



Athabasca University Students' Union

Executive Election Minutes

Wednesday March 30, 2022 at 4:00pm MST

Council: Councillor-elect Cilhane Ahmed, Councillor-elect Blake Collett, Councillor-elect Eva Embree, Councillor-elect Karen Fletcher, Councillor-elect Anli He, Indigenous Circle Representative-elect Trishtina Godoy-Contois, Councillor-elect Natalia Iwanek, Councillor-elect Amber McDuffe, Councillor-elect Dur-E-Najaf Syed, Councillor-elect Allie Wojtaszek, Councillor-elect Rebecca Wuebbolt

Staff: Executive Director Jodi Campbell, Governance and Advocacy Coordinator Duncan Wojtaszek, Communications and Member Services Coordinator Ashley Janes

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: Athabasca University Students' Union respectfully acknowledges that we are on and work on the traditional lands of the Indigenous Peoples (Inuit, First Nations, Métis) of Canada. We also recognize that our student members span across the lands we now know as Canada and abroad, and we acknowledge and celebrate these Indigenous histories, languages, and cultures. As an organization, AUSU is committed to decolonization, reconciliation, and conciliation efforts, acknowledging that there is much to unlearn. AUSU will continuously strive to build equitable relationships with Indigenous learners at AU, as well as Indigenous members and staff within AUSU, advocate with and for Indigenous learners through consultation, and create spaces that are inclusive, respectful, and equitable.

Agenda and Minutes

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| 1.0 | Announcement of Accessibility Officer | J. Campbell |
| 2.0 | Land Acknowledgement
Athabasca University Students' Union respectfully acknowledges that we are on and work on the traditional lands of the Indigenous Peoples (Inuit, First Nations, Métis) of Canada. We also recognize that our student members span across the lands we now know as Canada and abroad, and we acknowledge and celebrate these Indigenous histories, languages, and cultures. As an organization, AUSU is committed to decolonization, reconciliation, and conciliation efforts, acknowledging that there is much to unlearn. AUSU will continuously strive to build equitable relationships with Indigenous learners at AU, as well as Indigenous members and staff within AUSU, advocate with and for Indigenous learners through consultation, and create spaces that are inclusive, respectful, and equitable. | J. Campbell |
| 3.0 | Call for Attendance | J. Campbell |

New Business

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| 4.0 | Executive Election <ul style="list-style-type: none">• J. Campbell gave an overview of the executive election process. | J. Campbell |
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5.0 Election of President

J. Campbell

- K. Fletcher self-nominated.
- K. Fletcher gave her election speech for President.
- N. Iwanek asked about the one thing to look forward to; K. Fletcher replied about removing barriers for mature students to student financial aid.
- E. Embree asked about the biggest challenge at being a new President; K. Fletcher replied she did not realize she had to approve pay roll.
- A. McDuffe asked about the biggest challenge to get accomplished; K. Fletcher replied getting course updates done in a timely fashion.
- T. Godoy-Contois asked which lessons of the seven grandfathers of love, respect, bravery, truth, honesty, humility, and wisdom would be most important for President; K. Fletcher replied with humility.
- A. Wojtaszek asked about improving the Virtual Food Assistance Program; K. Fletcher replied a desire to explore methods beyond lottery to distribute the assistance.
- Vote took place.
- J. Campbell announced that K. Fletcher was elected as President.

6.0 Election of Vice President External

J. Campbell

- T. Godoy-Contois self-nominated.
- T. Godoy-Contois gave her election speech for VP External.
- A. McDuffe asked about having two voices at CASA and how to compensate for it; T. Godoy-Contois replied about working on many issues beyond Indigenous students and a desire to work for the whole student body.
- A. He asked about what to most look forward to; T. Godoy-Contois replied with understanding the policies and perspectives of AU students.
- E. Embree asked about what would be a passion project for the VP External; T. Godoy-Contois spoke about communicating additional resources to students, and working with the VP Community and Wellness to develop events for student awareness.
- D. Syed asked what the biggest obstacle facing the role; T. Godoy-Contois replied with the learning curve.
- K. Fletcher asked about being an introvert and extravert and the impact on the role; T. Godoy-Contois replied a bit of both and works hard on bringing the best of both to her role.
- C. Ahmed asked how the feeling is going into the role; T. Godoy-Contois replied she is excited.
- N. Iwanek asked about possible events; T. Godoy-Contois replied with a smudging ceremony for all AU students.
- Voting took place.
- J. Campbell announced T. Godoy-Contois was elected VP External.

7.0 Election of Vice President Finance and Administration

J. Campbell

- D. Syed self-nominated.
- D. Syed gave her election speech for VP Finance and Administration.
- N. Iwanek asked about priorities; D. Syed discussed the need for more awards.
- C. Ahmed asked about experience; D. Syed replied that her finance experience is limited but she has served as treasurer in other councils.

- K. Fletcher asked about what new service could be implemented; more resources for different students, rather than one-size-fits-all programs.
- A. McDuffe asked about communication style; D. Syed replied she is shy, but also has found her voice and welcomes the role.
- T. Contois-Godoy asked about where to see the role at the end of the year; D. Syed replied she wanted to see strong accomplishments.
- A. Wojtaszek asked about how to ask for resources; D. Syed replied she loves getting access to help and resources.
- Voting took place.
- J. Campbell announced D. Syed was elected VP Finance and Administration.

8.0 Election of Vice President Community and Wellness

J. Campbell

- N. Iwanek self-nominated.
- N. Iwanek gave her election speech for VP Community and Wellness.
- A. Wojtaszek asked about expanding the Virtual Food Assistance Program; N. Iwanek would like to increase the award in Northern areas and other areas of greater need and expand into supplies.
- T. Godoy-Contois asked which lessons of the seven grandfathers of love, respect, bravery, truth, honesty, humility, and wisdom would be most important for VPCW; N. Iwanek replied with bravery.
- A. McDuffe asked about health supports and a health plan at AU; N. Iwanek replied we continue to look at possibilities but still haven't found a program that works for our demographic and is equitable.
- R. Wuebbolt asked about getting more resources that can be found at other institutions at AU; N. Iwanek replied that she would welcome all input to find good solutions.
- K. Fletcher asked what snack would you have appear magically in front of all AU students; N. Iwanek replied with cheese unless lactose intolerant.
- Voting took place.
- J. Campbell announced N. Iwanek was elected VP Community and Wellness

Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next meeting of AUSU Council will be: April 21, 2022

Motion to Adjourn