As your 2019/2020 Students’ Union Executive team, we aim to represent you to improve your experience as undergraduate students at the University of Alberta, while also providing advocacy within the university community and to all levels of government. In order to best represent and promote your interests, we hold regular office hours, attend various campus events, and are constantly reaching out for your feedback and thoughts. As your representatives, we are constantly working to ensure that all Students’ Union businesses, services, events, and advocacy efforts are in the best interest of you — the members of our University of Alberta Students’ Union.

This document outlines the 2019/2020 goals set out by the SU Executive.

1. **Empower students to act with confidence and live with compassion.**

   Students should feel well equipped with the tools to craft a future that will allow them to better recognize and dismantle systemic barriers to participation in student life.

   Continue progress on the Charter of Student Rights.
   - Ensure a Charter of Student Rights is produced at the University of Alberta that includes academic rights, procedural rights, fundamental rights, and residence rights.

   Strengthen our collective voice by actively engaging students in advocacy.
   - Run a Get Out The Vote (GOTV) campaign to encourage students to vote in the 2019 federal election.
   - Increase engagement with Student Representative Associations to collect feedback regarding external priorities.
   - Foster an environment of civil discourse and academic discovery while upholding our values of compassion and respect.
   - Assist the Augustana Students’ Association in municipal advocacy.
   - Continue to work with the Association des Universitaires de la Faculté Saint-Jean (AUFSJ) and the Francophone community to advocate for greater access to post-secondary education in French in Alberta.

   Build relationships with both new provincial and federal governments.
   - Support Indigenous student advocacy and initiatives.
   - Collaborate to implement the Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Committee (ARRC) Recommendations.
   - Engage Indigenous students as partners, provincially, in advocacy with the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS).

   • Engage Indigenous students as partners, federally, in advocacy with the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA).

   Provide support for grassroots initiatives of student leaders.
   - Invest in professional development opportunities for our student group leaders, representatives, staff, and volunteers.
   - Publish a centralized document for student groups to host successful events.
   - Support Residence Associations to create long-term strategic plans to foster their continued and sustainable growth.
   - Explore opportunities to work with cultural Student Groups on collaborative events.

2. **Embrace student wellness and academic success.**

   Students deserve to be included and supported throughout their time on campus so they can succeed both individually and academically.

   Implement a cultural lens in our mental wellness services.
   - Advocate for increased diversity among mental wellness counsellors on all campuses.
   - Integrate community-based approaches to reduce stigmas and instill wellness.

   Call for robust and reliable on-campus health and wellness services.
   - Ensure that mental health services remain on campus and are funded on a per-student basis.
   - Collaborate with other Alberta students’ associations to produce unified mental health funding recommendations for the provincial government.
   - Advocate for increased grants from governments for students with specific mental health needs.
• Advocate that University faculty and staff receive Question, Persuade, and Refer (QPR), as well as Suicide Awareness and Prevention (SAP) training.
• Provide free menstrual products on campus.

Ensure relevant employment, research, and work-integrated learning opportunities.
• Push for international students to have combined study and co-op permits, as well as for increased working hours during the school year.
• Advocate that student employment subsidy programs offered by governments are modified to run year-round and ensure degree-relevant positions.
• Advocate for and promote greater accessibility to undergraduate research opportunities, including increased funding and studentships.
• Advocate for the expansion and increased accessibility of the First Nations and Inuit Summer Work Experience Program.

Advocate for the hiring of the Sexual Violence Prevention Coordinator.

3. Stay true to the student heartbeat.

We need to keep our finger on the pulse of student life to provide students with the unique supports they need to succeed.

Prioritize student-guided decision making.
• Provide opportunities for students to actively engage with the Students’ Union organizational and business decisions.
• Create a University of Alberta Students’ Union (UASU) Street Team to communicate advocacy campaigns, promotions, and other efforts effectively.
• Evolve our student-centred online presence.

Strengthen our businesses and services to evolve alongside student needs.
• Ensure all Students’ Union spaces on campus are physically accessible.
• Continue to seek sustainable project ventures for our businesses.

Pursue increased revenue-generating opportunities to decrease our reliance on student fees.
• Expand SUTV into new spaces and continue to seek partnerships with students’ associations across the country.
• Continue to invest in our Information Technology and Development Department at the Students’ Union.
• Establish a strategy for the Students’ Union to create a fundraising model and actively seek out donor opportunities.
• Activate campus with mutually beneficial third-party partnerships and sponsorships to support student life.

4. Actualize change to create an equitable post-secondary experience.

To thrive, campus needs to be a barrier-free environment and an intellectually stimulating space for students.

Advocate for strategic investments in deferred maintenance and accessible spaces.
• Lobby for the creation of a long-term strategic deferred maintenance plan and increased investments in student-oriented spaces from the provincial government.
• Call on the provincial government to provide predictable, sustainable operational funding for post-secondary institutions.
• Hold the University accountable to commitments made concerning campus safety and security.

Encourage the implementation of faculty-specific interdisciplinary Indigenous course content.

Seek to increase affordability in educational resources, financial aid, housing, and tuition.
• Work with the provincial government and the University to develop a long-term, sustainable funding model for the creation and adoption of Open Educational Resources (OERs).
• Continue advocacy to ensure predictable and affordable international student tuition.
• Lobby the provincial government to reallocate tax credit funds into up-front, non-repayable grants for low- and middle-income students.
• Advocate for the Repayment Assistance Program (RAP) threshold to increase, reflecting changes in the minimum wage and living expenses.
• Advocate for equitable rent and meal plan fees to maintain the value-added experience in residence.
• Continue to develop more needs-based Students’ Union awards through the Student Involvement Endowment Foundation (SIEF).