

University of Alberta Students' Union

STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

Tuesday July 25, 2006
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

- 2006-07/5 **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**
- 2006-07/5a (ii) University Policy Committee – July 20, 2006
Please see document LA 06-07.01
- 2006-07/5b (i) Audit Committee (REVISED VERSION) – July 11, 2006
Please see document LA 06-07.02
- 2006-07/5e External Policy Committee – July 21, 2006
Please see document LA 06-07.03
- 2006-07/5e (i) **COURNOYER MOVED THAT** Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the External Policy Committee, approve the Political Policy "Affordable Universal Transit Pass".
Please see document LA 06-07.04
- 2006-07/6 **GENERAL ORDERS**
- 2006-07/6h **KEHOE/HENRY MOVED THAT** Students' Council read Bill #8 a first time.
Bill #8 - *School of Native Studies* (sponsor; KEHOE)
Principle (first reading)
1. Section 1(b) ii is struck from Bylaw 100.
- 2006-07/7 **INFORMATION ITEMS**
- 2006-07/7f Chris Cunningham, Vice President (Operations & Finance) – Report
Please see document LA 06-07.05
- 2006-07/7g Election Dates of 2006-2007
Please see document LA 06-07.06

Votes and Proceedings

2006-05

University Policy Committee

Thursday July 20th, 2006

1. CALL TO ORDER
KEHOE called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
LE/JANZ moved that the agenda be approved as presented.
HENRY MOVED TO amend the agenda by adding "Teaching & Research Political Policies" to Discussion Items.

6/0/0 CARRIED
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
4. PRESENTATIONS – Chris Henderson, Students' Union University Affairs Officer, gave a presentation on University Governance. The presentation was moved to the end of the meeting.
5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - a. Amanda Henry, Vice President (Academic)
 - b. Omer Yusuf, Vice President (Student Life)
6. QUESTION PERIOD
7. OLD BUSINESS
8. NEW BUSINESS
KEHOE/ERUVBETINE MOVED that the principles for the International Student Engineering Co-Op Accessibility be referred to the Vice-President (Academic) to be drafted and brought back for discussion at the next meeting of UPC.

6/0/0 CARRIED
9. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - a. Committee Strategic Planning – tabled to next meeting.
 - b. Summer Attendance
 - c. Website Update
 - d. Teaching & Research Political Policies- tabled to next meeting.
10. ADJOURNMENT
LE/JANZ MOVED TO adjourn at 8:25 pm

6/0/0 CARRIED

NEXT MEETING

August 3rd, 2006 at 6:00 pm

Report to Student' Council

2006-05

University Policy Committee

Thursday July 20, 2006

The University Policy Committee met for the fifth time on July 20, 2006. All members, except for Councillor Sumar were in attendance as well as guest Chris Henderson, Students' Union University Affairs Officer.

The presentation, being the primary item of business and most time-consuming, was postponed to the end of the meeting. This allowed for quicker items to be dealt with in a timely manner.

In Executive Officer reports, Vice President Henry notified the Committee that she had submitted changes to the Add/Drop Deadline political policy to Council and not UPC, and she pledged to bring discussion items from recent meetings with WebCT. Vice President Yusuf had nothing to add to his written report.

Question Period was minimized due to time restraints, and Old Business was tabled to the next meeting to allow more time for the presentation.

New Business was the Political Policy for International Student Engineering Co-Op Accessibility. After a brief discussion, it was decided that the principles moved by Eruvbetine and passed by Council should be forwarded to the Executive (in accordance with Council Standing Orders). The Committee also decided that there needs to be a discussion in the future about how to streamline the policy process so that UPC doesn't have to have 2 meetings to refer and then discuss a political policy between readings.

In Discussion Items, Committee Strategic Planning and Teaching & Research Political Policies were tabled to the next meeting. The Chair notified the Committee that Councillor Sumar had exhausted all avenues for finding a proxy, and he will be requested to contribute outside of meetings. The UPC web site has yet to be updated due to technical difficulties, despite the best efforts of the Administrative Assistant—Students' Council. The Chair will be working with her to make it more functional and better organized as soon as possible. They will also try to find the archived Student Life Board minutes, as they seem to have been misplaced when the University Policy Committee and Student Affairs Committee merged.

The climax of the meeting was the presentation given by Chris Henderson on University Governance and Affairs, which served to enlighten all those present and better equip the Committee to undertake strategic planning on policy issues. Henderson will be distributing a copy of his presentation slides and notes to the Committee members.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm. The next meeting of the University Policy Committee will take place at 6:00 pm on Thursday, August 3, 2006.

MINUTES

2006-July-11

Audit Committee

Date July 11, 2006

ATTENDANCE: Chapman, Janz, Lewis, Eruvs,
Cook

CALL TO ORDER: 5:00

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Chapman/Janz
4/1(Lewis doesn't approve of approving agendas☺)/0

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS: Standing Orders
Lewis/Cook
5/0/0

Powerplant (May PnL's)
Approval
Eruvs/Chapman
5/0/0
Discussion of Bill that would change Audit Committee's Mandate

NEXT MEETING: July , 2006 @ 5pm

ADJOURNMENT: Chapman/ Janz
3/1/0

Record of Proceedings

The Audit Committee is in the process of Structural Changes in its Standing Orders that would allow it to more effectively and efficiently achieve its mandate. The Committee finished reviewing the P&L's for the Powerplant. Surprise, surprise, the 'Plant is doing badly--as always. The Committee hopes that the There were expressed concerns regarding reported income from tobacco sales for the month of May despite the Budget principal that there would not be revenue from Tobacco sales.

5:30pm

Attendance: Chris Samuel, David Cournoyer, Tim Schneider, Michael Cook, Theresa Chapman (proxy for Janz)

Guests: Amanda Henry

Honorary Special Guest of Honor: Duncan Wojtaszek

Absent: Ryan Payne, Michael Janz, Bayan Hussein

[*There are*]

Call to Order: 5:41pm

Old Business

1.) U-Pass

[*Cournoyer distributes copies of the U-Pass policy that was distributed in Council.*]

[*Discussion ensues around wordsmithing of the policy. Minor amendments are made. As it turns out, grammar is tricky. Who knew?*]

[*Discussion around expiration dates of political policy*]

Cournoyer: April 31st, 2008 should give next years Council and Exec a chance to pursue this, if we can't get it to referendum this spring. If it passes, then checkmark, and the policy is fulfilled.

[*Chapman checks to see what the bylaws say about expiration dates of political policy.*]

Cournoyer/Schneider move that the policy expire on April 30th, 2008

[*Dave's phone rings with the Spiderman ring tone. It's the pizza guy!*]

Amendment Carried (unanimously)

Main Motion Carried (unanimously)

New Business

1.) Presentation from CAUS Executive Director, Duncan Wojtaszek

Samuel: Now for Duncan's part of the program – take us where you feel you need to.

Wojtaszek: Thanks – this presentation is basically the one that I was planning on giving Council, so I'm going to alter it by trying to give you more chances to interrupt.

Highlights/Synopsis of presentation

Political Culture of Alberta

- Alberta has a political culture of a populist province (common sense should prevail)
- Also, the impression is that monolithic province, and an outsider from Canada

- Alberta was created because Wilfred Laurier believed it would elect Liberals
- Tradition of a one-party government – (less plurality and diversity of political opinion)

How this affects Post-Secondary Education

- Populism breeds the opinion that Universities should serve the community – they should be beholden to the population
- Distrust of academia and academics (not just government – the general population)
- Especially predominant in older generations
- There is a desire to have “Made-in-Alberta” solutions (innovation)
- In Ontario – University presidents put an ad in the paper that decried the province for under-funding, and demanded change – this WOULD never happen in Alberta

1992 and beyond

- Feeling that Alberta was mismanaging finances – perception of overspending
- Massive cuts – haven’t been recouped in Post-Secondary Education
- Deferred maintenance costs – like fixing ceilings, painting rooms, etc. - eventually have to get done!
- PSE deferred maintenance bill currently exceeds \$1 billion
- University also decreased faculty pay and hired more sessional instructors
- Impacts of quality of education
- Increase in tuition (about 300% increase since that time – well past inflation)
- Tremendous increase in demand and enrollment
- Increases in areas of demand – particularly females

[Break for pizza. We discuss Superman. And comic books. Who says Student Councilors are nerds?

Also – Tim Schneider likes boobies. So does Bill Clinton. Look, you had to be there.]

- A lot of the increase was borne by colleges – led to increased flexibility in PSE (eg. First two-years at colleges, and finish two years at a University)

How does it affect us now?

- Colleges can now grant degrees – largely due to increase in demand
- This is not unique to Alberta – happening across Canada
- Huge increase on student loan program – a much higher number of loans go out (around 50% get them, and average debt load is \$20k)
- Universities now see students as a source of income
- Degrees now seen in terms of “product” and “consumer”
- Budget size is now seen as a measure of prestige
- Is budget size a fair measure? That’s debatable *[and we debated it]*
- No University pursues a purely undergraduate agenda – U of C and U of A have pursued increased research programs aggressively

Modern Day

- 2004 election – the Progressive Conservative Party lost votes “to the right” (Alberta Alliance and votes not cast), meaning that they are now talking about change by moving farther to the right
- Premier is now leaving, if you haven’t heard
- Now there is a vacuum of government vision – the previous mandate of restoring fiscal responsibility has been eclipsed
- We now have enormous resource revenues and a booming economy
- Huge demand for labor now – a lot coming from the oil sands
- We’ve seen a (relative) increase in PSE investment over the last two years

- Higher increase in base operating grants (4% vs. 6%)
- Since then, they've also introduced "A Learning Alberta"

[Dave hands out a leaflet, describing "The Devolution of Alberta's Tuition Policy."]

Samuel: There's a lot of numbers here!

Wojtaszek: You can't get around that when you're talking about tuition. The arguments are always going to be based around numbers.]

[Duncan now talks about his handout with a timeline from 2000-2007.]

Wojtaszek: I want to emphasize that a lot of the positive strides we have made are due to the focus on campaigning to the public as opposed to the students.

...

As a student movement, we've departed from a strictly government relations standpoint to a more public-orientated position. We are spending much more on provincial lobbying now than we used to be. We might spend less money lobbying the federal government, but the U of A Students' Union is the lead flagship institution for the student movement in this province, but we haven't been doing it in isolation – everyone has been spending progressively more on advocacy. Are we getting value for that money? Well, last year, we saved \$87 million in tuition – I would say we're doing fine for return on investment. We're criticized that we spend too much time talking about tuition – but someone should be talking about it, and we've been the only group talking about it up until now.

[Discussion around effectiveness of the student movement. We're pretty awesome, as it turns out.]

[We also talk about colleges being able to grant degrees in the province. It's a pretty awesome conversation – and I'm not going to minute it, because it will hurt feelings.]

[At some point, the conversation devolves into us talking academic philosophy and other assorted external good times. We eventually blend into an adjournment.]

**Schneider/Cournoyer move to adjourn
Carried (unanimous) 8:00pm**

THE STUDENTS' UNION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

POLITICAL POLICY STATEMENT

Policy Number:

Effective Date:

Page 1 of 1

Expiration Date: April 30, 2008

Responsibility for Policy:

External Policy Committee

Subject Matter

- *Category:* **POLITICAL POLICY (GENERAL)**

- *Specific:*

- *Topic:* **Affordable Universal Transit Pass**

WHEREAS a clear majority of Students' Union members voted in March of 2004 to support a Universal Transit Pass through a campus-wide referendum;

WHEREAS a Universal Transit Pass will present undergraduate students with significantly more affordable access to public transit;

WHEREAS the Universal Transit Pass will improve the student experience and better serve students' needs;

WHEREAS Universities and Students' Unions across Canada and the United States have successfully implemented affordable Universal Transit Pass programs;

WHEREAS in addition to the tangible improvements for access and affordability, a Universal Transit Pass can help reduce reliance on automobiles and thus reduce greenhouse gases and free up campus parking areas for academic or green purposes.

BE IT RESOLVED that the University of Alberta Students' Union negotiate with the regional municipalities, transit services, and the University of Alberta to establish the terms of an affordable Universal Transit Pass for Students' Union members subject the following conditions:

- a) the municipalities must cover all capital costs associated with the program;
- b) the cost of additional transit service to accommodate new transit users be subsidized by the normal amount of other municipal transit services;
- c) a fair annual cost-escalator provision will be created;
- d) the municipalities and the University will contribute financially to the project on an ongoing basis commensurate with benefits to the wider and campus communities, and the transit system;
- e) that the final cost brought forward in a Students' Union referendum be the direct cost per-student, plus optionally an inflation indexed amount per-term to cover a subsidy program and administrative costs, if necessary.

Policy History:

	Reference/Vote	Board/Committee	Date of Council Approval
Created		EPC	

Chris Cunningham, Vice President – Operations & Finance
Report to Students' Council
July 25, 2006

Good evening Council,

Powerplant

It's all but confirmed that the PowerPlant Bar will be closed Monday thru Wednesday starting in the fall. It will remain open however during important days and events should those events fall on either Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. All the quotes have come in and supplies have been ordered. Renovations will be starting shortly.

Sponsorship

Kiel Owen (Sponsorship Coordinator) has been working feverishly to ensure the level of sponsorship this year will remain at last years level if not marginally higher. A few concerns developed when a few significant sponsors of previous years had decided not to renew their support. Kiel, in my opinion has done an excellent job compensating and has achieved the best possible solution to a rather precarious situation.

Bar Programming

Meetings have been taking place between Omer Yusuf (VP Student Life), Mike Schwake (AVP Student Life), Steve Derpack (Sr. Manager Prog. and Licensed Activities) and myself -- in coordination with the programming committee -- in creating the bar programming for the year. These have been very basic and preliminary talks, so if anyone has an idea for a cool event or program for either of the bars now is the time to get it off your chest.



Students' Union Election Office

Phone: (780) 492 7102 Email: cro@ualberta.ca

To:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Mr. Jason Morris Speaker, Students' Council➤ Ms. Amanda Henry Vice President (Academic), Students' Union➤ Mr. Garry Bodnar University Secretariat
From:	➤ Ms. Rachel Woynorowski Chief Returning Officer
Subject:	2006/07 Election Dates
Date:	Thursday, July 13, 2006

In accordance with Students' Union bylaws I am pleased to announce the dates of this year's Students' Union Elections. Any questions or concerns with dates below should be directed to myself at cro@su.ualberta.ca

Students' Union and General Faculties Council By-Election

September 18th - Nomination Deadline
September 20th - Campaigning Starts
September 27th - Campaigning Ends
September 28th/29th - VOTING DAYS

Students' Union Executive and Board of Governors Election

February 15th - Nomination Deadline
February 26th - Campaigning Starts
February 27th - Faculty St. Jean Forum
February 28th - Lister Forum
March 1st - SUB Stage Forum 12:30
March 2nd - SUB Stage Forum 12:00
March 5th - Myer Horowitz Forum 12:00
March 5th - Advance Poll 306 SUB
March 6th - Campaigning Ends
March 7th/8th - VOTING DAYS

Students' Union and General Faculties Council General Election

March 13th - Nomination Deadline
March 15th - Campaigning Starts
March 21st/22nd - Campaigning Ends
March 22nd/23rd - VOTING DAYS