University of Alberta Students' Union

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Tuesday October 26, 2010 Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

ORDER PAPER (SC 2010-14)

- 2010-14/1 SPEAKER'S BUSINESS
- 2010-14/1a Announcements The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on Tuesday, November 2, 2010
- 2010-14/2 PRESENTATIONS
- **2010-14/2a** Student Governance Advisor Presentation- presented by Amanda Henry & Chris Henderson, sponsored by President Dehod.

Please see document SC 10-14.01

- **2010-14/2b** Bee Clean Presentation- Presented by Tarik Accord & Merryn Edwards, Justice for Janitors. Sponsored by Councillor Rao.
- **2010-14-2C** Residence Community Standards- Presented by Rory Tighe, VP student Life. Sponsored by Rory Tighe, VP Student Life.

Residence Services is in the process of passing a new policy through governance regarding the Residence Community Standards. This is a policy that governs the rules, and administration of student conduct in residences (subject to the Code of Student Behaviour). The policy change would switch the old disciplinary system into a restorative justice system, which will substantially change how this policy works and is enforced. This presentation will explain the changes and process.

- 2010-14/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
- 2010-14/4 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS
- 2010-14/5 QUESTION PERIOD
- 2010-14/6 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS
- **2010-14/6a GORDON/ROSS MOVES THAT** Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Grant Allocation Committee, approve Bill #20 in first reading based on the following principles:
 - 1) That the current Awards Committee be dissolved.

2) That all mandates and responsibilities of the current Awards Committee be transferred to the Grant Allocation Committee.

3) That the Grant Allocation Committee may delegate this authority as it deems necessary.

2010-14/6b MURPHY/COX MOVE THAT upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, Students' Council approve Bill #14 that Students' Council adopt the Political Policy Affordable Housing in second reading.

Principles:

1. that the University of Alberta Students' Union advocates that the Government of Alberta and the City of Edmonton remove the burden of municipal property taxes from residences.

2. that the University of Alberta Students' Union advocates that the Government of Alberta provide a large-scale, one-time infusion of capital funds to address deferred maintenance in existing residential facilities.

3. that the University of Alberta Students' Union advocates that the Government of Alberta provide capital funds towards the development of additional student housing.

5. that this policy expire on April 30, 2012.

Please see document SC 10-14.02

2010-14/6C EASTHAM/FENTIMAN MOVE THAT upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, Students' Council approve Bill # 19 that Students' Council adopt the Political Policy Research in second reading.

Principles:

1. that the Students' Union shall endeavor to ensure that the University views research and teaching as equally important constituent parts of the University;

2. that the Students' Union shall endeavor, through all possible avenues, to ensure that research at the University of Alberta is appropriately contextualized within the larger framework of the institution's structure;

3. that the Students' Union advocate for more opportunities that allow undergraduate students to partake in research.
4. that this policy expire on April 30th, 2014

Please see document SC 10-14.03

2010-14/6d TIGHE/EASTHAM MOVE THAT upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, Students' Council approve Bill #21 that Students' Council adopt the Political Policy Sustainability in first reading based on the following principles:

> 1. that the Students' Union shall encourage the University to develop innovative solutions to environmental issues through the School for Energy and the Environment;

2. that the Students' Union shall advocate to the University for the continued adherence to the highest environmental standards in its operations;

3. that the Students' Union advocate for the inclusion of topics in

sustainability in course curriculum where appropriate; 4. that the Students' Union seek to actively engage the student population in sustainability initiatives and education. 5. that this policy expire on April 30th, 2014.

2010-14/6e EASTHAM/FENTIMAN MOVE THAT upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, Students' Council approve Bill #15, that Students' Council adopt the Political Policy International Students in second reading. Principles:

 that the Students' Union shall support accessible post-secondary education at the University of Alberta for international students.
 that the Students' Union shall advocate to the University to provide support and services to international students in order to provide them with the tools to achieve success in pursuit of a quality undergraduate experience.

3. that this policy expire on April 30th, 2012

Please see document SC 10-14.04

2010-14/7 GENERAL ORDERS

- **2010-14/7a DEHOD MOVES THAT** two (2) students' councilors be appointed to the University of Alberta's Advisory Review Committee for Vice President (Research).
- 2010-14/7b COX/L'ABBÉ MOVE THAT Students' Council censure the Chief Returning Officer for demonstrating a lack of impartiality.

Please see document SC 10-14.05

2010-14/7C COX/TURNER MOVE THAT Students' Council adopt Bill #22 in first reading. Principle:

1. That the Elections Review Committee consist of five (5) members of Students' Council, including up to a maximum of one (1) member from the Executive Committee, and the Chief Returning Officer as a non-voting member.

- 2010-14/8 INFORMATION ITEMS
- 2010-14/8a Zach Fentiman, VP Operations and Finance- Report

Please see document SC 10-14.06

2010-14/8b Policy Committee- Report

Please see document SC 10-14.07

2010-14/8c Votes and Proceedings

Please see document SC 10-14.08

100-word abstract:

The Student Governance Advisor will be presenting on her work in supporting students who participate in governance. She will provide a brief history and overview of the position, and then some further details on 3 key focus areas: the Overview of Students in Governance, Building Relationships with University groups that participate in governance activities, and the Discovering Governance Program.

Presentation Summary

- •What is the Student Governance Advisor?
 - History of the Position
 - •What does the SGA do?
- Overview of Students in Governance
 - Goals of the project
- Building Relationships
 - •With who, and why
- Discovering Governance
 - Goals of the Program (short-term and long-term)
 - Guiding Questions for Program Development
 - Program Development Framework
 - Evaluation Questions

•Future Plans for the Student Governance Advisor and the Discovering Governance Program



THE STUDENTS' UNION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

POLITICAL POLICY STATEMENT

Policy Number :18			Effective Date: October 26, 2010	Page 1 of 2
			Expiration Date: April 30, 2012	
Affordable Housing:			Policy Committee	
Subject Matter	-	Category:	POLITICAL POLICY (GENERAL)	
	-	Specific:	Affordable Housing Policy	
	-	Topic:		

WHEREAS the cost of housing is a significant financial burden for students often comparable to tuition;

WHEREAS the University of Alberta has accumulated large deferred maintenance liabilities on many of its residences;

WHEREAS deferred maintenance negatively affects the quality, affordability and safety of residences;

WHEREAS municipal property taxes on residences, passed on through increases to rent, represent an increased strain on affordability for students;

WHEREAS vacancy rates in the Edmonton area are traditionally low and rental costs relatively high;

WHEREAS a lack of affordable housing discourages both prospective and current students from pursuing post-secondary education;

WHEREAS a lack of affordable housing represents an even greater barrier to traditionally underrepresented groups;

WHEREAS Alberta is the only jurisdiction in Canada to assess property taxes on university residences;

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta has identified increasing access to Post Secondary Education for traditionally underrepresented groups as a priority;

<u>Policy History</u>:

Reference/Vote 9/0/0 5/0/0 **Board/Committee** Policy Committee EPC **Date of Council Approval** October 26, 2010 April 3,2007 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the University of Alberta Students' Union advocates that the Government of Alberta and the City of Edmonton remove the burden of municipal property taxes from residences;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the University of Alberta Students' Union advocates that the Government of Alberta provide a large-scale, one-time infusion of capital funds to address deferred maintenance in existing residential facilities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the University of Alberta Students' Union advocates that the Government of Alberta provide capital funds toward the development of additional student housing.

Policy History: Reference/Vote 9/0/0

5/0/0

Board/Committee Policy Committee EPC **Date of Council Approval** October 26, 2010 April 3,2007

THE STUDENTS' UNION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

POLITICAL POLICY STATEMENT

Policy Number:10		Effective Date: October 26, 2010	Page	1 of	1
		Expiration Date: April 30, 2014			
Responsibility for H	Policy:	University Policy Committee			
Subject Matter	- Category:	POLITICAL POLICY (GENERAL)			
	- Specific:	Research			
	- Topic:	Research			

WHEREAS research and teaching represent the foundation of any comprehensive higher education institution;

WHEREAS research is a valuable aspect of the University;

WHEREAS conducting research is a necessary activity that improves the reputation of the University;

WHEREAS teaching and research have a symbiotic connection within the framework of any comprehensive higher education institution;

WHEREAS university culture lends itself to celebrate the successes of research while overlooking successes in teaching;

WHEREAS indirect costs of research are necessary expenses not covered by research funding and are therefore covered by the University operating budget;

WHEREAS when the indirect cost of research competes with undergraduate education for funding, it encroaches on the quality of education delivered to undergraduates;

WHEREAS undergraduate students should be able to take advantage of the research infrastructure of the University;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall endeavor to ensure that the University views research and teaching as equally important constituent parts of the University;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall endeavor, through all possible avenues, to ensure that research at the University of Alberta is appropriately contextualized within the larger framework of the institution's structure;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union advocates for more opportunities that allow undergraduate students to partake in research.

THE STUDENTS' UNION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

POLITICAL POLICY STATEMENT

Policy Number :20			Effective Date: October 26, 2010	Page 1 of 2
			Expiration Date: April 30, 2012	
Responsibility for Policy:		licy :	External Policy Committee	
Subject Matter	-	Category:	POLITICAL POLICY (GENERAL)	
	-	Specific:	International Students	
	-	Topic:		

WHEREAS international student differential represents a serious threat to affordability and accessibility;

WHEREAS international students should not bear the burden of institutions' financial deficits;

WHEREAS the University of Alberta clearly recognizes the importance of international students;

WHEREAS the government of Alberta no longer requires educational institutions to charge international student differential fees;

WHEREAS the *A Learning Alberta* review of Alberta's post-secondary education system recommends Alberta "develop and implement an international education strategy";

WHEREAS international student differential decreases the geographic diversity of our international students;

WHEREAS a diverse student body and institutional internationalization is a fundamental feature of a high-quality university education;

WHEREAS international students act as ambassadors while in Alberta;

WHEREAS international students may work in Canada for up to three years after completion of their program and may also apply for landed immigrant status;

Policy History:Reference/VoteBoardCreated 2006-24EPC4/0/0EPC

Board/Committee EPC Date of Council Approval April 10,2007/ SC 06-25/5e(ii) BE IT RESOLVED THAT the that the Students' Union shall support accessible postsecondary education for international students at the University of Alberta; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall advocate to the University to provide international students with the support and services needed to help them achieve success in the pursuit of a quality undergraduate experience.

<u>Policy History:</u>

Reference/Vote Created 2006-24 4/0/0 **Board/Committee** EPC **Date of Council Approval** April 10,2007/ SC 06-25/5e(ii)

University of Alberta Students' Union Elections

Report to Council – September 28, 2010



Response to Gateway opinion article by Andrew Jeffrey

As the Chief Returning Officer of the Students' Union, I both agree and disagree with Mr. Jeffrey's article. I am incredibly pleased to see such an advocate of informed voting; however, I do have a problem with the argument. My principle criticism is that Mr. Jeffrey is situating the blame for the lack of candidate information on the Students' Union.

I do see how a common student can construe this as a fault of the elections office, yet the truth is that this responsibility falls on the candidate to provide suitable information.

Bylaw 2000 (the document pertaining to the governing of Students' Union elections) has provisions to empower students in their campaigning efforts by picking up the bill on expenses such as posters, banners, et cetera. With this in mind, the candidate can waive the right to use these options and choose not to campaign at all. Out of all of the candidates, only two provided the elections office with autobiographical sketches for the SU website. This is no criticism of the candidates, as historically there is little fuss and campaign fervor over by-elections.

Throughout the election days I answered various emails with the same questions asked by Mr. Jeffrey, and I responded to all of them in the same way; if you feel that the lack of information does not instill confidence in your faculties candidate, please exercise your right to vote for none of the above, as it is as valid a choice as any.



October 26, 2010 To: Students' Council Re: Report to Council

Fees etc.

Over the next week I'm involved in at least a couple of meetings regarding fees, in particular Wednesday, October 27, 2010 with an Associate Registrar to talk about fee assessment clarification on Bear Tracks.

Sustainability Audit Meeting

Met with this group on Wednesday, October 20, 2010 to go over revised sections (on the building, food, and paper products) and confirm the formatting for the rest of the document. This went very well—we've hammered out our ideal format and are just working on tightening up the content.

SFAIC Awards Integration Meeting

Had a meeting with the VP Academic, the General Manager, Senior Manager of Student Services, and Manager of SFAIC to discuss integration of the awards program into SFAIC. They're on their way developing a game plan and possibly looking to hire a student to serve as an "Awards Coordinator" role. More information will be provided to the Grant Allocation Committee

Grant Allocation Committee Meeting

The next meeting of the Grant Allocation Committee is on October 28, 2010 at 5:00PM in the Lower Level Meeting Room.

Personal Academic Stuff

I have an ECON 385 midterm on Monday, October 25, 2010 at 1PM (shout out to Petros, who also is in the same class). Also, other projects for another class will take up a bit of time this week.



Previously on the P.C.:

- 1. The P.C. is wondering if it's even worth timing the VP reports any longer. The result is always the same.
- 2. The P.C. prepared second readings of the Research and the International Students policies and a first reading of the Sustainability Policy.
- 3. The P.C. also reviewed its mechanism of executive reports and its formatting of policies.

Next time on the P.C.:

- The P.C. will look at the Sustainability, Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees, and Income Contingent Student Loan Repayment policies
- 2. The P.C. will do a standing order review in regards to discussions on exec reporting and policy formatting.
- 3. Will the new exec reporting formats benefit the VPX in his battle to report as swiftly as the VPSL? Stay tuned!

"Students' Council, here we come!"

University of Alberta Students' Union STUDENTS' COUNCIL VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday October 12, 2010 Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (SC 2010-13)

2010-13/1 SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

Meeting called to order at 6:06pm

- **2010-13/1a** Announcements The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on Tuesday, October 26, 2010
- 2010-13/2 PRESENTATIONS
- **2010-13/2a** Academic Integrity Survey- Presented by Chris Hackett, Discipline Officer. Sponsored by Natalie Cox/Turner.

The Office of Student Judicial Affairs is attempting to get a snapshot of current understandings and practices related to academic integrity in our courses by surveying students, instructors, and teaching assistants. The survey data will help to inform the analysis and recommendations of the University of Alberta Academic Integrity Task Force which will be preparing a report suggesting changes to policies and practices at the University in order to promote academic integrity. The online survey will be run from 18 October to 15 November 2010 and we are hoping to get help from the Student Union in encouraging students to participate so that they

can be heard on this vital issue.

2010-13/2b Assessment and grading- Presented by Dr Bob Luth. Sponsored by James Eastham, VP Academic

Dr. Luth holds a Provostial fellowship and is looking into assessment and grading practices across campus. He will present the findings of his report as well as discuss the creation of new policy surrounding grading practices.

- **2010-13/2C** Sustainability Awareness Week Presentation- Presented by Christel Hyshka, Sponsored by Nick Dehod, President/Kaai.
- 2010-13/2d Council of Alberta University Students-Presented by Duncan Wojtaszek and Hardave Birk, sponsored by Vice-President Murphy/Kaai
- **2010-13/2e** Partners Presentation-presented by Duncan Wojtaszek and Hardave Birk, sponsored by Vice-President Murphy/Turner

2010-13/7 GENERAL ORDERS

2010-13/7a WOODS/FERGUSON MOVES TO appoint one (1) member of Students Council to the Bylaw Committee.

Nominations: Hansra

Nominations Closed

Appointed: Hansra

Automatic Recess at 8:25

Meeting called back to order at 8:35pm

2010-13/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Aden Murphy, VP External- Oral Report

Nick Dehod, President- Oral Report

2010-13/4 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Zach Fentiman, VP Operations and Finance- BFC Oral Report

Craig Turner, CAC Chair- Oral Report

Jazz Singh, CRO- Oral Report

Zach Fentiman, GAC Chair- Oral Report

2010-13/5 QUESTION PERIOD

2010-13/6 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2010-13/6a EASTHAM/HUYNH MOVE THAT upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, Students' Council approve Bill #19 that Students' Council adopt the Political Policy Research in first reading based on the following principles:

1. that the Students' Union shall endeavor to ensure that the University views research and teaching as equally important constituent parts of the University;

2. that the Students' Union shall endeavor, through all possible avenues, to ensure that research at the University of Alberta is appropriately contextualized within the larger framework of the institution's structure;

3. that the Students' Union advocate for more opportunities that allow undergraduate students to partake in research.

4. that this policy expire on April 30th, 2014.

Speakers List: Eastham, Ross

Motion: CARRIED

2010-13/6b EASTHAM/RAO MOVE THAT upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, Students' Council approve Bill #18 that Students' Council adopt the Political Policy Quality of Instruction in second reading.

Principles:

1. that the University of Alberta Students' Union actively supports and facilitates programs that seek to improve pedagogical technique for instructors and instructional quality for undergraduates.

2.that the University of Alberta Students' Union fosters conditions that promote the importance of teaching at an institutional level.

3.that the University of Alberta Students' Union encourages the development of an effective student teaching evaluation mechanism.

4.that this policy expire on April 30th, 2012.

Speakers List: Eastham, Cox

Motion: CARRIED

2010-13/7b TURNER/COX MOVES THAT Students' Council, on the recommendation of the DIE Board Tribune Selection Panel, appoint Audrey Jun, Kathleen Elhatton-Lake and Mary McPhail to the position of DIE Board Tribune.

Speakers List: Turner, Ross

Motion: CARRIED

ROSS/FENTIMAN MOVED TO adjourn

Motion: CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm