a. The event was a success in my books, but that is only because of the great help we had from staff and volunteers. Pam did an absolutely amazing job organizing the event. THANK YOU to the councilors who helped out! The event was attended by 150 students in over 45 tents. We had media coverage from Global, CTV, Metro and the Gateway. While I was disappointed that the Sun and Journal didn't show, it was still fairly well publicized. In addition we raised \$625 for the United Way Campaign.
2. Student Housing Week
 - a. There were several other events that were put on. I'm disappointed in the apathy, but it certainly wasn't unexpected. We tried to set up all the events in a way that would forward our agenda regardless of how many students attended and that worked quite well.
3. Edmonton Alliance of Students
 - a. There will be a website up and running (hopefully today) for the group. It will be the point of contact for municipal election information.
www.edmontonstudents.ca
4. Canadian Alliance of Student Associations
 - a. CASA will become a topic for debate in the coming months and I encourage you to try and find out as much as you can about the group. Feel free to email me and I will put some reading material in front of you. This will be a \$47 000 decision that will need to be made in the coming months, let's make sure we know the implications. CASA National Director Zach Churchill will be flying out from Ottawa to speak to you all next week. Feel free to attend EPC prior to next council meeting to hear more from Zach.
5. Municipal Election
 - a. Campaigns are heating up and the most relevant wards to U of A students (Ward 4 and 5) look to be tight races. The EAS will be grading candidate survey responses in the next few days and will be posting results on the EAS website.
6. CPAC
 - a. The Campaigns Planning and Action Committee has begun and was instrumental in the planning and execution of housing week. The next big step with CPAC will be preparing federal and provincial election campaigns, which should be a lot of fun.

Have a great meeting
SD