University of Alberta Students' Union STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

Tuesday September 12, 2006 Council Chambers 2-1 University Hall

- 2006-10/1 SPEAKER'S BUSINESS
- **2006-10/1a (v)** Tim Schneider resigns from the Council Administration Committee and the External Policy Committee.

Please see document LA 06-10.01

- 2006-10/2 PRESENTATIONS
- 2006-10/2c Information on Audit Committee presentation

Please see document LA 06-10.02

- 2006-10/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
- 2006-10/3a (i) YUSUF/CUNNINGHAM MOVED THAT Students' Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, approve the following draft agreement for a Food Services Advisory Group

Please see document LA 06-10.03

- 2006-10/4 QUESTION PERIOD
- 2006-10/4a (i) Written answer from Vice President Yusuf to Councillor Eruvbetine

Please see document LA 06-10.04

- 2006-10/5 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS
- 2006-10/5e <u>Council Administration Committee</u>

LE/HENRY ORDERED THAT Students' Council remove Councillor German from the Council Administration Committee effective August 29, 2006.

2006-10/7 INFORMATION ITEMS

2006-10/7d Samantha Power, President – Report

Please see document LA 06-10.05

LATEADS SC200	D6-10 TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2006 Page 2
2006-10/7e	Chris Cunningham, Vice President (Operations and Finance) – Report
	Please see document LA 06-10.06
2006-10/7f	David Cournoyer, Vice President (External) – Report
	Please see document LA 06-10.07
2006-10/7g	Omer Yusuf, Vice President (Student Life) – Report
	Please see document LA 06-10.08

Dear Students' Council,

Please accept this letter as my official resignation from the Council Administration Committee.

Sincerely,

Tim Schneider

Dear Students' Council,

Please accept this letter as my official resignation from the External Policy Committee.

Sincerely,

Tim Schneider

Audit Committee Presentation Reference Material

Audit Committee Standing Orders

(Approved July 25, 2006)

The Audit Committee shall consist of two sub-committees, viz. the "External Audit Committee" and the "Internal Audit Committee" subject to the following:

- 1. Definitions:
 - (a) Primary member of a sub-committee: shall be a member of Audit Committee who is assigned to that sub-committee;
 - (b) Chair: the Chair of Audit Committee is also the Chair of both sub-committees.
- 2. The entire Audit Committee shall meet as a whole:
 - (a) Once at the beginning of the year to
 - i. Elect a Chair;
 - ii. Approve Standing Orders;
 - iii. Assign members to sub-committees.
 - (b) To make decisions regarding:
 - iv. Removal and/or replacement of the Chair;
 - v. Changes to Standing Orders.
 - (c) Whenever called for by any member with 72 hours notice or agreement by all members of the committee as a whole.
 - (d) For the first meeting of the Committee in May, September and January, set out a meeting schedule for the following four months.
- 3. The Committee will assign the task of recording minutes to a member of the Committee.
- 4. Each member shall hold a seat on either the External or Internal Audit Committee but not both, with exception to the Chair;
- 5. Section (4) shall not limit members of Audit Committee from attending and voting at meetings of the sub-committee to which they are not primary members;
- 6. The External Audit Committee:
 - (a) Shall consist of three (3) primary members:
 - vi. The Chair of Audit Committee
 - vii. Two other members selected from the Audit Committee
 - (b) Shall have quorum of three (3) members;
 - (c) Shall review the proposed uses and make a decision regarding disbursement of funds for DFUs not listed in section 6(j), no later than August 31 of each year or within 4 weeks of their submission of documents required in Bylaw 6000(1) whichever is later subject to the following:
 - viii. The committee shall review the disbursement of a dedicated fee unit when:
 - 1. The Students' Council representative on that dedicated fee's

board is present;

- 2. All conditions set out in Bylaw 6000(2) have been met.
- (d) Shall monitor the use of all Faculty Association Membership Fees and Faculty Membership Fees.
- (e) Shall, when there is no other business, review, for appropriateness and compliance with the Students' Union's budget, the transactions of the Students' Union organizational units and report, through the Chair, any findings to the Internal Audit Committee;
- (f) Shall communicate directly with the Internal Audit Committee wherever necessary
- 7. The Internal Audit Committee:
 - (a) Shall consist of three (3) primary members:
 - i. The Chair of Audit Committee
 - ii. Two other members selected from the Audit Committee
 - (b) Shall have quorum of three (3) members;
 - (c) Shall annually select the Students' Union auditor and oversee the Students' Union's external audit;
 - (d) Shall review the Students' Union's audited financial statements in advance of their presentation to Students' Council;
 - (e) Shall review all alterations made to the Students' Union's budget for the purpose of verifying compliance with Students' Union legislation;
 - (f) Shall, each month, review, for appropriateness and compliance with the Students' Union's budget, the transactions of the Students' Union organizational units;
 - (g) Shall review all expenditures made on Students' Union credit cards;
 - (h) Shall investigate any inappropriate transactions or significant variances against the Students' Union's budget;
 - (i) Has the authority to require to appear before it, in a reasonable period of time, any Students' Union employee(s) and/or member(s) of the Executive Committee;
 - (j) Shall monitor the Grant Allocation Committee's allocation of the Campus Recreation Enhancement Fund, the Eugene L. Brody Fund, the Golden Bear and Panda Legacy Fund, and the Refugee Student Fund;
 - (k) Shall at the first meeting of the Committee in May, September and January, set out a meeting schedule for the following four months
 - (1) Shall communicate directly with the External Audit Committee wherever necessary
- 8. The Chair:
 - (a) Shall ensure that there is an agenda for each meeting that will include, at minimum:
 - i. Call to order
 - ii. Attendance
 - iii. Items of Business (Based on the Sub-Committee's mandate)
 - iv. Adjournment

- (b) Shall, after each meeting of the committee, submit to Students' Council a report to appear on the main agenda including;
 - i. any decisions made by the standing committee acting under authority delegated to it by Students' Council,
 - ii. any recommendations made by the standing committee to Students' Council,
 - iii. any standing orders adopted by the committee, and
 - iv. a document titled "Summary of Proceedings" summarizing the activities of the committee at the meeting in question.
- (g) Notwithstanding Section 7(b), if the meeting occurs after that deadline, the Chair shall submit minutes of the Committee as soon as possible so that they appear on the late additions agenda of Students' Council
- (h) Shall be responsible for booking meeting rooms for meetings of the Committee;
- (i) May institute Robert' Rules of Order if the meeting would benefit from the imposition of structure;
- (j) Shall be responsible for ensuring the security of all financial documents;
- (k) Shall ensure that all electronic communication between a dedicated fee unit and the Committee will be forwarded to the Students' Council representative on the dedicated fee unit's board
- 9. Members of a subcommittee are encouraged to assign a proxy from within the committee as a whole before asking another Councillor.
- 10. The Chair shall request to be added to the GAC mailing list and to receive all minutes and agendas from GAC.

Audit Committee Mandate (from Bylaw 100, Section 16 - 2)

Audit Committee:

- a) Has the authority to select the Students' Union auditor;
- b) Shall select the Student's Union auditor annually;
- c) Shall oversee the Students' Union external audit;
- d) Shall review the Students' Union's audited financial statements in advance of their presentation to Students' Council;
- e) Shall review all alterations made to the Students' Union's budget for the purpose of verifying compliance with Students' Union legislation;
- f) Shall each month review, for appropriateness and compliance with the Students' Union budget, the transactions of at least two Students' Union organizational units;
- g) Shall review all expenditures made on Students' Union credit cards;
- h) Shall investigate any inappropriate transactions or significant variances against the Students' Union budget;
- i) Has the authority to require to appear before it, in a reasonable period of time, any Students' Union employee;
- j) Shall review the proposed uses and make a decision on the disbursal of the CJSR-FM88 Fund, the Student Legal Services of Edmonton Fund, the Alberta Public

Interest Research Group Fund, and the Gateway Student Journalism Fund on or before July 31 of each year;

- k) Has the authority to approve disbursal of the CJSR-FM88 Fund, the Alberta Public Interest Research Group Fund, and the Gateway Student Journalism Fund;
- Shall monitor the Grant Allocation Committee's allocation of the Campus Recreation Enhancement Fund, the Eugene L. Brody Fund, the Golden Bear and Panda Legacy Fund, and the Refugee Student Fund; and
- m) Shall monitor the use of all Faculty Association Membership Fees and Faculty Membership Fees.

Food Services Advisory Group Proposal

The following proposal has been designed to provide a process for both the Students' Union (SU) and the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) to assess the financial status of ARAMARK operations on campus and the current agreement between ARAMARK and the University of Alberta, to provide recommendations regarding the quality, selection and affordability of food services on campus, and to suggest direction for the future of food services at the University of Alberta. This process would formally introduce student input into decision-making and would keep communication lines open to allow both parties to give feedback and raise new findings.

The proposal is as follows:

An advisory group (The "Food Services Advisory Group") will be struck with a specific University food services-focused mandate:

- a) to maintain an understanding of the agreements between ARAMARK and the University of Alberta, including access to the contract;
- b) to maintain an understanding of the financial status of ARAMARK operations at the University of Alberta, including food pricing, the operation and usage of the student meal plans, operating expenses and other operational issues;
- c) to participate in food service provider negotiations as an advisory group and by appointing not less than two representatives to the selection committee (one of whom shall be a member of the Lister Hall Food Committee); and
- d) to optimize, consistent with student price sensitivity, the quality, range and nutritional variety of food options for students provided by ARAMARK and other food operations on campus.

The Food Services Advisory Group will report and make recommendations to the SU and GSA Councils with the objective of ensuring an optimal balance between quality, accessibility and affordability of campus food services for undergraduate and graduate students.

The composition of the Food Services Advisory Group will be as follows:

- i) two members of the Students' Union's Executive Committee, or designates;
- ii) one student representative of the residence community, appointed by the Residence Hall Association;
- iii) one undergraduate student, appointed by Students' Council;
- iv) one graduate student, appointed by GSA Council;
- v) the Executive Director of Ancillary Services, or designate; and
- vi) the General Manager of University of Alberta ARAMARK, or designate.

The chair of the Food Services Advisory Group must be a student. Committee recommendations will be brought back to both Councils for information and/or a vote.

The Food Services Advisory Group will meet once each summer and then at least three times throughout the fall & winter terms for a minimum of four annual meetings. Additional meetings would be called as needed.

This Food Services Advisory Group will not hinder current effort to develop an overall accountability framework for non-instructional fees and would work in conjunction with any such framework.

I apologize I will be absent for the beginning of this meeting. I am currently attending a bar safety committee meeting, and this will be the last meeting before we present our recommendations to the Community Services Committee at City Hall on September 18.

Privileges, responsibilities and registration requirements of student groups are laid out in the Code of Student Behaviour, GFC section 30.8. The weblink is http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/gfcpolicymanual/content.cfm?ID_page=37633#38412

Since I don't want to just copy and paste the details, a brief summary of responsibilities include: living up to the COSB, upholding the University's good name, obeying liquor laws and University liquor guidelines, and gaming regulations. Benefits include: the ability to book space at the University, the use of the University's liquor and gaming licenses, and access to and ability to rent University property and equipment. Registration requirements include a minimum of two-thirds of the total membership, and 75% of the executive, are registered as part-time or full-time Students during the current academic year, an acceptable constitution exists, that the appropriate financial arrangements are in place.

Denial of Registration/Re-registration or a suspension can occur through the office of the Dean of Students "if the group fails to meet the requirements for registration/re-registration, the group's stated objectives or activities or the manner of carrying out its activities would, in the opinion of the Dean of Students, by their very nature, lead to justifiable complaints under the Code...[or] offend the provisions of the Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Act (and/or any other human rights legislation that applies in this Province) and/or municipal bylaws, Provincial or Federal statutes or regulations". These decisions can be appealed at the University Appeals Board.

We can also suspend group privileges through the outdated Operating Policy 50.04 if they don't pay back loans.

What I really think you're asking is if there has ever been anything tabled at Students' Council. For some history, I believe that the principle behind that clause was passed at the July 27th, 2004 meeting of Council when they were attempting to implement a new structure for disbursing funds. Since that time, there has never been anything formally tabled at Council that indicated a list of privileges or a procedure through which these privileges can be suspended. Mechanisms do exist, they were just never tabled at council.

Thanks for pointing this out, Prem. I'll try to work out a solution to this oversight, hopefully working with the SGS Director and the University as the original document intended.

Campus Campaigns/Communications – We had a great start at WOW and Orientation getting our pins and pamphlets out. We're starting to meet with FAs after a great presentation to CoFA. Our on campus campaign will start by meeting with student groups and small events.

Now that our marketing department is fabulous we're beginning work on the other side of the department, the communications side. The GM, Advocacy Director, Communications Officer and myself will be meeting to discuss the expansion of the communications side of the marketing department, especially in relation to on campus communications.

Advocacy Update - We are beginning implementation on a plan to advocate for better quality instruction. This will take coordinated work between the GSA, AAS:UA and ourselves and so we are meeting with these groups to discuss the possibilities.

The Housing issue has been very popular for the past few weeks. We did several interviews on the housing crunch for students. We're linking it back to the lack of public planning and funding for post-secondary.

Our editorial was printed on the importance of teaching in postsecondary education. (see below)

UPass – Comes to Transportation and Public Works for final approval on September 19th. The week leading up to that will be spent working with the University to determine their contribution to the project.

RSS - Speakers are confirmed.

October 10th – Severn Cullis–Suzuki November 13th – Carol Off March 7th – Art Spiegelman

Meetings had:

August 26th - CoFA training - Amanda and her team did a great job. The FAs were interested and active.

August 28th - Meeting with Augustana exec - we'll be further discussing fee issues, service delivery and student space concerns at Augustana. As well the issue of intervisitation will be big at CLRC - which Omer or Amanda can expand upon.

Sept. 7th - The launch of the Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund. We're uncertain if this is just PR or an actual step in the direction of better quality teaching.

Meetings Coming up:

Sept 12th - Board Finance and Property Committee

- UPass with University administration
- Sept. 18th Budget Advisory Committee Meeting
- Sept. 19th UPass Transportation and Public Works Committee City Council
- Sept. 27th Academic Planning Committee

Teaching no longer main purpose of cash-strapped universities Research is where the money is, but that's only half the job. What about the students?

Samantha Power, The Edmonton Journal Published: Monday, September 11, 2006

University and college administrators, and Advanced Education Minister Denis Herard, are all likely to tell you that all the problems in the post-secondary system were cured by last year's review, "A Learning Alberta," and recent injections of funding.

But after 18 months of talk, nothing much has changed.

Students are still paying the very same level of fees we were when the provincial government first admitted educational affordability was in trouble and promised Albertans "the most affordable tuition in Canada." The reality is that high upfront costs remain a burden for students and a solid barrier for many qualified people who will never make it here.

To add insult to injury, our post-secondary institutions (much like our primary and secondary schools) still need significantly more funding even to function properly. More to the point, our public universities, thanks mainly to scarce public funding, have lost sight their original purpose: Henry Marshall Tory, the U of A's first president, declared in 1908 that "the modern state university is a people's institution. The people demand that knowledge shall not be the concern of scholars alone. The uplifting of the whole people shall be its final goal."

Almost a century ago this university conceived of itself as a public mechanism of social mobility and knowledge dissemination not for the elite, but for all Albertans.

The departure from this grand, public vision of the university began in earnest in the early 1990s as many public institutions came under assault.

Federal and provincial governments implemented massive spending cutbacks to reduce the deficit, leaving universities to turn anywhere they could, even on their students, to find the funds to survive.

Following the cutbacks, universities embarked on a tuition binge, raising student fees at obscene rates to the point that tuition more than tripled in constant dollars since 1991.

In the meantime, student debt has ballooned -- funny how we reduced the public debt for future generations only to raise the personal debt of future generations to cover it. But the provincial government sold all this with a supposed upside: that of forcing our public institutions to be more efficient and do more with less.

Funnily enough, universities have gladly adopted this mantra, suggesting they now know how to spend money wisely and hence, are better able to fulfill their mandate.

Students, though, question whether our universities are really doing more with less.

The student experience suggests that our institutions have suffered desperately when it

comes to the core mission of teaching undergrads.

To shed light on the size of the problem, twenty five years ago the U of A could boast a professor to student ratio of 13.7 (full-time-equivalent faculty to full-time-equivalent students). As of 2004-2005, that ratio has dipped to 23.1.

It's not only that the number of students has increased (by more than 20 per cent), but a good portion of this troubling trend is attributable to the fact that there are actually less faculty now here than before the cuts.

Belt-tightening also forced university administrators to put off certain key expenses, such as adequate preventative maintenance to buildings and their mechanical systems.

The University of Alberta alone now has a maintenance deficit in excess of \$600 million, a massive and disturbing liability for a public institution.

Meanwhile, the shortage of public funds forced universities to find additional revenue wherever possible under the "entrepreneurial" banner. Some of those sources were the corporate world, to the point where many students will take a class in a Syncrude or EnCana-branded lecture hall. Some might wonder what the fuss is about, but imagine a child walking into the Pop-Tarts classroom at a public elementary school.

Universities, especially the U of A, have since devoted more energy and focus to the research sector because this was the one area where money has been easier to come by in the last seven years.

However, as faculty are expected to devote more energy to building this "world class" research university, they are almost certainly spending less time interacting and engaging with undergraduate students.

This research-driven reality is in stark contrast to Henry Marshall Tory's vision of the U of A. This is not to say that research is not an important part of a university, but these days research is becoming the university's main function, and teaching is an afterthought.

What Tory's vision suggests is that a university's function is not only to create new knowledge (research), but that it is also just as important for a university to pass on that knowledge to the masses (teaching). Yet as a professor is forced to do more research, he or she cannot devote as much time to teaching students, because there is just no money to be made by the university from teaching.

All told, the deep and still-unremedied cuts to public funding have left the system, including its leading institutes, unable to fulfill its teaching mandate. And despite the best intentions of institutional administrators and many motivated professors struggling to do more with less, we still have a system where students are not getting the support they need to really flourish.

The simple fact is that students were asked to pay more and are getting less in return. This is the Klein legacy. Government certainly won't admit it's a raw deal, and neither will the university. The question is: will you?

Samantha Power is president of the U of A Students' Union

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Chris Cunningham, Vice President – Operations & Finance Report to Students' Council September 12, 2006

Good evening Council,

PowerPlant

Well, what do you think? I encourage all of you to give the new buffet and coffee house a shot, and let me know your comments and/or suggestions.

Keep in mind there are a few growing pains but all things considered I would consider the grand opening a success.

Were still looking into getting some new furniture in the Plant that would be more conducive to student space.

Web Site

Well, what do you think? I encourage all of you to peruse are new web site, and let me know your comments and/or suggestions.

Keep in mind there are a few growing pains but all things considered I would consider the launch of are new web site a success.

Councilor Remuneration

If you haven't already, make sure to hand in your banking information to 2-900 or you will not get paid.

Tobacco Sales

The PowerPlant has been selling cigarettes in the months following the budget principals that were to take effect May 1, 2006. Since May 1st \$330 of tobacco products were sold and we received \$64 in profit.

As of July, 2006 the PowerPlant has depleted it's stock and will no longer be selling any tobacco products as outlined in the budget principals.

The rationale for continuing to sell cigarettes in the bar was that of fiscal responsibility. The cigarettes that were being sold were purchased before the budget principals were passed by council and the bar managers believed they were doing the right thing by simply recovering their cost. Unfortunately they never took in to consideration the political concern this action would cause.

The cigarettes were not in view of the public and were not advertised as being for sale. The only cigarettes that were sold were bought by those who specifically asked for them or by the staff themselves.

I apologies for this violation of the budget principals and I thank the audit committee for brining this issue to my attention.

Council Report September 7, 2006 Dave Cournoyer Vice President External

Councillors! Long time no see! ⁽ⁱⁱⁱ⁾ I hope everyone has had a great first week back at school!

UPDATES

AUGUSTANA!: The SU Exec went to Camrose on August 28 and met with the Exec of the Augustana Students' Association. It was great to meet with them and discuss issues, as well as how we can better communicate over the next year. They also gave us a great tour of THE campus!

We also went to the Augustana talent show on September 7th. We did a dance and it was quite fun.

CAMPUS CAMPAIGNS: We have our timeline of events ready for September and our Advocacy team has been working hard to get our campaign message fine-tuned. Most of the campus campaigns push in September will be for volunteer recruitment (for CPAC!) and information spreading.

We've also made up some great buttons. They've been a great hit with our members as we gave out nearly 1000 last week. If anyone would like to volunteer and help out with campus campaigns – let me know!

CAUS: CAUS met at the U of C on August 21. CAUS passed policies on the Millennium Scholarship Foundation and Aid for students at Private-for-profit institutions.

LEGISLATURE: Sam and I visited the Legislature during the last week of August to show the SU's presence as Liberal Advanced Ed Critic Dave Taylor and ND Critic Raj Pannu asked PSE questions during Question Period. They asked questions about student debt and called on the Minister to re-legislate the tuition policy.

MEDIA: We received media hits from the Gateway, CBC, CTV, SEE Magazine, and CFCW regarding a recent StatsCan report that shows Alberta's Tuition going down by 0.2%. This is really an artificial decrease as tuition has stayed the same since 2005 as most of the country has increased, leaving Alberta far from the most affordable tuition in Canada that the Premier promised.

PARTNERSHIPS: On August 18-20, I attended the Partnerships Conference on behalf of CAUS– representatives also attended the conference from ACTISEC, CASA, GSAC, CSA, OUSA, and ANSA. Most of the discussion surrounded the Council of the Federation and the fate of the Millennium Scholarship Foundation. Guest speakers included Norman Riddell from MSF, Bill Moore-Kilgannon from PIA, and Rob South from AUCC.

TUITION CONSULTATIONS: I attended a stakeholder consultation hosted by the Minister of Advanced Education on August 30. The meeting was a short 2.5 hours and discussion surrounded the new proposed "affordability policy." Though the proposed policy takes some positive steps, it remains quite unambitious overall. Also, the shortness of the meeting did not give the almost 100 stakeholders a reasonable amount of time to discuss proposed policy.

At the meeting, the Minister also stated that he would announce the new tuition regulation by the end of the month.

PUBLIC INTEREST ALBERTA: I met with PIA's PSE taskforce meeting on August 22. We discussed provincial issues and an upcoming PIA response to the ALA recommendations in September. More info to come.

SENATE: The Senate Executive Committee met on August 24. The guest speaker was U of A VP External Relations Sandra Conn.

SFAAC: I've been appointed to the provincial Student Financial Assistance Appeals Committee.

U-PASS: Don Iveson and I have been meeting with the University Administration to figure out what the administration of a U-Pass would look like if a question were to be brought forward and passed by a referendum next spring. Sam and I met with St. Albert City Councillor Nolan Crouse to discuss St. Albert's participation in the U-Pass. We will be making another presentation to the City of Edmonton's Transport & Public Works Committee on September 19. We will be meeting with the University Administration shortly to discuss the universities investment in the project.

WOW: I helped out with random WOW events. Pancake Breakfast! Campus St. Jean BBQ! Sleeping bag movie! Omer is awesome!

ACTION!

CAMPAIGNS PLANNING & ACTION COMMITTEE! CPAC is a group that will be involved in planning and implementing successful SU campus campaigns over the next year! Come and **make a difference** and spread the good word of your Students' Union through action! Let me know and hop on the CPAC train!

EXTERNAL POLICY IS IMPORTANT: Where do you think the SU should be externally heading? **Share your ideas!** Chat with me, EPC Chair Chris Samuel, or other EPC members. *Let's get those creative juices flowing!* ©

HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE: AVPX Pam Aranas is looking for awesome volunteers to be part of this year's High School Leadership Conference in November – contact Pam at avpex@su.ualberta.ca.

Upcoming:	
September 8	Senate Orientation
September 12	Meeting with the University Administration re: U-Pass
September 13	Rural Outreach to Barrhead
September 15	Senate Plenary Session & Tour of NINT
September 18	Budget Advisory Committee
September 19	Transport & Public Works Committee
September 21	Presenting to the Student Finance Board
End of Nov	High School Leadership Conference

Questions about this report? Got an external issue? Let me know in person, by phone -492.4236, or by email vp.external@su.ualberta.ca.

Omer Yusuf, Vice President (Student Life) Report to Council September 12, 2006

Greetings Council,

Major events include Orientation, and Week of Welcome. Hopefully this picture will describe these events in several thousand words.

