

# Athabasca University Students' Union

ANNUAL REPORTS • 2003 SUMMARY FINANCIALS • COMMITTEES & CLUBS • PLANNING

Annual General Meeting 2004  
Report to the Members



# AUSU

## FINANCIAL REPORT AND AGM INFORMATION

All data refers to the 2002/03 AUSU fiscal year, beginning September 1, 2002, and ending September 30, 2003. Planning information is for the 2003/04 fiscal year, beginning September 1, 2003, and ending September 30, 2004.

For verification and explanation of all financial data, please contact the AUSU VP Finance at [vpfa@ausu.org](mailto:vpfa@ausu.org).

The Annual General Meeting of AUSU will be held September 22, 2004, at 7:00 MST at: 2nd Floor, 10030, 107th Street, Edmonton, AB. Teleconference lines will be available for all students who request one and who live in an area with access to the teleconferencing network. Inquire with [ausu@ausu.org](mailto:ausu@ausu.org) for more information.

## CONTACTS

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# Welcome from the president



I am pleased to be the newly elected President of the Athabasca University Students' Union and to have such a strong and energetic student council. The new council is focused on revitalizing the union with several new initiatives and plans to enhance services and provide additional value to our membership. Council considers 2005 a year of change and of rebuilding the association. Other initiatives include reworking the scholarship/award program, policy updates, and website upgrades. I would like to take this opportunity to touch on a number of past and current initiatives underway at the union and to provide some additional insight into current activities and news affecting AUSU and our membership.

This year saw five new members elected to the student council in the March elections. I would like to thank our outgoing President, Debbie Jabbour, and Vice-President, Shirley Barg, for their dedication to the organization and membership. I would also like to thank our past council members for their time and effort while serving on council.

In the past year, projects completed by the previous council included installing an online election system that was used successfully in the spring election. A new mentor program was also introduced for our members, and several new student clubs were formed. AUSU and Athabasca University collaborated on a new Student Handbook this year, and AUSU donated money to AU's Access to Students with Disabilities department to assist our disabled members. Student awards totaling \$29,000 were provided to our members.

AUSU councillors were also externally active in promoting student concerns. Shirley Barg chaired the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) and actively participated in raising student awareness of tuition increases made possible by the introduction of Alberta's Bill 43. Council members were also active on several university committees promoting student interests and concerns.

With less than a month on council, the new representatives got their first test of group cohesiveness with the highly publicized news release of Alberta Premier Ralph Klein's academic paper. Issues of plagiarism surrounding Mr. Klein's paper had the media asking for interviews. Council took to the challenge and handled the situation admirably while defending AU's integrity.

The newly elected council members participated in the 2004 AU Convocation by providing an AUSU sponsored luncheon for the graduands. Each grad received a commemorative clock from the union, and AUSU also presented gifts to the honorary degree recipients.

Currently, council members are active in reworking the AUSU scholarship program. The marketing committee is in the process of examining the website, to ensure that it remains valid and useful for our members.

The initiatives of the past year could not have been achieved without the dedication and hard work of my cohorts. I would like to again thank the previous executive members, Debbie Jabbour, Shirley Barg, and Sandra Moore. I would also like to thank our previous council who triumphed in making council a challenging and rewarding experience. To my new council members — Lisa Priebe, Cindy Stobbe, Joy Krys, Shannon Maguire, and Lonita Fraser — I look forward to working with you to make distance education a positive experience for all our members. Karl Low and Teresa Neuman round out the new executive. Their relentless enthusiasm makes the challenges we face into positive experiences. Tamra Ross Low is our Voice editor and Communications Coordinator, whose professionalism is unparalleled. Christine Lynch, our administrative assistant, displays an unrelenting loyalty to AUSU that is greatly appreciated. Many thanks to all of you. Without your commitment to the Union and our members our initiatives would not be the success that they are.

Every AU student is a member of AUSU. Together we are a collective voice of over 30,000 students at the University. As an autonomous, democratic organization we are dedicated to advancing students' interests and member services, and achieving a high quality educational system that is accessible for all. All members are encouraged to join AUSU committees. You can participate in meetings and have a voice in the direction and the activities of your union. Let's work together to make the union and the university the best they can be.

Mac McInnis, President  
Athabasca University Students' Union  
September 2004



## AUSU AGM 2004

September 22, 7:00 pm, MST

September marks the event of the 2004 AUSU Annual General Meeting. All student members of AUSU are invited to attend, either in person at our Edmonton office, or via free teleconference. Items under discussion will include the AUSU 2003 financial statements, annual councillor reports, and strategic planning initiatives for the next fiscal year. The Annual report will be available online prior to the meeting. Watch this space for updates.

For more information on this year's AGM, contact Christine at [ausu@ausu.org](mailto:ausu@ausu.org).

Member input wanted

A tutor didn't

16.7  
%  
(6)

Screenshot of the front page of AUSU.org, showing the 2004 AGM announcement. Notice is enlarged and highlighted for legibility.

This notice was posted prior to 21 days before the meeting, and remained on the AUSU.org front page until the date of the meeting.

The AGM was also announced via flyers, posted in the Edmonton Learning Center, the Calgary Learning Center, and the main AU campus in Athabasca. This flyer is reproduced below.

# AGM 2004 Meeting Notices

Athabasca University  
Students' Union

Join us September 22 at 7:00 PM

Find out what your Students' Union has been doing for you at the 2004 Annual General Meeting

This meeting is open to all AUSU members  
(members include all current AU students, and those who have been in a course pending to the last day meeting)

Attend in person at our Edmonton office,  
or phone in for free from almost anywhere

All attendees will have the  
opportunity to ask questions or comment

[www.ausu.org](http://www.ausu.org)  
Your Voice, Our Future

[ANNUAL REPORTS](#) | [2003 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS](#) | [COUNCILLORS & CLUBS](#) | [PLANNING](#)  
**Annual General Meeting 2004**  
 Contact [ausu@ausu.org](mailto:ausu@ausu.org) or call  
 1-800-718-4034 ext 3453 for information  
 Visit [www.ausu.org](http://www.ausu.org) for updates



# AGM 2003

# agenda

Athabasca University Students' Union

11th Annual General Meeting

Date: September 22, 2004.

Time: 7 P.M. MST

Location: Room 225, Edmonton Learning Centre, Teleconference

1.0 Call to Order and President's Welcome

2.0 Confirmation of Notice of Meeting

3.0 Approval of Agenda

4.0 Approval of May 2003, AGM minutes

5.0 Approval of October 15, 2003 SGM minutes

6.0 Approval of December 19, 2003 SGM minutes

7.0 Annual Financial statements as at September 30, 2003

7.1 Appointment of Auditor for 2003-2004 Fiscal year

8.0 Presentation of AUSU Annual Activity Report

9.0 Open Forum and Discussion period

10.0 Adjournment

# AGM 2003

# meeting minutes

## ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' UNION

### 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

16:00 (MST), May 24, 2003

Room 225, Edmonton Learning Centre

Teleconference

Councillors Present: Debbie Jabbour (President), Shirley Barg, Sandra Moore, Karl Low, Mac McInnis  
Nicholas Palamarchuk, Karie-Anne Getta.

Others Present: Tamra Ross Low, Chief Editor of The Voice. Gurpreet Dulai, Kerry Baiwala  
Brad Kolodiazny, Teresa Neuman.

Record of Minutes: Carla Benavides, Administrative Assistant.

#### 1.0 Call to Order and President's Welcome

D.Jabbour called the meeting to order at 16:17

D.Jabbour welcomed the group and gave a brief summary of the 10 year history of AUSU.

#### 2.0 Confirmation of Notice of Meeting

D.Jabbour directed the attendees' attention to the AGM announcement that was put on the website at least twenty-one days before the date of the AGM. A copy of the announcement is included in the 2002 AGM package.

#### 3.0 Approval of Agenda

**Motion 030524.01** BIRT the agenda is approved as presented.

S.Barg – moved

N.Palamarchuk - second

**-Carried (Unanimously)-**

#### 4.0 Adoption of September 28, 2002 AGM minutes

**Motion 030524.02** BIRT the minutes of September 28, 2002 AGM be approved as presented.

S.Moore - moved

K.A.Getta - second

**-Carried (Unanimously)-**

#### 5.0 Annual financial Statements as of September 30, 2002

S.Moore explained that since G.Dulai resigned in March of 2003, S.Moore has assumed the position of Secretary/Treasurer. S.Moore has included the report for the annual financial statements in the 2002 AGM package.

**Motion 030524.03** BIRT the Annual Financial Statements be approved as presented

S.Barg – moved

M.McInnis - second

**-Carried (Unanimously)-**



## 5.1 Appointment of Auditor for 2002-2003 Fiscal year

**Motion 030524.04** BIRT AUSU continues using the auditing services provided by Yaremchuk & Annicchiarico.  
 S.Moore - moved  
 M.McInnis - second

**-Carried (Unanimously)-**

## 6.0 Motion to Repeal all Previous Bylaws in Favour of the New Bylaws

**Motion 030524.05** BIRT the proposed 2003 bylaws supercede all previous bylaws contingent upon approval by Alberta Corporate Registries.  
 S.Barg – moved  
 S.Moore - second

Discussion began with regards to the proper legal procedures involved in registering the new set of Bylaws. G.Dulai requested that bylaw 4.6.1 (b) which reads "...by more than two-thirds (2/3) of the votes..." be amended to read, "the majority of the number of council positions available". Discussion followed on the definition of quorum.

**Sub-Motion 030524.06** BIRT quorum of an AUSU council meeting is defined as being the majority of the number of positions active and present.  
 G.Dulai – moved  
 M.McInnis - second

Before voting on this motion, the question was posed how quorum is defined when a council or council meeting has only three members.

Vote called on sub-motion 030524.06  
 G.Dulai – in favour  
 All others - opposed

**-Defeated-**

Kerry Baiwala joined the meeting at 16:50

B.Kolodiazny brought attention to bylaw 6.8 and 6.9 which seems to give council total free will. K.Baiwala and others agreed that the bylaw seems very broad.

**Sub-motion 030524.07** BIRT bylaw 6.8 be reworded to, "Council may adopt special rules of order that govern its proceedings, that do not conflict with AUSU policies and bylaws".  
 B.Kolodiazny – moved  
 T.Neuman – second

**-Carried (Unanimously)-**

Vote called on motion 030524.05

**-Carried (Unanimously)-**

## 7.0 Presentation of AUSU Annual Activity Report

The activity report was accepted as presented. S.Barg offered congratulations to President D.Jabbour for her upcoming graduation, thanking her for her hard work and unfailing dedication to AUSU.

## 8.0 Open Forum and Discussion period

An open discussion was held on student attendees' experiences at AU.

## 9.0 Adjournment

**Motion 030524.08** BIRT this meeting is adjourned at 17:30 (MST)  
 N.Palamarchuk - moved  
 K.Getta - second

**-Carried (Unanimously)**

# SGM, OCTOBER 15 2003

# meeting minutes

## ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' UNION SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

SGM – October 15, 2003  
6:00 p.m.

**In attendance:** Debbie Jabbour (chair), Sandra Moore, Shirley Barg, Nicholas Palamarchuk, Karl Low, Mac McInnis, Stacey Steele, Teresa Neuman

**Others in attendance:** Darren Kereluk, Tamra Ross Low, Carla Benavides

D. Jabbour calls meeting to order at 6:10

Attendance taken and quorum is met. Confirmation of notice of meeting is made.

Motion on resolutions:

**031015.01**      **BIRT**, the existing Bylaws of AUSU are repealed and replaced by the attached by-laws, to take effect upon acceptance of these attached by-laws by the Alberta Corporate Registries.  
K. Low/M. McInnis  
– Carried  
Student D. Kereluk opposed.

Discussion:

- S. Barg thanked Karl Low for his hard work on the bylaws.
- D. Jabbour noted that she felt the new bylaws would be wonderful.

-Carried

Motion to adjourn at 6:14  
D. Jabbour

The October SGM was held for the single purpose of approving the new AUSU bylaws. These bylaws were previously approved at the 2003 AGM, but had to be slightly revised due to new requirements of the Alberta Societies Act. Unfortunately, when this new set of bylaws was sent to the Alberta Government for approval, they too were sent back for revisions due to regulatory errors previously unnoticed by Alberta Corporate Registries.

# SGM, DECEMBER 19 2003

# meeting minutes

## ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' UNION SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

**In attendance:** Debbie Jabbour (chair), Ryan Wagner, Mac McInnis, Shirley Barg, Stacey Steele, Teresa Neuman, Tamra Ross Low, Karl Low

**Others in attendance:** Cindy Stobbe, Carla Benavides

**Note Taker:** Mark Jones

D. Jabbour calls meeting to order at 6:04

Attendance taken and quorum is met.

Motion on resolutions:

- 031219.01**      **BIRT**, by special resolution, the current objects of AUSU are replaced by the attached objects, to take effect upon acceptance by Alberta Corporate Registries.  
S. Barg/M. McInnis  
– Carried
- 031219.02**      **BIRT**, by special resolution, the current bylaws of AUSU are replaced by the attached bylaws, to take effect upon acceptance by Alberta Corporate Registries.  
K. Low/R. Wagner

Discussion:

- S. Barg suggested AUSU should have made bylaws not contingent upon approval by Corporate Registries
- D. Jabbour expressed some concern over wording that states elections have to be called within two years of the previous election, as this requires elections be called earlier and earlier each time. S. Barg suggested stating that the election has to be held by March 31st of the election year. After some discussion council, generally agreed that this should not be a problem, since terms will still only be two years long and Council can have the choice to call an election earlier.
- S. Barg stated that we need to have some contingency in place in case we are audited by the government or dissolved by the minister

Vote called on motion 031219.02  
-Carried

Motion to adjourn at 6:17  
S. Barg

# president's report

**Committee Involvement:** As President of AUSU, I sit on all AUSU committees and chair several. I also sit on the AU Appeals and Awards committees and the AU Governing Council (AUGC) as a student representative.

**Special Projects:** In the last six months I have been involved in working on the AUSU Student Handbook/Planner, which is a collaborative project involving Athabasca University. The Student Handbook Committee is in the process of starting a new handbook for January 2004 distribution.

**Activities:** During the last year I have been active on several committees. In addition to my extensive work on the student handbook, I was involved with the Finance Committee working on developing the budget for this year.

In addition to my regular council duties I have been active on two Athabasca University committees. I sit on the awards committee, which is the committee responsible for awarding money to nominated students, tutors, and support staff, and the student appeals committee, which I have been involved with for the past year. This committee hears appeals from students regarding issues involving grades, plagiarism, and cheating. My role on this committee is as student representative.

Finally, this past year I was elected President of the Students' Union. In this new position I am responsible for overseeing all AUSU activities. This includes, but is not limited to, overseeing the revamping of awards offered by the union and the reworking of the website which will be online in the near future. A revision of the Student Handbook is also under way, and I was recently appointed to Athabasca University Governing Council as the student representative.

**Plans for the coming year:** One of my goals as a councillor is to raise the profile of AUSU among students as well as external stakeholders. I would like to actively increase services to students and ensure students' needs are met in a timely and efficient manner. I would like to see council work as a cohesive and efficient unit to meet student needs.

**Comment on council:** The newly elected council members are more geographically diverse than previous council members. This poses a unique challenge for council. This new council is finding its own way with positive results as we all learn our new roles from different parts of the country. As a result, I foresee positive learning experiences for council members that in turn will have positive results for Athabasca University students.

**Mac McInnis**  
**President**

# vp external report

**Committee Involvement:** External (chair), Newsletter (chair), Personnel, Student Planner.

**Activities:** As part of the role of VP External, I represent AUSU members on the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS). Members who live in Alberta can expect to hear more about CAUS during the expected provincial election as post-secondary education and its issues will be front and centre during the campaign.

I was a guest at the June meeting of the Canadian Federation of Students and was impressed by the solidarity and collective power garnered by its members. At the meeting, I was reminded that debt is a huge obstacle that keeps many students from accessing post-secondary education. The newsletter committee plans to examine student debt and its effects on our members in the September issue of our newsletter, *AUSU News*.

Council is about serving our members. Included in my duties are regular meetings of the Executive and Council where we work to improve our services and access to them for members. I also attend meetings of the Ottawa coffee group and enjoy meeting AUSU members who live in the Ottawa area.

**Plans for the coming year:** The pending Alberta election means that post-secondary issues must remain in the public eye. AUSU will continue to be involved with CAUS, where along with election issues, CAUS continues to work for increased funding for students and for decreased student debt. Check out CAUS at [www.caus.net](http://www.caus.net).

The students' union has been a great resource for me and an important part of my AU experience. To meet the needs of members down the road, council needs to undertake some long-range strategic planning. This will ensure that the programs and services our members want and need will be developed and delivered effectively for future members.

**Comment on council:** I was thrilled to be re-elected to council and to be elected Vice-President External. The Mentor and Study Buddy programs are examples of the high-quality services that AUSU offers its members. Check out AUSU at [www.ausu.org](http://www.ausu.org) for all the benefits of membership in your student union.

I would like to thank the AUSU staff for their hard work during the last year and for making projects like on-line voting during the recent Council election such a success. I would also like to thank the members of the previous Council who did not return to office. Their hard work has made our jobs easier as Council begins this new term.

I encourage AUSU members to become involved with the students' union and to get to know your councillors. They are a dynamic and high-energy group and are undertaking new projects to improve services for AUSU members. Make the time to volunteer – it's your Council and succeeds only with your support.

**Teresa Neuman – Ottawa, Ontario**  
**Vice-President External and Student Affairs**



# vp finance report

**Committee Involvement:** Finance (Chair), Executive, Legislative, Personnel (non-voting), Convocation, AU Academic Council Representative for AUSU

**Special Projects:** Council anti-virus control, financial policy re-write.

**Activities:** During the last year I have been involved in a number of council activities in addition to my regular council duties. As the Legislative Committee chair, I worked to finally successfully revise the AUSU Bylaws to be more reflective of the special needs and requirements of a distance education students' union, and to give members more means to direct AUSU activities.

When the previous VPFA resigned, I was appointed to the position and began by completing the revisions to the AUSU financial policies with the help of the Finance Committee. These revisions provide for more accountability to AUSU members while at the same time keeping operations flowing smoothly and addressing concerns raised during the annual audit. This was followed by preparing a more realistic AUSU budget for the current year, which required council to make some hard decisions about which projects should receive priority.

In addition to the regular duties of the VPFA (monitoring expenses, dealing with accounts and administrative activities) I have also instituted the practice of preparing a monthly statement of AUSU's financial activities, which is submitted at a regular council meeting during the following month. This initiative addresses a long-standing complaint of both myself and other members of council of not knowing where we stand financially.

Most recently, I obtained permission from AU to provide AUSU council and staff with access to Athabasca University's anti-virus licensing program — a move that should save AUSU a few hundred dollars per year while ensuring that no councillor or staff member is at risk of contracting and spreading a computer virus to our members.

**Plans for the coming year:** I will be examining various investment areas to ensure that AUSU's savings are making the maximum return while providing the desired level of flexibility. In addition, I intend to examine various means for people to be able to provide payment to AUSU so that we have the ability to provide merchandise and other fund-raising activities for our members.

**Comment on council:** Over the past year, council has taken a number of steps to sort out its own internal operations. In the ten years we've been operating we've found some of the unique challenges and opportunities that operating at a distance provides. Member apathy, strong with any student union, is an even more significant challenge when there is no campus to promote your activities or even to hold them in. We've found ways to operate that work at a distance and are becoming, like our members, more diverse in our places of origin and residence. This will present additional challenges in the future.

**Karl Low**  
**Vice President, Finance and Administration**

# AUSU 2002/03 financial report

- Over 2002/2003 AUSU created an operational surplus of just over \$100,000. Revenue was up and expenses were down.
- The increase in revenue is due to an increase in AU students and AUSU membership fees of over 10%. This was also partially responsible for the significant rise in the costs of the annual AUSU newsletter, as it contained more content and needed to be delivered to more students.
- A significant savings was found in election expenses as the year was not an election period for AUSU. Future election expenses should be significantly lower as we have now moved to a primarily online system for elections.
- Similarly, staff expenses dropped due primarily to maternity leave for our senior staff and the lower cost for her temporary replacement.
- There was also a significant savings in website expenses as many of the one time set-up costs were encompassed in the previous year of operations. This was somewhat offset by a significant increase in contract services to maintain and keep the website updated.
- Professional Fees saw a slight reduction due to moving the day to day accounting duties in house.
- Overall a good year for AUSU which allowed AUSU considerable latitude in attempting new programs to benefit members.

Presented to the Members on Behalf of AUSU Council;

**Karl Low**  
**Vice President, Finance and Administration**



**ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2003**

**AND**

**AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS**



**YAREMCHUK & ANNICCHIARICO LLP**  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



P.J. Yaremchuk, B.Comm., FCA\*  
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**AUDITORS' REPORT**

To the Members of **Athabasca University Students' Association:**

We have audited the statement of financial position of **Athabasca University Students' Association** as at September 30, 2003 and the statements of changes in net assets, operations and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Association's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at September 30, 2003 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Edmonton, Alberta  
December 2, 2003

*Yaremchuk + Annicchiarico LLP*  
Chartered Accountants



**ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2003**

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	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>		
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash (Note 5) .....	\$171,210	\$ 92,643
Term deposits and accrued interest (Note 5) .....	102,800	100,000
Accounts receivable (Note 3).....	76,309	45,575
Prepaid expenses.....	<u>4,447</u>	<u>217</u>
Total current assets .....	354,766	238,435
EQUIPMENT (Note 4) .....	<u>12,364</u>	<u>14,818</u>
TOTAL .....	<u>\$367,130</u>	<u>\$253,253</u>
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>		
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities .....	\$ 18,750	\$ 14,535
Prepaid student fees.....	<u>58,168</u>	<u>55,880</u>
Total current liabilities.....	<u>76,918</u>	<u>70,415</u>
NET ASSETS:		
Invested in equipment .....	12,364	14,818
Internally restricted (Note 5) .....	122,349	121,198
Unrestricted .....	<u>155,499</u>	<u>46,822</u>
Total net assets .....	<u>290,212</u>	<u>182,838</u>
TOTAL .....	<u>\$367,130</u>	<u>\$253,253</u>

Approved by the Board:

.....Director

.....Director

**ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION****STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2003**

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	Invested In <u>Equipment</u>	Internally <u>Restricted</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Balance at beginning of year.....	\$14,818	\$121,198	\$ 46,822	<b>\$182,838</b>	\$128,720
Excess (deficiency ) of revenue over expenses .....	(4,501)	(8,325)	120,200	<b>107,374</b>	54,118
Transfer to restricted net assets...	-	9,476	(9,476)	-	-
Equipment purchases.....	<u>2,047</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,047)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance at end of year .....	<u>\$12,364</u>	<u>\$122,349</u>	<u>\$155,499</u>	<b><u>\$290,212</u></b>	<b><u>\$182,838</u></b>

**ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2003**

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	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
<b>REVENUE:</b>		
Student fees .....	\$369,328	\$327,454
Advertising .....	-	1,059
Interest.....	4,435	1,821
Vending and other .....	<u>1,786</u>	<u>1,099</u>
Total revenue.....	<u>375,549</u>	<u>331,433</u>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>		
Amortization.....	4,501	5,724
Bank charges and interest.....	342	209
Computer expenses .....	1,603	8,845
Contract services.....	7,362	649
Events and programs (Note 6).....	34,241	31,149
Election.....	-	20,120
Honoraria.....	64,115	50,986
Insurance.....	594	650
Newsletter.....	58,117	40,929
Office .....	21,197	15,154
Professional fees .....	9,013	11,929
Representation expenses.....	23,333	28,070
Salaries and benefits.....	20,743	33,303
Subscription fees.....	1,575	505
Student awards.....	11,344	7,031
Telephone.....	6,435	7,335
Website .....	<u>3,660</u>	<u>14,727</u>
Total expenses .....	<u>268,175</u>	<u>277,315</u>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES .....</b>	<b><u>\$107,374</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 54,118</u></b>

**ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2003**

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	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Cash receipts:		
Students fees.....	\$346,068	\$330,282
Advertising .....	874	3,620
Interest.....	4,435	1,821
Vending and other .....	<u>1,786</u>	<u>1,099</u>
	353,163	336,822
Cash disbursements.....	<u>269,749</u>	<u>278,916</u>
Net cash from operating activities.....	<u>83,414</u>	<u>57,906</u>
INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Purchase of equipment.....	(2,047)	(9,217)
Increase in term deposits - net .....	<u>(2,800)</u>	<u>(16,123)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities .....	<u>(4,847)</u>	<u>(25,340)</u>
INCREASE IN CASH DURING THE YEAR.....	78,567	32,566
CASH AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR .....	<u>92,643</u>	<u>60,077</u>
CASH AT END OF THE YEAR.....	<u>\$171,210</u>	<u>\$ 92,643</u>

**ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**SEPTEMBER 30, 2003**

---

**1. PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION:**

The objectives of the Association shall be to provide for the administration of the affairs of Athabasca University students including:

- a) the development and management of student institutions;
- b) the development and implementation of a system of student governing principles;
- c) the promotion of the general welfare of Athabasca University students;
- d) the furtherance of the values inherent in an open University as well as of life long learning.

**2. ACCOUNTING POLICES:**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. The significant policies are as follows:

*Revenue recognition:*

Student fee revenue is recognized in the year to which the fees relate. Revenue from special activities is recognized when the function to which the revenue relates to has been presented or completed.

*Donated services:*

The work of the Association is dependent on the voluntary service of many individuals. Since these services are not normally purchased by the Association and because of the difficulty of determining their fair value, donated services are not recognized in these financial statements.

*Equipment:*

Equipment is stated at cost. Amortization is provided using the declining balance method at the following annual rates:

Office.....	20%
Computer .....	30%

Equipment donated to the Association is recorded at its estimated fair market value. No equipment was donated in 2003 or 2002.



**ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**SEPTEMBER 30, 2003**

---

**2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED):**

*Cash and cash equivalents:*

Cash and cash equivalents consist of balances with banks and short-term investments with maturities not exceeding 90 days.

*Use of estimates:*

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**3. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE:**

Accounts receivable are comprised of the following:

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Athabasca University - students fees.....	\$50,249	\$44,200
Mount Royal College - students fees .....	20,000	-
Canada Post - refund.....	6,060	-
Other.....	<u>-</u>	<u>1,375</u>
Total accounts receivable.....	<u>\$76,309</u>	<u>\$45,575</u>

**4. EQUIPMENT:**

The major categories of equipment and related accumulated amortization are as follows:

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated Amortization</u>	<u>Net Book Value</u> <u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Office .....	\$ 9,599	\$ 5,137	\$ 4,462	\$ 3,530
Computer.....	<u>39,446</u>	<u>31,544</u>	<u>7,902</u>	<u>11,288</u>
	<u>\$49,045</u>	<u>\$36,681</u>	<u>\$12,364</u>	<u>\$14,818</u>

**ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**SEPTEMBER 30, 2003**

---

**5. NET ASSETS - INTERNALLY RESTRICTED:**

Included in cash and term deposits are certain amounts that have been internally restricted at September 30, 2003 by resolution of Council as follows:

	Balance at Beginning of year	(Deficiency) Excess of Revenue over Expenses	Transfer from Unrestricted Net Assets	Balance at End of Year
Student awards .....	\$ 75,000	\$(9,476)	\$9,476	\$ 75,000
Contingency .....	27,175	677	-	27,852
Capital reserve .....	16,305	406	-	16,711
Club projects .....	<u>2,718</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,786</u>
Total .....	<u>\$121,198</u>	<u>\$(8,325)</u>	<u>\$9,476</u>	<u>\$122,349</u>

**6. EVENTS AND PROGRAMS:**

Events and programs consist of the following:

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Student diaries .....	\$ -	\$ 539
Convocation .....	20,350	26,544
Advertising and promotional materials .....	13,178	520
Gifts and donations .....	713	516
Staff appreciation .....	-	1,033
Database .....	-	1,540
Club promotion .....	<u>-</u>	<u>457</u>
Total .....	<u>\$34,241</u>	<u>\$31,149</u>

**7. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS:**

The Association's financial instruments consist of cash, term deposits, accounts receivable and accounts payable and accrued liabilities. It is management's opinion that the Association is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments.

The carrying values of the financial instruments approximate their fair values.

**8. INCOME TAX STATUS:**

The Association is incorporated under the Societies Act of Alberta as an Association without share capital. The Association is a non-profit organization within the meaning of the Income Tax Act (Canada) and is exempt from income taxes.

# AUSU Activity Report 2003/04

## priority activities

### AUSU Scholarships and Awards

The entire AUSU Scholarship program was redesigned to make scholarships easier to qualify for, and to include more scholarship options for disadvantaged and low-income students;  
More money than ever was allocated to academic achievement awards in this final year of the awards being offered;  
New emphasis on current students, rather than graduates, and more flexible criteria will include students in need due to a wide range of circumstances;  
New scholarships to be announced on AUSU.org in the very near future.

### AUSU Advocacy

#### Student representatives on:

AU Governing Council  
AU Academic Council  
AU Governing Council Finance Committee  
AU Budget Advisory Committee  
AU Student Awards Committee  
AU Student Appeals Committee  
Strategic University Planning  
Council of Alberta University Students [CAUS]  
Center for Learning Accreditation Steering  
Student Services Group  
Various task forces of the AU Middle States Accreditation board

### The Voice

Many new regular writers and columns  
New merchandise has brought in a modest income. Plans for more merchandise and an online store  
Readership increased an estimated 33%  
Small income from classified advertizing, an improvement from no advertising income in the previous two years. Plans to increase this source of revenue  
First Annual Reader Survey very successful - second survey in the works  
First Annual Voice Writing Contest quite popular and quality of submissions very high. 2004 contest opening in September 2004  
Increase in Letters to the Editor  
Voice reporters now attending and reporting on AUSU council meetings;  
A Voice reporter/photographer was sent to this year's convocation to take pictures of the ceremonies and interview graduates. Her contributions were featured in two special convocation issues of The Voice  
New links to allow greater reader feedback at the end of every article.

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## AUSU News

The third edition of AUSU News was mailed in March of 2004 to 33,000 AUSU members worldwide

Good response to the Surf the Site contest, which sought to increase awareness of AUSU.org

This year's newsletter featured an all new design, which will be used for the upcoming fall 2004 edition

Two page election spread featured bios of all candidates for the 2004/06 council. Combining the newsletter and election notice in one publication saved an estimated \$19,000 in printing and postage costs.

## Election 2004

First ever online AUSU election saved over \$20,000

Election software well tested for security. It functioned very well, and the election proceeded with no unanticipated problems

The new election software has proved useful for running small but flexible front page surveys, and will also be used to run low-cost elections for student club executives

First ever live chats with candidates allowed AU students around the world to question candidates in a live text forum

Despite low voter turnout, interest in the election from those on the AUSU forums and chat was high

New AUSU council sworn in late March, 2004

All outgoing and incoming council members attended a full day teleconference changeover meeting, which included attendees from across Canada, and one in China. This is the first time that such an extensive changeover meeting was held, to assure that new council members had as much information as possible on the workings of council over the previous two-year term.

## Conference Attendance

Council funded an AUSU student to attend a program-relevant conference.

## AUSU.org

Significant updates to the AUSU.org user account system greatly enhanced usability and access to the secure areas of the site. The double login, once required for access to both AUSU.org secure pages and the AUSU forums system, was eliminated by a new account system that integrates the main website accounts with the accounts for the new forums and chat system.

The old AUSU forums were abandoned in favour of a new system (PHP-BB), which has proved very popular. While the previous forums were housed and maintained by an external company, the new forums system is contained within AUSU webspace and maintained by the AUSU webmaster, allowing quicker response times to account problems, and greater customization of the forum interface.

New AUSU chatroom allows user profiles with pictures and multiple rooms. Chat system "plugs-in" to the forum system, allowing integrated accounts;

New login system allows users to check a box to have the system "remember"

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them when they return, making it unnecessary to log in again  
No more need to log in again to visit the various AUSU student clubs sites  
Two new sections added to the website: **Advocacy** includes transcripts and mp3 files of discussions and live forums about education related issues. The **Student Help Center** includes web pages filled with information and advice on making the most out of the AU experience, such as booking invigilated exams  
New page for Convocation 2004 coming soon  
AUSU.org will run a large user survey to collect information on AUSU members and their needs. This information will be used to improve AUSU services and target those services to our ever changing membership

### **AUSU Mentor Program**

The Mentor Program launced in early 2004. This program pairs experienced AU students with new students, for the purpose of providing newcomers with someone to assist them in making the most of AU and distance education  
The number of students volunteering to mentor new students has been high, and a database of available mentors is kept in the AUSU office  
Requests for mentors have been few, but mentors are available for any new student who feels they would like some extra support and advice in their first few months at AU

### **Study Buddy Program**

The program has served a large number of students since its inception in late 1996, and continues to be a very popular program of AU  
The on-line list, where students are able to select a study buddy of their choice, makes the matching process much quicker and easier. Students who do not find a suitable Study Buddy listed can add their own name so that they may be contacted when someone else in their course is seeking a Study Buddy  
This system makes it much more likely that students will find a Study Buddy, as everyone who is listed is interested in the program, whereas the old system used names off the student directory and there was no guarantee that those on the directory wanted to participate in the program

### **Student Handbook/Planner**

The AUSU Student Handbook/Planner was reintroduced this year as a trial project which paired AUSU with AU to combine the AUSU publication with the AU Student Handbook. This publication was reasonably well received, but continuing this project is not financially feasible at this time  
The 2005 AUSU Student Handbook/Planner is underway. An agreement has been struck with a Canadian advertizing firm to obtain ads for the publication and offset printing and mailing costs. The new handbook will seek to include all of the features that students liked about the previous publications in a somewhat smaller and more portable format.

### **AUSU at Convocation 2004**

AUSU provided a luncheon for all of this year's new graduates  
All new graduates were presented with a brushed nickel desk clock, engraved with the AUSU logo and a congratulatory message. Those who did not attend



convocation were sent their gifts by mail  
 AUSU staff were on hand to give out the gifts from the side of the main stage, and to greet the graduates  
 The two honorary graduates - Pamela Wallin and Dr. Tony Bates - were presented with gifts on behalf of AU students

### **Conference Funding and Computer Bursary**

AUSU Funding is available for any student who wishes to attend a conference relevant to their field of study, and for students in need who require a computer  
 AUSU continues to provide computers for students in need, in the form of a computer bursary given out once every four months  
 AUSU continues to provide emergency funding to students in extreme need

### **Policy Review**

Now that the revision of the AUSU bylaws is complete, a thorough review of the AUSU operating policies is underway  
 Policies will now be reviewed on a regular basis, to ensure that they do not become outdated or irrelevant

### **Groups and Clubs**

Several new AUSU Student Groups and Clubs were launched. See the Groups and Clubs section of this booklet for information on all existing clubs  
 Free web-space and web design provided for AUSU clubs  
 All AUSU clubs now have private forums on the AUSU system, and can maintain their own forums by adding members without having to go through the AUSU webmaster  
 AUSU funding for approved club expenses

### **Committees**

Several new committees - see the Committees section of this publication for details of all active AUSU committees.

### **Coffee Groups/Study Groups**

AUSU now provides webspace to list contact information for local coffee and study groups comprised of AU students. Many students have been surprised to find other registered AU student in their local area!

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# AUSU council committees

COMMITTEE	CHAIR	MEMBERS
Academic	Tamra Ross Low/Joy Kryś	Huma Lodhi, Carla Benavides
Clubs	Lonita Fraser	Tara Bartkow, Karen Reynolds, Vidhya Sridharan
Finance	Karl Low	
Legislative	Cindy Stobbe	Karl Low, Shirley Barg, Alexandria Sassoon, Rebecca Flan.
Marketing & Public Relations	Shannon Maguire	Joy Kryś, Huma Lodhi, Lisa Priebe
Mentor	Lisa Priebe	Huma Lodhi, Vidhya Sridharan
Newsletter	Teresa Neuman	Shirley Barg, Cindy Stobbe
Personnel	Mac McInnis	Teresa Neuman, Cindy Stobbe, Karl Low (non voting)
Planner	Mac McInnis	Teresa Neuman
Student Services	Mac McInnis	Committee is dormant at this time

AUSU President Mac McInnis is an member of all AUSU committees

AUSU Communications Coordinator Tamra Ross Low provides support services for all committees.

# Athabasca University and external committees

COMMITTEE	STUDENT MEMBER(S)
AU Governing Council	Mac McInnis
AU Academic Council	Karl Low
AUGC Finance	Mac McInnis
Budget Advisory	- to be determined
Student Awards	Mac McInnis
Student Appeals	Mac McInnis
Staff Awards	Mac McInnis
Strategic University Planning	- to be determined
Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS)	Teresa Neuman, Mac McInnis
Student Services Group	- to be determined
Middle States Accreditation Self Study	Teresa Neuman, Tamra Ross Low, Karl Low
Bryon Paege Memorial Award	Mac McInnis

# AUSU council and staff member reports

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## Councillor's Report Lonita Fraser

**Activities:** During my time on council I have contributed to council run committees in addition to those that I am a member of and chair. I have been present at all council meetings to date, and participated in all votes and discussions, both via meetings and through email discussion. It has also been my privilege and pleasure to chair the Groups and Clubs Committee whose focus is the creation of social, academic, etc. (both online and off) groups that bring students together under common bonds.

**Plans for the coming year:** I hope, over my remaining time on council, to increase the number of student clubs and coffee groups, and to find other ways to increase student involvement, both with AUSU and with each other. It is my hope that we can find ways to bridge the gap that some distance students feel, and to dispel the feeling of "studying in isolation."

**Comment on council:** I think that Council has been doing a lot of good work in the time since I've joined, particularly in the areas of revamping student financial aid, and finding other opportunities for students to experience the same benefits as those who attend in-class university settings. In particular I note the revamping of the scholarships, bursaries, and other funding provided by the AUSU for its members, and the recent Student Price Card project. More such projects are being looked into in the hope that we can provide as many opportunities for you as we possibly can.

## Councillor's Report Joy Kryz

**Special Projects:** AUSU website research; AUSU promotional projects, and a Student Communication project (initiating)

**Activities:** My six months with council have been such a fresh experience! My previous degree is from China where the education and students' unions system are quite different, so I am gorging with knowledge about council policies and issues. I'm also glad to contribute my limited yet passionate experience toward the Marketing Committee's goal of increasing AUSU awareness, and ensuring our services are being used.

**Plans for the coming year:** As I return to Edmonton, I hope council makes good use of my availability to help with events in the Edmonton Learning Centre. Lack of communication is a disadvantage of distance learning. I want to take a lead in creating and developing student communication in every possible way. My proposal for a Student Communication Project is forthcoming.

**Comment on council:** I was surprised that AUSU has such expansive and systematic by-laws and policies, and works so professionally. The new website is wonderful, and the user-friendly forums have attracted more users, which means AUSU services are better accepted. For AUSU club presidents, the forum is much easier to monitor and update. Although AUSU is doing great work, too few students use our services due to 1) low awareness of AUSU and 2) the assumption that distance universities don't have students' unions.

## Councillor's Report Shannon Maguire

**Special Projects:** Proposed and created new Marketing & Public Relations Committee (MPRC)

**Activities:** As soon as I was elected to council I became chair of the Convocation Committee, which was responsible for planning and organizing AUSU's contribution to the 2004 Convocation. After convocation, I proposed and created the MPRC which is responsible for marketing, raising student awareness of AUSU and its programs and services, and informing students about AUSU activities, services, resources and positions on current events and issues. The committee has created its terms of reference and is conducting research to determine how to improve AUSU.org and ensure students are aware of all that we have to offer. It also recently evaluated AUSU's marketing situation which is the first step in creating a new marketing plan. I have also been working with the External Committee to investigate the possibility of arranging for our students to access the gyms of other post-sec institutions.

**Plans for the Coming Year:** The MPRC will conduct market research via a survey to obtain more information about the needs and wants of the students and help create a new AUSU marketing plan. It will also work to increase awareness of AUSU activities by developing better methods for informing students of the latest AUSU news.

**Comment on Council:** As this is a newly elected council, we have understandably spent a large portion of our time learning about each other and the resources and policies of AUSU. Today, everyone is doing excellent work and I am confident that many new ideas to benefit students will be brought forward and implemented this year.

## Councillor's Report Lisa Priebe

**Special Projects:** Scholarship & Awards program

**Activities:** When I joined council in April, I was already sitting on the Legislative and Mentor Committees. I continued with the Legislative Committee until August, when I resigned due to increased responsibilities on the Mentor Committee, which I volunteered to chair after the departure of Stacey Steele in July. Over the summer, the Mentor Committee has worked to implement a website that offers information for both students and volunteer mentors. I was also part of a group that started the Marketing and PR Committee.

After joining council it became apparent that the scholarship and awards program was outdated and not serving AUSU members as well as it could be. I took on revamping this program and drafting a new policy and application forms. The new program should be voted on in Sept 2004.

**Plans for the coming year:** I would like to see council continue to assess the needs of AUSU members and continue improving current services such as our website and mentor/study buddy programs. The Marketing Committee will assist by surveying students and holding focus groups. One goal of the mentor program is to become a fully operational peer counselling program in the next 2-5 years and I feel the committee should continue to work on this for the upcoming year. I would also like to see council work on a health/dental plan for our members if feasible and affordable.

**Comment on council:** The new council appears to work well together and is a cohesive group. Many new projects have been identified and I am impressed with the amount of work accomplished since the spring election. I look forward to the upcoming year.

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## Councillor's Report Cindy Stobbe

**Special Projects:** N/A

**Activities:** During my six months on council I have learned an enormous amount about AUSU and the services that it offers. I had the pleasure of being able to attend one of the convocation ceremonies and present the honorary degree recipient with a gift from the students of AU.

I became involved on the Legislative Committee and took over the chair position from Karl Low in June. I have taken a very pro-active role and have implemented a new format for the current policies. I am currently working on ensuring that all policies are reviewed regularly and remain up-to-date.

**Plans for the coming year:** I plan on continuing to work with the Legislative Committee to ensure that all policies are reviewed and up-to-date. I would love to see more AU students become aware of AUSU and the services available to them. I will also be open to any new projects that become available.

**Comment on council:** Having only been with council for six months, I am still learning everyday. However, in that short time, I have had the opportunity to work with tremendous individuals on council and staff. Since my time, I have seen the benefits of AUSU. A few of these are as follows: AUSU recently awarded 27 Academic Distinction Awards; AUSU provides numerous students with access to the Study Buddy program, a program that I have personally used and felt was invaluable; AUSU provides students with the opportunity to obtain free publications and students handbooks; AUSU has many clubs and programs: Mentor Program, AUBSA, AUSSS, AUSC, AUPSS, SMC, and Coffee Groups.

## Communications Coordinator's Report Tamra Ross Low

As AUSU's Communications Coordinator, I perform many diverse tasks and have an opportunity to be involved in all council projects and initiatives. My main tasks are to maintain AUSU.org and its companion websites, and to create publications, websites and graphics for council as needed. I am also the editor of The Voice Magazine, which publishes each week in both html and pdf formats.

Working with AUSU allows me to use a wide range of skills and work on a variety of projects each month. This means that time on the job moves very quickly, and while the job is very challenging, there is little chance of boredom.

I'm very excited about the next year with AUSU. After three years with this organization, I'm pleased to note that each council has improved on the work of the previous group. As one of two long-term staff members with this organization, I believe that part of my role is to ensure that the new council members have as much information as possible on how AUSU has worked in the past – what has been tried, what has been successful, and what has not – so that the new group can continue to move forward and not become mired in efforts that have already been made by a prior group. The AUSU staff, then, provide needed continuity between past and present councils.

A benefit of my position as Communications Coordinator is that I have the opportunity to work directly with AU students, both as editor of The Voice, which receives almost all submissions from freelance student writers, and as webmaster, which has allowed me to work on websites and graphics for AUSU sponsored student clubs.

I wish all AUSU students good luck with their studies.

## Administrative Assistant's Report Christine Lynch

I have been with AUSU since November of '98. My role is typically administrative but recently I have taken on some basic and some not so basic financial responsibilities. I love the challenge of learning new skills and was very excited when I was asked to take on this new endeavor. I have adapted quite well and the mistakes have been very minimal!

I really enjoy it here as the council and staff are great individuals to work with. Our students are also fantastic and I have made many life-long friends over the years. I was recently on maternity leave for a year and found that during that time I missed being here. I love my little boy completely but a part of me longed for the day I was sitting back at my desk and helping AU students!

My regular office duties include:

- Answering e-mail, telephone, & mail; redirecting student inquiries/requests when necessary
- Mailout of publications to students on request; usually daily
- ADP payroll twice a month
- Ordering office supplies
- Filing, keeping the office as neat and efficient as possible
- Preparing minutes in draft form until approved for final draft
- Preparing meeting packages
- Forwarding the many student opportunities I receive to T. Ross Low for posting on AUSU.org and The Voice.
- Booking of various functions; retreats, conference attendance, AGM
- Entering data for all payables and receivables into Simply Accounting
- Printing cheques
- Monthly reconciliations of bank

statements, petty cash and mail meter

- Matching mentors with mentorees
- Operating new Mail Meter that we recently leased from Pitney Bowes (affixing appropriate postage, printing monthly reports, setting up individual accounts to ensure appropriate accounts are debited, refilling postage and ordering supplies.)

Goals for the future:

- Continue developing a Procedure Manual to enable someone to assume my role if I am away.
- Reorganize the office to utilize space efficiently.
- Continue to look for ways to better serve our students.

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# AUSU sponsored student groups and clubs

## The Student Moms' Club (SMC)

**Established:** January 2003

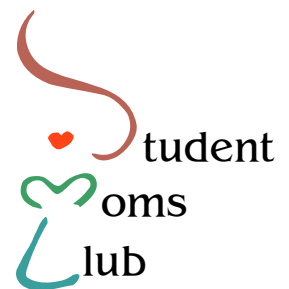
**Membership:** 2 executives; 57 student members

**Contact:** [smc@ausu.org](mailto:smc@ausu.org)

**Website:** [www.ausu.org/clubs/smc](http://www.ausu.org/clubs/smc)

**Purpose:** The Student Moms' Club (SMC) is to provide student moms with happiness and support in their personal and study lives: that is, a place for student moms to interact about housework, relationships, children and of course school work, and to help student moms find new friendships with other moms.

Our Style: Less academic! More fantastic!!



## Athabasca University Sports Club (AUSC)

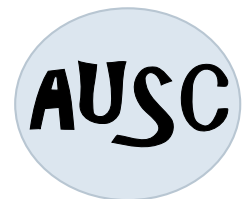
**Established:** February 4, 2004

**Membership:** 2 Executives, 20 student members

**Contact:** [ausc@ausu.org](mailto:ausc@ausu.org)

**Website:** [www.ausu.org/clubs/ausc](http://www.ausu.org/clubs/ausc)

**Purpose:** The AUSC was created to give Athabasca University students a place where they can learn and talk about sports, health and fitness. The club is also hoping to be able to provide students with the opportunity to play sports with each other in organized sports groups. Some of the main features of the club are the Fitness Support Group, Discussion Forum, Ask Angela, and sports links. The Fitness Support Group is an online support group where members set sports and fitness goals and write weekly journals about how they did each week. There are also weekly challenges and an online cookbook. The Discussion Forum is used by members to talk about sports and fitness. Ask Angela is a feature where members can send in their sports and fitness questions and have them answered by a fitness expert. The club's website also contains numerous links to helpful sports and fitness sites where students can learn how to play and get involved in sports.



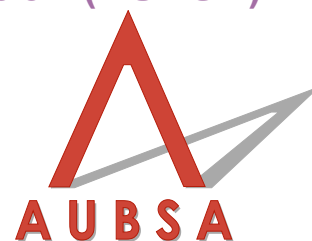
## Athabasca University Business Students' Association (AUBSA)

**Established:** October 2003

**Membership:** 3 executives; 21 student members

**Contact:** aubsa@ausu.org

**Website:** www.ausu.org/clubs/aubsa



**Purpose:** The aim of Athabasca University Business Students' Association (AUBSA) is to help bridge the gap between business students and to enrich their lives and experiences during their time at AU. AUBSA's primary mandate is to promote the professional development of AU business students. Other goals include the development of valuable internships and work experiences and also keeping students informed on the latest scholarships, grants, loans and bursaries. The club's website provides an excellent opportunity for members to communicate through its active online forum and live chats. The club's website features a variety of links to business organizations such as Canadian Business Directory and Harvard Business Online. The AUBSA website keeps business students updated with news and events happening at AUBSA, AU, the AU School of Business and the world of business.

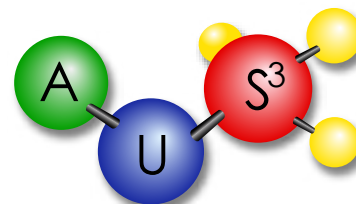
## Athabasca Science Students' Society (AUS<sup>3</sup>)

**Established:** 2004

**Membership:** 3 Executives; membership data not available

**Contact:** aus3@ausu.org

**Website:** www.ausu.org/clubs/aus3



**Purpose:** The AUS<sup>3</sup> was created in 2004 by AU students with an interest in science. The club embraces all of the sciences, from biology to physics to computer science, and is open to all AU students with an interest in these areas of study. The club website includes information on AU programs in the science department, and links to sites of interest. The club maintains a private forum on the AUSU server.

## Athabasca Psychology Students' Society (AUPSS)

**Established:** 2001

**Membership:** n/a

**Contact:** aupss@ausu.org

**Website:** www.ausu.org/clubs/aupss



**Notes:** The AUPSS was founded in 2001 by students with an interest in psychology. The club website provides resources and information for students in the psychology program, as well as resources for those interested in going on to master's studies. Recently the AUPSS has been dormant as AUSU arranges for an election to select a new club executive. Look for an updated website and AUPSS forum in the near future.



## MAIN OFFICE

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## COUNCIL

Mac McInnis - President  
Teresa Neuman - Vice President, External & Student Affairs  
Karl Low - Vice President, Finance & Administration  
Cindy Stobbe  
Lonita Fraser  
Shannon Maguire  
Joy Krys  
Lisa Priebe

## STAFF

Tamra Ross Low - Communications Coordinator/Voice Editor  
Christine Lynch - Administrative Assistant

AUSU Represents more than 30,000 Athabasca University students, world wide. AUSU members are defined as all students of Athabasca University who are currently enrolled in an AU undergraduate course, and all AU students who have been enrolled in an AU undergraduate course with an end date within the last six months (if extensions are purchased, the extended end date is used to calculate AUSU membership).

For more information about AUSU and its programs, please see [www.ausu.org](http://www.ausu.org), or call our office. This booklet prepared for AUSU by Tamra Ross Low. Errors and omissions excluded.

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# AUSU

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