

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Tuesday, January 14, 2020 6:00PM Council Chambers, University Hall

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.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (SC-2019-16)

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SPEAKERS BUSINESS			
SPEAKER: Noted that Mohamad Jamaleddine of the Faculty of Science resigned from Council.			
Announcements - The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at 6:00PM in Council Chambers at University Hall.			
PRESENTATIONS			
AGARWAL/KIDD MOVED to allow the "OASIS: FAMF Proposal Presentation". See SC-2019-16.10. CARRIED			
LARSEN/BROWN MOVED to allow the "Dean of Students: Quality and Satisfaction Presentation" CARRIED			
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT Adam BROWN, Vice President (External) - Report. Joel AGARWAL, Vice President (Academic) - Report. Luke STATT, Vice President (Operations and Finance) - Report Jared LARSEN, Vice President (Student Life) - Report. Akanksha BHATNAGAR, President - Report.			

2019-16/4 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORT

Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation 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.

Student Group Committee - Report.

Sustainability Committee - Report.

2019-16/5 OPEN FORUM

GATEWAY: Inquired, to the President, as to what results students can expect from the StudentsNotSilent advocacy campaign and within what timeline.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that the StudentsNotSilent advocacy campaign will last as long as required to deliver results for students. Considered that future campaign actions may include planning a rally, emphasising that the University Mental Health Grant is set to expire, and restating students' budget impact stories. Noted that the campaign coordinating team will meet weekly and requires training. Invited councillors and students to participate in StudentsNotSilent advocacy.

GATEWAY: Inquired, to the President, as to whether she believes it is too long of a wait to focus StudentsNotSilent advocacy on the next provincial budget when the impacts of the current budget are detrimental to students.

BHATNAGAR: Responded in the negative.

GATEWAY: Inquired, to the Vice President External, as to why the Students' Union is focusing its efforts on mobilising national rather than provincial student representative associations.

BROWN: Responded that, in his position as chair Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, he can help unify federal student groups to pursue advocacy opportunities which are not possible provincially.

2019-16/6 QUESTION PERIOD

BHATNAGAR: Inquired as to the status of the Council Task Force on Structural Representation.

BEASLEY: Responded that the Task Force is in the process of recruiting members.

LARSEN: Inquired, to the chair of Audit Committee, as to whether Audit Committee consulted student representative associations before amending the standard audit schedule.

TSE: Responded in the negative. Clarified that the changes to the audit schedule do not place any additional burden on student representative associations and reduce the total number of audit reviews occurring within a given year.

HADDOUCHE: Inquired, to the Vice President External, as to the status of the Campus Saint Jean Scholarship.

BROWN: Responded that the scholarship may be dissolved given that the federal government has not yet provided funds in accordance with its agreement with the provincial government.

DIXON: Inquired, to the President, as to which Students' Union staff assist in scheduling the initial meeting of a new committee or working group.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that Administrative Services performs this duty.

LARSEN: Inquired, to the chair of Audit Committee, as to whether she believes conducting only one audit report per year will increase the risk that the Committee will fail to identify financial misappropriation and mismanagement if it occurs.

TSE: Determined to discuss this issue further with Vice President Larsen and the Committee. Considered that there could be tri-annual audits but only one fee transfer payment occurring per year.

BOSE: Inquired, to the President, as to what progress she has achieved in advocating the University to grant international students to full-time student status while serving as Students' Union executives.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that the Executive is working with the Office of the Provost. Anticipated that this advocacy objective will be realised by the end of the current Executive's terms.

2019-16/7 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2019-16/7a **KIDD/DRAPER MOVED** to approve Second Principles of Bill 7. See SC-2019-16.01.

KIDD: Outlined that this Bill sets out that that vacancy petitioners must provide signatures amounting to 10% the number of enrolled persons in a given facility to a maximum of sixty persons.

BHATNAGAR: Expressed concern that the Bill fails to clearly differentiate between nominators and signatories. Proposed defining these terms. Expressed concern that the Bill does not exempt the Faculty of Open Studies from the petition requirement. Expressed concern that the Bill is not ready for approval until this issue is resolved.

KIDD: Clarified that the Bill intends to set out that vacancy petitioners must present a total of ten nominator signatures as part of their submission to join Council as well as a maximum of sixty signatory signatures (which serves in place of the standard Council election requirements).

KONRAD: Inquired into what onboarding vacancy-petitioned councillors will receive.

KIDD: Responded that these councillors will meet with Discover Governance and receive a summary of the information provided as part of standard councillor GovCamp onboarding.

DRAPER MOVED to amend Bill 7 Second Principles (Bylaw 100) §20.3 to read 'In order for the petition to be declared valid, the candidate must collect a greater number of signatures from nominators (separate from those outlined in 2(e)) than either 3(a) or 3(b), whichever is lower:'

CARRIED as friendly.

FAILED

2019-16/7b

DRAPER/STATT MOVE to approve the First Reading of Bill 8, on the recommendation of the Bylaw Committee and Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Committee.

See SC-2019-16.02.

DRAPER: Outlined that Bill 8 will create a bylaw mandating Council consult with Aboriginal students and Aboriginal student groups on issues and activities which could have an impact on their related interests.

SUNDAY: Clarified that Bill 8 will not preclude the creation of a general engagement bylaw in the future.

BHATNAGAR: Considered that Bill 8 will improve the quality and depth of Students' Union consultation. Suggested that the bylaw should mimic the Student Participation Handbook.

CARRIED

2019-16/7c

BHATNAGAR/AGARWAL MOVED to approve Bill 9: First Principles.

BHATNAGAR: Outlined that Bill 9 allows the Students' Union to create dedicated fee units to support its operations as well as allows Council to waive plebiscite/referendum petition requirement.

VARGAS ALBA: Expressed concern at using Council's legislative power to overcome the DIE Board which ruled that Students' Council does not now have the power to waive the plebiscite/referendum petition requirement.

MCKENZIE: Expressed concern that Council only now received this motion from the floor. Inquired as to how groups seeking dedicated fee units fulfilled the petition requirement in the past.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that the 6000 series bylaws entered into force in 2014 and that, since then, applied to fee petitioning in few cases. Noted that the dedicated fee unit which Aboriginal Student Council recently secured technically violated bylaw as per the DIE Board ruling (Cutarm v Students' Council [Speaker]).

KIDD: Suggested that the petition requirement is unneeded because the true test of student support for the implementation of a dedicated fee unit is the referendum/plebiscite itself.

BOSE: Inquired as to the rationale for implementing the petition requirement in the first instance.

BHATNAGAR: Suggested that the petition requirement was an arbitrary addition to the bylaw. Expressed concern that the petition requirement is now preventing the Gateway from moving to plebiscite.

HADDOUCHE: Supported using a petition requirement in order to prevent a proliferation of dedicated fee unit proposals.

DRAPER: Suggested that it is unreasonable that the petition requirement to maintain a dedicated fee unit requires three times more signatures than the number of signatures required to create a fee in the first instance.

CARRIED

2019-16/8 GENERAL ORDERS

2019-16/8a

AGARWAL/DRAPER MOVED to approve the Organization for Arts & Interdisciplinary Studies (OASIS) Faculty Association Membership Fee (FAMF) question, as follows: "An increase in 50¢ (from \$2.50 to \$3.00) per student, per term beginning collection in September 2020 and ending in April 2022." See SC-2019-16.03.

AGARWAL/DRAPER MOVED to suspend Standing Orders Section 7.5 to consider the above motion.

CARRIED

KIDD: Expressed concern that the survey OASIS completed to consult students on the proposed fee increase lacks quality and has too few responses to reliably measure of Arts students' sentiments.

BHATNAGAR: Expressed concern that annual general meeting minutes OASIS submitted are unprofessional.

BEASLEY: Suggested that, although the survey OASIS completed to consult students on the proposed fee increase may not be representative of Arts students' sentiments, it is still an achievement. Urged Council to approve the motion and give

students the ability to decide whether to introduce the fee.

BOSE: Expressed concern that poor-quality of OASIS' presentation and documentation lead one to conclude that they cannot act as a responsible fiduciary. Urged councillors, nevertheless, to carry the motion given that failing the motion would deprive OASIS of the dedicated fee unit funds which they overwhelmingly rely upon to function.

VARGAS ALBA: Suggested that the OASIS presenters dishonestly misrepresented the extent to which Arts students support an increase in their fee. Expressed concern that OASIS' annual general meeting minutes misrepresent the record of discussion by not sufficiently detailing objections students made to the fee increase during the meeting.

BHATNAGAR: Proposed that OASIS resubmit its proposal with improved documentation.

KIDD/VARGAS ALBA MOVED the previous question.

FAIL FD

DRAPER: Suggested that OASIS is a responsible fiduciary given that Audit Committee has never found fault in their financials as part of regular audits. Noted that the OASIS presentation included all the information Council needs to carry the motion as required by bylaw.

LEY: Suggested that Council historically approved faculty association membership fee proposals whose survey engagement had fewer than 100 persons submit responses. Proposed, moving forward, that Council set out a clear standard for the level of engagement a faculty association must complete in requesting an increase in the dollar amount of their fee.

STATT: Urged Council not to block the OASIS FAMF given that they provide student services when the cost of education is increasing.

AGARWAL: Proposed tabling the item until January 28 in order to provide OASIS with an opportunity to improve the quality of their proposal.

DRAPER: Noted that the proposal before Council has already completed greater consultation than what is technically required.

KIDD: Proposed, moving forward, amending bylaw to increase the amount of consultation faculty associations must complete to propose increase their FAMF dollar amounts.

BHATNAGAR/AGARWAL MOVED to table 2019-16/8a for the January 28 meeting of Council.

CARRIED

2019-16/8b **BEASLEY MOVED** to appoint two Councillors to the DIE Board Appointment Committee.

BOSE nominated BEASLEY: accepted.
BHATNAGAR nominated GATERA: declined.
BOSE nominated DRAPER: withdrawn.

VARGAS ALBA nominated MCKENZIE: declined.

BOSE nominated DHILLON: declined. DRAPER nominated KONRAD: accepted.

BEASLEY, KONRAD are declared appointed to the DIE Board Appointment Committee.

2019-16/8c **BEASLEY/DRAPER MOVED** to ratify the Muneeb Ahsan as Chief Returning Officer. See SC-2019-16.14.

BEASLEY: Outlined that he worked with several DIE Board tribunes to interview and hire a Chief Returning Officer. Noted that the hiring committee's decision is now before Council for ratification.

BHATNAGAR: Expressed concern that the elections activity schedule as outlined in SC-2019-16.14 does not conform to the deadlines required by Bylaw 2100 §10 and §11.10.2. Proposed amending Bylaw 2100 to ensure its nomination regulation has uniform and consistent deadlines.

DRAPER: Clarified that Bylaw Committee already reviewed and amended Bylaw 2100 for deadline uniformity and consistency but the public website-available copy is not the most recent amended version of the document.

CARRIED

CLOSED SESSION

See SC-2019-16.04.

2019-16/9

2019-16/10	INFORMATION ITEMS
2019-16/10a	Second Principles of Bill 7. See SC-2019-16.01.
2019-16/10b	First Reading of Bill 8. See SC-2019-16.02.
2019-16/10c	Organization of Arts Students and Interdisciplinary Studies Faculty Association Membership Fee Renewal Proposal. See SC-2019-16.03.
2019-16/10d	President - Report.

2019-16/10e	Vice-President (Academic) - Report. See SC-2019-16.05.
2019-16/10f	Vice-President (External) - Report. See SC-2019-16.06.
2019-16/10g	Vice-President (Operations and Finance) - Report. See SC-2019-16.07.
2019-16/10h	Vice-President (Student Life) - Report. See SC-2019-16.08.
2019-16/10i	Students' Council Attendance. See SC-2019-16.09.
2019-16/10j	Students' Council Motion Tracker. See SC-2019-16.10.
2019-16/10k	Executive Committee Motion Tracker. See SC-2019-16.11.
2019-16/10l	Students' Council, Votes and Proceedings (SC-2019-15) - Tuesday, December 3, 2019. See SC-2019-16.12.
2019-16/10m	"OASIS: FAMF Proposal Presentation". See SC-2019-16.13.

ADJOURNED AT 9:58PM.