

Your New Voice!

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Union Activities

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On July 24, 2002, AUSU proudly launched the new website for the Voice student newspaper. Long after the move from print to an electronic format, we finally have a permanent home for our publication in its most user-friendly format ever.

Look for a new issue each Wednesday, at <http://www.ausu.org/voice> and make sure to subscribe if you want a weekly email reminder.

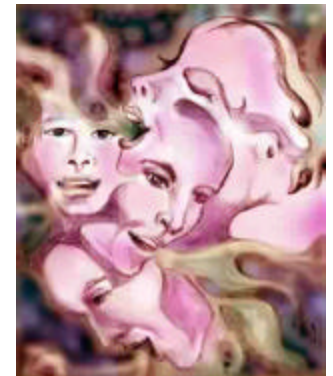
For those who pre-

ferred the downloadable PDF version, we will continue to offer this for each current issue, as well as for the archives.

We're very proud of our new site, and hope that you will like it as much as we do. Let us know what you think.

If you like what you see, consider submitting an article of your own. After all, it's your paper, and your Voice!

Pay is \$20 per published article.



<http://www.ausu.org/voice>

Contact editor, Tammy Moore at voice@ausu.org for more details.

Forums are back.

The new AUSU website won't be ready for a while, but in the meantime we have reintroduced the popular message forums to our current site.

We hope students will use the forums to keep in touch with each other, to share their experiences as AU students,

and to express themselves to the Students' Council.

One of the most popular features of the old site was the course reviews message board. We are well aware of that, and plan to include an expanded and improved course ratings and comments section on the

new site, as well as reviews of the AU degree programs.

In the meantime, a forums section will be available for posting written course reviews. Please share your experiences with a course or two and help out a fellow student.

AUSU Website Status



Website construction is underway

AUSU members have likely noticed that our website is currently in a state of change, with many of the previous features no longer accessible. We would like to assure you that this situation is temporary, and that better things are to come.

The demise of the previous website came on the heels of the abrupt departure of the old webmaster. Sadly, we were unable to con-

tinue maintenance of the old pages and very little was salvageable. A recent move to a new webhost has also led to changes.

Today, a bigger and better AUSU site is finally underway! Current plans are for a fall 2002 launch.

The new site will feature discussion forums, course and program review questionnaires, a

live chat, useful links, club pages, scholarship and awards info, and many other resources.

In the meantime we will make the current web pages as informative as possible and continue to monitor the forums for suggestions from you.

We have really appreciated your patience in this matter!

Groups and Clubs Committee

A new AUSU committee has been formed under the leadership of Sandra Moore. Its mandate is to help students form and become involved with groups and clubs that interest them.

To help get some activity

started, the Clubs Committee hopes to forge relationships with student groups at other universities, so that our students can become members of their already established clubs.

For those who wish to start their own new clubs, the new

AUSU site will include a section for this purpose and, if needed, we will provide web-space and a simple web template for clubs to post their happenings and a message forum where they can communicate with their members.

Watch for more information about Groups and Clubs in the coming months.

If you have an idea for a club, let us know!

Awards and Photo IDs

AUSU offers many scholarships, awards, and financial assistance options to our members. From time to time these are reviewed and adjusted in order to best serve you.

New awards are being discussed, and the amount of the computer bursary has been adjusted to better reflect the

cost of a basic computer and to allow us to accommodate more students.

Funds are available for students to attend educational conferences, and there is emergency funding for students in desperate need. Check our website for more information.

Student ID cards now have photos and a more official look. Apply for your card online, by mail, or at an AU campus. You may email a scan of your driver's license in lieu of having a photo taken. For info, go to <http://www.ausu.org/services.htm#id> or contact the AU Office of the Registrar.



Use your AU photo ID card to obtain student discounts.

New Council at Work

In March a brand new AUSU council was acclaimed. Ballot preparation was underway when one of our candidates unfortunately withdrew, leaving exactly nine hopefuls for nine positions.

While we all looked forward to the election, the financial savings of not having one were substantial.

Returning councillors include President Debbie Jabbour, VP Shirley Barg, Treasurer Gurpreet Dulai (all from Edmonton), and Karie-Anne Getta (Calgary). New members are: Sandra Moore (Redcliff, AB), Nicholas Palamarchuk (Andrew, AB), Darren Kereluk (Kamsack, SK), and Mac McInnis and Tamra Ross Low of Calgary.

Our first major project was the new Voice, followed by the AUSU

website. Check online for updates on our progress.



Darren, Sandra, Tammy (Voice Editor), Shirley, Christine (Admin. Assistant), Mac, Debbie, Nicholas, Gurpreet & Karie-Anne (Tamra not present).

Annual General Meeting

Every year AUSU has an Annual General Meeting which is open to all union members. This is your chance to sit in as the union discusses finances, bylaws, and other matters.

Our next AGM is scheduled for September 28, 2002 at 1:00 pm MST. Those wishing to attend can do so in person at the Edmonton AUSU offices, or via teleconference.

We look forward to seeing you there. For more info, contact us at ausu@ausu.org, call 1-800-788-9041, ext. 3413, or check our website.

AGM is September 28, 2002 at 1:00 pm MST. Attend in person or via teleconference.

AUSU Representing You.

Distance education students have always faced unique obstacles. AUSU recognizes this, and has worked to ensure that AU's students receive the same levels of tuition control and Provincial Learning Ministry attention as do other Alberta students.

Recently, the Alberta government has considered revising funding and tuition policies for distance education, due largely to the uniqueness of

Athabasca University. Presently AU is unable to access some of the government funding given to institutes that have massive physical infrastructures. AUSU will push for changes to the funding policies so that AU's financial needs can be met without adversely affecting tuition.

We are watching this process very carefully and have, at the request of Alberta Learning, met with government offi-

cial to give input and voice concerns.

Along with the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS), we will continue working to ensure that our members are represented and that their concerns are heard.

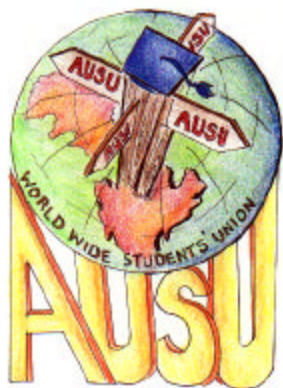
AUSU will work toward a stronger tuition consultation process between AU and its students, as well as additional student representation on Governing Council and other

decision-influencing committees at AU.

We will continue to update you as more information becomes available.



We want to stay in contact with you...



If you want to receive periodic newsletters or emailed updates from AUSU, please let us know by filling out the form on the right.

Also, if you wish to receive an emailed reminder each week as the Voice is published, you may subscribe on the Voice website.

ONLINE ENTRY:

If you have a connection to the internet, you may email the information on this form to ausu@ausu.org. You will be entered in the contest.

Reminder:

When you move, be sure to update your address with the AU registrar and AUSU.

Yes, I want AUSU to contact me!

Please print clearly in block letters

Name: _____

AU ID#: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

AUSU may contact me by mail.

AUSU may contact me by email.

Mail to: AUSU, #306, 10030-107th St., Edmonton, AB T5J 3E4

Contest!

Respond by Oct. 31, 2002 and you will be entered in a draw to win cool AUSU stuff.



AUSU Students' Publication
New Format; New Look.

Visit us at
<http://www.ausu.org/voice>

AUSU

Your Voice, Our Future

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VISIT US AT
[HTTP://WWW.AUSU.ORG](http://www.ausu.org)

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AUSU and Voice logos and artwork by Tammy Moore.