

## Minutes AUSU Council Meeting

**APPROVED – January 14, 2015**

AUSU Council Meeting  
December 10, 2014  
Teleconference

**Councillors Present:** Jason Nixon, Kim Newsome, Corrina Green, Alexander Poulton, Bonita Arbeau, Shawna Wasylyshyn, Megan Daigneault and Christine Villeneuve  
**Staff Present:** Karyna Hochachka, Sarah Maddock and Karl Low  
**Other Members:** Barbra Lehtiniemi and Sheldon Fougere  
**Record of Minutes:** Sarah Maddock  
**Absent:**  
**Absent with regrets:**

**Call to Order:** 17:32 (MST)

### Agenda and Minutes

#### 1.0 Approval of Agenda

**Motion:** BIRT council adopt the meeting agenda as presented.

20141210.01 Friendly amendment to agenda to include Email Vote Ratification: BIRT AUSU accept the project of creating a mobile app jointly with AUGSA and that AUSU approves moving forward with project dependent on negotiating the service agreement with OOH LA LA. AUSU further approves a reserve draw for \$14,250 plus applicable taxes for the first of two of three payments to OOH LA LA. C. Green moved, J.Nixon seconded. Carried 8/0.

20141210.02 Friendly amendment to agenda, to move motion 4.0 to 5.0 and add the email vote ratification for the project of creating a mobile app jointly with AUGSA and OOH LA LA to motion 4.0.

S. Wasylyshyn/A. Poulton

- Carried 8/0 -

#### 2.0 Adoption of Council Meeting Minutes

**Motion:** BIRT council approve the minutes of the November 12, 2014 council meeting, as presented.

M. Daigneault/A. Poulton - Carried 8/0 -

**3.0 Email Vote Ratification:** BIRT AUSU increase the number of AUSU Computer Bursaries for the 2014-2015 fiscal year only from 8 computers to 12 computers, due to an increase in applications and needs of the membership. S. Wasylyshyn moved. B. Arbeau seconded. Carried 8/0.

A. Poulton/B. Arbeau - Carried 8/0 -

**4.0 Email Vote Ratification:** BIRT AUSU accept the project of creating a mobile app jointly with AUGSA and that AUSU approves moving forward with project dependent on negotiating the service agreement with OOH LA LA. AUSU further approves a reserve draw for \$14,250 plus applicable taxes for the first of two of three payments to OOH LA LA. C. Green moved, J.Nixon seconded. Carried 8/0.

K. Newsome/A. Poulton - Carried 8/0 -

**5.0 Motion:** BIRT AUSU accept the presented updated copy of Policy 3.02 Election of Executive Officers for inclusion in our policy manual.

C. Villeneuve/M. Daigneault - Carried 8/0 -

**6.0 Motion:** BIRT AUSU council approves the recommended changes to Policy 3.04 Referendum and Plebiscite to be brought forward at the next AGM or SGM.

K. Newsome/S. Wasylyshyn - Defeated 0/8 -

**7.0 Motion:** BIRT AUSU accept the presented updated copy of Policy 6.03 Expense Claims for inclusion in our policy manual.

M. Daigneault/S. Wasylyshyn - Carried 8/0 -

**8.0 Motion:** BIRT AUSU accept the presented updated copy of Policy 6.04 Travel Expenses for inclusion in our policy manual.

B. Arbeau/S. Wasylyshyn - Carried 8/0 -

## Reports

- 9.0 President's Report**  
Report Accepted.
- 10.0 Vice President External's Report**  
Report Accepted.
- 11.0 Vice President Finance's Report**  
Report Accepted.
- 12.0 Executive Meeting Report**  
Report Accepted.
- 13.0 Finance Committee Report**  
Report Accepted.
- 14.0 Awards Committee Report**  
Report Accepted.
- 15.0 MEC Committee Report**  
Report Accepted.
- 16.0 Office Coordinator's Report**  
Report Accepted.

**Reports Accepted as Presented**

A. Poulton/K. Newsome

- Carried 8/0 -

**Meeting adjourned at 18:37 MST**

S. Wasylyshyn moved.

**Next meeting date and time**

17:30 MST on January 14, 2015

# AUSU President Report

Jason Nixon, President



**Covers: November 2014**

**Prepared: December 3, 2014**

## Current Issues

**AU BOG** – The BOG meet for a breakfast planning meeting that included presentations on some key issues. All of the details are still in camera and will be for a fair bit. I was able to travel and attend the meeting in person in Edmonton.

**BOG Institutional Advancement Sub Committee** – Has been doing a lot of work on marketing, advertisement, and communications. Will be meeting in person in Edmonton in December along with staff from all of those departments at AU to continue to evaluate existing process and work on bettering these processes at the university.

**Hiring Committee** – The hiring committee for the registrar and for library has finally narrowed the field of candidates and has booked interviews for early January.

**ED Succession Plan** – Both the succession plan document and the compensation review documents are complete. The executive will be meeting for the presentation of those documents by the consultant firm early in December.

**Health Care Plan** – Has been implemented successfully. Enrolments were slightly higher than were anticipated for the first December starts. So our provider was very happy. We have had a few minor bugs on the technical side mainly on AU servers. All have been worked out as they come up. We have also got the accounting process and accounts all lined up and working and money is now flowing between AU, us, and the insurance provider successfully.

The next steps on this project will be to do some more advertising. As well as to build some help for our membership into our website on how to go through the application process and on frequently asked questions. But overall the plan went up with very little difficulty.

**GFC** – Did not meet this month.

**GFC Exec** –Worked mainly routine motions and governance issues.

**Election Policy Project** – All feedback is back from our lawyer and our consultant. We are providing copies of the changes to AUSU council in a working meeting after this formal council meeting. AUSU's election policy consultant will be available for feedback during that time. Given the large amount of changes within the document it was felt that it would be best to go through it in a working meeting with council prior to putting it forward to a formal meeting. The plan at this stage would be to bring it forward, after councils review, at the January council meeting.

**B Comm Program Council Meeting** – Main discussions on the agenda continue to be about the merger of the B Management program into the B Comm program.

**SS Centre** – No major follow up on this issue took place in November with AU Management. However there are meetings booked in early December were we expect to finally have the feedback we are looking for.

**Throne Speech** – I was able to attend the Alberta Throne Speech in person. Of note was almost no mention of post-secondary issues or funding within the speech.

**CAUS** – I met with CAUS again in Edmonton this month. The exec will need to review the results of that meeting and have not had time to do so in detail. But I believe we will have a recommendation to council on this issue soon.

**AUGSA and Mobile APP** – We have been getting more information on an app which has now been presented to council and are hoping to move forward on this project with AUGSA pending council approval.

**Audit** – AUSU audit is done and the results will be presented to the executive in early December and forwarded to finance committee. We are not anticipating any major problems or concerns in regards to the audit. It appears to have gone great again this year.

## Meetings

**November 3 – BComm Program Council Meeting**

**November 4 – Business Faculty Program Council Meeting**

**November 4 – Auditor Meeting**

**November 5 – AUSU Exec Meeting**

**November 6 – AUSU Staff meeting**

**November 10 – Meeting with AUGSA re: Mobile APP**

December, 2014 Council Meeting

- November 10 – Voice Interview**
- November 12 – GFC Exec Meeting**
- November 12 – Meeting with TPD re: Succession Plan**
- November 12 – AUSU Exec. Meeting**
- November 12 – AUSU Council Meeting**
- November 13 – AUSU Staff Meeting**
- November 13 – Health Care Plan Meeting**
- November 13 – Globe and Mail Interview**
- November 17 – Throne Speech Edmonton**
- November 17 – Meeting with CAUS**
- November 18 – AUSU Staff Meetings in Edmonton**
- November 18 – AUSU Finance Committee**
- November 18 – AUSU Exec Meeting**
- November 19 – AU BOG Breakfast Meeting (Planning) in Edmonton**
- November 19 – AUSU Exec Meeting with Peter MacKinnon**
- November 25 – Director of Library Resources Hiring Committee**
- November 26 - AUSU Exec Meeting with Karl – Voice Editor**
- November 26 – AUSU Staff Meeting**
- November 26 – GFC Exec**

## Hours

**My weekly average: 39.06 hours**

Week of:	Hours
November 2-8	35
November 9-15	33
November 16-22	53.25
November 23-29	35
4 Week Average	39.06

I have reviewed the timesheets of the other execs and found that their 4 week average for October was in compliance with policy.

# AUSU Executive Report

Kim Newsome, VP External and Student Affairs

Prepared: December 1, 2014



## Current Issues

### **GFC**

No meetings held this month.

### **GFC – ALEC & LSWG**

LSWG – 1 meeting held this month – November 14. The committee continues to review 2-3 documents per meeting and discuss the role/definition of pedagogy. Again, the committee has asked that discussions remain confidential.

ALEC – November 7. Representatives for the ICT Governance Committee were chosen. The list of reps for this committee was provided. AUSU has a seat and later inquired how we could submit our name. Corrina will sit on the committees for AUSU.

### **GFC – SAC**

No meetings this month.

## **Planner**

The planner has taken up a lot of my time this month. Communicating ideas with Priority Printing, reviewing changes and creating new content have been very time consuming. We are currently in the last stages and expect that the planner should be in our hands and ready to send out to members when staff return from Christmas Holidays.

## **AUSU Committees**

MECC has seen a lot of down time in November while the planner is being completed and content for The Voice page is being organized.

Awards November 1 deadline was very busy. The committee conference call went smoothly. Karyna and Kim will begin working on the project to get awards applications online. The committee will be consulted as necessary.

## **Social Media**

## December 2014 Council Meeting

There has not been much activity on the AUSU forums. Days can go by without a post. However, the AU Facebook page continues to be very active and a lot of the posts/comments are similar to those that used to be seen on the AUSU forums.

### **AUSU Goals & Planning**

All exec members are working on the goals assigned to their role. I will give an update on ones that were assigned to me as they come up in our schedule:

Investigate Mobile App – Several meetings have been held with AUGSA and the rep from Oohlala. AUSU and AUGSA executives seem to be in agreement with going forward. Information was sent to AUSU council regarding the app. To date, no further questions were received.

Lobbying – Jason has made several attempts to contact CAUS after the initial meeting with no success.

Mental Health – I have had several phone conversations with representatives from 3 companies that provide EAP/Mental Health services to student bodies. One quote received so far. I am hoping to receive the other 2 soon. Once I review to make sure the quotes are based on similar services I will follow up with the representatives and the exec will discuss next steps.

Career Links Page – Work on this will begin, in cooperation with MECC, once work on the planner is finished.

## Meetings

November 3 – Conference Call with Priority Printing  
November 5 – AUSU Exec. Meeting  
November 6 – Conference Call with Mental Health Reps (X2)  
November 7 – GFC – ALEC  
November 10 – Meeting with AUGSA re: Mobile APP  
November 12 – Meeting with TPD re: Succession Plan  
November 12 – AUSU Exec. Meeting  
November 12 – AUSU Council Meeting  
November 14 – GFC – LSWG  
November 14 – Conference Call with Mental Health Rep  
November 18 – Conference Call with Mental Health Rep  
November 18 – AUSU Finance Committee  
November 18 – AUSU Exec Meeting  
November 19 – AUSU Exec Meeting with Peter MacKinnon



## December 2014 Council Meeting

November 25 – AUSU Awards Meeting

November 26 - AUSU Exec Meeting with Karl – Voice Editor

November 28 – Meeting with AUGSA re: Mobile App

## Hours

### Weekly Breakdown

Week of:	Hours
November 2-8	36
November 9-15	33
November 16-22	29
November 23-29	31.5
4 Week Average	32.375

### Timesheets and Compliance

I have reviewed Jason and Corinna’s timesheets and found that their weekly averages for November were in compliance with policy.

## News Roundup

### QuestU President warns of the risks of relying on part-time faculty labour

In a new essay for Academica Group’s [Rethinking Higher Ed Forum](#), Quest University President David Helfand argues that PSE institutions’ increasing reliance on “faculty outsourcing”—the use of itinerant, part-time faculty—is fundamentally unsustainable. Helfand says that the increased use of adjunct faculty is being done in the name of financial efficiency, but emphasizes that the working conditions of adjuncts do not leave them with the time or resources necessary to provide a high quality education. [Rethinking Higher Ed](#)

### More Canadian universities outsourcing mental health counselling

As more attention is given to [mental health issues](#) on campus, the practice of outsourcing mental health services to third-party organizations has become a controversial topic. A recent article in *University Affairs* explores the arrangements that several Canadian PSE institutions have with providers of counselling services, a practice still fairly uncommon in Canada. UPEI formed a [partnership](#) this year with a private mental health services provider, in order for students to have 24/7 access to support in multiple languages. Brock University has an agreement with a third-party family counselling agency that oversees hiring and supervision of on-campus counsellors. [University Affairs](#)

## **Alberta defers decision on tuition increases; students protest at legislature**

Alberta PSE students gathered at the provincial legislature on Monday to protest the consideration of “market modifier” [tuition increases](#), which they have vowed to fight because they could reduce accessibility. The province was expected to announce its decision on Monday, but Minister of Advanced Education Donald Scott said he would defer judgement until a later date. “I want to make sure that I’ve taken the time to consider all the information that’s been provided ... I consider the students and the institutions partners in education,” Scott said. [CBC News](#) | [Metro News](#)

# AUSU Executive Report

Corrina Green, VP Finance and Administration

Prepared: December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014

## Current Issues



### Policy

We are back on track with policy review. We have reviewed 4 policies this month. We will be reviewing 6 policies most of the months remaining in this year but will have reviewed all that need to be by the end of March as originally planned.

### Elections Policy

This has been a huge project! The lawyer has returned the policy with her comments and suggestions. Exec. is currently reviewing the policy and would like to have it ready for council to vote on in December's meeting.

### Student Support Centre

Unfortunately we are not as far along as we had hoped in getting answers to our SS Centre questions. There have been key people at AU on vacation, etc. and we have not had any more discussions in November. We do have a meeting December 3<sup>rd</sup> that should provide some more insight and I should be able to verbally update at the council meeting.

### Succession Planning

The Succession Planning and Wage Review components are completed. We have a meeting set up with the consultant to go over the documents in December.

### Meetings with AU Senior Management

We met with Peter MacKinnon this month. We had some very general discussions about the Student Relationship Management Project as well as he provided an overview of his trip to the UK. We will continue to meet with Dr. MacKinnon on a regular basis.

## **RFP – Investment Advisors**

Reference checks were completed for 2 of the top choices and the Finance Committee supported a recommendation to move forward with Adroit Investment Management of Edmonton. We have started the process of opening a new account and having our existing investments transferred.

## **Year End Audit**

AUSU's year end is September 30<sup>th</sup> each year. There is a meeting booked with the auditor in December to wrap things up. Thank you to Karyna who is instrumental in the yearly audit going well!

## **Committees**

AU – BOG held a special breakfast meeting this month. Nothing to report due to confidentiality.

GFC –SAAC met once during November to render decisions on academic cases. Nothing to report out of the ordinary. The committee's regular bi-weekly schedule is back in full swing.

AUSU – Awards Committee met this month to make decisions on applications in from the October deadline. There were over 100 applications submitted and 77 applications forwarded to the committee.

AUSU – MEC Committee was asked to review the full proof of the planner. Thank you to Kim for all her hard work in gathering all the files and working with Priority Planning to finish what was not already done.

AUSU – Finance met once in November. This was just a regular review of our financials.

Student Success Group – met in November. This was my first time on this committee so I have been busy getting up to speed with the group. This meeting was focused around the retreat they had in October and next steps going forward.

Hiring Committees – Both the AVPSAS and AVPR committees met this month to shortlist the applications received. Interviews are set up for both positions in December and January.

AU Budget Committee – 2 and a half days are set aside for budget deliberations in Athabasca in December. I will be attending in person.

## Meetings

AUSU Executive Meeting – November 5<sup>th</sup>  
GFC – SAAC Committee – November 6<sup>th</sup>  
AUGSA Meeting (Mobile App) – November 10<sup>th</sup>  
AUSU Executive Meeting – November 12<sup>th</sup>  
Meeting with TDP – November 12<sup>th</sup>  
AUSU Council Meeting – November 12<sup>th</sup>  
Student Success Group – November 13<sup>th</sup>  
AUSU Finance Committee – November 18<sup>th</sup>  
AUSU Executive Meeting – November 18<sup>th</sup>  
BOG Breakfast Meeting – November 19<sup>th</sup>  
Meeting with Dr. MacKinnon – November 19<sup>th</sup>  
Associate VP of Research Shortlist Meeting – November 19<sup>th</sup>  
Meeting with Adroit Investments – November 25<sup>th</sup>  
Awards Committee Meeting – November 25<sup>th</sup>  
Associate VP Student and Academic Services Shortlist Meeting – November 26<sup>th</sup>  
AUGSA Meeting (Mobile App) – November 28<sup>th</sup>

## Hours

### Timesheet and Compliance

<b>Week Ending</b>	<b>Hours</b>
November 9 <sup>th</sup> - 2014	29.00
November 16 <sup>th</sup> - 2014	32.25
November 23 <sup>rd</sup> - 2014	29.00
November 30 <sup>th</sup> - 2014	30.75
<b>TOTAL</b>	121.00
<b>AVERAGE PER WEEK</b>	<b>30.25</b>

I have reviewed the hours of all the exec's for the month of November and have found they are both in compliance as per policy.