



March 7, 2017 – May 25, 2017

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

SU Governance

Orientation and Transition – 75th Executive and SLC

The 75th SLC officially took office May 1, 2017. Incoming SU Executives and Faculty Representatives continue to participate in a rigorous orientation and training program to introduce and prepare them for their new roles as student leaders and advocates. For Executives, this orientation process has included job shadowing and a retreat with the outgoing Executives, a retreat with SU staff, issue-based orientation and transition sessions, provision of transition resources, and skills training.

Incoming SLC members have received a handbook and transition resources provided by their predecessors, participate in pre-orientation sessions, and receive orientation and training for SU and university governance processes, including Robert's Rules of Order.

SU Policy Updates

A new Union Bylaw amendment lets appointed Faculty Representatives vote in SLC and participate in committees. This change helps the SU to better represent students from all faculties.

SU Programs and Services

Teaching Excellence Awards

The SU honoured 32 faculty members and instructors for their commitment to student success at its annual Teaching Excellence Awards ceremony on April 19, 2017. Students determine the nominees and winners; 538 students submitted nominations for this year, and an SU committee selected the award recipients. Award winners received an apple award and the SU will donate \$5,000 in recognition of the winners to the Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning.

Pet Therapy

192 students participated in Pet Therapy in That Empty Space on March 10 and another 147 students attended the event on April 10. The monthly event is held in partnership with the Pet Access League Society (PALS) to engage with students and relieve stress.

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.

	March/April 2016	March/April 2017
Number of Hampers	99	77
Number of Adults Fed	143	111
Number of Children Fed	48	62
Total Fed	191	173

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.

	March/April 2016	March/April 2017
Items handed in	826	867
Items returned to owner	339	358
On campus directions	706	616
Campus services questions	178	160
Total number of clients	2049	2001

Volunteer Tax Program

Every year, the Volunteer Tax Program provides free income tax return completion to current undergraduate and graduate students, staff and faculty who meet the eligibility requirements. This year, the Volunteer Tax Clinic (located in the MacEwan Student Centre) was open between Feb. 27 and April 10. The program completed 1,032 income tax returns.

Support for Student Clubs

- Ten students have been named recipients of the Eric Lahoda SU Memorial Scholarship, which recognizes students who have made positive, meaningful and unique contributions to student life. Each recipient receives a \$1,000 scholarship.
- The SU held its annual Club Awards banquet recognizing excellence among registered student organizations. The club of the year is Mental Health Awareness and best new club was awarded to Emerging Leaders for Solar Energy. A full list of award winners is available on the SU website: <http://suclubs.orgsync.com/awards>

MacHall Dispute

The university took over the building management of MacHall on Oct. 17, 2016. In March 2017 the SU and the university signed a letter of intent detailing how MacHall will be operated as the lawsuit regarding ownership progresses through the courts.

Revenue from the SU's tenants (approx. \$1.9M annually) is now being collected by the university. The university has committed to returning the net proceeds of the revenue to the SU, once they have deducted their unspecified building management expenses.

The SU will continue to handle all bookings for common space and tables in MacHall.

Advocacy and Representation

CAUS Advocacy Week

CAUS met with 50 elected officials in Edmonton during its annual lobby week in early April. Students had the opportunity to meet with several ministers including the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Advanced Education. Issues discussed include:

- Tuition and fees
- Student financial aid
- Campus mental health
- Student employment

Stronger City, Stronger Campus

The SU has outlined its 2017 Calgary General Election priorities (Stronger City, Stronger Campus) to ensure that student needs remain a priority for Calgary City Council. The SU has made the following recommendations:

- Increase safety and affordability of housing by reforming current secondary suites legislation.
- Increase transparency of Calgary Transit by creating and implementing an administrative process for bylaw offences such as transit tickets.
- Increase base line access to Calgary Transit at both peak and off-peak times.

- Ensure that all students at publicly funded post-secondary institutions in Calgary have long term access to municipal voting on campus.

Conclusion

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



Branden Cave
President,
75th Students' Legislative Council

