



# Athabasca University Students' Union

## Special Council Meeting Minutes

### APPROVED October 13, 2016

Wednesday, October 5, 2016  
4:30pm MST

- Meeting Called By:** Shawna Wasylyshyn, President
- Type of Meeting:** AUSU Special Council Meeting
- Minutes:** Donette Kingyens, Communications and Member Services Coordinator
- Council:** President Shawna Wasylyshyn, Vice President External and Student Affairs Julian Teterenko, Vice President Finance and Administration Kim Newsome, Councillor Andrew Gray, Councillor Brandon Simmons, Councillor Dixie Toliver
- Staff:** Communications and Member Services Coordinator Donette Kingyens, The Voice Editor Karl Low
- Members:** Sarah Blayney Lew, Robin Bleich, Carly Gallant, Mark Teeninga, Shannon
- Absence:** Executive Director Sarah Cornett (with regrets), Scott Jacobsen

The meeting was called to order at 4:31pm MT.

#### Agenda and Minutes

- 1.0 Approval of Agenda** All
- Motion:** BIRT AUSU council approve the agenda as presented.
- K. Newsome / A. Gray Carried 5/0
- 2016-10-05 Special Council Meeting Agenda.pdf*
- Changed motion to state that council approve the agenda, not the membership, as this is a meeting of council.
- J. Teterenko joined the meeting at 4:33pm MT.*

#### Action and Discussion Items

- 2.0 Announcement of Election Results** S. Cornett
- The results of the 2016 AUSU By-Election were announced in accordance with AUSU [Policy 3.01 Election Conduct](#).

The by-Election received 988 votes. The top two candidates who were elected to council are Amanda Lipinski and Robin Bleich.

NAME	VOTES	%
Amanda Lipinski	317	17.10%
Robin Bleich	302	16.30%
Sarah Blayney Lew	267	14.40%
Cyra Frisk	216	11.70%
Joshua Ryan	206	11.10%
Mark Swarek	195	10.50%
Carly Gallant	190	10.30%
Mark Teeninga	159	8.60%

The certified results will be posted to the AUSU website, as well as sent to the membership in an e-newsletter, and posted to social media immediately following the meeting.

### Question & Answer Period

#### 3.0 Question & Answer Period

S. Wasylyshyn

Observers were encouraged to participate in the Question & Answer period.

Observers are also invited to contact the AUSU office with any questions that arise from the meeting at [ausu@ausu.org](mailto:ausu@ausu.org) , 780.497.7000, or 1.855.497.7003.

A question was raised about the time and date of the October 13 council meeting. The meeting was briefly explained, as the new councillors will be sworn in to office during that meeting.

A question was raised about what platform AUSU used for the by-election, and whether or not future elections could use the Mobile App for the platform, or use a share-point interface on the AU site. The following discussion points were made:

- AUSU has already put the election discussion platform on our action list for investigation to find a better option for future elections.
- Requiring members to log into an out-sourced forum for the election discussions may impede engagement.
- The Mobile App was not used for the election platform as not all students have a mobile device, and AUSU felt it was important to use a desktop platform so all members had the option of participating. In addition, the only discussion platform in the Mobile App is the Campus Wall. Given that there were extensive discussions during the election, this would have taken over the entire Campus Wall just for the AUSU election, and the Mobile App is shared with AUGSA, the Grad Students' Association.
- AUSU can look into the option of a share-point interface on the AU site. However, AU and AUSU are completely separate organizations, and it would be difficult getting anything done that requires AU IT resources as they are very busy, and not obligated to assist with AUSU's elections.
- AUSU will keep the suggestions in mind while investigating better options for future elections, and welcomes feedback from the membership.

All candidates were thanked for their participation in the AUSU by-election.

### Adjournment

#### 4.0 Motion to Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 4:48 pm MT.