



*UNIVERSITY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND STUDENT UNION
MINUTES-FOURTH MEETING
STUDENT COUNCIL
January 27th, 2013*

The ninth meeting of the Student Council of the University of Prince Edward Island Student Union was held January 27th, 2013. Minutes were taken by Sarah Marie Lavers. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair of Council, Alex Heighinton.

PRESENT:

Kate VanGerven
Danielle MacDonald
Jon Millington
Anastasia Smallwood
Matt McInnis
Bob Deziel
Justin Lank
Lucas MacArthur
Sara Reeves

Emiley MacKinnon
Michelle MacDougald
Sylvie Morin
Shelby Russell
Matthew Rice
Heather Wotton
Oliver Bork
Amy Doyle
Sarah Herbert

Travis Gordon
Donald Buchanan
Mark Scott
Robyn Christianson
Laura Wisner
Edmond Yang

ABSENT:

Kylie Ford
Amanda Johnston

David MacLean

ALSO PRESENT:

Alex Heighinton
Sarah Marie Lavers
Daniel MacDonald

Chelsea Merry
Lindsey Handren (Cadre
Rep.)



1-1 CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

2-1 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Agenda was approved with modifications.

3-1 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Minutes were moved for approval to the next meeting.

REPORTS

4-1 PRESIDENT

A. Act as the Chief Executive Officer and official spokesperson of the UPEI SU;

I'd like to take this time to address the article about Alaa that you've all probably seen at this point. The Guardian printed a story about sexual harassment allegations reportedly being filed with the PEI Human Rights Commission. As your President and as a member of the UPEI Board of Governors, I want to make it clear that President Abd-el-Aziz has not been removed from his position for a reason. Obviously, I hope for a quick resolution to this matter so that the President of UPEI can continue to focus on creating the best possible academic opportunities for students.

B. Call meetings of the Executive;

We continue to meet weekly.

C. Draft and propose a schedule of Council Meeting dates and General Meeting dates at the last Council meeting of the academic year;

Policy will be drafting these dates in the coming months.

D. Serve as a member of the UPEI Senate;

There has not been a Senate meeting since the last time we met.

E. Serve as a member of the UPEI Board of Governors;

The various committees of the Board met this past week. I sit on the Finance & Audit committee as well as the Executive committee. At Finance & Audit, we received an update on the upcoming budget, as well as the ERP project. ERP stands for Enterprise Resource Planning and would significantly improve the online operations for Human Resources, the Comptroller's office, and for the things we use as students each day. It would also allow for an electronic co-curricular record or e-portfolio. At this time, the ERP project is on hold at the recommendation of our VP Administration and Finance. The reason for this is to identify any risks before the University signs a contract.

F. Act as liaison between the UPEI SU and groups outside the University;

The Banff Mountain Film Festival is back on campus this week. They'll be showing the films in the Duffy Amphitheatre. The Student Union is a sponsor of this event in that we provide the space free of charge.

H. Be enrolled in no more than nine (9) semester hours per Academic Semester during their Presidential term;

My three courses are going very well, thanks!

I. Act as liaison and ensure that adequate communication is maintained with the UPEI Administration;

This is obviously an important piece of what I do and I have been doing so. Alaa and I continue to meet monthly or more often as required.

J. Pursue new initiatives to improve and expand the services of the UPEI SU;

My executive committee is looking into a few different things at the moment that will be mentioned in the committee report.

K. Set strategic direction and objectives for the organization;

With the one year plan in effect, I'm confident we've done this.

L. Provide leadership and guidance to Council and staff;

Thankfully, our CRO & DCRO are amazing and have been very quick to catch on to their responsibilities. I've been very happy with their work so far and they really haven't required much guidance.

M. Attend CASA conferences as required, and;

The CASA Annual General Meeting is not until March.

N. Perform other duties as required.

I've been a member of an online learning committee for the past few months now and I am happy to report that our first step is happening over the February break. The committee is holding two half-day sessions about blended courses, fully online courses and even things as simple as using Moodle effectively. The next step for this committee is to implement an application process for professors. This way, there will be a set of criteria that must be adhered to in order to offer a partially or fully online course. We're hoping to have this application process in place by April 2013. I think this is a great step for UPEI, particularly fully online courses as it will allow more flexibility for mature students who may not be able to complete a degree with courses being offered throughout the day.

4-2 EXECUTIVE VP

I hope everyone had a great two weeks. It has been an exciting two weeks for me getting back into second semester.

Kate and I will be going to the Pre-Budget Submission held by the province February 6th. Finance Minister Wes Sheridan will be there to take suggestions from other unions like ours and hear any formal requests. We will be submitting a formal written statement to him. I've been doing lots of research this last week to make sure we are very prepared for this meeting. EVPEC has been a great support and they'll be assisting me with some of the research for the statement. I will do my best to circulate that statement to council.

I had an academic appeal this week. Although I will not disclose the name of this student, we had some success with her appeal regarding course supplementary material and I will help her see this through.

I met with Sharon Myers, the Interim Associate Dean of Arts this week. We are working on the proposal to make the International Buddy Program a course credit for experiential learning. We hope to have this finished and through the appropriate committees by the end of the semester.

4-3 VP ACTIVITIES

Hello Council!

We kicked off the past two weeks with the Poster Sale. We don't have the sales figures yet, but it looks like it was another success!

I've had a good number of meetings over the past two weeks, including three or four to prepare for International Development Week (two weeks from now), Frost Week meetings, and one that I'll save for Danielle as she would probably be pissed if I stole the thunder and put it in my report. The other awesome meeting I had was regarding a mental health awareness initiative that the University is hoping to get started. It went about twice as long as planned, and things are still in the early stages, but I'm super excited for what's going to come out of it.

Other than that it's been the normal grind of helping out societies with events on campus; recent highlights of which include trying to find a place on campus where the Rainbow Alliance might hold an overnight event, and trying to deal with Health Department Regulations for the Chinese Knot Club's Spring Festival celebrations!

4-4 VP FINANCE

- Attend Executive Meetings as a voting member: I have attended the two executive meetings since our last council meeting.
- Ensure that the financial records of the UPEI SU are properly kept: I am working on 2012's bank recs. and am now beginning to focus on next year's budget.
- Be responsible for keeping the Executive Committee informed of all issues which pertain to the finances of the UPEI SU: I have made sure that the Executive Committee has the relevant financial information to make their decisions.

- Present financial reports as required by Council and to the members of the UPEI SU: Yay massive reports!
- Receive and present to Council any requests for funding or donations as decided by the Executive: I have **two** requests for funding to approve.
- Oversee the operations of the UPEI SU Student Newspaper: The Cadre is doing very well. They are beginning to pursue more advertising options and are beginning their transition into next year. The Cadre will also be offering a discount to Alumni.

4-5 VP COMMUNICATIONS

Hellooooo Council!

As you all know, it's election season, and that's been keeping everyone in the office on their toes. Our CRO, Jessie, arranged many classroom visits for us over the last two weeks, and I've been working with her to make sure those were all attended and running smoothly. I think they've been a great success, and hopefully (fingers crossed) a few more people will be paying attention to our election this time around.

I finished recording and cutting all of the exec position videos, and wanted to say congratulations to Alex, for have the most views with 112. Lucas was indeed a close second with 99 views.

I sent out an Update Email, that was strictly reserved for election information as well, so hopefully lots of students read it!

I sat down with Daniel about some confusion with the Cadre on our website. It's under the "Get Involved" section because they are always looking for student help. However, when businesses are looking to buy advertising, they were having trouble finding The Cadre on our site. So with the help of Shawn in IC, we created a new page for the Cadre strictly for its advertising purposes under our "Businesses" section. It still exists under "Get Involved" as well, it's just more easily accessible now for everyone.

Earlier in the week Kate gave me list of things to play around with on the website, so I've been picking away at that this week as well.

This was a slower week for our Twitter followers, only gaining 6 followers since our last meeting. That being said, the amount of retweets and favorites since our last meeting have been much higher, which means people are paying attention to what we have to say. Since our last meeting, our tweets for the SU have been retweeted 93 times and I can promise that only a tiny portion of that was from when I told everyone to retweet our election tweets. Thanks to Jon, I am now signed up for Tweriod, and don't worry Daniel, it's free. It shows what times our tweets have the most exposure to our followers, this will help me plan when to tweet our tweets and get the most exposure from them.

We closed our SU Student Input Survey on Friday. We received a total of 75 responses and even though that's only roughly about 1.5% of students, it's 75 more opinions than we had before so I'm pleased with it. I've compiled all of the results which I will be presenting later. I have sent the PantherNet related questions to Dave Cormier in IC, and he's going to go over them and figure out what our next step on the PanterNet front will be.

Kendra and I did Puck N' Beer promo on Thursday, where we gave out Wagon Wheels (because they look like hockey pucks) with Puck N' Beer fliers attached to them!

Another aspect of promo for The Wave, is a new mobile app that was launched. This was all done between Kendra, Kirk and Nicole but it seems to be well received so far.

When you sign up you get a free food item, and become part of the Wave Loyalty program, you will get various deals for being a member throughout the year.

4-6 SENATE

Nothing to report.

4-6 BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Nothing to report.

4-7 OMBUDSMAN

Nothing to report.

4-8 GSR

The GSA is gearing up for the new semester. We have begun work setting up an online resource for the incoming GSA members, as it is difficult to have any type of continuity since there is about 90% turnover every year. We are starting a letter writing campaign to other GSAs to try and find out what has worked for them, and what hasn't, in an effort to improve the service we offer to students.

We are welcoming Michelle Patterson as the new Lets Talk Science Coordinator.

Several grad students have been running/attending meetings to gather information of Departmental Structure Review Committee at the AVC. Hopefully this will lead to some positive changes for this community of students.

4-9 FACULTIES/GROUPS

4-9-1 ARTS

Nothing to report.

4-9-2 BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

4-9-3 SCIENCE

Physics

AUPAC conference will be happening Feb 1-3 in Moncton; they will be sending students over for this.

Pre-Vet

Farm tours are being scheduled for the near future, A Ross University representative will be visiting on February 27th and making a presentation. There will be a service dog presentation also in February, and the society just bought new threads.

Math and Engineering

Dodge ball Tournament this Saturday.

Biology

Planning a bowling night for Duffy Cup, date TBA. Bar Wars was successful.

Chemistry

Cribbage tournament on January 23rd from 4:30-6:30.

Computer Science

Hosting a LAN party on January 25th, and a Board Games night February 1st, both in CASS. Details on Facebook or talk to Jamie Lockhart.

4-9-4 NURSING

Nothing to report.

4-9-5 AVC

Nothing to report.

4-9-6 INTERNATIONAL

There is a Chinese spring festival party going on in February, which will be held by the Chinese knot society. The society already contacted Jon about the details. Not too much is going on with international student from my understanding. I work closely with the Chinese society and some international students from other countries other than china. I will try to work more with student servers.

4-9-7 ACCESSIBILITY

- Accessibility committee Is looking for students at large If you know any one that's interested.

- Facilities Management Is in direct contact with students with mobility problems over any snow removal problems (or so I've been told).
- Cathy Rose is the new Accessibility Services Coordinator.
- New webster-academic-services site is up and actually has the right location and staff on it.

4-9-8 RESIDENCE

Nothing to report.

4-9-10 EDUCATION

1. Professors have great rapport with the students. The majority of education professors seem genuinely concerned about our learning.

2. B.Ed students from PEI are no longer welcome at the education job fair in Nova Scotia, which is limiting our exposure to job availability and possible employment.

3. I am attending Ed. Soc. meetings regularly, and socializing with both first and second year students in the lounge and ELC on a daily basis.

4-9-11 FIRST YEAR

Nothing to report.

4-10 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

4-10-1 PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE

We met on Jan. 15th 2013. We talked about what we wanted to do with our committee. Seeing as policy is a separate group once again, we felt as though we weren't sure what our role is, so we have done some brainstorming to come up with ideas on how and what are committee can do this semester. We talked about mature students, and how we (as the student union) don't have a program set-up for mature students and are in the works of doing research on other universities mature student programs and mature student numbers. We also discussed an idea on the role of councillors and adding a more specific job to the councillor description, which would include the possibility having 'office hours'. It's still only a discussion and further details to come at a later time.

4-10-2 EXECUTIVE VP'S COMMITTEE

The Executive Vice-President's Executive Committee is currently working on an advocacy project which Council will be briefed on later this evening.

4-10-3 VP COMMUNICATION'S COMMITTEE

Nothing to report.

4-10-4 VP FINANCE'S COMMITTEE

-Radio station analysis, going to look at the cost of having a radio station and examine the financials from the last one that was at UPEL.

-Funding approval for African Society (\$250) and AVC Students (\$250)

4-10-5 VP ACTIVITIES' COMMITTEE

The activities committee continues to meet every week. The past two- three weeks we have been meeting with the volunteers for frost week which is shaping up to be another great week! Movie pub has also started and is going well. We have begun discussion of what to plan for our final event (besides beach blast). That is all that we have been up to since the last meeting.

5-1 QUESTION PERIOD

5-2 STUDENT UNION INPUT SURVEY

Motion: MacDonald/Deziel; To move into camera.

Motion: *Carried*

Motion: Lane/Deziel; To move out of camera.

Motion: *Carried*

5-3 VP FINANCE REPORT

A: 2000+ Expenditures

Motion: Millington/MacDouglass; To move into camera.

Motion: *Carried*

Motion: MacDonald/Doyle; To move out of camera.

Motion: *Carried*

Motion: Doyle/Reeves; To approve the 2000+ expenditures as presented in council.

Motion: *Carried*

B: Requests for Funding

Motion: Millington/MacDonald; To approve the requests for funding by the African Society and the AVC Class of 2016 as presented in council.

Motion: *Carried*

C: VP Finance Internal Operations Report

Discussion:

Travis inquired about the amount in the cushion account.

Bob noted that the last few years have offered large losses, which is where a lot of the negative dollars in the retained earnings in the last 20 years, came from.

Heather inquired on salaries in both SU owned kiosks and why they almost looks like they are at 0. Melissa gave Daniel the information he and concluded she made a typo. Daniel will talk to Melissa about it.

Heather is wondering if there is any way that the Student Union can partner up with a currently running radio station and set up a pilot project. Daniel will look into it with The Cadre.

Kate would like to note that maybe each year we should stick to our plan. If the SU feels that they are trying to strengthen aspects of the SU that pertain to specific executive positions those executives they pertain to would work that summer.

Travis likes the idea that the union looks at the draft plan to finds priorities and choose a VP that would work with the summer staff.

Danielle was wondering how often and what the structure is of updating the salaries with minimum wage, living expenses, etc. Daniel will look into it.

Motion: Deziel/Millington; To move into camera.

Motion: *Carried*

Motion: MacDonald/Doyle; To move out of camera.

Motion: *Carried*

Motion: MacDonald/Doyle; To allow the food service management staff to deal with the food service issues with regular progress reports given to Melissa and presented to council by the VPF on a monthly basis.

Motion: *Carried*

Motion: MacDonald/; For a list of data to be compiled by the General Manager and VP Finance to compile more quantifiably data for future VP Finance reports.

Amendment: Deziel/Doyle; To add “effective September 1, 2013”.

Amendment: *Carried*

Motion: *Carried*

Motion: Millington/MacDougald; To reduce the VPA school year hours from 20 hours to 15 hours effectively May 1, 2013.

Motion: *Carried*

Motion: MacDonald/Mortin; To ask the VP Finance and General Manager to create a report outlining potential binding incentives and to bring it to council in 2 council meetings (March 10, 2013).

Motion: *Carried*

*Note Robyn Christensen abstained.

D: Job Description Report

5-4 LIBRARY DISCUSSION

There was a consensus from council to try a paper free week and to not make it mandatory.

5-5 SOCIETY APPROVAL

Motion: Millington/Doyle; To formally ratify the UPEI Cage Crew.

Motion: *Carried*

5-6 INTERM OMBUDSMEN

Motion: Millington/Rice; To appoint Katie O’Blenis as interm ombudsmen.

Motion: *Carried*

*Note: Donald Buchanan abstains

6-1 RINK UPDATE

6-2 ANIMAL OF THE WEEK

Crocodile!

6-3 OFFICE HOURS

Each councillor having one office hour a week in a lounge.

6-4 NOTICE OF NON-CONFIDENCE – LOGAN MACKINNON

6-5 ELECTIONS REMINDER

7-1 ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Lane/Millington: To adjourn the meeting.

Motion: *Carried*

The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 pm.

President's Signature: _____

Chair of Council's Signature: _____

