

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Tuesday, March 11, 2008
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

ORDER PAPER (SC 2007-23)

2007-23/1 SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

2007-23/1a Announcements – The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on Tuesday, March 25, 2008. *Location: Room CEB 325*

2007-23/2 PRESENTATIONS

2007-23/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

2007-23/3a Executive Committee- February 5th, 11th, and 15th, 2008

Please see document SC 07-23.01

2007-23/4 QUESTION PERIOD

2007-23/4a **CAMPBELL-**For VP Academic Samuel:

"Vice President Academic reported to council that he only met with one student group to distribute the pamphlets he made. However, when taken to DIE Board the Vice President admitted to meeting with two different student groups. Did the Vice President lie to council or did he meet with another student group after council censured him?"

2007-23/4b **DUNN-** For President Janz:

"In D.I.E. Board on Ruling #2, it was stated under FACTS point 5 that: Mr. Samuel met with two student groups, and distributed approximately 20 pamphlets. Under point 3, it was stated: He printed 300 copies of the pamphlet. In the ruling of February 8th, D.I.E. Board ordered that the remaining pamphlets be destroyed and recycled. Were approximately 280 pamphlets destroyed and recycled? If not, how many were?"

2007-23/5 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

2007-23/5a Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement Board Report

2007-23/5a(i) DIE Board Ruling #3- February 28, 2008 (Reference: Samuel vs. Richardson)

Please see document SC 07-23.02

2007-23/5a(ii) DIE Board Ruling #4- March 3, 2008 (Reference: Richardson vs. Samuel:

violation of pamphlet injunction)

Please see document SC 07-23.03

2007-23/5a(iii) DIE Board Ruling #5- March 4, 2008 (Reference: Nicol vs. Samuel)

Please see document SC 07-23.04

2007-23/5b University Policy Committee

2007-23/5b(i) **JANZ/ERUVBETINE MOVED THAT** Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the University Policy Committee, approve a political policy based on the following principles:

The Students' Union should lobby the University of Alberta and its faculties and departments to strengthen their communications requirements for all instructors and teaching assistants, with a special emphasis on oral skills.

The Students' Union should lobby the University of Alberta and its faculties and departments to provide free support and resources for all existing instructors and teaching assistants who struggle with their language abilities.

2007-23/5c Awards Selection Committee- Student Involvement Award Winners

Please see document SC 07-23.05

2007-23/6 **GENERAL ORDERS**

2007-23/6a **ERUVBETINE/ ZHANG MOVED THAT** Students' Council read BILL #10 a first time

Principles Bill #10:

a) The University Policy Committee and the External Policy Committee shall be able to make editorial changes to all political policy assigned to them.

b) Political Policies shall expire, but may be renewed by a motion to renew by Students' Council

Please see document SC 07-23.06

2007-23/6b **STEDMAN MOVES THAT** Students' Council read Bill #11 a first time

Principles Bill #11:

Student Faculty Associations shall be allowed to institute mandatory, opt-out health and dental plans in their faculties, provided that:

a) a proper referendum be conducted under University bylaws;

b) the faculty association be permitted by contract with the service provider to discontinue offering this service should the SU institute an undergraduate health and/or dental plan at a later date;

c) the faculty association agrees to properly consult with stakeholders within the university who may have an interest in the fee itself, or in the process of

instituting the fee; and

d) and the opt out for such a plan may be limited to those who can provide proof of coverage.

Please see document SC 07-23.07

2007-23/6c **GAMBLE/ESPOSITO MOVE THAT** Students' Council approve the 08/09 Budget Principles

Please see document SC 07-23.08

2007-23/7 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

2007-23/7a Paul Chiswell, Board of Governors Representative- Report

Please see document SC 07-23.09

2007-23/7b Chris Le, VP Student Life-Report

Please see document SC 07-23.10

2007-23/7c Votes and Proceedings- March 4, 2008

Please see document SC 07-23.11

Executive Committee Report to Students' Council March 11, 2008

- 1. The following motions were passed at the February 5, 2008 Executive Committee meeting.**
 - a. DOLLANSKY/GAMBLE MOVED THAT the complaint be attached to the January 29, 2008 Executive Committee minutes.
VOTE ON MOTION 4/0/0 CARRIED
 - b. GAMBLE/DOLLANSKY MOVED THAT the Executive Committee approved the proposed changes to Operating Policy 5.14 effective May 1, 2008.
VOTE ON MOTION 4/0/0 CARRIED
 - c. DOLLANSKY/GAMBLE MOVED THAT the Executive Committee approve expenditure not to exceed \$10,000.00 from the Special Project Reserve to support an Edmonton specific provincial election campaign.
VOTE ON MOTION 4/0/0 CARRIED

- 2. The following motions were passed at the February 11, 2008 Executive Committee meeting.**
 - a. GAMBLE/JANZ MOVED THAT the apology letter be attached to the January 29, 2008 Executive Committee minutes.
VOTE ON MOTION 4/0/0 CARRIED
 - b. JANZ/GAMBLE MOVED TO request a ruling from Craig Turner in order to remove personal information from the Students' Union main page.
VOTE ON MOTION 4/0/0 CARRIED

- 3. The following motions were passed at the February 15, 2008 Executive Committee meeting.**
 - a. LE/GAMBLE MOVED THAT the Executive Committee approve an expense not to exceed \$750.00 from the Special Project Reserve to purchase merchandise for the Campus Got Talent event.
VOTE ON MOTION 5/0/0 CARRIED
 - b. SAMUEL/GAMBLE MOVED THAT the VP Academic, Bobby Samuel, sit on the University of Alberta Leadership Selection Committee.
VOTE ON MOTION 5/0/0 CARRIED
 - c. GAMBLE/SAMUEL MOVED THAT the Executive Committee approve a budgeted expense not to exceed \$3743.00 for 4 members of the Orientation staff to attend NODA, April 4-6, 2008.
VOTE ON MOTION 5/0/0 CARRIED
 - d. DOLLANSKY/LE MOVED THAT the VP External is appointed to the Chancellor Search committee.
VOTE ON MOTION 5/0/0 CARRIED
 - e. GAMBLE/JANZ MOVED THAT Students' Council meet on March 4, 2008 to discuss budget principles.
VOTE ON MOTION 5/0/0 CARRIED
 - f. SAMUEL/DOLLANSKY MOVED THAT the Executive Committee approve an expense not to exceed \$450.00 for the installation of a grease trap in the PowerPlant, from the contingency reserve.
VOTE ON MOTION 5/0/0 CARRIED

D.I.E. Board

Report to Council

Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement (D.I.E.) Board

Ruling # 3

Date heard: February 28, 2008

Appearing for the D.I.E. Board: Presiding Chair: Guillaume Laroche, Chief Tribune

Tribunes: Sharon Riley and Alexander Witt

Appearing for the Applicant: Christopher Samuel (The listed Applicant, Bobby Samuel, was absent)

Interveners present: Brock Richardson, Craig Turner (CRO).

CASE SUMMARY:

Three Issues were before the DIE Board.

#1 Bobby Samuel brought an application for interpretation in advance of a hearing a complaint by Brock Richardson, to determine if Mr. Richardson brought the application to the correct Students' Union body using the correct procedure. The DIE Board finds that Mr. Richardson's complaint was correctly made and that it will be heard at the next available possibility.

#2 Mr. Richardson asked that the request for interpretation be dismissed because Mr. Samuel has no standing before the DIE Board. However, because of the pressing issue at hand (#3), the DIE Board decided to not dismiss the application and instead render an appropriate interpretation of the circumstances and apply an appropriate remedy.

#3 Mr. Samuel requested that a hearing as to whether or not the materials were in violation of DIE Board Ruling # 2, initially scheduled for February 28th, be held at a later date. The election campaign is very short. The DIE Board has not seen the pamphlet at the centre of the complaint nor heard the nature of the complaint. Accordingly, Mr. Samuel is requested to place those campaign materials that are the subject of Mr. Richardson's complaint in the safe keeping of the CRO and produce no more, until a time when the DIE Board may make a judgement on whether or not it violates Ruling #2.

SUMMARY OF ALLEGATIONS

Chris Samuel, for the Applicant Bobby Samuel (who was not present), alleges that the remedy in Ruling #2 had two distinct parts: remedies unrelated to the SU election and remedies related to the SU election. In the case of the latter, he argued that all matters which are related to the election should be governed by bylaw 2000 and not bylaw 1500. Correct procedure for raising a complaint under Bylaw 2000 is to seek judgement of the Chief Returning Officer (CRO). In this case, Mr. Richardson's complaint would be invalid because it was raised with the DIE Board.

FACTS

1. Brock Richardson alleges that the Samuel campaign violated the remedy of DIE Board Ruling #2. It said:

"The Board further places an injunction on Mr. Samuel against using the design of the pamphlet, including the slogan and textual contents, or any portion or derivative thereof, for the purpose of any future political campaign."

2. Mr. Richardson submitted a complaint to the DIE Board under SU bylaw 1500.

3. This complaint has not been heard by the DIE Board at the time of this ruling.

4. Bobby Samuel, candidate for the position of President of the Students' Union, raised a complaint alleging that Mr. Richardson did not proceed according to SU bylaws and the DIE Board should not hear the complaint. He has asked for the DIE Board to interpret the SU bylaws and decide the procedure under which bylaw Mr. Richardson's complaint should properly be made; either under bylaw 1500 or bylaw 2000.

RELEVANT LEGAL PROVISIONS

Bylaw 1500 S. 2,4,29. Bylaw 2000 S.3,65,68.

RULING ON PROCEDURAL MATTERS FOR THE HEARING

The Board finds that the application received is in fact not a complaint, but a request for interpretation. Brock Richardson, as an intervener in this application for interpretation argued that as Mr. Samuel is on leave from Students' Council, and that therefore he has no grounds on which to request an interpretation under bylaw 1500 S.4(b). Section 4.(b) states:

"The following have standing to request an interpretation of the Students' Union legislation from the Board:

- (i) Council,
- (ii) members of Council, and
- (iii) the Chief Returning Officer of the Students' Union."

DECISION ON PROCEDURAL MATTERS FOR THE HEARING

The DIE Board sees some merit in the argument presented by Mr. Richardson, but rejects it on the basis that the issues promoted raise substantial concerns about interpretation of the bylaws and the DIE Board's mandate, despite the recognition that S.4.(b) may otherwise prevent the hearing from being valid. The Board exercises its authority from bylaw 1500, S.29, "General Powers of Enforcement," to overrule S.4.(b), because it finds that the application requires an action by the Board on the issues the application presents.

ANALYSIS

Christopher Samuel grounds his assertion in the mandate of Bylaw 2000 S.3, which says: "This bylaw shall govern the conduct of all elections, plebiscites and referenda conducted by the Students' Union." When questioned as to his precise interpretation, he affirmed the statement that the mandate in S.3 in essence instructs that all elections-related matters should be treated by default by Bylaw 2000. Under his interpretation only, the Board understood that Mr. Samuel believes S.3 should read as follows: "This bylaw shall exclusively govern the conduct of all elections, plebiscites and referenda conducted by the Students' Union." In statutory interpretation, the "literal" rule to which judges may resort to can aid in the interpretation of an ambiguous statute. Accordingly, if words are plain and unambiguous, the Board is bound to understand them in their ordinary sense; contrary to Mr. Samuel's claims, the Board is not to infer omissions. The Board feels that there is no ambiguity whatsoever in this circumstance. The word "exclusively" is not written in at S.3 of the bylaw and the DIE Board will not infer it. Accordingly, we do not agree that Mr. Richardson should have filed his complaint with the CRO, in accordance with bylaw 2000.

Christopher Samuel alleged further that everything which pertains to candidates in an election should be found only in bylaw 2000. This argument runs contrary to the breadth of power given to the DIE Board in S.2 of Bylaw 1500:

“The Board is the organ of the Students’ Union responsible for the interpretation and enforcement of Students’ Union legislation.”

The Board rejects the argument that the mandate of Bylaw 2000 (S.3) would somehow limit the mandate of the Board, on the basis that the Board's mandate includes all Students' Union legislation, whereas Bylaw 2000's mandate is limited to that of electoral matters. Therefore, it is not contrary to the Board's mandate to investigate electoral matters; furthermore, while electoral matters may be present in a case that disputes whether or not the Board's previous orders were followed, this consideration is secondary to the Board's duty to uphold its own previous rulings, and does not justify the exclusive use of bylaw 2000.

DECISION

The Board rules that the procedure in bylaw 1500 shall apply in complaints brought to the Board alleging violations of the remedies of the DIE Board.

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS BY THE BOARD

The submissions made to the board established the following.

Mr. Richardson brought his complaint before the DIE Board at approximately 2.45 pm on Tuesday, February 25th. This complaint was to be heard on the evening of Thursday, February 28th. In intervention, Mr. Samuel raised his application for interpretation to determine which bylaw should apply to the procedure of raising a complaint. On Bobby Samuel's behalf, Christopher Samuel submitted in a communication to the Chief Tribune that it would not be appropriate for the Board to consider both matters at once. He argued that Mr. Richardson's complaint must be deferred until the DIE Board made a ruling on which bylaw should apply and he could raise an appropriate appeal in the circumstances. Out of courtesy for Mr. Samuel's right

to a hearing, the Board decided to defer hearing of Mr. Richardson's complaint and, implicitly, the judgement until next week. However, Students' Union elections are short affairs of only two weeks' duration. Time is of the essence and fairness for all candidates involved in the election is of our particular concern. We shall return to these issues later.

Several inexplicable inconsistencies in Mr. Samuel's case trouble the Board. First, the intervention by the CRO, not contested by the Applicant, suggested that Mr. Samuel was fully aware of the fact that the CRO would *not* be evaluating his campaign materials in relation to the requirements of DIE Board Ruling #2, but *only* the requirements of Bylaw 2000. Mr. Samuel was made aware of this prior to Tuesday, February 19, 2008. However, Mr. Samuel's submission to the Board on this issue suggests otherwise, noting that his party "assumed that we were fully compliant with all of the DIE Board's election related remedies" from Ruling #2 following the approval of their campaign materials. In the absence of the applicant contesting these facts, the Board is obliged to accept them. In accepting these facts, it is troubling to note that Mr. Samuel's written submission appears to deliberately mislead the Board as to the agreement in place between Mr. Samuel and the CRO following the interpretation of Ruling #2.

Second, the Board is concerned by Mr. Samuel's submission of S.59(2) (actually S.65(2)) of bylaw 2000. His incomplete quotation ("Where a complaint is received within 12 working hours of the alleged contravention...") alleges that there is a 12 hour time window in which complaints about campaign activities may be raised, after which no complaint may be raised. Based on the incomplete quotation of the section, this appears plausible. However, in the actual bylaw when written out in full, section 65(2) reads:

"Where a complaint is received within twelve (12) working hours of the alleged contravention, and where the original complaint form is provided to the C.R.O., the C.R.O. shall rule on that complaint."

When read in full, it is evident that this section does not refer to any time limits for submitting complaints, but rather describes the actions the C.R.O must undertake when s/he receives a complaint about an alleged violation that has taken place in the previous 12 hours. It does not remove from the CRO the discretionary power to hear complaints after this time. The wording of S. 65(2) stands clearly in contrast to that of S. 68(4), which clearly limits such considerations in a similar scenario:

"(4) No appeal shall be considered by the D.I.E. Board unless it is received within twelve (12) working hours of the C.R.O.'s ruling being posted."

The incomplete submission of the quotation of the bylaw by Mr. Samuel appears to be a second attempt to mislead the Board. This attempt is an effort to construct, based on false premises, a second reason for which Mr. Richardson's action should be halted by the Board.

It is essential that all complaints heard by the Board be handled in a timely manner. It is equally essential that the DIE Board does not hear supplementary allegations that a reasonable person would find superfluous to the issue of contention. This is important when matters are brought

forth with what we have now judged to be an express intention to delay further ruling on the issue. In this case, a reasonable person would acknowledge that, during a hearing regarding the initial complaint made in this case, the Board's jurisdiction to rule on the matter would be established by the Board as per Bylaw 1500 and the Board's own regulatory protocols, eliminating the necessity of the complaint brought forth by Mr. Samuel. It is particularly troubling that what the complaint brought forth would be based on arguments that misconstrue facts and bylaws.

Furthermore, it is absurd to posture that the Board's jurisdiction to rule on the matter would not be maintained by the Board. Only a deliberately inventive rewriting of the bylaws would construe it to be read otherwise. Hence, there was no real necessity for the counter complaint brought forth on the hearing of February 28th. Given these incidents, the Board concludes that the presumed goal of the counter complaint was to further delay proceedings, given the timely nature of the Students' Union elections. It troubles the Board that the application to the Board by Mr. Samuel was a gratuitous use of the DIE Board's time and an opportunity to continue the dissemination of the pamphlets whilst the judgement would be delayed until nearly the end of the campaign.

REMEDY IMPOSED:

For the reasons stated above, the Board dismisses the interpretation brought forth by Mr. Samuel. The Board is convinced that this application for interpretation was a gratuitous use of the Board's time as a tactical delay to further political gain for the Samuel campaign; the Board believes this unacceptable conduct must be actively discouraged. Consequently, the Board requires that Mr. Samuel turn in all campaign materials (as defined by Bylaw 2000) currently in existence to the CRO by noon on Friday, February 29th 2008. The CRO will preserve these materials for safekeeping until a further order is issued by the Board. The Board further instructs Mr. Samuel not to produce any replacement campaign materials during the period of this injunction. This injunction shall remain in place until a time when the Board issues a ruling on whether or not the campaign materials violate Ruling #2. Further instructions concerning Mr. Samuel's campaign materials will be contained in this ruling.

Ruling # 4

Date heard: 3 March 2008

Appearing for the D.I.E. Board: Presiding Chair: Alan Cliff
Tribunes: Mike Benusic, Brandon Mewhort

Appearing for the Applicant: Brock Richardson

Appearing for the Respondent: Chris Samuel (agent for Bobby Samuel)

Present: Ryan Heise, Gateway. Craig Turner, Chief Returning Officer.

CASE SUMMARY:

Richardson alleges that Samuel's pamphlets and other campaign materials violated the Board's injunction in *Richardson v. Samuel* (2007-8 #2) preventing Mr. Samuel from using material from a past pamphlet in future political campaigns. The Board finds, as a jurisdictional matter, that it has the authority under Bylaw 1500 to consider complaints alleging violations of previous DIE board orders and remedies. Secondly, the board finds that Mr. Samuel's campaign did in fact violate the injunction in producing the materials, and is therefore subject to punitive damages of \$120. However, because Mr. Samuel did not obtain an electoral advantage through the use of the materials, he is not subject to "counter-balancing" damages.

SUMMARY OF ALLEGATIONS

DIE Board Ruling *Richardson v. Samuel* (2007-8 #2) contains an injunction preventing Mr. Samuel from using textual content contained in or derived from a design for a pamphlet improperly commissioned by Mr. Samuel in his role as Vice President (Academic). Mr. Richardson alleges that Mr. Samuel acted in contravention of the ruling by creating and disseminating pamphlets and other campaign materials containing such material.

Two questions are before the Board. Firstly, does the Board have the authority under *Bylaw 1500* to consider allegations of contraventions or orders made by the Board? Secondly, do the pamphlets in question actually contravene the board's earlier injunction?

FACTS

In his capacity as Students' Union Vice President (Academic), Bobby Samuel commissioned a department of the Students' Union to create an informational pamphlet describing his achievements as VP Academic and soliciting feedback. On the basis that the creation of the pamphlet constituted a self-interested act of pre-campaigning for the position of Students' Union President, Mr. Samuel was subsequently censured by the Students' Union Executive Committee on January 29th, and then by Students' Council on February 5th. In the ruling *Richardson v. Samuel* (2007-8 #2), the DIE Board imposed several remedies on Mr. Samuel, including that he be forbidden from "using the design of the pamphlet, including the slogan and textual contents, or any portion or derivative thereof, for the purpose of any future political campaign."

As a Students' Union presidential candidate, Mr. Samuel used campaign funds to create and disseminate a new pamphlet. The pamphlet, as well as other campaign materials, used a substantially distinct design and layout from the original document. However, language and headings similar to that in the original VPA pamphlet did appear as part of the new campaign pamphlet, on Mr. Samuel's facebook campaign group, and elsewhere. Mr Richardson therefore initiated the present complaint, alleging that these materials violated the injunction laid down in the previous ruling.

Chris Samuel, a representative of Bobby Samuel, initiated a "counter-complaint" asserting that Mr. Richardson's complaint ought to be considered in light of *Bylaw 2000* governing elections, rather than *Bylaw 1500* governing the DIE Board. This matter was considered by the Board at a hearing on the 28th of February. The Board found firstly that the matter did fall within the scope of *Bylaw 1500* and secondly that Mr. Richardson's application was "correctly made" and should be heard by the Board. In the interim, the Board ordered that Bobby Samuel's campaign material be impounded until the present hearing could be held.

RELEVANT LEGAL PROVISIONS

Bylaw 1500 s.3(a) limits the Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement Board to considering complaints alleging "a contravention of Students' Union legislation." *Bylaw 1500* s. 29 gives the Board the right to "make any order proscribing any remedy the Board considers appropriate and just in the circumstances."

ANALYSIS

Jurisdiction

Brock Richardson is a member of the Students' Union, and therefore has standing under *Bylaw 1500* s.4(a)(i) to submit complaints to the Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement Board. Although *DIE Board Ruling #3 (2007-8)* established that Mr. Richardson's complaint falls within the domain of *Bylaw 1500*, Chris Samuel argues that a literal reading of *1500* s.3 means that the Board's scope does not extend to considering allegations about violations of previous rulings of the Board. He claims that, according to *DIE Board Ruling #3 (2007-8)*, where "words are plain and unambiguous, the Board is bound to understand them in their ordinary sense." Accordingly, the omission of violations of DIE Board orders from the list of actionable causes in s.3 should be read as signifying that the Board was not to consider such cases.

However, the Board must not interpret statutes in a manner that would lead to absurd results contrary to the legislative intent of Students' Council. If a reasonable student could draw two conclusions about the meaning of a passage on the basis of the text, context, and apparent intent of the passage, with one leading to an absurd result, then the Board ought to adopt the reading that is not absurd. In this case, the ability of the Board to order remedies under *Bylaw 1500* s.29 is obviated if there is no mechanism for enforcement of the orders. It is disingenuous to claim that Students' Council would have intended to create a right for the Board to issue orders, without such a mechanism of enforcement. However, one plausible reading of *Bylaw 1500* would suggest that violations of orders or injunctions issued under s.29 effectively constitute a violation of that section by the infringing party. A reasonable student would see a failure of an

individual to comply with an injunction as a substantive contravention of s. 29. Allegations of such violation may therefore properly fall within the scope of the board under s.3(a).

Violation of the Injunction

“The Board further places an injunction on Mr. Samuel against using the design of the pamphlet, including the slogan and textual contents, or any portion or derivative thereof, for the purpose of any future political campaign.” *Richardson v. Samuel* (2007-8 #2) at 4.

The Board is not empowered in this case to consider the fairness of the initial injunction, which was not appealed. We are obligated instead to rule on whether the injunction, as written, was violated. In this case, the operative question is as follows: Would a reasonable student see the campaign material as using a “portion or derivative” of the “textual contents” of the original pamphlet? The injunction is not limited to merely prohibiting Mr. Samuel from replicating the original pamphlet design in its entirety. The campaign pamphlet under consideration does not do that. Rather, the use of the word “portion” in the injunction indicates that he was also prevented from using parts of the original text in a way that a reasonable student would see as replication. The use of very similar language, as well as identical headings in an identical order could clearly be seen as such a use. The Board therefore finds that Mr. Samuel violated the injunction in the production of the campaign material.

Reasonable Steps to Avoid Violation

Chris Samuel argues that the campaign team exercised the same level of duty that a reasonable student would in the situation, by making significant changes to the campaign material from the original pamphlet. Moreover, he claims that the campaign did its best to seek advice on the compliance of the campaign material with the bylaw prior to the dissemination of the material. Because *Bylaw 1500* s.4(b) does not grant electoral candidates the ability to bring requests for interpretation before the Board, and because the Chief Returning Officer declined to advise the campaign on the consistency of the pamphlets and other material with the injunction, Mr. Samuel argues that there was no way to obtain an official ruling on whether the material was in violation until Mr. Richardson’s complaint emerged. While Mr. Richardson points out that Bobby Samuel was able to use his privilege as a member of Council to request an interpretation, the Board is not convinced that Mr. Samuel would have been permitted to use his membership on Council – even before he went on leave for the duration of the campaign – to seek interpretation on a matter related to his personal election campaign. Secondly, Mr. Richardson suggests that DIE Board’s willingness to grant a request for interpretation to Chris Samuel in hearing *DIE Board Ruling #3* (2007-8) speaks to a broader willingness to interpret injunctions despite the limitations on standing laid out in *1500* s.4(b). Again, the Board is not convinced that this channel for seeking interpretation was necessarily open to Bobby Samuel at the time that the materials were produced. Finally, there is the possibility that Mr. Samuel could have sought a request for interpretation from the Board through the Chief Returning Officer, who does have standing under s. 4(b)(iii). However, the C.R.O. states that it did not occur to him to make such a request. We cannot therefore expect that a reasonable student would be able to bring a request for interpretation to the Board.

Nevertheless, there is still a responsibility on Bobby Samuel, as the subject of the Board's order, to ensure that his conduct did not violate the injunction. The Board has found repeatedly that "it is a candidate's responsibility to ensure that they comply with all the requirements and regulations listed in Bylaw 2100. Candidates should err on the side of caution if confronted with possible breaches" *DIE Board Ruling #4 (2003-4)* qtd. in *Appeal of CRO Ruling #1 (2006-2007)*. The same principle should to apply equally to individuals subject to orders issued by the Board.

DISPOSITION AND REMEDY IMPOSED

Mr. Richardson suggested a fine of \$240 be levied against Mr. Samuel's campaign budget. Of this, half would serve as compensation for the advantage gained by Mr. Samuel from using resources not universally available to other candidates, namely, the work done on the original brochure by the Students' Union design department. However, because the new pamphlet uses a new layout designed independently, it is not clear what tangible electoral advantage Mr. Samuel actually gained from the use of the design department. Accordingly, there is no need to levy damages on Samuel's campaign for the purposes of levelling the playing field or compensating for unfair benefits. The second half of Mr. Richardson's proposed fine, however, was a punitive measure aimed at preventing individuals from violating DIE Board Injunctions in future. This is clearly an important consideration for the Board. Where individuals violate orders laid down by the Board, the credibility of the Students' Union's system of rules is undermined. Accordingly, we direct the Chief Returning Officer to levy a fine of \$120 against Mr. Samuel's campaign budget. Given the precedent of decisions such as *Appeal of CRO Ruling #1 (2006-7)*, in which a \$900 fine was upheld, we believe that this fine is proportionate to the wrong committed.

Because the pamphlet is in violation of the injunction, we cannot allow it and similar materials to be used for the remainder of the campaign. Instead, these materials should be removed and recycled. We direct the CRO to ensure that this takes place. However, Mr. Samuel's other campaign materials, website, facebook group, and so forth, should be permitted to be used so long as they do not violate the injunction. Because of the limited amount of time remaining in the campaign period, the Board delegates to the Chief Returning Officer the discretion to approve or deny materials on the basis of their compliance with the injunction and the content of this ruling. For the purposes of this delegated discretion, Mr. Samuel, and the CRO, are advised to interpret the injunction broadly, so as to exclude material using any design, slogan, or textual content which *could be deemed* by a reasonable student, and therefore by the Board, to be derived from the original pamphlet. For instance, posters using the same headings or very similar sentences should not be permitted. However, substantive ideas, goals, promises, or claims of past performance as outlined in the original pamphlet may be used, provided that they do not use language that would be reasonably seen as being directly derived from the initial pamphlet. Mr. Samuel may therefore reopen his facebook group and website, provided that the offending text is removed.

We further order under s.32 of *Bylaw 1500* that any appeals of this ruling that would affect the operation of the Students' Union election be made no later than 4:00pm today, March 4th.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In future, the Board ought to consider jurisdictional objections to an application for a hearing as a preliminary matter as part of the hearing itself, rather than before a separate panel.

Members of the Students' Union, especially candidates in elections, should exercise the greatest amount of caution in acting in ways that could potentially violate a Bylaw or an Order.

If there are allegations of failures to fulfil the orders created by *Ruling #3*, they should be brought forward as separate complaints.

Ruling # 5

Date heard: March 4, 2008

Appearing for the D.I.E. Board: Presiding Chair: Guillaume Laroche, Chief Tribune

Tribunes: James Koizumi, Rachel Woynorowski

Appearing for the Applicant: Scott Nicol, Applicant
Natalie Cloutier, Witness
Hayley Shannon, Witness
Craig Turner, Witness

Appearing for the Respondent: Christopher Samuel (Agent for Bobby Samuel)

Intervenors present: Craig Turner, CRO

CASE SUMMARY:

Mr. Scott Nicol alleges that Mr. Bobby Samuel violated DIE Board *Ruling #3* by failing to turn in all campaign materials to the CRO by noon on February 29th, 2008, as ordered by the Board. The Board finds that Mr. Samuel was in violation of *Ruling #3* by omitting to take down 17 posters and one banner, and that a marginal benefit was accrued from this violation. However, given Mr. Samuel's good faith in observing *Ruling #3*, the Board is convinced that these violations were not maliciously intended. There was also a lack of evidence to establish the high standard of malicious intent. Consequently, the Board fines the Samuel campaign 20\$ for violating *Ruling #3*, and further fines the Samuel campaign 10\$ to counterbalance for any advantage gained through the violation.

SUMMARY OF ALLEGATIONS

Mr. Scott Nicol alleges that Mr. Bobby Samuel violated DIE Board ruling #3 by failing to turn in all campaign materials to the CRO by noon on February 29th, 2008, as ordered by the Board:

[T]he Board requires that Mr. Samuel turn in all campaign materials (as defined by Bylaw 2000) currently in existence to the CRO by noon on Friday, February 29th 2008.

FACTS

Numerous allegations were made during the hearing, but at the end, only a few items could be upheld as facts, due to conflicting yet equally credible testimonies from the applicant and respondent. The pertinent facts established during the hearing were:

- On Friday February 29th in the afternoon, the CRO removed seven (7) posters from the Bobby Samuel campaign from the 2nd floor atrium of the Agriculture and Forestry building.

- On Saturday, March 1st between the hours of 2 and 4pm, the CRO spotted four (4) posters and one (1) banner belonging to the Samuel campaign in the Tory/Business Atrium.
- On Sunday, March 2nd, by the admission of Mr. Christopher Samuel, the Samuel campaign removed six (6) posters from various buildings on campus, including in the Heritage Medical Research Centre and the Medical Sciences building.

RELEVANT LEGAL PROVISIONS

Bylaw 1500 grants the Board the authority to enforce its rulings.

ANALYSIS

There exist a number of issues requiring resolution in this case. The first concerns the conflicting testimonies between the applicant, the applicant's witnesses and the respondent. Absent any additional evidence, the Board chooses to accord equal validity to all actors in the hearing, since the credibility of all who testified was never effectively called into question. Given this standard, in attempting to resolve issues such as the alleged presence of six (6) posters in the Clinical Sciences Building, the Board finds the testimony inconclusive and insufficient to determine fact in the matter. Because it is the Applicant's responsibility to provide sufficient evidence to back up any claims, and that the applicant was unable to discredit the respondent's testimony or produce documents confirming his own allegations, the Board is unable to support the Applicant's position that his witnesses' testimony met the minimum burden of proof in the case at hand. As for the posters brought forth by Mr. Nicol featuring a stamp from Faculté Saint-Jean, the Board is unable to verify that these posters had actually been displayed at FSJ at a time after noon on February 29th, 2008. In the end, the evidence that was admitted as fact by the Board was comprised of the statements made by the CRO or the respondent that were left uncontested by any party. The "Facts" section above describes the accepted statements.

Having established the eligibility of the evidence presented, the second issue concerns the substantive matters of the allegations, as to whether or not actions, or lack thereof, constituted a violation of *Ruling #3*. Indeed, given the facts admitted as evidence, it appears that a total of 17 posters and one banner were not removed by the Samuel campaign by noon on February 29th, as follows: 7 posters were removed by the CRO on Friday afternoon, 4 posters and one banner were removed by the CRO on Saturday, and 6 posters were removed by the Samuel campaign on Sunday. These 17 posters and one banner represent a clear violation of *Ruling #3*, since these materials were not submitted to the CRO by the indicated deadline. However, given the diligence demonstrated by the respondent and upheld by the CRO's testimonial judgement, the Board feels that these materials were not maliciously ignored by the Samuel campaign. Rather, their neglect were honest mistakes that were overlooked in an otherwise reasonable effort to comply with *Ruling #3*, given the limited time frame the Samuel campaign possessed to take down all campaign materials. The Board thus recognizes that, while a violation of *Ruling #3* has occurred, said violation was not the result of the Samuel campaign maliciously defying the Board's orders; therefore the Board concludes that the penalties associated with the infraction must consequently be minimal.

In terms of whether or not a substantial benefit was gained by the Samuel campaign for having these 17 posters and one banner on display until Sunday evening, the Board finds that a benefit

does exist, but that it too held a minimal impact. The Board dismisses the claim that 17 posters across campus could have significant impact in this case for two reasons. First, the fact that few visual campaign materials from Bobby Samuel's campaign were in circulation necessarily limits the impact with which the materials can promote the candidate. Second, because the materials that remained were displayed over a weekend, and that relatively fewer students visit the University campus during this period, the Board feels that any attention the materials did draw to Mr. Samuel's campaign was inherently limited. The Board thus finds that, while the materials may have brought some benefit to Bobby Samuel's campaign, these benefits were inherently quite limited, given the circumstances in which the materials were displayed.

DISPOSITION AND REMEDY IMPOSED

The Board finds that, by having 17 posters and one banner in circulation after noon on Friday, February 29th, Bobby Samuel's campaign was in violation of *Ruling #3*. Furthermore, the Board finds that this violation resulted in a limited, but nonetheless present, benefit to the Samuel campaign. The Board fines the Samuel campaign 20\$ for failing to remove 17 posters and 1 banner within the time allotted by *Ruling #3*. The Board further fines the Samuel campaign 10\$ to counterbalance any advantage gained by leaving the above items for the extended period.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Given some of the allegations entertained by the Board during this hearing, the Board would like to remind all candidates in all elections that they are bound by Bylaw 2000, S. 34 to "act reasonably and in good faith" regarding all electoral matters. The Board will deal very seriously with candidates or third parties caught tampering or interfering with other candidates' campaigns.

Awards Selection Committee Report to Council

The Students' Union Awards committee has completed the selection of the 2007/2008 Student Involvement Award winners. The following students have been selected and the committee respectfully submits these names for ratification:

Award	Winner
Alberta Treasury Branches Involvement Award	Steffen Janzen Brandon Mewhort
Anne Louise Mundell Humanitarian Award	Jamie Anderson-Reid Claire Johnston
Cristal Mar Memorial Award	Kate Kuiper Queenie Le
Dean Mortensen Award	Gemma Armstrong Allen Tran
Dr Randy Gregg Athletics Award	Benjamin Adam Amanda Scheck
Eugene L. Brody Award	Ariel Bowering Joshua Krabbe
Funky Pickle Pizza Award	Stephanie Chai Sheryl Lynn Choo
Hilda Wilson Memorial Volunteer Recognition Award	Michael Nicholson Sarah Fung
Hooper-Munroe Academic Award	Thye Sing Wong Kevin Unrau
Java Jive Merchants Ltd. Award	Sonja Roes Jessica Duhn Dana Marsh
Lorne Calhoun Memorial Award	Lubomyra Zorniak Carina Zoilla
Maimie Shaw Simpson Book Prize	Shawn Pandya Carly Henley
Royal Bank Financial Group Involvement Award	Gillian Scarlett Rae Varughes
Royal Bank Student Faculty Association	Scott Kohlert

Involvement Award

Social Justice Activism Award

SUBWAY Sandwiches Award

Tevie Miller Involvement Award

Tom Lancaster Award

Walter A. Dinwoodie Award

SU Award for Excellence

Abdullah Saleh

Phil Bach

Michael Gaultois
Rhett Taylor

Curtis Clark
David Barer

Angela Espejo
Michael Kapusta

Rachel White

Possible Standing Orders:

Expiration of Political Policy

17(4) Political Policies adopted within a particular session of Students' Council shall expire three (3) years after the end of that session

17(5) Upon expiration, a Political Policy shall be received by either the External Policy Committee or the University Policy Committee as per their respective mandates as a motion to recommend to Students' Council for renewal.

17(6) If the motion in 17(5) passes, the Political Policy shall be forwarded to Students' Council for and if defeated, it shall be allowed to expire.

HEALTH & DENTAL PLAN

SURVEY REPORT

January 2008



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APPENDIX A: SURVEY DATA

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and Rationale

The University of Alberta Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry and the Faculty of Law have enlisted the support of studentcare.net/works to conduct a survey of their members in order to obtain information and feedback on the possible implementation of a group health and dental plan for U of A students in the Faculties of Medicine and Dentistry, and Law.

Survey findings are presented to the relevant Student Associations (Medicine (MSA), Dentistry (DSA), and Law (LSA), to assist in determining the health and dental care needs and preferences of their members and to inform future decisions regarding student health and dental programs on campus.

This report provides an overview of the survey objectives and methodology, presents the key findings of the survey, and makes a number of recommendations for consideration by the MSA, DSA, and LSA. The report has been prepared by studentcare.net/works' research staff and is based on survey data collected online in November 2007.

The survey provided students with an opportunity to comment on a number of key issues with respect to health and dental services including their current coverage, as well as their preferences with regard to the implementation of a student plan, plan benefits, plan services (including an opt-out provision), and plan cost.

1.2 Organizational Profile: studentcare.net/works

studentcare.net/works is Canada's largest provider of student health and dental plans and is the only organization in Canada that specializes exclusively in student health care.

Established in 1996 to serve the health and dental care needs of Canadian post-secondary students, studentcare.net/works now serves more than 350,000 members at 35 post-secondary institutions and 44 student associations.

studentcare.net/works is a full-service health and dental plan provider, delivering a wide range of value-added services to clients, including brokerage services, plan management and administration, communications and consulting, and research.

The company's head office is in Montreal, with service offices throughout Quebec, Ontario, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan.

2.0 OBJECTIVE

2.1 Research Objective

The primary objective of the survey was to obtain information from students in the Faculties of Medicine and Dentistry, and Law on their current health and dental coverage, as well as their preferences with regard to the possibility of a group health and dental plan for U of A students in these Faculties. This feedback will inform future health and dental plan related decisions by the MSA, DSA, and LSA.

2.2 Survey Design

The Students' Associations Executives were given the opportunity to review and provide input on the survey questions, and this was included in the final survey presented to members. In consultation with studentcare.net/works, feedback from members was sought on three main topics: current coverage, services, and costs.

1) Current Coverage

- How many students are currently covered by an extended health and dental plan?
- How often are students receiving dental care?

2) Services

- Are students in favour of the implementation of a health and dental plan for Medicine, Dentistry and Law students?
- Would students like to see such a plan implemented in January?
- What benefits do students feel should be covered by a student health and dental plan?

3) Costs

- What out-of-pocket expenses have students incurred for their health and dental care needs?
- What individual cost would students be willing to pay for a health and dental plan?
- What type of Plan administration (online vs. on-campus resources) are students willing to pay for?

Respondents were also given the opportunity to give additional comments at the end of the survey.

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Sampling Methods

The survey was conducted online from Nov. 14 - 28, 2007. The objective was to obtain 300 completed surveys. This goal was surpassed, with 477 surveys completed.

To ensure that multiple submissions would not be permitted, user Internet Protocol (IP) addresses were tracked. Although not linked to the answers submitted, for IP addresses that submitted more than one survey only the first submission has been used in the analysis.

It should be noted that there are some limitations with online survey methodology. Chiefly, the online sample for this survey was based on self-selection and was not entirely random (i.e. a random group of students was not pre-selected and asked to complete the survey). However, experience with previous surveys shows a close correlation between online self-selection surveys and random samples (i.e. telephone surveys). The web-based survey formats allow the respondent the necessary time to reflect on each question, thereby reducing confusion (which can arise in telephone surveys when respondents are asked to recall the options available).

Where possible, we have used the most recent enrolment statistics, as published in the 2006-2007 Data Book by the Strategic Analysis Office (www.ualberta.ca/IDO/databook/06-07/toc.html) for comparison with the survey respondent demographic statistics to demonstrate that a representative sample was obtained.

3.2 Margin of Error

With a student population of 2,084 (full and part-time undergrads in the Faculties of Medicine & Dentistry and Law, Fall 2006), a sample size of 477 students gives us a margin of error of no more than +/- 4%, 19 times out of 20. This is an acceptable margin of error, as the objective is to observe general trends (i.e. students' current coverage status, or their preferences regarding a possible health and dental plan) and to look for potential areas of concern (i.e. how often they are visiting a dentist). In either case, even the most extreme deviation possible (within +/- 4%) will not alter the conclusion that would be derived from the data. For example, the difference between whether 79% or 87% of respondents indicate support for dental care as a potential benefit would not alter the conclusion that there is substantial support for that particular benefit.

Finally, in order to decrease this margin significantly, say to +/- 2%, we would need to raise the sample size to over 1,100 respondents and our conclusions would be the same.

4.0 SURVEY FINDINGS

4.1 Key Findings

Just over half of respondents (52.9%) are not covered by any health or dental plan, while 8.5% have either extended health or dental coverage, but not both. Slightly more than a third of respondents (38.6%) are covered by an extended health and dental plan. Less than half of respondents (49.7%) have visited a dentist in the past six months, while 27.1% have not in over a year (including 15.9% in more than two years and 7.3% in over 4 years).

An overwhelming majority (89.3%) were in favour of a health and dental plan to cover medical, dental, and law students. Among a selection of possible benefits, respondents showed the highest interest (an answer of 'very important' or 'important') in coverage for dental checkups and cleanings (98%), prescription drugs (91.3%), fillings and wisdom tooth extractions (91.2%), eye exams (86.7%), root canals and in-depth cleanings (86.2%), and eyeglasses or contact lenses (86.7%).

Many respondents have had to pay out-of-pocket for health-care expenses that were greater than the average fee for a student group health and dental plan: just over half of them (50.7%) spent \$250 or more on such expenses in the past 12 months, including 14.4% who spent between \$500 and \$999 and 6.8% who spent over \$1,000.

As for how much students would be willing to pay for 12 months of coverage under a student health and dental plan, the results varied. 46.7% of respondents answered that they would be willing to pay between \$210 and \$240 for "better coverage including vision care, more dental", while 40.5% said they would be willing to pay between \$250 and \$280 for "comprehensive, comparable to most employer plans". The remaining 12.8% said they would be willing to pay between \$175 and \$200 for "just the basics, limited paramedical, no vision care". In addition, a majority of students (79.9%) indicated that they would be most comfortable with accessing forms and general Plan information online and by telephone rather than through on-campus resources.

4.2 Student Demographics

The first section of the survey dealt with general demographic information such as gender, student status, department/faculty of study, etc. Demographic data is presented in order to determine whether a representative sample has been obtained.

Where possible, the survey data is validated against the most recent statistics available from the Strategic Analysis Office at the University of Alberta (as at Dec. 1, 2006).

Gender

The following chart compares the gender of survey respondents vs. actual student statistics:

Gender	Combined no. of Respondents	% of Total Respondents	% of Actual Enrolment*
Female	264	56.1%	52.0%
Male	199	42.3%	48.0%
Decline	8	1.7%	
Total	471	100%	100%

*undergraduates in bachelor programs in the faculties of Medicine and Dentistry, and Law, Fall 2006.

Status

The following table shows the status of survey respondents and compares the results with actual student statistics.

Student Status	Combined no. of Respondents	% of Total Respondents	% of Actual Enrolment
Full-time	461	98.1%	98.7%
Part-time	5	1.1%	1.3%
*Graduate	5	1.1%	
Total	470	100%	100%

*Any graduate students filling out the survey were informed that they are already eligible for the GSA Health & Dental Plan.

Age

The following chart shows the age of survey respondents:

Age	Combined no. of Respondents	% of Total Respondents
17 to 19	7	1.5%
20 to 22	86	18.3%
23 to 24	171	36.3%
25 to 29	173	36.7%
30 and over	31	6.6%
Decline	3	0.6%
Total	471	100%

Department/Faculty of Study

The following chart shows the Department/Faculty of study of survey respondents:

	No. of Respondents	% of Total Respondents
Medicine	170	35.7%
Medical Lab Sciences	15	3.2%
Dentistry	39	8.2%
Dental Hygiene	21	4.4%
Law	233	48.9%
Total	478	100%

Family

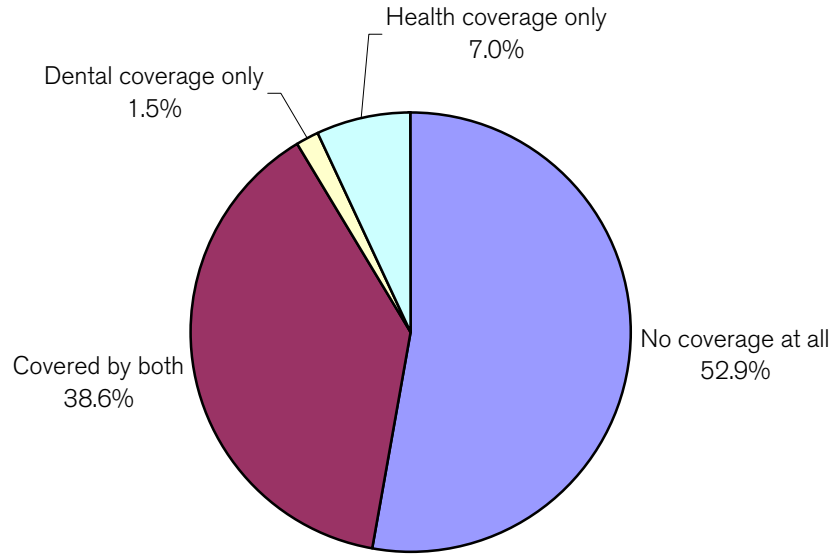
The following chart shows how many students have a spouse or common-law partner and dependent children:

	No. of Respondents	% of Total Respondents
A spouse or common-law partner	93	19.7%
Dependent children	20	4.2%
None of the above	358	76.0%
Total	471	100%

4.3 Current Coverage

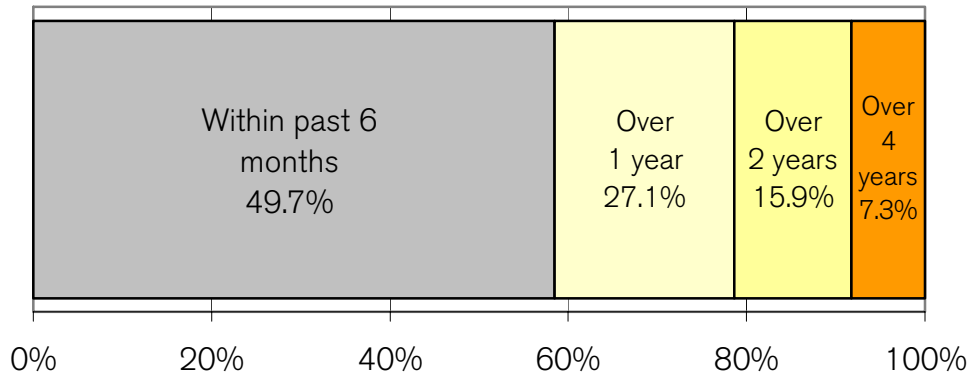
Extended Health and Dental Coverage

Students were asked whether or not they are covered by an extended health and/or dental plan (e.g. employee or group plan through parent or spouse). The results are displayed in the following chart:



Dental Care

Students were asked when they last visited a dentist. The results are displayed in the following chart (excluding the one respondent who did not answer the question):



4.4 Services

Student Health & Dental Plan

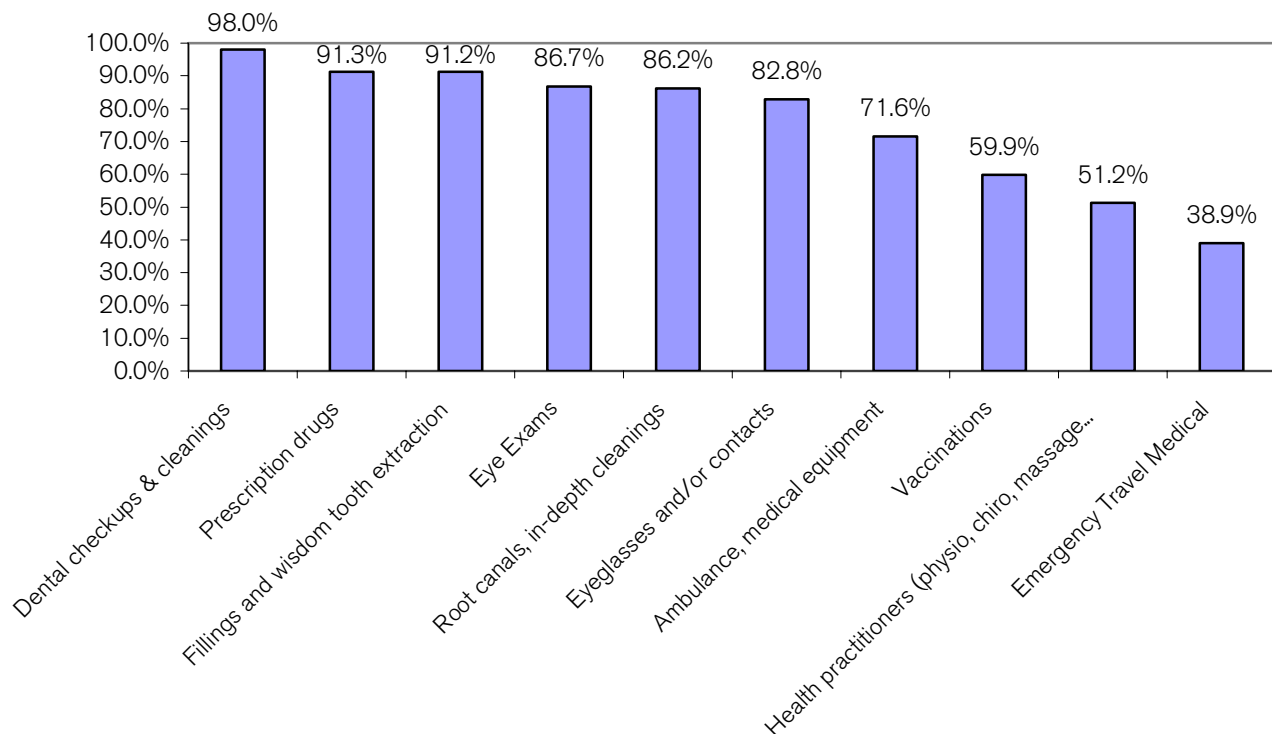
Students were asked if they think there should be a health and dental plan to cover health and dental care expenses for Medical, Dental, and Law students. Their answers are displayed in the following chart:

	Combined no. of Respondents	% of Total Respondents
Yes	416	89.3%
No	50	10.7%
Total	187	100%

To gauge immediate versus future need, students were then asked if they would prefer to see such a plan implemented in January, for the remainder of the 2007-2008 year. Over 75.4% said 'yes, if it is administratively possible', indicating a strong motivation and need for health and dental coverage as soon as possible.

Health & Dental Plan Benefits

Students were asked what benefits they would want to have covered in such a plan. All answers are on the chart below. Percentages shown are the number of students who gave a selection of 'Very important' or 'important' for each selection.

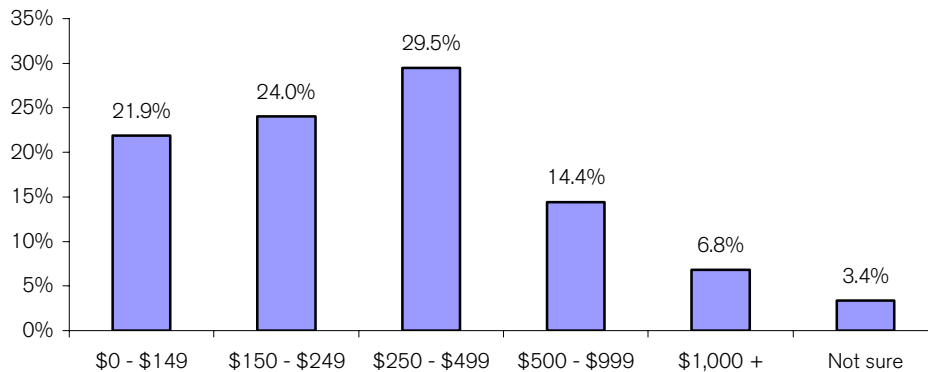


4.5 Costs

Out-of-pocket Expenses

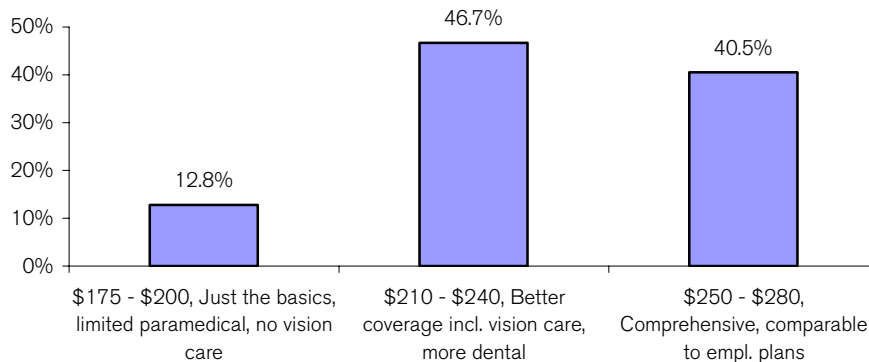
Respondents were asked if in the past year they had to pay out-of-pocket for any health or dental care that was not covered by insurance. 62.9% of respondents indicated that they had, while 37.3% said that they had not.

The following chart indicates how much students spent on such expenses. 50.7% of these students spent over \$250 in the past year, while 21.2% spent over \$500.



Health & Dental Plan Costs

Students were asked to indicate what they would be willing to pay for a student health and dental plan (12 months of coverage). The results are displayed in the following chart:



Students were also asked if they were prepared to pay more for on-campus resources to help with Plan information, opt outs, enrolments and submitting claims. 79.9% answered no, that they were comfortable accessing the above information online and by telephone, while 20.1% said they would be prepared to pay more in order to have on-campus services.

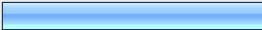



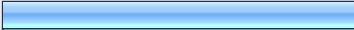
5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS




studentcare.net/works presents the following recommendations to the MSA, DSA, and LSA for consideration:

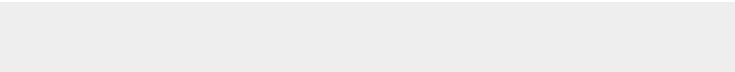
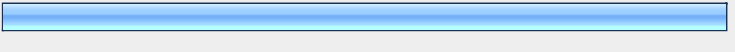
1. Over half of the students surveyed were not covered by an extended health/dental plan, yet an even larger majority felt that there should be a health and dental plan to cover health-care expenses for students in the faculties of Medicine and Dentistry, and Law. According to these results, there is a strong and clear interest in the implementation of a student health and dental plan.
2. Respondents prioritized a variety of health and dental benefits. In particular, respondents emphasized the importance of preventive dental services (checkups and cleanings), prescription drugs, eye exams, basic dental services (fillings, wisdom teeth extraction, root canals), and eyeglasses and contact lenses. The results demonstrate that students require a plan with equal consideration given to health benefits, dental benefits, and vision benefits.
3. More than three quarters of the respondents were in favour of accessing information online and by telephone rather than through on-campus resources. This should be taken into account if designing a Plan, since it would reduce the overall administrative costs.
4. If a student Plan is implemented, the Plan should promote the opportunity for students to coordinate benefits if they have existing coverage as this survey indicates that over half of respondents incurred out-of-pocket health costs that exceed the average fee for a student group health and dental plan.
5. The last word is given to students. Comments left by survey respondents also indicate support for a health and dental plan for medical, dental and law students. All comments can be found in Appendix A.

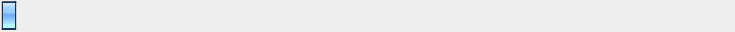
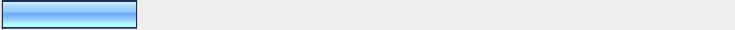
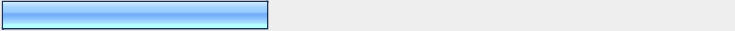
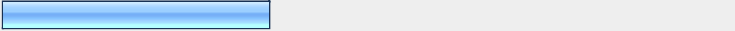
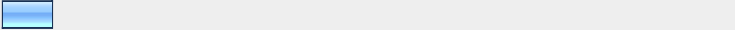
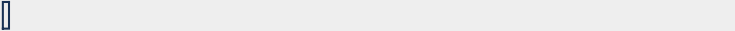
APPENDIX A – SURVEY DATA

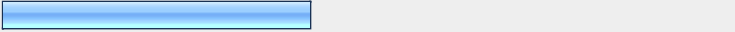
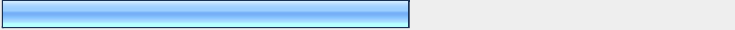
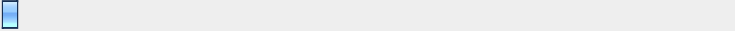
U of A Health & Dental Plan Survey - Faculties of Medicine, Dentistry, and Law

1. My department/faculty is:			Response Percent	Response Count
Medicine			35.7%	170
Medical Lab Sciences			3.2%	15
Dentistry			8.2%	39
Dental Hygiene			4.4%	21
Law			48.9%	233
Other (please specify)			0.0%	0
			<i>answered question</i>	476
			<i>skipped question</i>	1

2. I am a:			Response Percent	Response Count
Part-time undergraduate student			1.1%	5
Full-time undergraduate student			98.1%	461
Graduate student (Note: if you are a graduate student, you are already eligible for the GSA Health & Dental Plan)			1.1%	5
			<i>answered question</i>	470
			<i>skipped question</i>	7

3. Are you an international student?			Response Percent	Response Count
Yes			0.0%	0
No			100.0%	470
			<i>answered question</i>	470
			<i>skipped question</i>	7

4. My age is:			Response Percent	Response Count
17 - 19			1.5%	7
20 - 22			18.3%	86
23 - 24			36.3%	171
25 - 29			36.7%	173
30 and over			6.6%	31
Decline to answer			0.6%	3
			<i>answered question</i>	471
			<i>skipped question</i>	6

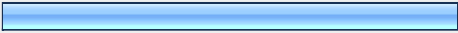

5. I am:			Response Percent	Response Count
Male			42.3%	199
Female			56.1%	264
Decline to answer			1.7%	8
			<i>answered question</i>	471
			<i>skipped question</i>	6

6. I have:			Response Percent	Response Count
A spouse or common-law partner			19.7%	93
Dependent children			4.2%	20
None of the above			76.0%	358
			<i>answered question</i>	471
			<i>skipped question</i>	6

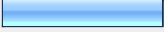
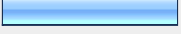
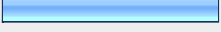
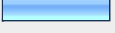


7. I am covered by an extended health/dental plan, on top of Alberta Health (e.g. employee or group plan through parent or spouse):			Response Percent	Response Count
Yes > A dental insurance plan			1.5%	7
Yes > An extended health insurance plan			7.0%	33
Yes > Both an extended health and a dental plan			38.6%	181
Not covered by either			52.9%	248
			<i>answered question</i>	469
			<i>skipped question</i>	8

8. When was the last time you visited a dentist?			Response Percent	Response Count
Over 4 years ago			7.3%	34
Over 2 years ago			15.9%	74
Over 1 year ago			27.1%	126
Within the past 6 months			49.7%	231
			<i>answered question</i>	465
			<i>skipped question</i>	12

9. Have you had to pay for any out-of-pocket health or dental care costs in the past year?



		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		62.9%	293
No		37.3%	174
		<i>answered question</i>	466
		<i>skipped question</i>	11

10. If so, approximately how much have you paid?

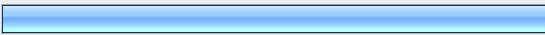
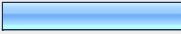
		Response Percent	Response Count
\$0 - \$149		21.9%	64
\$150 - \$249		24.0%	70
\$250 - \$499		29.5%	86
\$500 - \$999		14.4%	42
\$1,000+		6.8%	20
Not sure		3.4%	10
		<i>answered question</i>	292
		<i>skipped question</i>	185

11. Would you support a Faculty-based Health & Dental Plan where the fee is automatically assessed for students registered in the Faculties of Medicine & Dentistry, and Law?

Note: Students who are already covered elsewhere would be able to opt out and have the fee waived.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, I support a student Health & Dental Plan		89.3%	416
No, I do not support a student Health & Dental Plan		10.7%	50
		<i>answered question</i>	466
		<i>skipped question</i>	11




12. Would you prefer to see the Plan implemented in January, for the remainder of the 2007-2008 academic year? Note: The fee would be pro-rated (reduced) and you would be reimbursed for health and dental care expenses beginning January 1st.

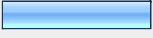
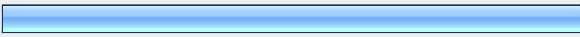
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, in January if it is administratively possible		75.4%	316
No, wait until September		24.6%	103
<i>answered question</i>			419
<i>skipped question</i>			58

13. What benefits would you want to have covered? Please rank in order of priority.

	Very Important	Important	Undecided	Not Very Important	Not Important	Response Count
Prescription Drugs	68.3% (282)	23.0% (95)	3.4% (14)	4.6% (19)	0.7% (3)	413
Paramedical Practitioners (i.e. Physiotherapy, Chiropractor, Registered Massage Therapy, Naturopath, etc.)	20.1% (82)	31.1% (127)	13.5% (55)	24.5% (100)	10.8% (44)	408
Eye Exams (Optometrist or Ophthalmologist)	43.8% (181)	42.9% (177)	6.1% (25)	6.1% (25)	1.2% (5)	413
Eye Glasses and/or Contact Lenses (Prescription)	45.4% (187)	37.4% (154)	6.6% (27)	7.5% (31)	3.2% (13)	412
Emergency Travel Insurance (Out of Province/Out of Country)	12.4% (50)	26.5% (107)	22.3% (90)	25.0% (101)	13.9% (56)	404
Vaccinations (Travel, Flu Shot, and Those Required for Lab Work)	26.9% (110)	33.0% (135)	16.9% (69)	16.9% (69)	6.4% (26)	409
Ambulance, Medical Equipment (Crutches, Braces)	32.6% (133)	39.0% (159)	14.2% (58)	10.8% (44)	3.4% (14)	408
Dental Care: Checkups & Basic Cleanings (Preventative & Diagnostic)	77.5% (321)	20.5% (85)	1.4% (6)	0.5% (2)	0.0% (0)	414
Dental Care: Root Canals, In-depth Cleanings (Periodontics & Endodontics)	44.1% (182)	42.1% (174)	7.3% (30)	5.6% (23)	1.0% (4)	413
Dental Care: Fillings, Wisdom Tooth Extractions (Surgical & Restorative)	52.4% (216)	38.8% (160)	4.6% (19)	3.6% (15)	0.5% (2)	412

	<i>answered question</i>	417
	<i>skipped question</i>	60

14. What would you be willing to pay per year (12 months of coverage) for a student Health & Dental Plan?			Response Percent	Response Count
\$175 - \$200 (Just the Basics, limited paramedical, no vision care)			12.8%	52
\$210 - \$240 (Better Coverage, including vision care, more dental)			46.7%	190
\$250 - \$280 (Comprehensive, comparable to most employer plans)			40.5%	165
	<i>answered question</i>			407
	<i>skipped question</i>			70

15. How the Plan is administered can have an effect on cost. Which of the following do you prefer?			Response Percent	Response Count
I am prepared to pay more for access to on-campus resources to help with general Plan information, opt outs or enrolments, and submitting claim forms			20.1%	81
I am comfortable accessing my claim forms, enrolment forms, and general Plan information online and by telephone			79.9%	322
	<i>answered question</i>			403
	<i>skipped question</i>			74

16. Do you have any additional comments?

		Response Count
		120
	<i>answered question</i>	120
	<i>skipped question</i>	357

Comments

I think this is a good idea. I attended U of C where something similar was in place and although I opted out because I was covered by my parents I know many people found it beneficial. I do believe it was way cheaper at U of C, though.

Its about time. I just moved from BC. I have no health or dental

Great initiative, good luck with getting it implemented! I will look forward to seeing this next school year, or sooner. :)

175 is to much!!!

Please instate such a plan. It is a long time coming and UofA has lagged behind other institutions in this area.

no more mandatory fees!

this is a great idea

This is a great idea. My parents plan will cease to cover me next year, and I will be in the market for something like this.

I think it is a great idea for those who need it however I think that the people who do not require it should be able to EASILY opt out of it.

Given that these faculties are already charged a differential fee, I'm surprised that this type of plan is not already included in our tuition. Frankly I am appalled at the lack of benefits that are provided for the high amount of tuition we already pay.

I don't want to pay for other students' visits to the dentist. Bad idea.

I've always been shocked that UofA doesn't have a medical plan for its undergraduate students. This has long been necessary.

The student body needs at least some form of Health Insurance!!

Make it happen! My teeth hurt!

I have a wife and a dependent child, so something with dental coverage for them would also be very nice, we can't really afford at this point in time to do much dental work for them, unfortunately.

I would support the plan if you could opt out no matter what, but not if you must be covered in order to opt out. There is no business in imposing a further fee on someone.

Why exclude the other faculties? Do they not matter?

Interesting idea.

Good idea. Much needed for the older professional students.

If it's administratively possible, please start by January.

Access to such paramedical resources like physio, massage, acupuncture, naturopathic is very important to me as I am a student with a disability. I would not be willing to pay for medical benefits without this kind of coverage (prescriptions is also important to me). I also hope that if this is instituted we would have a choice (can opt out) even if we have no other plan, because the medical benefits may not be tailored to suit everyone. Thanks I hope these suggestions will be seriously taken into consideration.

It's crazy that we don't already have a health plan!

It is about time someone did something about this...

This is a great idea and in my opinion should be implemented as soon as possible.

Dental is the most important to me, with prescription drug costs being next.

While I support a plan, I have parental coverage and thus would opt out. Therefore I don't know if my answers are truly valid to this survey. When I turn 25 I will need this plan so would like something in place.

Please ensure the plans can be extended to cover spouses and children.

As long as students can opt out, a health and dental plan is an excellent idea. I think prescription drugs and dental costs are what hurt students the most.

This is long overdue. It is too bad it has taken this long for the initiative to be started. Great idea.

I feel that having a professional/grad student health plan is critically important. It should be considered a basic need rather than a privilege, as the majority of students in such programs have been studying for a significant period of time with no health coverage.

It is a sad state when medical students have poor medical and dental coverage. I sit next to dental students that will one day BE dentists / orthodontists and I can't even afford to use their services.

I really think that we really need a dental plan, especially for the older students or students that don't have coverage from family members. The costs of dental work are crippling if you have to pay out of pocket, along with things like asthma medication which can be very expensive.

I fully support this. Prior to med school I took dental care for granted because I was under my parents plan. But now, not having dental care for two years I really miss it. It is kind of ridiculous that the U of A is one of the only schools that doesn't have medical coverage for students. Thanks for moving forward on this.

please set up the plan asap.

I do not think that all "paramedical" services are equally important to cover: whereas physiotherapy is important, chiropractors and naturopaths are not important to me at all. If the plan is to be administered online, the website must be easy to use and understand.

I would only be interested in a family plan that would cover my wife and children as well.

I am presently covered by a plan (but vwill not be after next week) administered by Sunlife and it is great.

Don't waste money on non-legit "medical" treatments like acupuncture, naturopaths, homeopaths...

It would be important to know if spouses and children would be able to be covered.

no

Can this even be enforced?

Please, please set up this health and dental plan. Also, for the dependants section, you could only click one bubble, but I have a wife and a child.

I don't want this

I don't want it

I came from the University of Victoria where the student union had a dental/medical plan in place. I was disappointed to find that we are not offered a plan here. From my experiences at UVIC, the med/dental plan is well worth the cost.

This is a great idea. I was suprised to learn that I had to pay out of pocket upwards of \$150 for my latest dental services, even though I am covered under my father's insurance plan. I would fully support a plan that supported students in these faculties.

I think the plan is a great idea for those that do not have coverage; however, I am currently covered under my parents health plan. So, it is very important for me to be able to opt out. I am in support of the plan for others who do not have coverage but it should definitely not be mandatory for ALL (like our current bus pass situation).

Yeah!!!! Thanks for finally doing this!

Just wondering If someone has Alberta bluecross Individual coverage how this helps - cancel bluecross or works together?

Please allow an opt out option for those of us who already have extended health care.

What about discounted rates in opting for services by dental/medical students?

Many students are covered by their parents until they are 25. If this plan gets voted down, would there be a way to offer a plan to students over 25?

I have come across this same program at NAIT a few years ago when I was a student there. I didn't like having to pay the mandatory fee, but I had no choice as it was in place before I got to NAIT. Then I discovered that they covered dental and I thought it would be nice to get a checkup with my dentist - only there was a catch. They would pay for a checkup, but only if I went to see "THEIR" dentists - a total of three from which I had to choose. I have been with MY dentist since I was four years old (over twenty years) and I'm told I HAVE to go so THEIR dentist. Absolutely ridiculous!!

i think it would be excellent if this plan could be started...the sooner the better, imho! Thanks for undertaking this survey :-)

My wife and I would very much benefit from such a plan. If the plan is comprehensive and student-friendly, it will save us from having to pay out-of-pocket for medical/dental/vision care, and it will save us from potentially paying more for less coverage from Blue Cross, etc. My wife hasn't seen a dentist in a few years, so I am anxious to see this get off the ground. Thanks for this opportunity to voice our concern!

U of T has it and it works well. I think U of A students will benefit.

I have a wife and two kids. We are both students. Please do not try and implement any health plan. These things are often abused by students with parental or spousal coverage. Just let us spend our money in the priorities we as individuals see fit.

I think a health plan would be great for these faculties, especially since once we're older, we don't really have any coverage under our parent's plans anymore.

I actually have a question (or perhaps a common misconception. By having this health and dental plan, does it mean that I no longer need to pay for ANY other health care plans if I don't need them? (ie. Would this be sufficient to replace my Alberta Health Care?) Also, I am strongly supportive of this plan. We should have had this in place a long time ago.

A great idea. How many of us haven't seen a doctor since we had to get okayed to do our job?

I don't need this coverage. Opting out of it is absolutely necessary. Otherwise if it's helpful for others, this is a great idea.

I think a Health and Dental plan is a great idea. Many students are in the age range where they are no longer covered by other insurance plans (eg. parent's), but also do not have the time to work and be covered by an employer's insurance plan.

Long overdue... it is almost embarrassing. In fact, all undergraduates at the UofA should be part of this plan (with an opt out option if they have alternate coverage). I pay \$600/year for Alta Blue Cross. I suspect that students over 25 yrs will be more enthusiastic since they are no longer eligible to be under their parents health care plans.

Both my husband and I are students in medicine and dentistry. This would be extremely helpful for us as we are paying a huge fee every month for reasonable Blue Cross coverage.

I have been added to my partner's health/dental plan only in the last couple months. When I started my first year of Law, I did not have any health/medical coverage because I was no longer covered by my parents' plan. The average age of students in my program (LLB) is about 26 years old - too old for parents' plans. Most are full-time students who are not covered under the graduate plan. I ended up finally getting a basic Blue Cross Plan that doesn't cover much but it is all that I can afford. I feel that Law students (and perhaps others) should be considered separately than general other undergrad students. I was very negatively affected by the majority of general undergrad students voting "no" for an optional health plan some years ago!

I think this is a great idea!

I would like to know the cost of such a plan before deciding whether to support it. I would definitely support a plan where students could choose their level of coverage and be assessed the corresponding charge (i.e. health only, dental only, both, neither, various coverage percentages). I had such a health/dental benefit plan at a previous employer and the flexibility was great.

This is a great idea. The U of A is decades behind other Universities in this regard and that is just unacceptable. This needs to be implemented ASAP. It is sad that it has taken this long, but it is great that some action is being taken.

Way to go, it's about time we take care of ourselves!

I do not plan on getting the Plan for myself as I already have private insurance for both health and dental. But for the students out there without plans, this Plan is important to them. Just ensure that you leave an opt-out option for all students.

I think this is a great idea.

I would like to see this replace the health plan with the University Health Centre.

Please institute this as soon as you can. I already pay ~\$300 per month to service my debts - so a health plan for \$200 would be a big money saver. I haven't gone to the dentist in four years because I can't afford it right now. Thank-you for your help.

More important - get all students covered for disability insurance BEFORE they get sick!

Although I am currently covered under my parents, this coverage only lasts until I am 25. I would guess several students in professional programs will have a similar situation.

Let's finally get this done!

The opt out feature is key. I currently have a comprehensive medical and dental plan by virtue of my husband's employer, so I would want it to be easy to opt out of the plan. Better yet, I would prefer that the policy was an opt-in sort by default, rather than the opposite, as it is an expensive cost to have to possibly pay up front and be reimbursed with effort at a later time.

I would be very unhappy to be obliged to pay more fees for my degree. Down with this idea.

diabetic supplies are very expensive and my other plan doesn't cover all of what i need, so i would like to get help through something like this.

This would be great for us.

The price of the plan will obviously effect my preference. If it was the right price I could be interested.

I am currently covered by a health care plan but i think one that covers student's that dont is a great idea.

A lot of this questionnaire is irrelevant if I plan to opt out anyway. I don't care what the plan includes, nor does it matter what I would pay, if I already have coverage elsewhere. There should be a way to bypass that portion of this questionnaire. Also, the question rating how important certain services are - I can't remember the exact phrasing of the question, but what's the difference between Unimportant and Ve

On a previous question about seeing the dentist. The options were more than 4 years, more than 3, more than 2, more than 1 and then less than 6 months. What was missing was a period of more than 6 months but less than a year.

My concern would be with the reputation of the provider. I've heard some bad things about some student health care insurance providers.

I only have coverage now because my wife is a grad student. I think this is a great idea.

I am in the process of getting private coverage so a comprehensive plan through the U of A would be great!

Will we be able to gloat at all other student's lack of coverage by getting buttons that read: "I am covered!!"?

It's about time U of A had a health and dental plan for its students. It's expensive enough being in school without having to pay excessive health costs.

vision care is extremely important to me -- contact lenses and glasses coverage is a big point.

I don't think it is necessary for students to be forced to pay money into an extended health and dental plan. We already pay to health services to the University, and we get significantly reduced prescription fee's. Many of us are covered until we reach the age of 25. After which time, we do not have a significant amount of time until we will be covered again when we obtain an article. I do not see being forced to pay in excess of \$100 a year + the percentage of whatever services we use. I would not make use of the service enough to justify the cost. As well, I am from out of province and do not even have a dentist or doctor within Alberta. While I recognize that some people would use it extensively I do not feel that those individuals who would not use the service should have to subsidize the use of the others.

- Prescription coverage would be a waste as it's already subsidized at the pharmacy on campus. - Eye/Dental coverage would be great as it's very expensive and often neglected by students

It only seems fair that a professional faculty should have access to an extended health plan. After all, most of us have put-in just as much time in university as Master's degree graduate students.

Absolutely need opt out

I am extremely interested in this health plan. Since I am not covered by parents/spouse, the only other option I have for a health plan is Blue Cross for \$600 per year.

Other university students have access to health plans, with the availability of opting-out if you have other coverage...I think we need this very badly!

i think having a plan for law students is an excellent idea

I would support an extended health plan for students but it should not be compulsory, just as it is not compulsory at your employer. We're already being assessed enough fees for things we don't use already.

This is a great, long-overdue idea. I, and many other students, have talked about how great this would be already.

Fantastic idea, and long overdue.

It is about time something like this was implemented for us!!

Students who are not covered under plans often do not seek dental care. Often prescriptions go unfilled due to increasingly tight student budgets. In law we are concerned about image and therefore a health and dental plan should be a no-brainer. This is a good move toward overall student health!

Question 6 is flawed. Cannot select cohabitating AND have dependant children. Question 8 does not have a an option for more than 6 months, less than 12.

I am strongly in support of a health and dental plan. It seems bizarre and a little outrageous that undergrads at the U of A are denied one at this point, when I had understood it to be a basic need of university students across the country. I am absolutely in favour. Thank you!

I'm glad to see that steps are being taken that recognize that "aftergrad" law & med degrees are, in non-academic terms, graduate degrees. The lack of access to GSA resources is one that is easily ameliorated and sharing the Health and Dental Plan is an excellent first step. Bravo!

I really support this and hope that it is implemented as soon as possible. There are a lot of families in law school and it is unfortunate that the university does not have a health plan for us.

I think law school is way too expensive and do not need extra fees. I already have a hard time paying my fees and do not need to pay for a health plan that offers no benefit to me. For those that are in a big need for a health plan they can get it privately and I should not have to subsidize it for them when I have no money

I have both a spouse and dependent children (but was only able to check spouse) so maybe fix that in your survey. Good idea for a health plan, only wish it had been done sooner.

The limit on which dentists etc have opted in and whether one's own has are the reason I'm against a plan. I was a member of the GSA, and was VERY unhappy with the quality of care and advice I received. As the result, I had to pay the mandatory fees (because I had no alternative coverage and couldn't opt out) and yet still went to my own dentist for care I could rely on. I'm not interested in having to once again essentially have to pay twice for dental care I receive from my own dentist.

I said that I was covered by extended health but this is because I have purchased extended health and dental for myself. I had a medical and dental plan at my previous university and was shocked that UofA did not have such a plan in place. This is greatly needed as a safety net for people with very little expendable income.



ihaveaplan.ca

studentcare.net/works

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This document is intended to serve as an outline of the fiscal priorities of the Students' Union.

1. General

The four key focuses of the Students' Union are

- Undergraduate Student Representation (Advocacy)
- Providing Student Services
- Operating the Students' Union Building
- Operating businesses for the purpose of funding Students' Union activities

Total operating expenditures will not exceed the amount of total operating and fee revenues.

Students' Union 3/6/08 10:26 AM

Deleted: and capital

All departments must work within the mandate of the Students' Union.

External entities such as dedicated fee units shall be managed as per existing Students' Union bylaw and any applicable contracts.

Capital expenditures shall be incurred based upon the following criteria:

- Replacement due to wear and tear
- To ensure continued operations of a particular unit
- To enhance the security or functionality of a particular unit
- To strengthen the viability of a particular unit

In the event that one section of this document conflicts with any other section, BFC shall identify such a conflict and propose any necessary changes in the presentation of the final budget.

Unless otherwise noted:

- Operating and fixed costs increase at a rate, relative to the previous fiscal year, commensurate with inflation.
- Activity of the Students' Union will continue in a manner consistent with the precedent set in previous fiscal years.

2. Staff

Students' Union 3/6/08 10:25 AM

Deleted: The SU shall not budget for a deficit .

Staff costs shall increase 5% as specified in the CUPE collective agreement. Managerial staff are entitled to a merit increase of *up to* 4%. Unionized staff are eligible for a merit increase of up to 4%.

3. Fees

Operating, dedicated and capital fees shall increase in accordance with Students' Union Bylaw 3000. The consumer price index will be calculated as 4.1%. Tuition increases will be calculated as 4.6%.

Operating and capital fees shall account for between 15%-25% of overall revenues.

4. Advocacy and Representation

The Advocacy and Representation units of the Students' Union are:

- The Executive Committee and each individual executive member
- Students' Council
- Advocacy department
- Elections
- Awards night

To support increased advocacy initiatives at the federal level

Councilors shall not be remunerated

5. Services

The service units of the Students' Union are:

- Info Link
- Orientation and Transition Programs
- Ombudservice
- Student Financial Aid and Information Center
- Student Group Services
- Safewalk
- Student Distress Center
- Handbook
- ECOS

Additional incentives shall be given to SU volunteers

6. Business

The business units of the Students' Union are:

- SUBmart
- SUBtitles
- Print Center
- Cue
- Cramdunk
- Postal Outlet

- Room at the Top
- Dewey's
- L'Express and L'Express Catering
- Juicy
- SUB Rental Operations

All reasonable attempts to maximize the profitability of these business units, consistent with the mandate of the Students' Union as a service provider, shall be made.

There will be an average margin increase to non-academic materials of no more than 10%.

The Students' Union businesses shall not run a deficit

7. Entertainment and Programming

The Entertainment and Programming units of the Students' Union are:

- Week of Welcome
- Myer Horowitz Theatre
- Dinwoodie Lounge
- Antifreeze
- High School Leadership Conference
- SU Kid's Christmas Party
- SUB Programming
- Other Entertainment and Programming

For the purpose of the budget principles discussion, programming that takes place in an SU venue that is not specifically mentioned in the above list shall be considered as separate from the entertainment and programming units.

Where possible, all entertainment and programming units should plan to recoup all costs. Either admission sales or sponsorship are acceptable sources of revenue. Exceptions shall be made clear in the presentation of the final budget.

8. Administration, Operations and Support

The administrative, operational and support units of the Students' Union are:

- Marketing
- Sponsorship
- Facilities
- Administration

Any expenditure relating to marketing will be outlined in each individual unit's marketing plan, to be submitted to the executive committee or designate for approval .

Increase visibility of Students' Union businesses and services on the lower level

9. Changes from 07/08 Budget Principals

The Consumer Price Index shall be calculated as 4.1% and Tuition increases will be calculated as 4.6% when calculating increase in Operating, Dedicated and Capital Fees.

Staff costs shall increase 5% as specified in the CUPE collective agreement

Councilors shall not be remunerated

▼ The Students' Union businesses shall not run a deficit

Additional incentives shall be given to Students' Union Volunteers

Increase visibility of SU-run businesses and services on the lower level

To support increased advocacy initiatives at the federal level

Students' Union 3/6/08 10:26 AM

Deleted: The Students' Union shall not budget for a deficit .

Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative
Report to Student Council
February 12, 2008

Fellow Councilors,

I attended the Board of Governors meeting held on Jan 25, 2008. This was a relatively public meeting of the Board, where the proposals for the tuition fee increases and residence rate increases are voted upon.

The general tuition fee proposal for 2008-2009 of 4.6% passed, as did the program/course differential fee proposal of 4.6%. The residence rate proposal, 4.7% to offset CPI and 4.05% for maintenance of facilities, was more contentious. The motion ended up being divided into two separate motions which were both passed. As expected, I and the other student representatives spoke and voted against these motions.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 28, 2008, where the Board will vote on the University's budget proposal.

On Feb. 6, 2008 I had a private meeting with the Provost's staff as a follow up to my meeting with the Provost on Dec. 6, 2008.

Throughout my term as the undergraduate Board representative, it has been made evident to me that student issues and concerns suffer from having student representatives who serve only one year terms on the Board. This is in contrast to public members who serve three year terms, and are routinely reappointed for more than one term. Other non-public members, generally also serve longer than one year. Although, this should have been obvious to anybody who witnessed the discussion at the Jan 25th meeting, it was further confirmed by other Governors who told me as much immediately following the meeting. This should give Students' Council pause to reflect how the two undergraduate nominees to the Board are chosen, and at the very least, give students pause when voting for their representatives.

As always, I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Paul Chiswell
Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative

Chris Lê, Vice President (Student Life)

Council Report 20

11 March 2008

- ❑ **SU Elections:** Congratulations to all the winning candidates! I'm excited by the ideas put forward, and I believe that the SU will move in a positive direction.
- ❑ **Media Interviews:** With President Janz out of the office, I responded to the media about the provincial elections. I spoke with the Edmonton Journal, City TV, and Shaw TV about the importance of post-secondary education as an issue; the major political parties developed platforms about PSE, which was very encouraging.
- ❑ **SU Food Survey:** The SU developed this survey for several reasons. It's important to the VPSL portfolio because the student feedback will be relevant to the Food Services Advisory Group. Do the survey! Tell your friends to do the survey!
- ❑ **U-Pass Administration Meeting:** U-Pass distribution is going well. The biggest complaint has come from student who didn't realize that they needed to pick up a new U-Pass sticker for the Winter Term. Also, the U-Pass fee is increasing by CPI – which the transit authorities calculated to be 5.0% – so the new cost will be \$78.75. The provision for this change is outlined in the U-Pass contract.
- ❑ **Meeting with Kristin Foster, studentcare.net/works:** I met with Kristin to discuss her company's recent work with the Medical Students' Association, the Denstry Students' Association, and the Law Students' Association. She wanted to check with the SU to see if there were any concerns about her company working with those faculty associations to implement a health and dental plan. The survey data was very convincing that students from those faculties were in favour of having a plan, and I believe that the SU should serve students in ways that meet student needs.
- ❑ **University Policy Committee:** In response to the proposal brought forward by Councillor Stedman, I brought up the issue of a health and dental plan. If Council considers allow certain faculties to pursue a health and dental plan, then Council should be proactive and consider it for all undergraduates, as well. UPC directed me to investigate the failure of the SU's last attempt in 2004-2005.
- ❑ **Athletic and Recreation Fee Advisory Committee Proposal:** I met with Leah Hall Dorothy about setting up an advisory group about the Athletic and Recreation Fee. We hope that this committee will help build a relationship between Athletics and the SU and will provide a venue for students to give their input regarding mandatory non-instructional fees.

- ❑ **Orientation to the University:** I was invited to speak to new UofA faculty and staff about the SU. Since I had a captive audience, I also took the opportunity to encourage them to explore options for affordable academic materials (i.e. textbooks).
- ❑ **Ombudservice Review:** The University and SU sides of the Ombudservice conducted interviews with stakeholders to gather feedback about the service. In general, the service is working well and small tweaks will improve it. One noteworthy change is the shift of the SU Ombudsperson's starting date from May to September to facilitate training.
- ❑ **Student Group Awards:** I participated in the selection committee for the Student Group Awards. We were excited by the work that student groups did this year. The winners are [these groups].
- ❑ **Recreation Action Committee:** The group decided to bring up the quality of the workout facilities as an issue during the SU elections. They want to increase awareness about a need for upgrading the facilities.
- ❑ **Student Life Services Advisory Committee Surveys:** SLSAC set up a booth with the Safewalk and Student Distress Centre questionnaires that we worked on this year. To help garner attention, we brought up the Plinko board for fun. I was encouraged by students' willingness to give feedback to the Students' Union. We also did another run in the Education Building, so we have plenty of surveys from which to measure students' attitudes to our SU services.
- ❑ **Campus Food Bank:** The Campus Food Bank's Treasurer presented CFB's balance sheet and income statement. A commendable change is the allocation of the current year's fundraising money into the next year's budget. This move will bring stability to the CFB budget, which until now counted on donations for a large part of its income.
- ❑ **New "MUGs Coordinator":** Samantha Balzer has been hired as the new "MUGs Coordinator." She has a great attitude and is committed to helping students integrate smoothly into campus. Her title is in quotation marks because the MUGs program is changing, and there will be a new name for the program.
- ❑ **Speed Buddies – Valentine's Day Edition:** This event happened in the Powerplant, and the people who attended had a lot of fun. We had plenty of prizes and chocolate to give out.

STUDENTS' COUNCIL VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, March 4, 2008
Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (SC 2007-22)

2007-22/1 **SPEAKER'S BUSINESS**

2007-22/1a Meeting called to order at 6:12 pm

SPEAKER MOVED THAT Standing Orders be suspended so that the councillors participating in the DIE Board Hearing at 7:00 pm will be granted a leave.

No objections

2007-22/6a **GAMBLE/ESPOSITO MOVED THAT** Students' Council approve the 08/09 Budget Principles

Speaker's list: Gamble

ERUVBETINE/PROKOPIUK MOVED THAT "Councillors shall not be remunerated" be struck from the Budget Principles

Speaker's list: Eruvbetine

FUNG MOVED THAT Students' Council move into informal consideration

Motion: CARRIED

Speaker's list: Melenchuck, Esposito, Sumar, Prokopiuk, Stitt, Cloutier, Gamble, Jackson, Sumar, Parker, Geller, Murphy, Eruvbetine

PARKER MOVED THE previous question

Motion: FAILED

Speaker's list: Gauthier, Casey, Bansal, Scott, Le, McKinney

PARKER MOVED THE previous question

COUNCILLOR MOVED THE call for division

Motion: CARRIED

Amendment: FAILED 11/0/22

GAMBLE MOVED THAT Students' Council move out of informal consideration

Motion: CARRIED

2007-22/6a(i) Budget Principles Amendment #1 tabled from SC 2007-21(February 12, 2008)

GAMBLE/ESPOSITO MOVED TO amend the amendment as tabled so that it reads:

GAMBLE/ESPOSITO MOVED TO amend the motion by striking "The SU shall not budget for a deficit" in Point 1; and striking "The Students' Union shall not budget for a deficit" in Point 9; and striking the words "and capital" from the sentence "Total operating and capital expenditures will not exceed the amount of total operating and fee revenues" in Point 1

Speaker's list: Gamble

GAMBLE/BANSAL MOVED IN-CAMERA

Motion: CARRIED

MELENCHUCK/VANDERSLUIS MOVED EX-CAMERA

Motion: CARRIED

Amendment to amendment: CARRIED (Friendly)

Amendment: CARRIED (Friendly)

LE/ ERUVBETINE MOVED TO suspend Standing Orders requiring that a recess be taken at this time

Motion: CARRIED

ERUVBETINE/GAUTHIER MOVED THAT the Budget Principles be amended to insert the sentence "Food shall be provided at all meetings of Students' Council."

Objections to adopting it a friendly

Speaker's list: Eruvbetine, Gamble, McKinney, Shannon

COUNCILLOR MOVED THE previous question

Amendment: FAILED

Speaker's list: Gamble

GAMBLE/WISHEU MOVED TO postpone Budget Principles until the March 11, 2008 meeting

Speaker's list: Gauthier, McKinney, Gamble

Motion: CARRIED

PROKOPIUK/BANSAL MOVED TO adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm

Councillor Remuneration 2007-2008		Attendance							
Council Seats	Name	Proxies	Attendance						
			8-Jan-2008	22-Jan-2008	5-Feb-2008	12-Feb-2008	4-Mar-2008	25-Mar-2008	1-Apr-2008
Ex-officio Members									
President	Michael Janz		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	LOA	
VP Academic	Bobby Samuel		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	LOA	
VP External	Steven Dollansky		Y	Y	Y	Y	0.5	LOA	
VP Operations & Finance	Eamonn Gamble		0.5	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
VP Student Life	Chris Le		0.5	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Undergraduate Board of Governors Rep	Paul Chiswell		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Faculty Representation									
Argic/Forest/HomeEc	Fawn Jackson		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	0.5	
Argic/Forest/HomeEc	Jacqueline Geller		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Arts	Al-Amyr Sumar		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Arts	Basil Bansal		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Arts	Beverly Eastham		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	LOA	
Arts	Caitlin Schulz		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Arts	Jo Chan		N	Y	Y	Y(p)	Y	Y	
Arts	Leslie Stitt		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Arts	Naveed Bandali		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Arts	Patrick Wisheu		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Augustana (Faculty)	Makrina Scott		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Business	Andrew Esposito		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Business	Scott Nicol		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Education	Hayley Shannon		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Education	Keith Vandersluis		Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	
Education	Rachel Dunn		Y	Y	Y(p)	Y	Y	Y	
Engineering	Abdul Doctor		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y(p)	
Engineering	Mark Hlady		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y(p)	
Engineering	Nigel Parker		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y(p)	Y	
Engineering	Prem Eruvbetine		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Engineering	Scott McKinney		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Law	Ian Stedman		N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Medicine & Dentistry	Bayan Hussein		Y(p)	Y(p)	Y(p)	Y(p)	Y	N	
Native Studies	Stacey Lambert		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	
Nursing	Natalie Cloutier		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Open Studies	Mark Prokopiuk		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Pharmacy	Jay Gauthier		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Saint-Jean (Faculty)	Aden Murphy		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Science	Douglas Owoo		Y	Y	Y	Y	0.5	Y	
Science	John Braga		Y	Y	Y(p)	Y	LOA	Y	
Science	Jordan Zhang		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Science	Kyle Friedt		N	Y(p)	Y(p)	Y(p)	Y(p)	Y(p)	
Science	Lindsey Campbell		Y(p)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Science	Mark Hnatiuk		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Science	Bridget Casey				Y	Y	Y	Y	
Science	Tanner Doerges		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Science	Terence Fung		Y(p)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Ex-Officio Members (2 non-vot seats)									
Speaker	Amanda Henry		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
General Manager	Bill Smith		N	N	N	Y	N		
Resigned:									
Fatima Ahmed- Education- May 3,'07									
David Cournoyer-CAC member-May 29'07									
Jesse Hahn- Arts-May 29'07									
Aidan Wawchuk-Science, BFC member-June 12 '07									
David Cournoyer- Arts-Aug 9'07									
Adil Afzal- Science- Aug 14'07									
Lindsey Campbell-Audit Comm. Oct 16,'07									
Michael Janz- BFC, Oct. 16,'07									
Leslie Stitt- Bylaw Comm. Oct. 30,'07									
Ryan Payne-Business-Jan. 9, '08 ; Grant Allocation Comm. & Audit Comm. Dec.4 '07 - Effective Jan.15, '08									
Kyle Friedt- Budget and Finance Comm- Jan. 22 '08									
Shame Farhat- Science- Feb. 5, '08									
Kyle Friedt- External Policy Comm. - Feb. 5, '08									
Jo Chan- FACRA- Feb. 5, '08									
Caitlin Schulz- Audit Comm.- Feb 5, '08									

LOA= Leave of Absence