



December 4, 2018

We are pleased to submit this update on the SU's governance, programs and advocacy.

SU Governance

Appointments

On Nov. 27 a new Student-at-Large Senate Representative was sworn in at the Students' Legislative Council meeting. Jonah Secreti will fill the seat vacated by Anayat Sidhu who resigned to run for VP External.

SU Programs and Services

Stress Less Week

From Dec. 3 to 7, the SU provided a week of stress relieving activities for students at the end of term. These activities were aimed at encouraging students to achieve balance. Activities and events included:

- SU Spa Day - students could receive a massage from therapists in training from Mount Royal University's massage program.
- Pet Therapy - a monthly event held in partnership with the Pet Access League Society (PALS) was offered three times that week.
- Planting Positivity - students could learn to build a terrarium.
- Yoga and Piloxing - held regularly throughout the academic year, Yoga in the Space and Piloxing provide students with free classes to enhance their physical and mental wellness.
- Deck the Halls with Cookies and Cards - students were able to get into the holiday spirit and decorated cookies, cards and ornaments.
- Are You Game? - this event featured giant Jenga, video games, and more.

Teaching Excellence Awards

The SU received 499 nominations from students for exceptional instructors and teaching assistants for fall 2018. The nominees have been shortlisted to 47 instructors and 10 TAs, and class visits are being conducted to survey their students. The Teaching Excellence Awards Committee will review both fall and winter nominations in March and select and celebrate winners at that time.

Undergraduate Research Symposium:

The SU received 140 applications from undergraduate students from all eleven faculties. The Undergraduate Research Symposium working group reviewed the abstracts and accepted 102 participants for poster, oral, and display presentations. More than 55 judges adjudicated students' research. .

Adopt-A-Family

Adopt-a-Family anonymously matches student families in need with community sponsors to ensure every child has gifts to enjoy this holiday season. This upcoming holiday season, 22 community sponsors and 25 student families are taking part in the program, meaning that 54 children will be receiving gifts.

Stress Busters

The SU is proud to host monthly Stress Buster workshops to help students understand and manage stress during the academic year. On Oct. 16, special guest Jennifer Thannhauser spoke to an audience of 21 about how to balance academics and mental health through the Growth Mindset. Students were also offered the opportunity to build bath bombs and take home healthy snacks and mental health resource info.

SU Holiday Food Drive:

The 30th annual SU Holiday Food Drive wrapped up on Nov.21. For three days, 11 clubs competed to collect the most donations for the SU Campus Food Bank. This year, the event collected \$1,017.66 and 479 items.

SU Campus Food Bank

The SU Campus Food Bank provides emergency food hampers to current students, staff members, and alumni who have graduated less than two years ago. In October, 67 percent of SU Campus Food Bank clients were international students.

| | October 2017 | October 2018 |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Number of Hampers | 38 | 53 |
| Number of Adults Fed | 70 | 73 |
| Number of Children Fed | 33 | 24 |
| Total Fed | 103 | 97 |

Information Centre/Lost and Found

During the school year, the Information Centre/Lost and Found is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It provides visitors with directions and information about on campus resources and events. It also stores lost items, returning them to their owners.

| | October 2017 | October 2018 |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Items handed in | 317 | 527 |
| Items returned to owner | 84 | 217 |
| On campus directions | 541 | 400 |
| Campus services questions | 101 | 148 |
| Total number of clients | 1442 | 1412 |

Student Clubs

Since the beginning of the 2018-19 academic year, the SU has allocated over \$7,500 in funding to clubs to support their initiatives, events, and programs. This funding allows clubs to provide students the opportunity to engage with the community around them.

There are currently **327** student organizations registered with the SU.

Advocacy and Representation

Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) – Advocacy Week

CASA delegates, including the SU's President and VP External were in Ottawa Nov. 25 - 29 to meet with Senators, Members of Parliament and stakeholders to advocate for students across the country. Delegates advocated for the following priorities:

- Exempt post-secondary staff from the requirements established in Article 91 on the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act.
- Modify study permits to allow for permit holders (i.e. international students) to participate in full-time work-integrated learning placements.
- Expand the Student Work-Integrated Learning Program to include opportunities in BHASE fields, opportunities for international students, and placements in not-for-profit organizations.
- Create a standard to address gender-based violence at post-secondary institutions, outlining minimum services needed on campus to prevent sexual violence and support those students who have been impacted.
- Ensure students are given their fair share of research dollars by investing at least \$55.9 million in student programs of Canada's granting agencies.
- Create an up-front, non-repayable Canada Student Grant for graduate students.

Conclusion

The Students' Union is proud to serve and represent undergraduate students in nearly every aspect of their experience at the University of Calgary.



Sagar Grewal
President, 76th Students' Legislative Council

