

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

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Tuesday November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
Telus 134

## LATE ADDITIONS (SC 2012-15)

2012-15/1      SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

2012-15/2      PRESENTATIONS

2012-15/3      EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

2012-15/4      BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

2012-15/5      QUESTION PERIOD

2012-15/6      BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2012-15/6a      **SUMAR/BORDEN move** upon the recommendation of the Elections Review Committee that Council approve the Bill #4 in first reading:

1. The mandate of Bylaw 2100 reflect the contents of the bylaw.
2. Elections staff perform duties as described in all of the Elections Bylaws.
3. The term of the CRO should start in April and end in May and the term of the DRO should start in the Winter Semester and end in April.

2012-15/6b      **SUMAR/BORDEN move** upon the recommendation of the Elections Review Committee that Council approve the Bill #5 in first reading:

1. The length of the campaign period be reduced to avoid voter and candidate burnout.
2. Two (2) campaign days shall be removed from the beginning of the campaign period.
3. The pre-campaign period be increased by two (2) days.

2012-15/6c      **SUMAR/BORDEN move** upon the recommendation of the Elections Review Committee that Council approve the Bill #6 in first reading:

Efforts to print on sustainable material on the part of the candidates not

unnecessarily penalize candidates.

2012-15/6d

**SUMAR/BORDEN move** upon the recommendation of the Elections Review Committee that Council approve the Bill #7 in first reading:

Printing will be limited to SU Businesses.

2012-15/6e

**SUMAR/BORDEN move** upon the recommendation of the Elections Review Committee that Council approve the Bill #8 in first reading:

The CRO shall develop a communications plan to advertise the nomination deadline and the elections. This communications plan shall include advertisement of the nomination deadline in the campus newspaper and will be presented to the Council Administration Committee thirty (30) days prior to the commencement of campaigning.

2012-15/6f

**SUMAR/BORDEN move** upon the recommendation of the Elections Review Committee that Council approve the Bill #9 in first reading:

1. Candidates provide an updated expense report following the commencement of voting and prior to the end of voting.
2. Candidates be penalized up to disqualification for not reporting expenses.

2012-15/6g

**SUMAR/BORDEN move** upon the recommendation of the Elections Review Committee that Council approve the Bill #10 in first reading:

1. The definition for general election for the purposes of Bylaw 2500 include Students' Council and General Faculties Councilor Elections.
2. Referendum and plebiscite questions only run during the SU Executive and Board of Governors Elections.

2012-15/6h

**SUMAR/BORDEN move** upon the recommendation of the Elections Review Committee that Council approve the Bill #11 in first reading:

1. Councilors shall take a leave of absence to act as a side manager or primary volunteer.
2. Primary volunteer is defined as a person registered as part of a candidate's campaign who has been selected by that candidate to serve as primary volunteer for the purposes of the Elections Bylaws.

2012-15/6i

**CHELEN MOVES** that the Students' Union approve a one-time payment of funds directly from the Students' Union to the Canadian Nursing Students' Association on behalf of the Nursing Undergraduate Association for the sum total of their outstanding account balance or the total of the CNSA dues, whichever is lesser, subject to the following conditions:

- The NUA supplies the SU with an invoice from the CNSA, and whatever other

- supporting documentation the SU requests for proof of expense
- The NUA agrees to be responsible for any further debts to the CNSA not covered by the FAMF funding available
  - An indemnity waiver that protects the Students' Union from further financial commitment is signed by the NUA
  - The SU provides the NUA with reasonable proof of payment documentation
  - In the event that there is a surplus in the account, it will be released to the NUA upon successful completion of Probation and submission of satisfactory financial reports for the 2012 fiscal year (to be submitted in 2012-13)
  - That the NUA supply a letter ratified by their Council confirming their support for this proposal. That paired with an affirmative vote from Students' Council should satisfy requirements under Bylaw 8200 s. 21.

Please see document LA 12-15.01

2012-15/7

**GENERAL ORDERS**

2012-15/7a

**SUMAR MOVES** that appoint one (1) member of Students' Council to the Elections Review Committee.

2012-15/8

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

2012-15/8g

Saadiq Sumar, VP Student Life- Report

Please see document LA 12-15.02

2012-15/8h

Suggestions for changes to Elections Bylaw

Please see document LA 12-15.03

2012-15/8i

Dustin Chelen, VP Academic- Report

Please see document LA 12-15.04

2012-15/8j

ERC Summary Report

Please see document LA 12-15.05

2012-15/8k

Brent Kelly, BoG Rep- Report

Please see document LA 12-15.06

2012-15/8l

Andy Cheema, VP Operations and Finance- Report

Please see document LA 12-15.07

**To:** Cory Hodgson, Audit Chair  
Audit Committee  
Dustin Chelen, SU VPA  
Andy Cheema, SU VPOF  
2012-2013 Students' Council

## Background

The NUA FAMF disbursal from 2011/12 was never given to the NUA, as they never completed their financial reports for 2010/11 to the satisfaction of the 2011/12 Audit Committee. The SU is currently holding on to \$9745.25 from the 2011/2012 NUA FAMF, and most if not all of it would be used by the NUA for payment of dues to a national organization (the Canadian Nursing Students' Association). That payment will be due by December 1, 2012. The NUA is not going to be able to successfully complete their financial reports for 2010/11 due to insufficient record-keeping.

The SU expects that their 2011/12 financial report will be complete, but will also note a number of deficiencies in their 2011-12 financial practices and records. The NUA is now on probation, so those deficiencies will be remedied for the 2012/13 reporting cycle.

That leaves us with a situation where they cannot fulfill the practical requirements necessary to get their money, and the rules are silent with respect to what we do with FAMF money collected for a specific purpose from a specific group of students that we probably shouldn't release because of the state of the receiving organization.

## Relevant Legislation

### **Bylaw 100 s. 18 (1) c**

"The Audit Committee shall monitor the use of all Faculty Association Membership Fees."

### **Bylaw 8200, s. 3, 5 through 8**

- (3) All determinations by the Students' Union required by this bylaw, which are not reserved for Students' Council itself, shall be made by Audit Committee in consultation with the Vice President (Academic).
- (5) All Associations shall provide an annual report of its finances to its membership and to the Students' Union. This report shall include the Association's current fiscal year's budget and the previous fiscal year's audited financial statements.
- (6) All Associations with a Campus Association Transfer Payment, Faculty Association Membership Fee and/or Faculty Association Special Fee shall append

additional information to their annual report. This appendix shall include evidence of compliance with the requirements of Students' Union bylaws and evidence of compliance with all contracts with the Students' Union.

- (7) No funds raised by a Campus Association Transfer Payment, Faculty Association Membership Fee and/or Faculty Association Special Fee shall be dispersed to an Association until such time as the funds have been received from the Office of the Registrar and the Students' Union Audit Committee has approved this dispersal.
- (8) Upon the Association being demonstrated to be in compliance with Sections 5 and 6 of this bylaw the Audit Committee shall approve the dispersal of funds to that Association by June 30<sup>th</sup> of that fiscal year or within four calendar weeks, whichever is later.

### **Bylaw 8200, s. 21**

- The proposal, as approved by Students' Council under Section 17 of this bylaw, shall only be amended by the joint consent of the Association and Students' Council. Amendments shall not result in an increase in the duration or amount of the Faculty Association Fee.

### **Recommendation**

That the Audit Committee, in consultation with the Vice President (Academic), recommend to Council that the Students' Union approve a one-time payment of funds directly from the Students' Union to CNSA on behalf of the NUA for the sum total of their outstanding account balance or the total of the CNSA dues, whichever is lesser, subject to the following conditions:

1. The NUA supplies the SU with an invoice from the CNSA, and whatever other supporting documentation the SU requests for proof of expense
2. The NUA agrees to be responsible for any further debts to the CNSA not covered by the FAMF funding available
3. An indemnity waiver that protects the Students' Union from further financial commitment is signed by the NUA
4. The SU provides the NUA with reasonable proof of payment documentation
5. In the event that there is a surplus in the account, it will be released to the NUA upon successful completion of Probation and submission of satisfactory financial reports for the 2012 fiscal year (to be submitted in 2012-13)
6. That the NUA supply a letter ratified by their Council confirming their support for this proposal. That paired with an affirmative vote from Students' Council should satisfy requirements under Bylaw 8200 s. 21.

### **Rationale for Recommendation**

1. Given that the rules are silent with respect to guidance on what criteria Audit Committee would approve or not approve funding disbursements for faculty association fees other than "compliance," Audit Committee has some flexibility in terms of approving disbursements for sub-standard reports, provided they meet the letter of the rules.

- a. The NUA has submitted a package that was complete, but unsatisfactory for the 2011/12 fiscal year (with two exceptions that can be remedied for this year), thus satisfying the letter of the bylaw, but not Audit Committee 2011/12's standard of due diligence.
  - b. Similarly, Audit Committee appears to have the discretion to impose conditions to disbursal, subject to consultation with the SU Vice President (Academic). These interpretation of Audit Committee's authority is subject to both Council and DIE Board, so it's important that the reasoning for exercising it in this way is sound, that it's clearly demonstrated to be an exceptional circumstance, that the NUA agrees to the conditions, and, most importantly, that the net result is less or no harm to Nursing students.
2. SU rules are also silent with respect to how FAMF monies that are not disbursed are to be refunded or re-allocated. Given the impossibility of refunding the money and the ethical complications that arise if we redirect those funds away from the stated purpose of the fee, it seems prudent to make reasonable efforts to ensure that the funds can be dedicated to the purpose they were intended for.
  3. As directing 100% of the funding to the CNSA dues is in effect a change to the proposal passed by Council, this motion should be enacted through Council to satisfy the requirements of Bylaw 8200 s. 21.
    - a. CNSA dues have increased since the FAMF was established such that it's very likely that 100% of the funds will need to be directed to the dues. The Student Governance Advisor estimates that total CNSA dues will be over \$12,000. The NUA should have the capacity to cover the remaining dues out of a separate restricted account.

**Prepared by:** Saadiq Sumar, Vice President (Student Life)

**To:** Students' Council 2012/13

Hey Everyone!

A lot has been going on in the last couple of weeks and I'm doing my best to work through a serious case of burnout. I'd also like to congratulate the Vice President Academic, the Undergraduate Research Symposium Coordinator and members of the Programming and Venues Department. The Undergraduate Research Symposium was a huge success and a lot of students took some time to learn a little bit more about what other undergrads are doing on our campus, which was fantastic!

### ***Programming***

#### **Campus Musical**

As I mentioned at the last meeting of Students' Council, the Director, Luay Eljamal, and the Choreographer, Cara Chong, were selected in the interview process. They have begun the task of recruiting students for the production team as well as setting up some audition times. In case you or someone you know might be interested, the following times are being used for auditions:

Wednesday, November 21 - 6:30 - 9pm

Thursday, November 22 - 3-5pm, 6-8pm

Monday, November 26th - 6:30 - 9pm

All auditions will take place in 3-06 SUB.

To book a time slot, please e-mail [eljamal@ualberta.ca](mailto:eljamal@ualberta.ca). Things are moving quickly on this front and this has taken up a significant chunk of my time over the last couple of weeks.

#### **Post Secret**

Frank Warren, creator of PostSecret (a community mail art project), had three shows at the Myer Horowitz Theatre. We attracted a large group of students and community members and the response to the shows was fantastic. I was able to sit in on one of the shows and it was very empowering to hear from some students.

#### **Campus Cup**

Campus Cup is quickly approaching. At last count, there were just over 70 teams in the tournament, translating to over 1000 students. The divisions will be finalized soon and the schedule should be coming out early next week.

## **Services**

### **U-Pass**

The U-Pass Advisory Committee is starting to look at additional items that the student associations want to see in the contract, including a reduced replacement cost. If you have any suggestions on this front, please let me know.

In terms of the Spring/Summer U-Pass, the contract has almost been finalized. There are a few minor edits which have to be made, but this contract as well as the price structure for the main contract is 99.999...% done.

## **Advocacy**

### **Food Services Advisory Group**

Doug Dawson, the Director of Ancillary Services, and I have had a very tough time building the Terms of Reference for this committee. Although my hope was to finalize this document soon, we have hit a bit of a brick wall and I'm waiting to hear back from the director's office on whether or not he'd like to press on.

### **Sustainability**

Several members from the Office of Sustainability, the Assistant Manager of Student Services, and I met to discuss what happened at the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education Conference in mid-October in Los Angeles. The VP Ops/Fi, the General Manager, and I are currently working on a conference report, which we will be submitting to council.

### **Mental Health**

I met with two students who are organizing a Mental Health Awareness Week in mid-March. We discussed how the Students' Union could help them reach more students on campus and what other groups they could collaborate with. At this point, it seems unlikely that I will be able to get multiple groups together to work on a campus-wide week, but this is something that I will leave for the next VPSL to work on.

## **Other**

### **Message from Robin Everall**

Robin Everall is the Provostial Fellow charged with looking at the state of mental health on our campus. The following is a message from her:

"Dr. Everall is interested in undergraduate student perspectives on questions such as:

- Are students aware of the mental health and support services available to them on and off campus? What do they know about these services?
- How should services be promoted to reach the largest number of students and increase awareness of service availability?
- What impedes students from accessing services?
- How should we reduce the barriers to accessing services?
- What services are necessary but missing?



The goal of this process is to enhance relevant, responsive, and accessible mental health services to students at the University of Alberta.

The meeting schedule of each group will be set after the group is established, but members should be available in October.

Nominations are being solicited from a wide diversity of students, including full- and part- time students, international students from a variety of countries, domestic students, and students who are parents.”

**Please pass this message on to your constituents so that Dr. Everall can do a complete job of identifying mental health related issues on campus and working to solve them.**

### **Athletics**

- Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>: Pandas Basketball vs. Lethbridge (6PM)\*
- Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>: Golden Bears Hockey vs. Regina (7PM)\*
- Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>: Golden Bears Basketball vs. Lethbridge (8PM)
- Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>: Pandas Basketball vs. Lethbridge (6PM)
- Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>: Golden Bears Hockey vs. Regina (6PM)
- Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>: Golden Bears Basketball vs. Lethbridge (8PM)
- Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>: Pandas Basketball vs. Victoria (6PM)
- Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>: Golden Bears Hockey vs. UBC (7PM)
- Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>: Golden Bears Basketball vs. Victoria (8PM)
- Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup>: Golden Bears Volleyball vs. UBC (1PM)
- Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup>: Pandas Volleyball vs. UBC (2:30PM)
- Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup>: Pandas Basketball vs. UBC (6PM)
- Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup>: Golden Bears Hockey vs. UBC (6PM)
- Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup>: Golden Bears Basketball vs. UBC (8PM)
- Sunday, November 25<sup>th</sup>: Pandas Volleyball vs. UBC (1PM)
- Sunday, November 25<sup>th</sup>: Golden Bears Volleyball vs. UBC (2:30PM)
- Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>: Golden Bears Volleyball vs. Mount Royal (6PM)
- Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>: Pandas Hockey vs. UofM (7PM)
- Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>: Pandas Volleyball vs. Mount Royal (7:30PM)

\*Legacy Games – free entry with a valid ONECard

### **Takeaways:**

- **Sign Up to audition for the Campus Musical!**
- **Meet with me if you are interested in the portfolio or just to chat!**
- **Talk to your constituents about the message from Dr. Everall**

If you have any other questions, please ask during council, stop by the office in SUB, or send me an email at [vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:vp.studentlife@su.ualberta.ca).

Saadiq Sumar  
780-690-4765

To: Saadiq Sumar, Chair of the Elections Review Committee

Cc: The Elections Review Committee

Re: Suggestions for Changes to Election Bylaws

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At the October 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Elections Review Committee, the C.R.O. was asked to create a document with suggestions for changes to the election bylaws. Below is a list some technical and logistical issues of Bylaws 2100, 2200, 2300, and 2400.

It should be noted that in no way is the C.R.O. asking the Election Review Committee to act on any suggestions mentioned below. The purpose of this exercise is to *review* our election bylaws, not necessarily to change them. This exercise would not be futile if none of the suggestions mentioned below are applied.

Finally none of the suggestions mentioned below dictate the precise wording or format that would be carried out in Bylaw, they merely state desired outcomes.

### **Technical Issues**

#### 1. Mandate of Bylaw 2100

Section 3 of Bylaw 2100 states that: *“This bylaw shall govern the conduct of all elections, plebiscites and referenda conducted by the Students’ Union.”* This is not true. This bylaws governs the duties and hiring process of the C.R.O. and the D.R.O..

*Suggestion:*

Change the mandate of the bylaw to reflect the purpose of this bylaw.

#### 2. Duties of the Elections Staff

Section 8 (1) (b) states that the duties of the C.R.O. include: *“such duties as may be required of the Chief Returning Officer under Bylaw 2100, 2200, 2300, and 2400...”* This was not updated when bylaw 2500 was created. Since the C.R.O. has duties to accomplish in Bylaw 2500, it should be included in this section.

Section 8 (2) (b) states that the duties of the D.R.O. include: *“such duties as may be required of the Deputy Returning Officer(s) under Bylaw 2000”* This was not updated when Bylaw 2000 was split into Bylaw 2X00s.

*Suggestion:*

Reflect the correct Bylaws in the aforementioned sections.

### 3. Requirements of the C.R.O.

Bylaw 2400 Section 11 (2) states that: *“The C.R.O. shall prepare a paper ballot before the close of voting, as if their capacity as C.R.O. did not restrict their voting privileges. The C.R.O. shall place this ballot in a sealed and signed envelop and give it to the D.R.O. before any results from the election are available to the C.R.O.. The envelope shall be opened only if the C.R.O.’s vote is required to break a tie as outlined in Section 7(10) and Section 8(2). At this point, a D.R.O. shall open the envelope and oversee the C.R.O. implement the tie-breaking mechanism as outlined in Section 7(10). If this procedure is not followed, the C.R.O.’s ballot will be considered spoiled.”*

I believe that Section 7(10) is mistakenly quoted as it states that: *“Where all remaining candidates have an equal number of first places votes, or where the remaining candidate with the fewest first place votes is tied with another remaining candidate, and where this tie has existed on every count, and the C.R.O is a not a Students’ Union member eligible to vote in that race, then the candidate to be eliminated shall be selected from those candidates with the fewest first place votes by a random or quasi-random method selected by the C.R.O.”*

I believe that Section 11(2) is intended to refer to Section 7 (9) rather than Section 7 (10). Section 7 (10) states that: *“Where all remaining candidates have an equal number of first places votes, or where the remaining candidate with the fewest first place votes is tied with another remaining candidate, and where this tie has existed on every count, and the C.R.O is a Students’ Union member eligible to vote in that race, then the C.R.O. shall cast a ballot.”*

*Suggestions:*

*Reflect the correct section in Bylaw.*

## **Logistical Issues**

### 1. D.R.O. hiring

Section 7 of Bylaw 2100 states that: *“The Chief Returning Officer and Deputy Returning Officer(s) shall serve from June 1 to May 31 of the following year.”* D.R.O.(s) are not hired until after by-election. As far back as 2008 this was the case. And for all I know this has always been the case, because D.R.O.(s) are not need in the summer. As for the end of the term most D.R.O.(s) last month of work is April. After the General Election of Students’ Council in March all a D.R.O. has to do is write a final report.

*Suggestion:*

*Change the term for D.R.O.(s) to start from November 1<sup>st</sup> and end on April 30<sup>th</sup>.*

### 2. C.R.O. hiring

Section 7 of Bylaw 2100 states that: *“The Chief Returning Officer and Deputy Returning Officer(s) shall serve from June 1 to May 31 of the following year.”* After the General Election of Students’ Council in March all a C.R.O. has to do is write a final report. Last year the C.R.O resigned on April 30<sup>th</sup> in order to pursue another summer job. I can foresee this being a reoccurring seems, as most summer jobs start in May.

*Suggestions:*

*Change the term for C.R.O. to start from May 1<sup>st</sup> and end on April 30<sup>th</sup>.*

### 3. Dates – Plebiscites and Referenda

Section (5) of Bylaw 2200 states that: *“Where the C.R.O. receives a valid petition or where Students’ Council initiates a plebiscite or referendum, then the plebiscite or referendum in question shall be held on the dates of the next general election not occurring within thirty (30) days of receipt of the valid petition or initiation by Students’ Council of the plebiscite or referendum in question.”* And “general election” is defined in Section 2 (g) as *“shall be the General Election of the Executive Committee and the Undergraduate Board of Governors or the General Election of Faculty Councillors”* This means that a Referendum question can be held in conjunction with the election of Students’ Council and General Faculties Council. I am not sure if this was the original intent of those who wrote this piece of bylaw, hence why it is presented under the Logistical heading, not the technical one. The ERC needs to decide whether a referendum or a plebiscite should be held in conjunction with the General Election of Students’ Council and GFC.

#### *Suggestions:*

- 1) *Allow referenda and plebiscites to take place during council elections (status quo).*
- 2) *Referenda and Plebiscites become restricted to Executive and BoG elections.*

### 4. Designated Printer

Section 38 (2) of Bylaw 2200 and Section 30 (2) of Bylaw 2300 both state that: *“The C.R.O. shall designate at least five (5) printers from which candidates and sides may purchase materials...”* I believe that having five designated printers is too much. I believe that the number can be reduced to a maximum of three. I would personally prefer all printing to be done at *SUBprint*, however I understand that it is not capable of producing some of the qualities of posters that are produced by candidates. That being said *SUBprint* has recently acquired a large format printer, so they are now capable of producing posters without the white border. If bylaw did not specify the number of printers, I would personally limit the number of printers to those companies that have presence on campus.

#### *Suggestions:*

- 1) *Allow the C.R.O. to designate up to 5 printers.*
- 2) *The C.R.O. shall designate at least 3 printers.*
- 3) *Limit all printing to SUBprint.*

### 5. Expense Reporting

Section 44 (2) of Bylaw 2200 and Section 35 (2) of Bylaw 2300 state that *“Each candidate shall submit to the C.R.O. the record... no less than twelve (12) working hours prior to the commencement of voting.”* with “the record” being the record of all campaign expenses. This bylaw has not changed since campaigning on voting days was allowed. The original purpose of this timing, I suspect, is to allow the C.R.O. to disqualify those who have exceeded their expenses prior to their names could appear on the ballot. The dilemma presented here is whether we should allow candidates to submit their expense report 12 working hours prior to the end of voting, now that candidates can campaign on voting days, and that some campaign materials may need to be expensed for voting days.

For the purposes of consideration, it should be noted that the status quo works and was applied in the General and By Elections of 2012. But this meant that candidates should in advance predict their any expenses that they may/will incur in the next 28 working hours, prior to the end of voting.

On the other hand, if the due date was moved to 12 working hours prior to the end of voting (i.e. 1 pm on the first day of voting), those candidates who have exceeded their campaign allowance will get disqualified, while their names remain on the ballot. This option is not favorable when considering section 7 of the logistical issues of this document.

*Suggestions:*

- 1) *Candidates are required to report their expenses 12 working hours prior to the commencement of voting (status quo).*
- 2) *Candidates are required to report their expenses 12 working hours prior to the end of voting.*

## 6. Penalties Available

Section 48 (2) (c) of Bylaw 2200 and Section 39 (2) (c) state that: *“Penalties available to the C.R.O. shall include... limits, restrictions, and prohibitions on any type of campaign activities for any period of time up to the commencement of voting...”* This bylaw dated back to when campaigning was not allowed on voting days. Now that this is no longer the case, candidates are more prone to breaking rules, regulations, bylaws during voting days.

*Suggestions:*

*Allow the C.R.O. to exercise limits, restrictions, and prohibitions of campaign activities up to the end of voting.*

## 7. D.I.E Board

Section 50 (3) of Bylaw 2200 and Section 41 (3) state that: *“All appeals of the C.R.O.’s rulings, with the exception of those arising out of voting and Election results, shall be heard and ruled upon by the D.I.E. Board prior to the commencement of voting.”* This is probably the most urgent issue in this document, and there is no easy answer. Again the issue arose, once campaigning was allowed on voting days.

The issue is that if the C.R.O. may still penalize candidates on voting days (as per section 6 of the logistical issues), candidates may get disqualified after their name appears on the ballot. If the decision is then appealed at D.I.E board, which according to game theory it most definitely will, the D.I.E board has two choices:

- 1) to continue the election normally, and the second choice of those who voted for the disqualified candidate count as their first choice; or
- 2) call another election.

When the rules are silent, it is up to D.I.E board to decide. And it may always be better to err on the safe side and call another election, for it hard to decipher the will of the electorate. Would calling another election yield the same results as merely counting the second choices of the electorate as their first? The C.R.O. believes that Students’ Council is best to decide an answer to this question.

One other way to face such a problem is to create a timeline for rulings/ appeals/hearings/ for voting days that is different from the timeline outside of voting days. For example, on voting days the C.R.O. is

mandated to rule within 2 working hours of receiving a complaint, an appeal is allowable within 2 working hours of the ruling being made public, and D.I.E board has to conduct a hearing with 4 working hours of an appeal.

*Suggestions:*

*Allow D.I.E board to hear and rule up until the announcement of the official results. Furthermore, the ERC should outline a procedure for D.I.E board to rule upon cases where candidates get disqualified on voting days.*

### 8. Multiple Coinciding Elections

Section 13 of Bylaw 2400 states that: *“The Election shall be divided into as many parts as there are councils for which elections are occurring. All rules concerning nominations, campaign activities, campaign expenses, balloting, and penalties apply to a candidate per contested part of the Election and not to the candidate between multiple parts of the Election;”* This is a long way of saying that candidates who are running in both Students’ Council and GFC must not share any of their resources. Resulting in two separate nomination packages with two sets of signatures, two expense reports, two facebook groups, two separate posters, pamphlets etcetera.

In last year’s Students’ Council and GFC general election, there was a peculiar phenomenon where multiple candidates ran for Students’ Council, and not in GFC. There were 35 candidates who only ran for Students’ Council, and only 7 candidates who ran for both. Of course Students’ Council and GFC are two separate governing entities, and a simple explanation to the peculiar phenomenon is that in general students are interested in one governing body more than the other. However, we should consider if there are any administrative obstacles to students running in both. Currently the bureaucracy is a disadvantage to run for both governing bodies. While we should make sure that it is not an advantage to those candidates running in both, we should aspire to eliminate the administrative disadvantage.

This could be simplified by removing the Multiple Coinciding Elections clause from Bylaw 2400, which would allow candidates to only fill one nomination package, and one have one facebook group etcetera. This would mean that candidates running for both would get double the allowable budget which will pose some issues that would need to be taken care of in Bylaw. Therefore campaign budgets must still be counted as separate to ensure that a candidate does not use double the allowable campaign expenses for only one the contests. For example if a poster has “Students’ Council & GFC” on it then the cost would be shared between the two budgets. If a candidate only has Students’ Council on their poster then it would be expensed only from their Students’ Council budget. If a candidate goes over budget on only one of the budgets, they would in turn get disqualified only from that race. Section 21 of Bylaw 2300 *“No two (2) or more candidates shall jointly use any resources, including tables, posters, banners, and budgets but excluding volunteers.”* needs to be considered as it prevents one candidate running for both governing bodies from jointly use resources, if and only if Section 13 of Bylaw 2400 in effect. The principle no joint use of resources should be upheld, if Section 13 of Bylaw 2400 is removed.

*Suggestions:*

*Remove the requirements that mandate candidates to be treated in two separate elections, while clearly outlining how they can jointly use their resources without giving them an advantage.*

## 9. Elections Advertisement

The Election Bylaws require the C.R.O. to advertise in the campus newspaper the date of the nomination deadline in three editions before the nomination deadline [Section 11 (1) of Bylaw 2200 & Section 6 (1) of Bylaw 2300], the sides registration meeting in every available edition, [Section 8 (1) (a) of Bylaw 2200], the question of the plebiscite or referendum in every available edition between the initiation of the question and the election [Section 8 (1) (a) of Bylaw 2200], the names of candidates in the next available edition [Section 24 of Bylaw 2200, and Section 17 of Bylaw 2300], and finally the results in the next available edition [Section 11 (1) of Bylaw 2400]. First off the rules regarding advertising the nomination deadline in three editions of the campus newspaper were written back when *The Gateway* published two editions a week. At the very least these bylaws should be updated to reflect the current weekly schedule of the campus newspaper.

The ERC should also consider if Bylaw needs to specify all of these marketing rules, or if it should be left up to the discretion of the C.R.O.. These rules have been in place since back when there were limited avenues to communicate with students, and the SU needed to provide a fair way of advertising the election dates. Consider that this year's total budget for External Advertisement is \$8,400. Last year the cost for Bylaw mandated advertisement for the By-Election, the Executive/BoG/Referenda and Students' Council/GFC general election came to \$5,065. This is a fixed cost on the marketing budget. Meaning the C.R.O. has about \$3,500 for any other means of external media outside of those required in Bylaw. Adding the \$3,000 "*Gateway Supplement*" for the Executive and BoG election though while not mandated by Bylaw, is traditionally a service provided by the election office, leaves the budget at about \$500 any non-campus-newspaper advertisement. Tables 1 and 2 show all of last year's campus newspaper expenses including online and non-bylaw mandated advertisement.

This leaves very little room for the C.R.O. to experiment with new ways with advertising elections. The ERC should consider eliminating bylaws that mandate the C.R.O. to advertise in a certain way. This does not mean that future C.R.O.s will be allowed not to create a campaign to advertise elections. Currently bylaw does not include advertising the election explicitly as a duty of the C.R.O., it only includes specific tasks – all of which are related to the campus newspaper, mentioned above – but outside of these tasks the C.R.O. is not mandated to create a campaign that fits the needs of every year. If bylaw were to state that it is the responsibility of the C.R.O. to create a campaign that reaches multi-facet areas of our campuses, then we can improve our election advertisement year over year. This last by-election I experimented with facebook ads for the first time in a by-election. The results were particularly interesting for the advertisements made for voting days. The analytics of Facebook ads were presented at the October 3<sup>rd</sup> ERC meeting.

### *Suggestions:*

- 1) *Reduce the nomination deadline advertisement to two editions of the campus newspaper*
- 2) *Remove all specific campus newspaper advertisement from our Bylaws, and add election advertisement to the duties of the C.R.O.*

Date	Purpose of Ad	Size	Cost excluding GST
September 1st	Nomination Deadline for By-Election	6x9 right hand placement	\$306.50
September 7th	Nomination Deadline for By-Election	6x9 right hand placement	\$306.50
September 14th	Nomination Deadline for By-Election	6x9	\$276.50
September 28th	List of candidates/Reminder to Vote	4x4	\$87.50
October 5th	Results of By-Election	4x6	\$161.50
February 1st	Nomination Deadline for Executive and BoG	4x7.5	\$157.50
February 8th	Referendum Questions	4x15	\$276.50
	Nomination Deadline for Executive and BoG	4x7.5	\$157.50
February 15th	Referendum Questions	4x15	\$276.50
	Nomination Deadline for Executive and BoG	4x7.5	\$157.50
	Poll Clerk Job Opportunity	4x7.5	\$157.50
February 29th	List of Candidates for Executive and BoG	5x7.5	227.5
	Referendum Questions	4x15	\$276.50
	Nomination Deadline for Council and GFC	4x7.5	\$157.50
	Gateway Supplement for Exec and BoG	4p Centre Full Colour	\$3,000.00
March 7th	Nomination Deadline for Council and GFC	4x7.5	\$157.50
March 9th	List of available seats for Council and GFC	Back Page Ad	\$1,085.00
March 21st	List of Candidates for Council and GFC	10x7.5	\$378.00
March 28st	Results Council and GFC	10x7.6	\$378.00
Date	Purpose Online of Ad	Placement	Cost
Sep. 23-30	Voting Days/Vote today	Top Rectangle	\$199.50
Feb. 3 - 17	Nomination Deadline for Executive and BoG	Top Banner	\$266.00
Feb.29 - Mar. 6	Nomination Deadline for Council and GFC	Top Rectangle	\$200.00
Mar. 7 - Mar. 14	Nomination Deadline for Council and GFC	Top Banner	\$266.00

Table 1 – Dates and Prices of Campus Newspaper and Online Advertisement

	Cost	GST	Total
Total Gateway Advertisement	\$8,913.00	\$445.65	\$9,358.65
Total Print Gateway Advertisement	\$7,981.50	\$399.08	\$8,380.58
Total Online Gateway Advertisement	\$931.50	\$46.58	\$978.08
Total Bylaw Mandated Advertisement	\$4,824.00	\$241.20	\$5,065.20
Total By-Election Cost	\$1,138.50	\$56.93	1195.425
Total Executive Election/Referenda Advertisement	\$1,529.50	\$76.48	\$1,605.98
Total Council and GFC Advertisement	\$2,156.00	\$107.80	\$2,263.80

Table 2 – Total Costs Including GST





November 18, 2012

To: Students' Council 2012-2013

Re: Report of the Vice President Academic

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Hello Council,

Below is a report for my activities over the past two weeks. Being over half-way through my term, it's interesting to reflect on where my time has been prioritized in the first six months. I look forward to sharing that reflection with you as soon as our Executive Goals document is made public.

## **I. Undergraduate Research Symposium**

4 students presented their research findings on SUBstage on November 14 at noon. On November 15 from 10:00-3:00, 89 students presented their research to thousands of passersby. A number of classes were cancelled to allow students to see the cutting-edge work done by other UofA undergrads. The reception that evening featured guest speakers from Science, Student Services, the URI, and Arts and Humanities in Health and Medicine. Kudos to Gurpaul Bara, URS Coordinator who coordinated the event and emceed the evening while battling pneumonia. Overall, it was an excellent opportunity for undergraduate students to practice their presentation skills, showcase their incredible work, and inspire other students to get involved in research.

## **II. Academic Relations Group**

The first meeting of the Academic Relations Group was a success. Group members learned more about SU political policy, advisory committees, and university governance. Key issues for them to cover this year include assessment and grading, advising, eLearning, and experiential learning. Group members have officially been delegated 12 VPA committees, and are in the process of being briefed on historical work to date.

## **III. Centre for Teaching and Learning**

I met with Dr. Sheree Kwong See, Interim Director for the Centre for Teaching and Learning. We discussed her vision for the Centre, and what feedback she's received to date on its successes and failings. She's interested in increasing support to graduate students, building a network of CTL ambassadors in faculties, and making better use of CTL's current staff resources. I'm looking forward to a second meeting where we can continue to discuss the Centre's role in supporting the development of excellent teachers, continuing to provide research-based policy advice, and being able to sufficiently translate CTL's knowledge to faculty members.



#### IV. Miscellaneous

The two Vice Provost selection committees that I am sitting on are continuing to progress. Both have had town hall meetings to seek the feedback of the community. I adjudicated 43 project proposals for the URI stipend. I fought against approving an academic schedule that placed exams on the Saturday between Good Friday and Easter Sunday. I attended the President's town hall, where she spoke on topics like TUC, online learning, budget cuts, and advancement. She also spoke in favour of a Fall Reading Week and encouraged a proposal that accommodated all of the complex academic programs on campus. Finally, I participated in the Gateway's Movember face-off and the BSA's Chillin' for Charity event.

Sincerely,



Dustin Chelen



## ERC MEETING SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: **November 13, 2012**

Time: **3:33 pm**

2011 – 2012 **MEETING #10**

### **Motions**

1.	<b>SUMAR</b> moved that <i>the November 13 agenda be approved as tabled.</i>	<b>CARRIED</b> 3/0/0
2.	<b>SUMAR</b> moved that <i>the Election Review Committee recommends Bill #1 to #11 as amended.</i>	<b>CARRIED</b> 3/0/0
3.	<b>KIM</b> moved that <i>the meeting be adjourned.</i>	<b>CARRIED</b> 3/0/0
4.		<b>CARRIED</b> 0/0/0

November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**To:** Students' Council

**Re:** Report to Council

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Hey Council,

Before I proceed with my report, I would like to acknowledge that our university and our Students' Union are on Indigenous land. Specifically: Cree, Saulteaux, Metis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Siou. They are faculty, staff, students, family, and friends, and they are still here. I acknowledge that we meet on treaty 6 territory. That treaty governs the relationship between first-nations and non-first nations citizens. I am thankful for this opportunity for us to meet on this land today. This statement will be included at the front of my report to council until either the time that my term ends, or Council moves to makes a similar statement available for public viewing.

As always, it's been a busy few weeks what with midterms, papers, a fierce headcold, and a BURC and BHSEC meeting. I'll share here a few details of what was discussed in the Board University Relations Committee (BURC) meeting this past Monday.

We welcomed Christopher Pu, the new NASA BoG representative, as an observer to the BURC meeting. Unfortunately, he hadn't yet received his appointment from the Ministry of Advanced Education & Technology, so he wasn't allowed to vote. Hopefully his appointment will be coming soon, especially since he's been waiting on it since sometime in October. Myself, Colten, and Ashlyn all faced similar lengthy delays in our appointments from the Minister's office. Hopefully the process of approving Board members to their duly elected/appointed positions will become more efficient soon.

Following that, we received updates from the VP External Relations and the VP Advancement on various awareness-raising initiatives the University is engaging in to raise its profile. Upon asking, I was glad to hear that that the University is taking steps to ensure students are being included in these initiatives as much as possible.

We also received an updated from the VP Advancement, VP External, and Acting Provost on updates to the university's honorific naming policy. There was a good deal of meaningful discussion and Q & A surrounding the new policies which are coming through the works, and I'm looking forward to discussing it at the Board level after approval from BURC sometime in the next few months.

Other than that, not too much else worth mentioning here was covered. As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or comments, do not hesitate to be in touch.

In Solidarity,

**Brent Kelly**

Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative 2012-2013 | [University of Alberta Students' Union](#)

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November 20, 2012

To: Students' Council

Re: Report to Council

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Hello Council,

Below are the highlights since my last report.

### **PAW Centre**

Ground has officially been broken on the PAW Centre project – you'll most likely have noticed the fencing around the site. At the latest Steering Committee meeting we received updates on the project delivery method and the construction schedule for the next three weeks. We also discussed the status of the bike library (it's currently not in scope but we are working with University Facilities & Operations to find an alternate location – there are a couple of options being considered) and public communications during construction.

### **SUB Renovations**

Our architects presented the draft Schematic Design report to the Steering Committee two weeks ago for information and feedback. We have since been working with the University, the project team and various user groups to identify and resolve questions arising from the draft. Much work is being done to address these this week; we expect to have a final version assembled early next week. This report will form the basis for presentation to the Steering Committee, the University's Facilities Development Committee, an Open House on December 4<sup>th</sup>, a student consultation campaign, and further work on design.

We have also met with the University to discuss the project delivery method and various other practical considerations that will affect the project moving forward.

### **Health and Dental Plan Committee**

HDPC met two weeks ago for its second meeting of the year. The committee received several updates from studentcare, including the current year's Change of Coverage Report and previous year's Claims Report. Plan enrolment is at its highest level in four years. Per capita claims increased 1% over the previous year.

### **Miscellaneous**

Other activities in the last two weeks include attending part of the Undergraduate Research Symposium, a town hall with the University President, and two lectures from the Festival of Ideas.

Cheers,



Andy Cheema.