

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 6:00PM 3-04 Pavilion Lacerte, Campus St. Jean

We would like to respectfully acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Métis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux territory; specifically the ancestral space of the Papaschase Cree. These Nations are our family, friends, faculty, staff, students, and peers. As members of the University of Alberta Students' Union we honour the nation-to-nation treaty relationship. We aspire for our learning, research, teaching, and governance to acknowledge and work towards the decolonization of Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:00PM.

ORDER PAPER (SC-2019-15)

2019-15/1 SPEAKERS BUSINESS

SPEAKER: Determined not to special order 2019-15/2a from the late additions.

2019-15/1a Announcements - The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on **Tuesday**,

January 14, 2020 at 6:00PM in Council Chambers at University Hall.

2019-15/2 PRESENTATIONS

2019-15/2a **DRAPER/BOSE MOVED** to allow a presentation from The Gateway surrounding their

dedicated fee unit.

Abstract:

The Gateway is the University of Alberta's official student media source. Their Editor-in-Chief, on behalf of the Gateway Student Journalism Society, will present on why *The Gateway* is looking to increase its DFU this year, its plans should a DFU increase go through, and other important context for the DFU question.

Presenter(s):

• Andrew McWhinney, Editor-in-Chief

CARRIED

See SC-2019-15.01.

2019-15/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Jared LARSEN, Vice President (Student Life) - Report.
Joel AGARWAL, Vice President (Academic) - Report.
Adam BROWN, Vice President (External) - Report.
Luke STATT, Vice President (Operations and Finance) - Report
Akanksha BHATNAGAR, President - Report.

2019-15/4 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORT

Audit Committee - Report. Bylaw Committee - Report.

Council Administration Committee - Report.

Executive Committee - Report. Finance Committee - Report. Nominating Committee - Report. Policy Committee - Report. Board of Governors - Report.

2019-15/5 OPEN FORUM

GATEWAY: Inquired, to the Vice President Operations & Finance, into whether the Students' Union publishes a public outline of its investment holdings.

STATT: Responded in the negative.

GATEWAY: Inquired, to the Vice President Operations & Finance, as to why the proposed Sustainability and Capital Fund fee has been lowered from \$27 to \$25 per term.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that the reduction was a response to student consultations.

GATEWAY: Inquired, to the President, as to whether the results of the Sustainability and Capital Fund consultation will be made public.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that survey results are public and available within SC-2019-15-LA-20191203.

GATEWAY: Inquired, to the Vice President External, as to whether he will push the Council of Alberta University Students to take more direct action in advocating government.

BROWN: Responded that the protest which he organised in the last month is an example of direct action. Considered that the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations' upcoming advocacy week in Ottawa will be successful. Determined to shift the direction of advocacy toward the federal government.

GATEWAY: Inquired, to the Vice President External, as to what role he will play in helping students organise for direct action.

BROWN: Responded that he organising the Student Not Silent campaign as well as an informal working group.

GATEWAY: Inquired, to the Vice President Operations & Finance, as to whether he can provide an update on the developments occurring in University policy concerning booking spaces for nonacademic purposes.

STATT: Responded that he has consulted affected students and is advocating the University to review and improve their policy to allow student clubs greater access to University space.

GATEWAY: Inquired, to the Vice President External, as to whether CAUS is planning to take any direct action in relation to the Alberta Spring Budget.

BROWN: Responded that CAUS is actively considering this issue.

AUFSJ: Inquired, to the President, as to what efforts the Students' Union can make to improve the amount of French-language postering at Campus Saint Jean.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that she will follow-up with AUFSJ on this issue next week.

2019-15/6 QUESTION PERIOD

CHEN: Inquired, to the President, as to why executives can join committees without being elected as members.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that executives are appointed to committees as ex-officio members in bylaw.

KONRAD: Inquired, to the Vice President Operations & Finance, as to whether he can provide more information about the tie he is wearing.

STATT: Responded that he is wearing ties in December as part of the Dressember charitable campaign to end human trafficking.

CHEN: Inquired, to the President, as to how executives can better support the committees on which they serve.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that committees should receive greater support from the Office of Discover Governance in their onboarding.

CHEN: Inquired, to the President, as to why there is no transitional document for Nominating Committee.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that the chair, in the last term, did not prepare one.

CHEN: Inquired, to the chair of Bylaw Committee, as to if he can clarify how members of committees are automatically removed from their positions if they fail to meet attendance requirements. Inquired, furthermore, as to why this regulation does not apply to executives.

DRAPER: Responded that councillors are removed from their committee positions after missing three consecutive meetings. Clarified that this regulation does not apply

to executives as their ex-officio positions are connected to the nature of their executive portfolios.

AGARWAL: Inquired, to the Vice President External, as to whether he can provide an update on Campus Saint Jean's funding issues.

BROWN: Responded that Campus Saint Jean was founded on the basis of an agreement between the Francophone community, the University, and the Government of Alberta which set out funding obligations which have not been maintained.

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired, to the President, as to how the Students' Union can ensure that the University Freedom of Speech Policy is not weaponised in a manner that creates unsafe spaces.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that the Students' Union will emphasise the need to treat issues academically.

2019-15/7 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2019-15/7a **TSE/VARGAS ALBA MOVED** to appoint one (1) member of Students' Council to Audit Committee.

TSE nominated BATYCKI: accepted.

CARRIED

2019-15/7b **KIDD/DRAPER MOVED**, on behalf of Bylaw Committee, to approve the First Principles of Bill 7.

See SC-2019-15.02.

KIDD: Outlined that the Bill concerns reducing the number of signatories required for vacancy petitioning to be 1% of a given faculty (capped at 60 individuals).

BHATNAGAR: Considered that the 60 person cap could be adjusted to be softer.

BEASLEY: Suggested that the 60 person cap is important as it ensures that petitioned councillors are representing the views of their faculty.

KIDD: Clarified that the cap is designed to force students to expand outside their friend groups.

VARGAS ALBA: Expressed concern that 1% may be too small a threshold for small faculties.

BOSE: Proposed setting a minimum number of signatures.

KIDD/VARGAS ALBA MOVED to amend First Principles to state that the threshold will be a minimum of 30 signatures and a maximum of 60 signatures instead of the 1% existing standard.

Withdrawn

LARSEN: Proposed implementing an exception for Open Studies Students.

KIDD: Responded that such an exception already exists.

BOSE: Proposed maintaining the 1% threshold which, if below five people, requires vacancy positions to get ten signatories.

KIDD: Determined to edit this threshold in the creation of Second Principles.

KIDD MOVED to delete the First Principles statement that 'Bylaw committee suggests reducing the number of signatures to be 1% of the undergraduate student population of the faculty with the vacancy (Capped at 60 individuals).' CARRIED as friendly.

CARRIED

2019-15/7c **DRAPER/BHATNAGAR MOVED**, on behalf of Bylaw Committee, to approve the Second Principles of Bill 3.

See SC-2019-15.03.

DRAPER: Noted that this Bill, among other changes, allows legitimate candidates to use their preferred names as part of campaigning.

BHATNAGAR MOVED to delete the phrase 'or slate' as part of Bylaw 2200 Section 47(a).

Carried as friendly.

VARGAS ALBA MOVED to amend Bylaw 2200 Section 11(3)c to read 'nomination papers soliciting the given and/or preferred name, contact information, and student identification number of the proposed nominee; and' as well as Bylaw 2300 Section 6(2)b to read 'nomination papers soliciting the given and/or preferred name, contact information, and student identification number of the proposed nominee, the position the nominee wishes to contest, and nominations papers soliciting the names, faculties, years, signatures, and student identification numbers of at least ten (10) and at most twenty (20) members registered in the same faculty as the nominee as nominators;'

Carried as friendly.

CARRIFD

2019-15/7d **DRAPER/BHATNAGAR MOVED** to approve the Sustainability and Capital Fund question.

"The Students' Union Building (SUB) is a key asset for students at the University of Alberta. Beyond being a place on campus to meet with your friends, study, grab lunch, or catch a movie, SUB revenues provide more than \$3 million in funding each year to support student services and initiatives, in addition to creating hundreds of job opportunities on campus.

As a non-academic space on campus, SUB is not eligible for direct government capital grants—yet still requires more than \$25 million to address accumulating deferred maintenance costs. This maintenance needs to be addressed in order to ensure its sustainability and value to students—as both a social space and an important revenue source.

The University of Alberta Students' Union (UASU) proposes to create a permanent Sustainability and Capital Fund to help provide funding that allows for the renovation and improvement of Students' Union-controlled spaces on campus like SUB. The Capital and Sustainability Fund would:

- Provide funding for projects that improve the environmental, economic, and/or social sustainability of Students' Union spaces;
- Provide up to \$10,000 of funding for each approved student sustainability project that will positively impact the campus community.

Students' Council would be responsible for approving all expenditures from the Fund. All Fund projects must demonstrate a clear contribution to environmental, economic, and/or social sustainability.

The Fund would be financed by a fee subject to the following rules:

- The fee will be initially set at \$25/term;
- Students' Council may reduce the fee if financial circumstances allow;
- The fee will be reviewed after five years; and
- The fee will be applied to students enrolled in Fall, Winter, and Intersession (Spring/Summer) terms;
- The fee can only increase according to the Alberta inflation rate;
- Augustana will be exempt from the fee."

BHATNAGAR MOVED to amend the phrase 'SUB revenues provide more than \$3 million in funding each year to support student services and initiatives' to read 'SUB revenues provide more than \$3 million in financial benefits each year to support student services and initiatives, Carried as friendly.

VARGAS ALBA: Expressed concern that the question is unclear as to the amount of the Alberta inflation rate.

BOSE: Expressed concern that the Engineering Students' Society was not consulted in the creation of this question.

BHATNAGAR: Suggested that Bose should have provided Council with ESS' feedback. Noted that faculty associations were consulted as per the Report: Consultation on a Sustainability and Capital Fund. Suggested that the Fund will provide a long-term and preventative solution to the Students' Unions deferred maintenance challenges.

SUNDAY: Inquired into why the Fund limits the funding of student sustainability projects below \$10,000 but does not subject Students' Union projects to a cap.

TSE: Expressed concern that the proposal uses the term 'permanent' when the Fund will be reviewed every five years.

KIDD: Supported the motion. Appreciated that the General Manager consulted councillors thoroughly on the creation of the Fund.

LARSEN: Noted that the fee is supposed to be permanent because the Students' Union will continually upgrade its building.

DUMOUCHEL: Clarified that the Fund can be revised or removed every five years in plebiscite or annually by Council. Clarified that the question cannot specify the amount of the Alberta inflation rate as it varies. Clarified that student sustainability projects are capped at \$10,000 to ensure that the Fund is not dissipated entirely on non-Students' Union projects.

BOSE: Expressed concern that the Fund is an overly expensive and thinly veiled proposal to renovate the Myer Horowitz Theatre which students have twice rejected. Proposed having two funds: one which focuses on sustainability and another which focuses on deferred maintenance.

VARGAS ALBA: Expressed concern that only 15% of the Fund will be used for sustainability projects. Expressed concern that the proposal is greenwashed and dishonest. Proposed that the Students' Union increase the proportion of the Fund used for advancing sustainability.

TSE: Proposed making it clear in the question that students can terminate the fee and the Council will review the fee.

HADDOUCHE/AGARWAL MOVED to extend the meeting by one hour. CARRIED

DUMOUCHEL: Suggested that it is not possible to separate the sustainability from deferred maintenance.

ESMAIL: Inquired into whether students are getting good value for money for this fee.

DUMOUCHEL: Responded that external donors will contribute funds for the renovation of Students' Union spaces if students are charged the fee.

BOSE: Suggested that 52% of the fees collected as part of the Fund will be used for the Horowitz Theatre.

In Favour: Bhatnagar, Agarwal, Brown, Larsen, Ley, Konrad, Vargas Alba, Beasley, Chen, Dixon, Draper, Isaac, Esmail, Kidd, Tse, Batycki, Sunday, Nguyen, Haddouche, Badesha, Dhillon, Sayed.

In Opposition: Bose In Abstention: N/A

DRAPER/VARGAS ALBA MOVED to suspend Standing Orders to discuss 2019-15/7e.

2019-15/7e **DRAPER/VARGAS ALBA MOVED** to approve The Gateway DFU question.

- "The fee will increase from \$3.54/semester to \$5.50/semester per semester per student, to be assessed to students enrolled in the Fall and Winter semesters."
- Students enrolled in Spring/Summer semesters will pay a fee which will increase from \$0.54/semester to \$1.50/semester
- Off-campus students will pay the fee
- Part-time students will pay the full fee
- Students may opt-out of paying the fee.

Do you support these changes to The Gateway's fee?"

BHATNAGAR: Inquired into whether the question is supposed to have a preamble.

DRAPER: Responded that Bylaw Committee was not provided a preamble and not all questions in the past have used them.

CARRIED

Statt abstains.

2019-15/7f **DRAPER/AGARWAL MOVED** to appoint one (1) member of Students' Council to Nominating Committee.

AGARWAL nominated DRAPER: accepted. BROWN nominated HARRIS: accepted. CARRIED

HARRIS is declared appointed to Nominating Committee.

2019-15/7g **KIDD/LARSEN MOVED** to approve the First Principles of the Student Poverty Policy. See SC-2019-15.04.

CARRED

2019-15/7h **KIDD/AGARWAL MOVED** to approve the First Principles of the Academic Quality Policy.

See SC-2019-15.05.

CARRIED

2019-15/7i **BROWN/SAYED MOVED** to approve the First Principles of the Public Transit and Active Transportation Policy.

See SC-2019-15.06.

BROWN: Outlined that this Policy advocates for a year-round, affordable, and high-quality system of active and public transportation.

LEY: Emphasised that the Policy should remain committed to advancing active transportation in biking.

BROWN: Invited Ley to participate in the creation of Second Principles.

CARRIED

DRAPER/BEASLEY MOVED to suspend Standing Orders and extend the meeting to 10:30pm.

CARRIED

2019-15/7j **LARSEN/KIDD MOVED** to approve the Second Principles of Residence Policy. See SC-2019-15.07.

CARRIED

STATT/VARGAS ALBA MOVED to except the Gateway from the petition process for its upcoming plebiscite.

Withdrawn.

LEY: Noted that it is not possible to waive bylaws via a vote of Council.

BHATNAGAR: Proposed reconsidering this motion in January.

KIDD: Expressed concern that passing the motion may violate Students' Union blyaw and endanger the Gateway's plebiscite.

STATT: Noted that there are interpretations of the bylaw that allow Council to waive the requirement to collect signatures in a position as part of a plebiscite. Determined to discuss the motion in January.

2019-15/8 GENERAL ORDERS

2019-15/8a **STATT/AGARWAL MOVES** to ratify the proposed changes to the Collective Agreement between The University of Alberta Students' Union and CUPE Local 1368. See SC-2019-15.08.

CARRIED

2019-15/8b	BHATNAGAR/STATT MOVED to go in-camera to discuss the University of Alberta budget implications. CARRIED
2019-15/9	<u>INFORMATION ITEMS</u>
2019-15/9a	A Case For Increasing The Gateway's DFU - Presentation.
	See SC-2019-15.01.
2019-15/9b	Bill #7 - First Principles.
	See SC-2019-15.02.
2019-15/9c	Bill #3 - Second Principles.
	See SC-2019-15.03.
2019-15/9d	Student Poverty Policy - First Principles.
	See SC-2019-15.04.
2019-15/9e	Academic Quality Policy - First Principles.
	See SC-2019-15.05.
2019-15/9f	Public Transit and Active Transportation Policy - First Principles.
	See SC-2019-15.06.
2019-15/9g	Residence Policy - Second Principles.
	See SC-2019-15.07.
2019-15/9h	Collective Agreement between The University of Alberta Students' Union and CUPE Local 1368.
	See SC-2019-15.08.
2019-15/9i	President - Report.
	See SC-2019-15.09.
2019-15/9j	Vice-President (Academic) - Report.
	See SC-2019-15.10.
2019-15/9k	Vice-President (External) - Report.

See SC-2019-15.11.

2019-15/9l Vice-President (Operations and Finance) - Report.

See SC-2019-15.12.

2019-15/9m Vice-President (Student Life) - Report.

See SC-2019-15.13.

2019-15/9n Students' Council Attendance.

See SC-2019-15.14.

2019-15/9i Students' Council Motion Tracker.

See SC-2019-15.15.

2019-15/9j Executive Committee Motion Tracker.

See SC-2019-15.16.

2019-15/9k Students' Council, Votes and Proceedings (SC-2019-14) - Tuesday, November 19, 2019.

See SC-2019-15.17.

2019-15/9l Sustainability and Capital Fund Proposal, Version 1.

See SC-2019-15.18.

ADJOURNED AT 10:30PM.