

Tuesday, September 10, 2019
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.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:01PM

VOTES & PROCEEDINGS (SC-2019-09)

2019-09/1 **SPEAKERS BUSINESS**

SPEAKER: Noted that Council scholarships will be presented at the next meeting. Determined to special order the late additions onto the agenda. Noted that he accepted a job at Student Care, the Students' Union health and dental provider, and will resign as Speaker to ensure there is no perception of a conflict of interest.

SUNDAY/JAMALEDDINE MOVED to appeal the chair's decision to not special order the late additions.

SPEAKER: Outlined that his decision is consistent with Standing Orders. Clarified that, according to Section 4(8) "Late Additions to the Order Paper may be added at the meeting if the items of business cannot be postponed to a future meeting of Students' Council for resolution without risking detrimental consequences to or negative procedural difficulties for the Students' Union."

SUNDAY: Suggested the items on the agenda do not, in fact, satisfy Section 4(8). Expressed concern that this decision contradicts the Speaker's decision not to allow the late additions onto the agenda last meeting. Expressed concern that the Speaker's decision shows that Council privileges its motions as opposed to those important to student groups.

CARRIED

2019-09/1a **Announcements - The next meeting of Students' Council will take place on **Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at 6:00PM** in Council Chambers.**

2019-09/2 **PRESENTATIONS**

2019-09/2a ***Title:*** "Free Expression Presentation"

Presenter(s):

- Deputy Provost Wendy Rogers, University of Alberta

Abstract: In May 2019, in conjunction with early consultation with General Faculties Council, the university established an Advisory Group on Free Expression, chaired by the Deputy Provost and made up of subject matter experts, members of the GFC Executive Committee, and key administrative portfolios. The group's mandate is to advise on the development of an institutional policy on free expression.

In June 2019, the Minister of Advanced Education issued a letter instructing all post-secondary institutions to develop a policy on free expression consistent with the "Chicago Principles" (Report of the Committee on Freedom of Expression). In July, the Minister issued a second letter providing clarification and extending the deadline for adoption to November 15, 2019.

The Advisory Group has developed a draft set of principles on free expression to inform a new university policy. The draft principles are based on an environmental scan, review of other institutions, and the expertise and perspective of the group. Broad consultation will occur in September and October 2019.

AGARWAL MOVED to allow Deputy Provost Wendy Rogers to give a consultation presentation on the University of Alberta freedom of expression principles.

CARRIED

See SC-2019-09.10.

SPEAKER: Extended the presentation by ten minutes.

2019-09/3

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Luke STATT, Vice President (Operations and Finance) - Report.

Joel AGARWAL, Vice President (Academic) - Report.

Jared LARSEN, Vice President (Student Life) - Report.

Akanksha BHATNAGAR, President - Report.

Adam BROWN, Vice President (External) - Report.

2019-09/4

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.

Student Group Committee - Report.

Translation Committee - Report.
Board of Governors - Report.

2019-09/5

OPEN FORUM

VARGAS ALBA/DIXON MOVED to suspend Standing Orders to remove the limit on the total number of questions guests may ask.

FAILED - 13/9/0

KLOOSTER: Inquired, to the Board of Governors Representative, as to whether faculties receiving comparatively less money from community donations will suffer adverse consequences if the Alberta government reduces its subsidies.

LEY: Responded that, if this reduction occurs, tuition may increase but that particular faculties will not be targeted. Considered that this anticipated reduction could result in faculties merging programs or freezing hiring.

AHMED: Inquired, to Vice President Student Life, as to whether he would further explain his plans to engage volunteers in overseeing the Newton Place student association space.

LARSEN: Responded that he is working with Newton Place residents to establish a team for supporting the NEST. Noted that the Newton Place Residence Association will undertake a scan to determine how it can best support the needs of its members. Clarified that the Association will function as other residents associations but will not collect a fee.

2019-09/6

QUESTION PERIOD

VARGAS ALBA/DRAPER MOVED to suspend Standing Orders to remove the limit on speaking time allowed during Question Period.

FAILED - 12/12/0

CHEN: Inquired, to the Vice President Academic, into what procedure exists for when faculty associations receive misdirected academic complaints from students.

AGARWAL: Responded that he assists faculty associations in responding to and redirecting students' academic complaints when required.

SUNDAY: Inquired, to the Board of Governors representative, as to whether the Board has plans to ensure that they hear Aboriginal perspectives now that, as a result of a change in Board composition, there are no Aboriginal Board members.

LEY: Responded that he can bring an Aboriginal perspective to the Board and will meet with Aboriginal Student Council.

BADESHA: Inquired, to the Vice President Academic, as to whether he would provide

an update on his research event working group.

AGARWAL: Responded that event planning is still underway and that he will soon meet with the Undergraduate Research Initiative coordinator to this end.

DIXON: Inquired, to the President, as to whether the Students' Union will publicly endorse the general climate change strike occurring September 27 and, if not, whether it will provide a statement describing why it is doing what is easy, not what is right.

BHATNAGAR: Responded in the negative. Expressed concern that endorsing a climate change strike would neither be pragmatic or in keeping with the Students' Union's balancing of political perspectives. Expressed concern that Dixon disrespects the Students' Union values by using them against staff.

DRAPER: Inquired, to the Vice President Operations and Finance, as to why the Students' Union will no longer provide a karaoke coordinator at Dewey's.

STATT: Responded that he is investigating increasing the amount of live programming in Dewey's in the near future.

JAMALEDDINE: Inquired, to the President, as to whether the Students' Union will ask professors to cancel class or waive attendance marks during the period of the general climate strike.

AGARWAL: Responded in the negative. Encouraged students to talk to their professors in order to receive accommodations.

CHEN: Inquired, to the Vice President Student Life, as to how the Students' Union can better encourage students to be aware of other cultures in residences.

LARSEN: Responded that International House partnered with the University to develop a global education program and that the iHouse Community Council also supports cultural awareness.

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired, to the President, as to whether the Students' Union is capable of mobilizing students for the climate strike when comparable student associations supported similar measures even when the government of their province disapproved.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that the leftism of Ontario students associations damaged their connection to the Ontario government and that the Students' Union must remain non-partisan. Noted that, although she is personally in favour of both the strike and the right of students to protest, the Students' Union will not endorse it.

MCKENIZE: Inquired, to the President, as to whether the Students' Union has data related to students' views about this strike.

BHATNAGAR: Responded in the negative. Encouraged interested councillors to author a political policy on climate justice and environmental sustainability.

SUNDAY: Inquired, to the Vice President Operations and Finance, as to the extent to which the Students' Union is now invested in the fossil fuels industry.

STATT: Responded that changing the composition of Students' Union investments, at the current time, would reduce in total revenue acquired from them.

DRAPER: Inquired, to the Vice President Academic, as to whether the Students' Union will support faculty associations participating in the climate strike.

AGARWAL: Responded that the Students' Union will provide the same support to faculty associations in regard to the strike as it will to associations hosting any event during the year.

BHATNAGAR: Inquired, to Councillor Vargas Alba, as to whether the strike has any demands for government.

VARGAS ALBA: Responded that the strike advocates for radical decarbonization.

BEASLEY: Inquired, to the President, as to how the Students' Union will feature the climate strike in its newsletter.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that it will be included as a standard event notice.

SUNDAY: Inquired, to the President, as to why the recent Canadian Alliance of Student Associations budget does not include specific funds for Aboriginal students.

BHATNAGAR: Determined to follow-up in regard to this question with the Vice President External.

VARGAS ALBA/DIXON MOVED to extend question period by eight minutes.
CARRIED

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired, to the President, as to how the Executive will keep councillors engaged on the issue of climate change.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that councillors can remain engaged by authoring a political policy and consulting with their student constituents. Inquired, to Councillor Vargas Alba, as to whether they are in favour of creating a political policy and how they will engage students on it.

VARGAS ALBA: Responded in the affirmative. Identified town halls, one-on-ones, surveys as engagement methods.

STATT: Inquired, to the chair of the Sustainability Task Force, as to whether she can

provide an update on how near the Task Force is to creating the Sustainability Committee.

DIXON: Responded that Council will consider approving the Sustainability Committee Standing Orders at its next meeting.

BHATNAGAR: Inquired, to Councillor Dixon, as to what strategies can help individuals step outside the echo chamber in which they belong.

DIXON: Responded that the best way to help others step outside their echo chamber is to assist them in putting climate change in the context of their own lives.

DIXON/BEASLEY MOVED to extend question period for five minutes.
FAILED - 6/17/0

KIDD/JAMALEDDINE MOVED to suspend Standing Orders to extend the meeting by ten minutes.
CARRIED - 18/6/0

2019-09/7 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2019-09/7a **TSE/LARSEN MOVED** to appoint three (3) members of Students' Council to the Audit Committee.

BHATNAGAR nominated GATERA: declined.
LARSEN nominated MCKENIZE: declined.
DRAPER nominated KIDD: accepted.
LARSEN nominated DHILLON: accepted.
TSE nominated SUNDAY: accepted.

KIDD, DHILLON, and SUNDAY are declared appointed to Audit Committee.

2019-09/7b **DRAPER/BADESHA MOVED** to approve the First Principles of Bill 3; An Update To The Election Bylaws.

See SC-2019-09.01.

CARRIED - 21/0/1

2019-09/7c **DRAPER/STATT MOVED** to approve the Second Principles of Bill I, Updates to Bylaw 1500.

See SC-2019-09.02.

SUNDAY/DRAPER MOVED to postpone 2019-09/7c.

SUNDAY: Indicated that he has some proposed amendments which require further

discussion.

CARRIED - 12/1/0

2019-09/7d **DRAPER MOVES** to approve the Second Principles of Bill 2, Updates to Bylaw 2500.

See SC-2019-09.03.

2019-09/8 GENERAL ORDERS

2019-08/8b **SUNDAY/BOSE MOVED** to recognize Aboriginal Student Council as a Student Representative Association under Bylaw 8100.

See SC-2019-09.04.

SUNDAY/BOSE MOVED to suspend Standing Orders to remove speaking time limitations.

CARRIED - 20/4/0

BELCOURT: Expressed concern that the Students' Union is pressuring Aboriginal Student Council (ASC) to sign a memorandum of understanding on the use of its dedicated fee unit funds when the Students' Union has not required any other group to sign such an agreement. Expressed concern that Students' Council representative on ASC has failed to attend meetings. Expressed concern that Students' Council has been abrasive and unwelcoming to ASC, such as when this motion was not added to the order paper from the late additions during the last meeting. Expressed concern that there has been a lack of mutual respect between the Students' Union and ASC. Proposed that the Students' Council delegate its responsibility for representing Aboriginal students to the ASC.

MCKENZIE: Expressed concern that the ASC constitution requires its members to provide a proof of ancestry or Aboriginal certification via First Peoples House.

SUNDAY: Responded that this entry requirement is designed to ensure that non-Aboriginals do not claim the supports ASC provides.

STATT: Clarified that the Students' Union is forming memoranda of understanding with all dedicated fee unit recipients, including the ASC, moving forward.

BHATNAGAR: Apologized to ASC for her lack of communication and absence from its meetings.

CHEN: Inquired into whether the ASC will collect standard membership fees from students.

SUNDAY: Responded in the negative. Emphasised that all students across campus are

welcome to engage with the ASC.

TSE: Inquired into whether ASC will be audited as part of the Council of Faculty Associations.

SUNDAY: Responded that the University will audit ASC as it is part of First Peoples' House.

BADESHA: Inquired into whether ASC recognizes that it will be bound by Students' Union policy as a student representative organization.

BELCOURT: Responded that there are formal measures that ASC will pursue to detach itself from Students' Union Policy.

STATT: Clarified that the ASC will still have its finances reviewed by the Finance and Audit Committees.

CHEN: Inquired into why Council would grant delegated authority to the ASC when it does so for no other ethnic group.

SUNDAY: Responded that Aboriginals are a designated group under the Canadian Constitution and deserve special recognition and accommodation. Noted that any student group could attempt to become student representative association, not just ASC.

CARRIED - 21/0/1

2019-09/8a **LARSEN MOVES** to appoint four (4) members of Students' Council to the PAW Strategic Operating Committee.

2019-09/8b **BHATNAGAR MOVES** to go in camera.

2019-09/9 INFORMATION ITEMS

2019-09/9a First Principles of Bill 3 - An Update To The Election Bylaws.

See SC-2019-09.01.

2019-09/9b Second Principles of Bill 1 - Updates to Bylaw 1500.

See SC-2019-09.02.

2019-09/9c Second Principles of Bill 2, Updates to Bylaw 2500.

See SC-2019-09.03.

2019-09/9c Aboriginal Students' Council Submission to the Students' Union.

- See SC-2019-09.04.
- 2019-09/9d President - Report.
See SC-2019-09.05.
- 2019-09/9e Vice-President (Academic) - Report.
See SC-2019-09.06.
- 2019-09/9f Vice-President (External) - Report.
See SC-2019-09.07.
- 2019-09/9g Vice-President (Operations and Finance) - Report.
See SC-2019-09.08.
- 2019-09/9h Vice-President (Student Life) - Report.
See SC-2019-09.09.
- 2019-09/9i Students' Council Attendance.
See SC-2019-09.10.
- 2019-09/9j Students' Council Motion Tracker.
See SC-2019-09.11.
- 2019-09/9k Executive Committee Motion Tracker.
See SC-2019-09.12.
- 2019-09/9l Students' Council, Votes and Proceedings (SC-2019-08) - Tuesday, August 27, 2019.
See SC-2019-09.13.
- 2019-09/9m Executive Goals, 2019/2020.
See SC-2019-09.14.
- 2019-09/9n Climate Action Letter Addressed to the Executive Team.
See SC-2019-09.15.
- 2019-09/9o "Free Expression" Presentation.
See SC-2019-09.16.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:09PM