



s.u. news...



PRESIDENT

Hello!
Welcome back to classes.
The Students' Union is an organization composed of all the undergraduate students on campus. It exists to make 'being a student' a little easier. The Students' Union operates a number of services (the Exam/Typing Registry, the Housing Registry, S.O.R.S.E., Student Help, Student Ombudservice, INFO Desks, Gateway, CJSR), as well as businesses (RATT, Dewey's, L'Express, Copy Cats). Take advantage of these services and businesses. They offer efficient, friendly student-oriented service.

The Students' Union also operates as a catalyst for school spirit. The Freshman Introduction Week activities last week were organized by Florence Pastoor in conjunction with the University Administration. I hope you made it out to Beer Gardens and the dance on Friday; they were a great success.

The Students' Union is beginning a new scholarship drive to make funds available for students who get involved in campus life. Watch for details as the year progresses.

There are vacancies on many Students' Union boards and committees. If you have the time, get involved. It's a great way to meet some new people and have input into what your s.u. is doing. Check out the ad in this Gateway for details.

Good luck in your studies this year and don't forget to have fun. Academics are only half of your university career.

Paul LaGrange
President

V.P. ACADEMIC

It has been a fairly hectic summer for the academic portfolio. However, it has also been extremely productive. Many of the objectives I set up at the beginning of my term have been completed or are very near to completion. Listed below are some of the more noteworthy projects that have been, or are nearly complete.

Scholarships: The Students' Union has expanded its scholarship funds by several thousand dollars. The S.U. has kicked in \$25,000, and is in the process of soliciting monies from the Government and private sector to complete an endowment of \$150,000.

Faculty associations: Two major projects that will aid faculty associations have been completed. First, a \$50,000 fund has been set up for faculty associations to aid them in professional development and capital expenditures. With this type of financing available to the associations, students (especially in larger faculties) can expect to see a lot of career related events being sponsored by their respective faculty associations.

Second, an information manual has been compiled for faculty associations. Input into this manual has been provided from various organizations on campus including the Office of the Dean of Students' Services, Career and Placement Services, and, of course, the Students' Union. This manual will serve as an information source in every faculty association office.

The final project my portfolio has initiated is an instructor evaluation report. Though in its initial stages, the S.U. has received support from the Committee for the Improvement of Teaching and Learning and several University Administrators.

This list is by no means exhaustive. There are several other projects I would like to initiate. The implementation of a tutorial service (on computer), drafting a policy on teaching and learning and increasing study space and hours during exam times being my more prominent objectives.

During the course of the year I hope to receive input from as many people as possible. I would most certainly appreciate and welcome any ideas/suggestions you may have.

If you have any concerns, drop by my office in 259 S.U.B. Hope to see you soon.

CHARLES YETHAN
Vice-President Academic

V.P. EXTERNAL

Welcome back to the U of A! I hope everyone is adjusting easily to university life again and is enjoying being back on campus.

It has been a busy summer for the External area of the Students' Union. A number of important projects are well underway and can be expected to produce results in the near future.

One of the most important objectives of the External office is the achievement of a more economical bus pass arrangement for university students. Aruna D'Souza, Housing and Transport Commissioner, has been working hard to make our proposal successful. If you have any ideas or want to assist us with this, please talk to either Aruna or me.

Another area of concern being addressed by the External office is government underfunding at the University. In the last 4 years, universities in Alberta have received only a 4% increase in government grants, an average of 1% per year. This is much less than the rate of inflation, and, therefore, the University has had to make cuts in programs, personnel, and services. The quality of education has suffered. In order to ensure that the government gives universities enough funding to maintain their excellence, the External Affairs Board is sponsoring the Scroll campaign. All 3 university students' unions will be circulating petitions among their students calling for better government funding. These petitions will be joined in a symbolic scroll that will be presented to the government. Please make an effort to sign the petitions on the U of A campus for the last 2 weeks of October. Without improved funding, we will continue to face large classrooms, over-crowding, and poorer library facilities.

Other on-going projects include University Night, student-for-a-day, a free trade debate, and a federal election lobby. Watch The Gateway for more details of these events.

Other responsibilities of the External area include maintaining contact with community leaders, the media, other universities, and government officials on a regular basis. We also can help you if you have any problems with your student loan.

Please drop by and see me with any concerns you have, or simply to chat. I look forward to seeing many of you.

DAVID TUPPER
Vice-President External

V.P. FINANCE

Welcome Back!

As VP Finance and Administration, the primary purpose of my job is to act as the watchdog of the Students' Union. This involves everything from approving expenditures to formulating budgets. Almost every financial transaction within the SU passes across my desk at some point. If you have any questions about my job, or would like to know more about the Students' Union businesses and operations, feel free to give me a call at 432-4236 or drop by the Executive Offices on the 2nd Floor of S.U.B.

This summer has been quite 'hectic'. We hired a new Business Manager, two new Bar Managers, two new Deli Managers, a new receptionist, a new theatre assistant, and the list goes on. There have also been numerous projects that have been started and some completed. CJSR, our radio station, has a new contract, a new station manager, and a new outlook on campus activities. The FIW week events have been increased, including a dance held on Friday September 9 that featured Skaboom, 1964, and BTO. RATT has undergone some renovations, including a new improved food outlet that will have an extensive menu, and will be opening for lunch in the first couple of weeks of school.

In the next few weeks numerous unique events will be happening within the University Community, starting with the FIW week activities and continuing on to the dance. Both RATT and Dewey's will be running numerous special events throughout the year. Some of these will be including theme nights. The Gateway has also acquired a new computer system, which will do wonderful things, or so I am told.

Earlier this summer I also attended a conference on Student Services, which primarily focused on Student Union involvement, and through this conference I realized that the University of Alberta Students' Union is at the top of its field in its operation.

If I can be of any assistance to any of you, please once again feel free to come by and visit.

CHRIS WELSH
Vice-President Finance

V.P. INTERNAL

What I did on my summer vacation:

The last 4 months have been so eventful that it is difficult to know where to start. To begin with, I have attended three and one half conferences this summer. The first and largest was COCA (Canadian Organization of Campus Activities), where hundreds of student leaders and campus programmers gathered to discuss everything from alternative acts to fundraising. The second conference I attended with Chris Welsh, and it was the annual CSSC (Canadian Student Services Conference). This was much smaller and consisted mostly of round-table discussion with other student leaders and volunteers. I came back from that conference with the feeling that our student services and our relationships with other student and administrative bodies are unsurpassed. The last conference was a regional version of the first. COCA-West attracted many students and programmers from Western Canada and had record-breaking attendance.

The CUSEC Conference counts as the remaining 1/2 - not that it was only half as good as the rest. It was great, actually. CUSEC happened here at the U of A, so it just went on around me, whether I paid registration or not.

Back in the office, I have spent many hours in interviews (receptionist, clerk/typist, station manager, business manager, S.O.R.S.E. assistant...) and board meetings. A great deal of my time has been spent helping the preparations of FIW - hope the cooler weather doesn't hurt attendance. A few improvements for clubs have also been made: another office has been opened up, more space for displays at info booths, and I'm working on getting phones installed in all the club offices in SUB.

Well, there's my summer in a nutshell. Stay tuned for a progress report.

WENDY OLSON
Vice-President Internal

KAREN PLANTINGA — EXTERNAL COMMISSIONER

The past four months have been exciting for the External Office. A great deal of planning is going into the activities we will be holding this year.

This summer U of A Students' Union hosted the Canadian University Executive Conference. CUSEC is meant to be an executive professional development conference as well as an information exchange opportunity. New terms of reference and a new name, the National Student Executive Conference (NSEC), ensured that the conference will continue to be an annual event. The delegates left feeling positive about the conference and the direction it is taking as well as positive about the U of A.

One of the major focuses we have this year is to improve our community relations. Several activities are being planned by our External Affairs Board. At University Night community leaders from service clubs, school boards, the Chamber of Commerce, and community leagues will come to the University for an evening of information and fun. There will be speeches from the community groups and the University about the importance of the University in our community and a discussion of how we can improve our interaction and all sorts of other exciting things. This is scheduled for October 26, 1988.

In the middle of second semester Student for a Day will be held. This is where Alberta politicians are invited to spend a day on campus as a student going to classes and labs, buying lunch and generally acting like a student again.

We are also pursuing the idea of getting students on various city boards and commissions to show that we are active, concerned, and participating members of the Edmonton community.

The Scroll Project will also be occurring early in October. This is a cooperative effort by U of A, U of L, and U of C Students' Unions as a reaction to University funding problems. The goal is to have all university students in Alberta sign the petition asking the provincial government to increase funding to levels sufficient to ensure continued excellence. Look for the scroll in early October and please sign it.

If you have a problem with your student loan application, appeal, or disbursement, or are just curious about what awards you are eligible for, please see David Tupper, VP External, or myself and we can offer assistance.

Sometime this year a federal election will be held and there are issues that students should be aware of. The concerns of particular importance to students are funding, research, and summer employment. Make the candidates aware of your concerns and ensure they are on the next federal government's agenda. For your convenience a polling station will be set up in CAB. Remember to be enumerated before you vote.

It will be an active year and hopefully a very fulfilling one. If you want to be involved in any of the activities mentioned please come and see me in Room 259 S.U.B. or call 432-4236. I hope you all have an excellent year.

MICHELLE KITT — ACADEMIC COMMISSIONER

A warm welcome to all new and returning students to campus. I know you're all wondering what I've been keeping myself busy with all summer, so here it is.

MORE EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION. The University of Alberta is a very large and, at times, a very confusing institution. Although efforts are made by both administrative and student bodies to communicate effectively with you the students, sometimes many of you still run into difficulties and do not know where to turn. In an effort to become better communicators, the Students' Union, more specifically the Office of Academic Affairs, has taken the initiative to compile a potpourri of information into a manual. The manual has been distributed to each of the presidents of the faculty associations so that not only might they be better informed, but as well, they now have the information to serve you better.

EXTRA FUNDS FOR FACULTY ASSOCIATIONS: This year the Council of Faculty Associations has an extra \$50,000 in place for professional development. I am pleased to be involved in a portfolio which will be playing a vital role in investing some time, energy and money into your futures.

INVOLVEMENT SCHOLARSHIPS: At first glance a University setting may, for many, appear to be 'academics' and nothing else. Indeed if one flips through the awards section of the Calendar, 'academics' is all that would appear to be recognized. However, for all of you out there in student land who take the time to discover all the other avenues of enlightenment at the University and get INVOLVED, there are now rewards!!

A few other projects the Academic Portfolio is currently involved in, but has not yet completed, include establishing an Instructor/Course Evaluation guide, and perhaps some all-night study space.

If you have any questions or concerns, please come see me in 276 SUB, or call 432-2874.

MICHELLE KITT
Academic Commissioner

ARUNA D'SOUZA — HOUSING AND TRANSPORT COMMISSIONER

Hello! Welcome Back!

I'm Aruna D'Souza, your friendly neighborhood Housing and Transport Commissioner. This office has been humming with activity since May 1st. The H & T Commission, as its first major project, did a re-evaluation of the Students' Union policy on parking allocation. In doing this, we have established a guideline for the issuing of parking stalls by Parking Services.

Another project that we have been working on over the summer is the development of a proposal to be presented to Edmonton Transit to provide a lower-cost bus pass for University of Alberta students. Our first action was to contact the Edmonton Public School Board to get an idea of what they did to get a limited-use bus pass for high school students. We also contacted other Canadian universities to find out if they were pursuing similar proposals. Many, including Dalhousie, U of Toronto, U of Guelph, and U of Saskatchewan, are working on similar projects. Convinced that we needed a strong factual basis for any request to ETS, a preliminary survey was done in Spring Session classes. A more extensive survey will be undertaken this fall with the help of Archon International, a marketing research firm. With the help of Archon International, Dr. Cliff Young from the U of A's Business Faculty, Alderman Pat Mackenzie, and a very energetic and enthusiastic Housing and Transport Commission, we will have a proposal ready to present to ETS by December.

There are countless other things that cross my desk every day. Parking is always a concern: where do we find it, and who should get it when we do? And be aware of increases in food prices in the cafeterias in Lister Hall and CAB — we are working on this.

If you have any problems, concerns or ideas, PLEASE tell me about them. You can find me at 274 SUB, or phone me at 432-5329.

ARUNA D'SOUZA
Housing and Transport Commissioner

The Students' Union has openings for students to serve as members of various S.U. boards and committees. These positions are advertised in this Gateway. Keep your eyes open and get involved.

Your S.U. Working For You!!