

Agenda for the Students' Council Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University February 19, 2025 at 6:00pm in the Council Chamber

### Voting Members:

Gabriel Ambutong, President Tolu Dare, Councillor Aryan Dutta, Councillor Aidan Fisher, Councillor Vacant, Councillor Darcy Hoogers, Vice President Academic Cierra Jacobs, Councillor Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance and Finance Aleace Moom, Vice President Student Life Moselle Namoc, Councillor Maade Okai, Councillor Nathan Poon, Councillor Israel Reyes, Councillor

Joehn Torres, Councillor Vincent Trinh, Councillor Chioma Uzor, Councillor Layal Zidan, Councillor vacant, Councillor vacant, Vice President External

**SAMU Officials and Council Support:** Timothy Jobs, Chair Darryl Kostash, General Manager Alan Honey, Governance Advisor Caitlin Yambao, Admin Support

Meeting called to order at pm.

<Intros>

### 1. Treaty 6 Land Recognition

We would like to acknowledge that this meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University is taking place on the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 6 region in Central Alberta.

The Students' Association of MacEwan University is situated in the centre of what we call the city of Edmonton, which is called Amiskwaciy Waskahikan or Beaver Hill House in Nehiyawewin (Cree). This is the traditional home of the Nehiyaw (Cree) and Michif (Métis), and meeting place for many Indigenous peoples including the Nakawe (Saulteaux), Siksika (Blackfoot), Nakota Sioux (Stoney) and other nations.

- 2. Approvals 2.1 MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 19, 2025
  - 2.2 MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 15 AND 29, 2024

# 3. Presentations

3.1. Umbrella Organizations

3.2.

- 4. For Information
  - 4.1. Reports
  - 4.1.1. President
  - 4.1.2. Vice President Academic
  - 4.1.3. Vice President Governance & Finance
  - 4.1.4. Vice President Student Life
  - 4.1.5. Town Hall (VPGF)
  - 4.1.6. Students' Council Operations Committee (In Camera)
  - 4.1.7. Governance Investigations and Reinstatement Committee (In Camera)

4.1.8.

# 4.2. Executive Committee Minutes

Minutes of January 8, 15, 22, & 29 2024 provided.

# 5. Question Period

- 5.1. Written Questions
- 5.2. Oral Questions

Topics include:

6. In Camera Period

6.1. Councillor Vacancy MOTION TO GO IN CAMERA

# 6.2. Councillor Reinstatement

# MOTION TO GO OUT OF CAMERA

TO APPOINT

# 6.3.

# 7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day

7.1. Councillor Vacancy

MOTION

AS A COUNCILLOR FOR A TERM ENDING **OCTOBER 31, 2025** 

UZOR/

Favour:

Oppose:

### 7.2. Councillor Reinstatement

# MOTION TO REINSTATE CORNELIUS GLASGOW AS A COUNCILLOR FOR A TERM ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2025

Favour:

Oppose:

# 7.3. SAMU Fees Policy

# MOTION TO APPROVE THE SAMU FEES POLICY, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025, ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

VPGF/

Favour:

Oppose:

# 7.4. Unbudgeted Expense

MOTION	TO APPROVE AN UNBUDGETED EXPENDITURE OF \$59,984.31 FROM G/L
	519000

VPGF/

Favour:

Oppose:

7.5.

8. Consultation

8.1.

9. Evaluation

9.1.

10. Recognition

# 11. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Next Meeting Date: March 19, 2025 Meeting adjourned at pm



Minutes for the Students' Council Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University January 15, 2025 at 6:00pm in the Council Chamber

#### Voting Members:

Gabriel Ambutong, President Tolu Dare, Councillor Aryan Dutta, Councillor Aidan Fisher, Councillor Cornelius Glasgow, Councillor Darcy Hoogers, Vice President Academic Cierra Jacobs, Councillor Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance and Finance Aleace Moom, Vice President Student Life Moselle Namoc, Councillor Maade Okai, Councillor Nathan Poon, Councillor Israel Reyes, Councillor

Joehn Torres, Councillor Vincent Trinh, Councillor Chioma Uzor, Councillor Layal Zidan, Councillor vacant, Councillor vacant, Vice President External

**SAMU Officials and Council Support:** Timothy Jobs, Chair Darryl Kostash, General Manager Alan Honey, Governance Advisor Caitlin Yambao, Admin Support

Meeting called to order at 6:0pm.

#### 1. Treaty 6 Land Recognition

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Approvals	
2.1 MOTION	TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR JANUARY 15, 2025
UZOR/TORRES	
CARRIED	
2.2 MOTION	TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 18, 2024
DUTTA/OKAI	
CARRIED	
	2.1 MOTION UZOR/TORRES CARRIED 2.2 MOTION DUTTA/OKAI

# 3. Presentations

- 4. For Information
  - 4.1. Reports
  - 4.1.1. President
  - 4.1.2. Vice President Academic
  - 4.1.3. Vice President Governance & Finance
  - 4.1.4. Vice President Student Life
  - 4.1.5. Audit Committee Q2
  - 4.1.6. Executive Committee Q2

Updated info provided.

- 4.1.7. Finance Committee Q2
- 4.1.8. Governance Committee Q2
- 4.1.9. Students' Council Operations Committee Q2
- 4.1.10. Strategy and Engagement Committee Q2
- 4.1.11. Students' Council Operations Committee Workplan
- 4.1.12. Tuition and Fees (VPGF)

# 4.2. Executive Committee Minutes

Minutes of December 11 and 18, 2024 provided.

# 5. Question Period

# 5.1. Written Questions

Uzor – For VPSL: I appreciate the initiative towards the "Are You Eating Good?" survey that was conducted last semester. How will the results of this survey help support SAMU's mission toward food security in the future?

VPSL – Thank you councillor Uzor for your question. The eating good survey response rate was low and unfortunately did not get as many responses as we would've liked. The survey results did show that costs and time to cook were the biggest concerns for students. We are hoping to conduct a focus group this term to receive more information and from that better advocate for students regarding food insecurity.

Trinh - For VPGF: Is there any insight into why there is now a rate of cost seen in the U-Pass fee? Compared to the flat \$180 rate we had, there is now an included rate. While the rate only goes up by \$2.50 per year, if the pattern continues for future referendum's then this would only add extra pressure to the affordability crisis students continue to face.

VPGF – The cost was determined by the negotiations that we, along with other student associations, had with ETS and current inflation rates. In these negotiations, we had proposals that included a rollback, freeze, and differing cost variations considering affordability, security & safety, ridership, infrastructure & accessibility, which speak to the value of the UPASS. However, in a negotiation, all parties must agree to the deal, and us student representatives at the table determined that this was the best deal we could possibly get for students with all the above conditions considered.

# 5.2. Oral Questions

Topics include: U-Pass referendum; ETS safety;

# 6. In Camera Period

# 7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day

# 7.1. U-Pass Referendum Question

# MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2025 U-PASS REFERENDUM QUESTION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE MARCH 2025 ELECTIONS

# **VPGF/JACOBS**

Favour: PRES, Dare, Zidan, Jacobs, Okai, Torres, Poon, Uzor, Namoc, Dutta, Reyes, Glasgow, Fisher, Trinh, VPA, VPSL, VPGF

# CARRIED

- 8. Consultation
- 9. Evaluation
- 10. Recognition
- 11. Adjournment

# MOTION TO ADJOURN

# JACOBS

Next Meeting Date: February 19, 2025

Meeting adjourned at 6:23pm.



Minutes for the Students' Council Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University January 29, 2025 at 6:00pm in the Council Chamber

#### **Voting Members:**

Gabriel Ambutong, President Tolu Dare, Councillor Aryan Dutta, Councillor Aidan Fisher, Councillor Darcy Hoogers, Vice President Academic Cierra Jacobs, Councillor Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance and Finance Aleace Moom, Vice President Student Life Moselle Namoc, Councillor Maade Okai, Councillor Nathan Poon, Councillor Israel Reyes, Councillor Joehn Torres, Councillor

Vincent Trinh, Councillor Chioma Uzor, Councillor Layal Zidan, Councillor vacant, Councillor vacant, Councillor vacant, Vice President External

#### SAMU Officials and Council Support:

Timothy Jobs, Chair Darryl Kostash, General Manager Larissa Williams, Internal Advocacy Advisor Dylan Antonio, Admin Support

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm.

#### 1. Treaty 6 Land Recognition

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2. Approvals

2.1 MOTION

#### TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR JANUARY 29, 2025

DUTTA/ZIDAN

CARRIED

- 3. Question Period
  - 3.1. Written Questions
  - 3.2. Oral Questions

Topics include: SAMU Fee membership freeze rationale, sustainability and contingency. Compliance with PSLA.

### 4. Motions & Business Orders of the Day

#### 4.1. SAMU Fees Policy

MOTION TO APPROVE THE SAMU FEES POLICY, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025, ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

#### **VPGF/UZOR**

Favour: Dare, Dutta, Fischer, Jacobs, Namoc, Okai, Poon, Reyes, Torres, Trinh, Uzor, President, VPA, VPGF, VPSL

#### CARRIED

### 4.2. SAMU Fees Policy – Annual Membership Fee Increase

### MOTION TO DISREGARD CLAUSE 4.3 OF THE SAMU FEES POLICY FOR THE 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR

### **VPGF/JACOBS**

Favour: Dare, Dutta, Fischer, Jacobs, Namoc, Okai, Poon, Reyes, Torres, Trinh, Uzor, President, VPA, VPGF, VPSL

# CARRIED

- 5. Consultation
- 6. Evaluation
- 7. Recognition
- 8. Adjournment

### MOTION TO ADJOURN

ZIDAN

# CARRIED

Next Meeting Date: February 19, 2025

Meeting adjourned at 6:18pm.



# **President**

# February 19th, 2025

Council,

There have been no significant decisions or items of strategic relevance to Students' Council to report on from the President portfolio during January 15<sup>th</sup> to February 12<sup>th</sup>.

\*Note: I encourage Councillors to ask **strategic** questions or raise systemic concerns impacting students outside of reported items.

# **Closing Remarks**

I appreciate you taking the time to read my report. I try to ensure that I only report on high-level items that are relevant to the Students' Council. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out. I am always happy to clarify or elaborate either virtually or in-person. Thank you!

Kind regards,

Gabriel Ambutong (He/Him)

SAMU President 2024-2025



# Students' Council Report Vice-President Academic February 19, 2024

# Who brought the cold?

The classic, Canadian arrangement of multiple layers of winterwear constitutes our current fashion. We engage in the tradition of shedding layers as we navigate across rooms and buildings with waying degrees of warmth. This practice alone is exhausting; who has the energy to study afterwards?

Nonetheless, we persist. Reading Week is almost here—our welcome respite from (some) academic responsibilities.

As you read this report, I encourage you to reflect on the changes you've seen from the past semester to this. What have you noticed around campus? How is your student experience across semesters? We are in an era of rapid change—take a moment to appreciate the strides you've made in your own personal journey.

While change can be intimidating, I hope this report indicates that there is always room to change and improve the student experience at MacEwan.

# **Executive Summary**

- General Faculties Council: new majors approved; deferred exam fee update
- Open Educational Resources: Faculty panel

Vice President Academic's Report to Students' Council [19 Feb 2025] Page **1** of **3** 



# **Student Experience & Engagement**

The overall student experience is enhanced by the opportunities provided by SAMU

# Adventures in Open Textbook Publishing: Faculty Panel

1.3 & 3.3 – Increase student engagement by offering relevant and meaningful events, programs, services, volunteer activities and employment opportunities for students; Strengthen collaborations and partnerships with MacEwan University to expand supports and resources for students.

Growing and fostering a strong culture of using, developing, and applying open educational resources (OERs) has been a focus of mine for the past term. Through conversations with the MacEwan Library's leadership, SAMU is working in collaboration with the Library to promote and bring student awareness for a new event, Adventures in Open Textbook Publishing: Faculty Panel.

This panel includes a selection of MacEwan faculty who have authored and published open textbooks, some of which worked with students to develop open texts. The panel will be on March 3, 2pm – 4pm.

As open textbook publishing benefits students through reducing educators' reliance on for-profit textbook publishers, I encourage students to attend and contribute to the open textbook momentum at MacEwan. Plus, there's food!

<u>Visit this link if you are interested in attending</u>. Registration is required to ensure that there's enough food for everyone.

# **Student Voice**

The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.

# General Faculties Council - February 10, 2025

2.4 – Foster positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students.

Vice President Academic's Report to Students' Council [19 Feb 2025] Page **2** of **3** 



This past General Faculties Council (GFC) meeting brought numerous developments of interest to students. Two new majors were approved: Data Science and Public Relations. The Data Science major is housed within the Bachelor of Science degree, whereas the Public Relations major is part of the Bachelor of Communication Studies degree.

In addition to new majors, an update from the Council on Student Affairs (COSA) was presented. Comprehensive policy revisions are underway within the Deferred Exam policy. A major, positive change coming for Fall 2025 is the removal of the Deferred Exam Fee, reducing the fee from \$50/exam to \$0/exam.

While I welcome the removal of the Deferred Exam Fee, consultations are ongoing regarding more specific details of the Deferred Exam policy. The VPSL and I are currently engaging in this process, ensuring that student needs are adequately represented within this policy.

# **Closing Remarks**

Noting the changes across campus, be sure to take time for yourself to rest, relax, meditate, exercise, read, craft, or do another activity apart from your studies. It's easy to get caught up in change, but centering yourself is just as important.

However, I welcome any and all strategic questions about changes we're seeing on campus, related to the Vice President Academic portfolio. Feel free to email me at <a href="mailto:savpacademic@macewan.ca">savpacademic@macewan.ca</a> or visit me anytime.

Best regards,

Darcy

Vice President Academic's Report to Students' Council [19 Feb 2025] Page **3** of **3** 



# **Students' Council Report**

# Vice President Governance & Finance

# February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Greetings Council!

I hope you are all doing well as we head into the chillier parts of Fall that lead into Winter.

Below you can find my report from January 10<sup>th</sup> – February 12<sup>th</sup>.

# **Executive Summary**

- SCOC Meetings
- Finance Committee Meetings
- Governance Committee Meeting
- Student Leadership Week: Executive Committee

# **Student Experience & Engagement**

The overall student experience is enhanced by the opportunities provided by SAMU.

# **Student Voice**

The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.

2.2 Enhance awareness and interest in SAMU's democratic processes through education and encouraging student participation.

Vice President Governance & Finance Report to Students' Council February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Page **1** of **4** 



# Student Leadership Week: Executive Committee:

This is an event to promote the Executive Committee to students and give them an opportunity to meet with an EC member and ask any questions. For this event, we had two days of tabling to promote the event, and a day blocked off solely for EC to meet with interested students with a lunch mixer. Overall, we had 8 interested students sign up for individual meetings that spoke to different EC members.

# **Student Supports**

Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs.

# **Strengthening SAMU Operations**

SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work environment.

4.4 Act as financial and environmental stewards and implement effective practices to enhance sustainability.

4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.



SCOC met multiple times last month. The Interview Working Group met four times to interview and deliberate on who to recommend to SCOC to fill the SC vacancy. Then, SCOC as a whole met once more to discuss the working group's recommendation official recommend a candidate to Council. Furthermore, we discussed the Executive Committee's Remuneration. After considering other student association's remuneration and consulting with our Senior Finance Manager, the committee went along with increasing remuneration by Consumer Price Index (CPI) calculated from December 1<sup>st</sup> to November 30<sup>th</sup> of last year, which is 2.8%.

# Governance Committee Meeting:

The committee met twice to first discuss the work plan and review SAMU's governance structure. The second time was to review the Roles and Responsibilities of Elected Representatives and Governance Transition policies. The few changes discussed for the Roles and Responsibilities of Elected Representatives were centered around the expectations of online training modules, such as the deadline to complete them and how much is considered completed. The committee decided to recommend the policy to Council with changes in the March meeting. For the Governance Transition policy, there are still a few changes we discussed that need more consultation and input before recommending to Council.

# Finance Committee Meetings:

The committee met twice, both discussing changes to the SAMU Fees Policy. The first meeting was to discuss the addition of the SAMU Affiliates to the policy and pausing the increase of SAMU Fees by CPI, which is 2.8% for the next fiscal year. The changes went to a special meeting where the policy was approved. In addition, with the understanding that affordability is a persistent challenge all students face, there was a recommendation from the General Manager and the Senior Finance Manager to reduce Vice President Governance & Finance Report to Students' Council February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Page **3** of **4** 



the SAMU Fee during the Spring/Summer because there are fewer SAMU offerings during that time. Another recommendation was to reduce the SAMU Fee for Ponoka students because they do not have the same access to SAMU programming and services that city center students have. Please see the SAMU Fees Policy Submission for further information.

# **Closing Remarks**

Thank you for reading my report.

Please do not hesitate to email me or set up a meeting if you have any further questions or if you would like me to elaborate on anything.

Kind Regards,

ALaTorre

Joseph A. La Torre, (He/Him) VP Governance and Finance, SAMU 2024/2025 savpoperations@macewan.ca



# Students' Council Report Vice President Student Life 02-19-2025

**Greetings Council!** 

Hope you are all having a lovely February so far trekking through the final winter months. I am ready for spring and warm weather, and I am sure most of you are as well.

For the VPSL portfolio there is nothing relevant to report to council however, I am waiting to receive some clarity on the changes of the Pets Assisting with Student Success (PAWSS) program and will provide an update verbally.

Please don't hesitate to submit strategic questions regardless of my absence report. Looking forward to seeing you all at our next meeting.

The student's voice informs the student experience, and I always welcome yours! Please don't hesitate to contact me via email at <u>savpstudentlife@macewan.ca</u>

Cheers,

Aleace Moom (she/her)

VP Student Life, SAMU 2024/2025

VPSL Report to Students' Council 02-19-2025 Page **1** of **1** 

# **Students' Council Report**

Town Hall "Food for Thought" 2025 February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Hello Council,

As per policy, a report is to be submitted to Students' Council for the town hall. This report is a summary of the event in its entirety.

# Event Summary

For Town Hall, we had Students' Council engage with the student body by tabling in the Lookout. Each table had a different topic, an assortment of handbills related to the table's topic, and a printout of information on the topic for Councillors to reference when engaging with students.

Regarding the event format, students would enter the Lookout and receive a passport handbill, which requires them to go to 3/5 tables to obtain 3 stamps to be eligible to receive a Vietnamese sub and be entered to win 1 of 5 \$50 grocery gift cards. Furthermore, there was a post-Town Hall survey that students could scan at the Feedback table to provide us with feedback.

Town Hall had 5 topics with Councillors stationed at 4/5 tables and the topics were:

- Fees, Health and Dental, U-Pass
- SAMU Governance, External Advocacy
- Academics, Online Learning
- Programs & Services, Student Groups, and Events
- Feedback Table

There were no Councillors stationed at the Feedback table because we thought it best to have an EC member be there to receive students' feedback and address any of their

concerns. The 4 tables each had an Executive or one nearby and 3-4 Councillors who were given information of their topic.

# <u>Analytics</u>

 213 students attended the event: a 28.6% decrease from last year's Town Hall, with 274 students attending.

# Post-Town Hall Feedback Survey

This year, we had a post-Town Hall feedback form where we surveyed students on a few things:

- Feedback on which topic students found was most relevant.
- How well students feel represented by Students' Council.
- What issues students are currently facing.

There were not enough students who filled out the survey to report on.

# **Closing Remarks**

Overall, I think this event was successful. Although there were fewer students in attendance compared to last year, 200+ students still attended and engaged with their elected representatives. Furthermore, from the feedback I heard from Councillors and some students, the opportunity for students to learn and ask questions about SAMU and engage with their elected representatives was enjoyable.

Lastly, I would like to thank Councillors and the Executive Committee for all their hard work and dedication to learning about your assigned topics and engaging with students. Kind Regards,

JALaTorre

Joseph A. La Torre, (He/Him) VP Governance and Finance, SAMU 2024/2025 savpoperations@macewan.ca



### Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University January 8, 2024 @ 2:00pm

Voting Members: Gabriel Ambutong, President Darcy Hoogers, VP Academic vacant, VP External Joseph A. La Torre, VP Governance & Finance Aleace Moom, VP Student Life

Resource Officials: Darryl Kostash, General Manager Alan Honey, Governance Advisor (Recording Secretary) In Attendance: Shannon Marshall, Executive Coordinator Larissa Williams, Internal Advocacy Advisor Parvin Sedighi, External and Stakeholder Relations Manager Emily Lukacs, External Advocacy Advisor

- 1. Call to Order: 2:00pm
- 2. Treaty 6 Land Recognition

We would like to acknowledge that this meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University is taking place on the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 6 region in Central Alberta.

The Students' Association of MacEwan University is situated in the centre of what we call the city of Edmonton, which is called Amiskwaciy Waskahikan or Beaver Hill House in Nehiyawewin (Cree). This is the traditional home of the Nehiyaw (Cree) and Michif (Métis), and meeting place for many Indigenous peoples including the Nakawe (Saulteaux), Siksika (Blackfoot), Nakota Sioux (Stoney) and other nations.

- 3. Approval of Agenda: VPGF/VPA CARRIED
- Approval of Minutes for: December 18, 2024 VPA/VPSL CARRIED

	TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
1.	Quarterly Finance update	Presentation from Cam Whiting.	
1.		These fination from our writing.	
2.	CASA		
		<ul> <li>Vpa – no issue approving the group but need to be conscious of the actions/events the group will hold.</li> <li>VpsI – agreed.</li> <li>Gm – please look at mandate – need to ensure that group is aware of what is allowed as a SG.</li> <li>Vpa – need more clarity by what they mean by some of the statements within their mandate and how they plan to achieve</li> </ul>	MOTION TO APPROVE THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNISTS OF MACEWAN STUDENT GROUP VPSL/VPA
3.	Student Groups	their goals. Need better definition of their mandate.	CARRIED

		ESRM – we have rules in place if the group takes part in	
		anything not allowed.	
		Pres – have SG department be explicit in expectations/rules	
		SGs must follow	
		ESRM – have previously discussed replacing Pres with VpsI on	
		GFC. Would like to define how we will move forward as we've	
		begun planning for the new execs coming in.	
		Vpa – still see value in the Pres remaining as a member of	
		GFC. Vpa/Pres at GFC & advocate for another seat that Vpsl	
		would take. Vpgf – see value to both arguments.	
		Pres – support recommendation for VpsI to take role on.	
	SAMU & GFC	Thes – support recommendation for vipsi to take fore on.	
4.	Membership	*decision to replace Pres with Vpsl at GFC.	
	Outstanding		
5.	Action Items		
	VP Academic's		
6.	Report		
	VP Governance & Finance		
7.	Report		
1.	VP Student		
8.	Life's Report		
			MOTION
			TO GO IN CAMERA
			VPSL/VPGF
			CARRIED
			MOTION
			TO GO OUT OF CAMERA
	President's		VPGF/VPA
9.	Report		CARRIED
		Excited to be back.	
		SCE agreement update.	
		Received federal grant.	
		Building updates. Budget update.	
		Will meet with MacEwan VPs re. SAMU building.	
10.	GM Report	KW/SAMU update.	
11.	Recognition		

5. Adjournment Time: 3:06pm



#### Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University January 15, 2025 @ 2:00pm

Voting Members: Gabriel Ambutong, President Darcy Hoogers, VP Academic vacant, VP External Joseph A. La Torre, VP Governance & Finance Aleace Moom, VP Student Life

Resource Officials: Darryl Kostash, General Manager Alan Honey, Governance Advisor (Recording Secretary) In Attendance: Shannon Marshall, Executive Coordinator Larissa Williams, Internal Advocacy Advisor Parvin Sedighi, External and Stakeholder Relations Manager Emily Lukacs, External Advocacy Advisor

- 1. Call to Order: 2:00pm
- 2. Treaty 6 Land Recognition

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- 3. Approval of Agenda: VPGF/VPSL CARRIED
- Approval of Minutes for: January 8, 2025 VPSL/VPGF CARRIED

	ΤΟΡΙϹ	DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
			MOTION
			TO APPROVE THE MACEWAN PREMED PREP NETWORK STUDENT GROUP
1.	Student Groups	MacEwan PreMed Prep Network	VPSL/VPGF CARRIED
			MOTION
2.	SAL appointment		TO APPOINT SOPHIA COLBOURNE TO THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND

			SCIENCE COUNCIL FOR A TERM ENDING JUNE 30, 2025 VPSL/VPGF CARRRIED
3.	Outstanding Action Items		
4.	VP Student Life's Report	SGs update. Getting to know new Councillors.	
5.	VP Academic's Report	Tabled.	
6.	VP Governance & Finance Report	SCOC update. Finance Committee update. Tech Fee update. the griff interview.	
7.	President's Report		
8.	GM Report	SG update. the griff space update. Budget update.	
9.	Recognition		

# 5. Adjournment Time: 2:21pm.



### Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University January 22, 2025 @ 2:00pm

Voting Members: Gabriel Ambutong, President Darcy Hoogers, VP Academic vacant, VP External Joseph A. La Torre, VP Governance & Finance Aleace Moom, VP Student Life

Resource Officials: Darryl Kostash, General Manager Alan Honey, Governance Advisor (Recording Secretary) In Attendance: Shannon Marshall, Executive Coordinator Larissa Williams, Internal Advocacy Advisor Parvin Sedighi, External and Stakeholder Relations Manager Emily Lukacs, External Advocacy Advisor Megan Viens, Direc

- 1. Call to Order: 2:00pm
- 2. Treaty 6 Land Recognition

We would like to acknowledge that this meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University is taking place on the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 6 region in Central Alberta.

The Students' Association of MacEwan University is situated in the centre of what we call the city of Edmonton, which is called Amiskwaciy Waskahikan or Beaver Hill House in Nehiyawewin (Cree). This is the traditional home of the Nehiyaw (Cree) and Michif (Métis), and meeting place for many Indigenous peoples including the Nakawe (Saulteaux), Siksika (Blackfoot), Nakota Sioux (Stoney) and other nations.

- 3. Approval of Agenda: VPSL/VPA CARRIED
- Approval of Minutes for: January 15, 2025 VPA/VPGF CARRIED

	TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
			MOTION
1.	SAL Appointment		TO APPOINT BEN SMITH TO THE FACULTY OF FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATE DEAN APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT COMMITTEE AND TO APPROVE AN EXPENSE OF UP TO \$585.00 FROM G/L 524500 – EXECUTIVE PROJECTS TO PROVIDE AN HONORARIUM TO BEN SMITH

			FOR SERVING ON THIS COMMITTEE
			COMMITTEE
			VPA/VPSL
			CARRIED
			MOTION
			TO APPROVE THE MACEWAN GLEE CLUB
			GLEE CLOB
			VPSL/VPGF
	Student		CARRIED
2.	Groups		
			MOTION
			TO GO IN CAMERA
			VPGF/VPA
			CARRIED
			MOTION
			TO GO OUT OF CAMERA
			TO GO OUT OF CAMERA
	Umbrella		VPA/VPSL
	Organization		CARRIED
3.	Membership		
			MOTION
			TO APPROVE AN EXPENSE OF UP TO \$800.00 FROM G/L 523000
			TO PROVIDE HONOURARIUMS
			TO STUDENTS TAKING PART IN
			THE FOOD INSECURITY FOCUS
			GROUPS
			VPSL/VPGF
4.	Exec Projects		CARRIED
4.			MOTION
			TO GO IN CAMERA
			CARRIED
			MOTION
			TO GO OUT OF CAMERA
	Otudant		VPSL/VPA
F	Student	*Magan will join this masting at 2:20mm	CARRIED
5.	Concern	*Megan will join this meeting at 2:30pm.	

6.	Remuneration of Elected Reps Policy – Appendix A consultation	Vpgf – looking for feedback from EC on proposed changes to appendix.	
7.			MOTION
			TO TAKE A 5 MINUTE RECESS
			VPSL/VPA CARRIED
8.	<b>a</b>		
9.	Outstanding Action Items		
10.	VP Academic's Report	International student study permit caps. Speaking at Student Research Day.	
11.	VP Governance & Finance Report	SCOC update re. councillor appointment.	
11.		Mental Health Week.	
12.	VP Student Life's Report	KW update.	
			MOTION
			TO GO IN CAMERA
			VPA/VPGF CARRIED
			MOTION
			TO GO OUT OF CAMERA
13.	President's Report		VPSL/VPGF CARRIED
14.	GM Report	Tabled.	
	•		
15.	Recognition		

5. Adjournment Time: 3:38pm



### Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University January 29, 2025 @ 2:00pm

Voting Members: Gabriel Ambutong, President Darcy Hoogers, VP Academic vacant, VP External Joseph A. La Torre, VP Governance & Finance Aleace Moom, VP Student Life

Resource Officials: Darryl Kostash, General Manager Alan Honey, Governance Advisor (Recording Secretary) In Attendance: Shannon Marshall, Executive Coordinator Larissa Williams, Internal Advocacy Advisor Parvin Sedighi, External and Stakeholder Relations Manager Emily Lukacs, External Advocacy Advisor Megan Viens, Direc

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- 3. Approval of Agenda: VPA/VPSL CARRIED
- Approval of Minutes for: January 22, 2025 VPGF/VPA CARRIED

	TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
			MOTION
			TO APPROVE AN UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION PRESENTATION AT THE FEBRUARY 19, 2025 STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING
1.	SC Presentation		VPGF/VPSL CARRIED
2.	Student Groups		MOTION

			TO APPROVE THE KINESIOLOGY CLUB
			VPSL/VPA CARRIED
3.	Outstanding Action Items		
	VP Governance & Finance	<b>T</b>	
<u>4.</u> 5.	Report VP Student Life's Report	Town Hall update. CSGD meeting update. OUR consultation update (re student experience). SVPEC update.	
6.	VP Academic's Report	COSA meeting update.	
7.	President's Report		
			MOTION TO GO IN CAMERA
			VPSL/VPA CARRIED
			MOTION
			TO GO OUT OF CAMERA
8.	GM Report		VPA/VPGF CARRIED
о. 9.	Recognition		

# 5. Adjournment Time: 2:44pm



# STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION			
Meeting Date		Submitted By	
February 19, 2025	5	Chioma Uzor, Councillor, Stud	dents' Council Operation Committee member
Agenda Item Title	Councillor	/acancy	
Action Requested		Motion	Consultation Item
		AGENDA ITEM DET	AILS
Motion Title	Motion to a	ppoint as a Counci	llor for a term ending October 31, 2025
Background Information	AGENDA ITEM DETAILS         Motion to appoint as a Councillor for a term ending October 31, 2025         Students' Council currently has 1 vacancy and it's important to fill that seat. The Students' Council Operations Committee (SCOC) began the recruitment process in late November 2024. We've received 4 applications and interviewed 3 candidates. One candidate withdrew their application the night before their interview date.         SCOC met in early January and we created a sub-group of committee members composed of VP Governance and Finance, Councillor Poon, & Councillor Uzor to conduct interviews with the candidates. Interviews were completed in mid-January and then SCOC met to conduct interviews were completed is presented to you. The interview group conducted the interviews by asking each of the candidates the same questions about students advocacy and what they aim to achieve on council.         Please remember, Students' Council has delegated the responsibility of recruiting and interviewing candidates, and has tasked the committee with providing a recommendation about who to appoint for consideration by Students' Council.         The committee believes we have completed the process of identifying a good candidate in a fair & impartial way.		gan the recruitment process in late November nd interviewed 3 candidates. One candidate their interview date. a sub-group of committee members composed Poon, & Councillor Uzor to conduct interviews npleted in mid-January and then SCOC met to were unanimous in recommending one of the presented to you. The interview group conducted ndidates the same questions about students council. delegated the responsibility of recruiting and ne committee with providing a recommendation Students' Council. d the process of identifying a good candidate in to ask them during the In-Camera Period. I also
	<ul> <li>SCOC met in early January and we created a sub-group of committee members of VP Governance and Finance, Councillor Poon, &amp; Councillor Uzor to conduct in with the candidates. Interviews were completed in mid-January and then SCO review the results of those interviews and were unanimous in recommending o candidates to Council being the candidate presented to you. The interview group of the interviews by asking each of the candidates the same questions about advocacy and what they aim to achieve on council.</li> <li>Please remember, Students' Council has delegated the responsibility of recruit interviewing candidates, and has tasked the committee with providing a recomma about who to appoint for consideration by Students' Council.</li> <li>The committee believes we have completed the process of identifying a good cardinates.</li> </ul>		Poon, & Councillor Uzor to conduct intervie opleted in mid-January and then SCOC met were unanimous in recommending one of presented to you. The interview group conduct ndidates the same questions about stude council. delegated the responsibility of recruiting a ne committee with providing a recommendat Students' Council. d the process of identifying a good candidate to ask them during the In-Camera Period. I a ns should be about the PROCESS that was us

Alternative Considerations	N/A - Per SAMU Bylaw 42, Students' Council solicits a qualified member to fill vacancies.
Risk Management Considerations	N/A
Strategic Alignment	Attached Strategic Alignment Checklist is complete
Implications	Students' Council seats will be filled and the work of Council can be fulfilled. There are more voices present to attest to the student experience on campus.
Related Documents	Committees policy - committee TORs.
Follow Up Action	
Review History	n/a

# Strategic Alignment Checklist

Vision: All students benefit from a vibrant student life and a culture of empowerment.

Mission: SAMU builds a positive student experience by creating a place to engage and connect, being a

champion for all students and providing opportunities that allow them to get the most out of their educational journey.

Focus Areas	Not consistent	N/A	Consistent
Student Experience & Engagement			
The overall student experience is enhanced by the opportunities provided by SAMU.			$\boxtimes$
1.1 Put the finishing touches on the SAMU building, enhancing the safe and intentional spaces for students to gather, relax and study.		$\boxtimes$	
1.2 Increase student awareness of SAMU and its opportunities through strong communications and engaging marketing and brand		$\square$	
1.3 Increase student engagement by offering relevant and meaningful events, programs, services, volunteer activities and employment opportunities for students			
1.4 Support Student Groups by offering networking opportunities, meeting space, outreach support and online platforms		$\boxtimes$	
Student Voice			
The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.			$\boxtimes$
<ol> <li>Develop an Advocacy Plan and implement processes to strengthen SAMU's advocacy program.</li> </ol>		$\boxtimes$	
2.2 Enhance awareness and interest in SAMU's democratic processes through education and encouraging student participation			$\boxtimes$
2.3 Continue to build collaborative relationships with other Student Associations and organizations to enhance the collective student voice with all government levels		$\square$	
2.4 Foster positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students		$\square$	
Student Supports			
Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs.		$\square$	
3.1 Develop and deliver initiatives that are inclusive and are responsive to all student needs.		$\boxtimes$	
3.2 Evaluate and assess student supports to remain relevant and accountable to students		$\square$	
3.3 Strengthen collaborations and partnerships with MacEwan University to expand supports and resources for students.		$\square$	
3.4 Enhance relationships with external organizations to leverage resources and supplement new and existing initiatives		$\square$	
Strengthening SAMU Operations			
SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work environment.			$\boxtimes$
4.1 Review SAMU governance structures and make improvements to reduce duplication of efforts and delays in decision-making processes.		$\boxtimes$	
4.2 Document main policies and processes to support business continuity and transitions in leadership and staff.		$\boxtimes$	
4.3 Diversify revenue streams to reduce reliance on student fees.		$\boxtimes$	
4.4 Act as financial and environmental stewards and implement effective practices to enhance sustainability.			$\boxtimes$
4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.		$\boxtimes$	



# STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION			
Meeting Date		Submitted By	
February 19, 2025		Joseph A. La Torre, Vice Presid	lent Governance & Finance
Agenda Item Title	SAMU Fees Policy		
Action Requested	Motion Consultation Item		Consultation Item
		AGENDA ITEM DET	AILS
Motion Title		to approve the SAMU Fees policy, effective July 1, 2025, on the recommendation inance Committee	
of the FinalBackground InformationAt a recent From that recommend Students' OThe first cl Sping/Sum not provide 		discussion, the General Ma lations that the Finance Con ouncil for approval. hange was to recommend a re- mer academic term. This reduced d the same level of programs and , advocacy, and student groups duced level of programs and se p fee was agreed on. I change was to recommend a dents. MacEwan University has J has done it's best to provide m with our full range of program udents (EC's advo work & SAMI of Student Groups. Because o \$2.50 per credit per academic these reductions are more fair a	ffordability for students was brought up again. nager and Finance Manager provided two mittee reviewed and are recommending to eduction of the SAMU Membership Fee in the ed fee was based on the idea that SAMU does nd services during this time (ie. we mainly focus ), so students' should pay a reduced fee in line ervices. Therefore, a fee of 50% of the regular a reduction of the SAMU Membership Fee for students enrolled at a site in Ponoka, Alberta. services for these students it's not possible to s and servces. SAMU has the ability to advocate J's Advocacy Centre) and they do currently take f these limits the recommended fee for these term.
		l Manager believes that these c p value to our student member	-

Alternative Considerations	
Risk Management Considerations	
Strategic Alignment	Attached Strategic Alignment Checklist is complete
Implications	
Related Documents	
Follow Up Action	VPGF to notify MacEwan University of updated fees.
Review History	

# Strategic Alignment Checklist

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4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.		$\boxtimes$	



SAMU Fees

#### Rationale

The operations of SAMU are partially funded by fees levied on its membership as per the Post-Secondary Learning Act (Alberta). A policy is needed to define what these fees are and how they are assessed and collected.

#### Definitions

An **academic term** is a period of time in which classes are held. MacEwan University has three academic terms: Fall (September – December), Winter (January – April), and Spring/Summer (May – August).

#### Expectations

#### General

**1** SAMU Membership Fees and Affiliate Fees are collected by the Office of the University Registrar.

2 SAMU fees are reviewed annually.

**3** This policy may only be amended by Special Resolution.

#### **General Membership Fees**

**4** SAMU assesses a membership fee to students enrolled in undergraduate credit courses at MacEwan University on a per credit basis.

4.1 SAMU Members are assessed to a maximum of fifteen credits per academic term.

**4.1.1** Part-time students who are given full-time student status with MacEwan University will be assessed based on a credit count of 9 credits per academic term.

**4.2** The SAMU membership fee is \$13.50 per credit in both the Fall and Winter academic terms, and \$6.75 per credit in the Spring/Summer academic term.

**<u>4.2.1** The SAMU membership fee is \$2.50 per credit for those students whose classes only take place at the MacEwan University Ponoka Site.</u>

**4.3** The SAMU membership fee will increase yearly by the annual average of Alberta's CPI from December 1 to November 30 of the previous year.

**4.3.1** If the annual average of the CPI results in a negative number, it will be regarded as a zero percent increase.

#### SAMU Affiliate Fees

5 SAMU assesses an affiliate fee to students enrolled in non-undergraduate credit courses at MacEwan University.

SAMU Fees 1

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Policy



Policy

**5.1** Students enrolled in the University Prep. Program are assessed a fee of \$57.52 if taking one course, \$115.05 if taking two courses, and \$172.05 if taking three courses, per academic term.

**5.2** Students enrolled in the English as an Additional Language (EAL) program are assessed a fee of \$57.52 if taking one course, \$115.05 if taking two courses, and \$172.05 if taking three courses, per academic term.

5.3 Students enrolled in the School of Continuing Education International program will be assessed a fee of \$517.71 per year.

5.4 The SAMU Affiliate Fee will increase yearly by the annual average of Alberta's CPI from December 1 to November 30 of the previous year.

5.4.1 If the annual average of the CPI results in a negatives number, it will be regarded as a zero percent increase.

#### **Dedicated Fees**

6 Additional fees assessed to students must be established by referendum.

SAMU Fees 2



Policy

Fact Sheet

Approvals: First Approval: April 6, 2009 Last Approval: June 16, 2021

Date of Last Review: April 9, 2021

#### **Related Documents and Forms:**

#### Source and Updates:

ITEM#: UNKNOWN DATE – Policy Format created, designated Policy 26 2011-08-16-6.11 – Updated expectation 6.1 2011-03-21-5.3 – Policy updated to reflect name change of SC Policy 27. 2012-05-16-5.3 – "Executive Council" updated to "Executive Committee" 2012-11-12-6.5 – Committees updated to follow Policy 25, Committees Policy

September 5, 2013: SAMU Fees approved by Students' Council motion 2013-09-04-6.1. Policy updated to new format. Source material Students' Council Policy 26 – SA Fees.

October 21, 2015: SAMU Fees approved by Students' Council motion 2015-10-21-6.2 on the recommendation of the Bylaws and Policy Committee. Secondary Student Membership Fee increases from \$3.50/credit to \$3.85/credit beginning in the 2016/17 academic year, then increases to \$4.24/credit in the 2017/18 academic year, and then to \$4.66/credit in the 2018/19 academic year.

September 20, 2017: SAMU Fees approved by Students' Council motion 2017-09-20-7.4. Distance students reference removed.

January 23, 2019: SAMU Fees approved by Students' Council motion 2019-01-23-7.1 on the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee to take effect July 1, 2019. Changes include: students assessed SAMU Fee up to fifteen credits, increased from nine credits; SAMU membership fee decreased from \$13.00/credit to \$11.75/credit; future SAMU Fee will increase annually by Alberta's average CPI from previous year.

July 1, 2020: SAMU fees for 2020-2021 updated to \$11.95 based on a CPI increase of 1.7%.

June 16, 2021: SAMU Fees approved by Students' Council motion 2021-06-16-7.2 on the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee. Updated to identify that students enrolled part-time who are considered full-time by MacEwan University will be assessed SAMU Fees at a nine credit rate.

July 1, 2021: SAMU membership fees for 2021-2022 updated to 12.09/credit based on a CPI of 1.2%.

July 1, 2022: SAMU membership fee for 2022-2023 Updated to 12.66/credit based on a CPI of 4.7%.

SAMU Fees 3



Policy

July 1, 2023: SAMU membership fee for 2023-2024 updated to 13.50/credit based on a CPI of 6.6%.

July 1, 2024: SAMU Membership fee frozen at the current rate for the 2024-2025 fiscal year based on Students' Council motion 2024-01-17-7.1.

SAMU Fees 4



# STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION				
Meeting Date		Submitted By		
February 19, 2025		Joseph A. La Torre, Vice Presid	dent Governance & Finance	
Agenda Item Title	Unbudgete	d Expense		
Action Requested		Motion	Consultation Item	
		AGENDA ITEM DET	AILS	
Motion Title	Motion to a	pprove an unbudgeted expendi	ture of \$59,984.31 from G/L 519000	
Background Information	are to be us Standards Excellence implementing Under our expenditure contemplate the approve the authorit are able to a Because S/ Students' C The funds c	Motion to approve an unbudgeted expenditure of \$59,984.31 from G/L 519000 SAMU recently applied for and received two grants from Food Banks Canada. The grants are to be used to hire a termed contractor to review and complete Food Banks Canada's Standards of Excellence program. This contractor will work through the Standards or Excellence Program so that SAMU can take advantage of best practices and benefits or implementing their standards. The two grants total \$59,984.31. Under our current Procedure, spending these funds is technically an 'unbudgeted expenditure' as it's defined as "any expenditure from a budget line that was nor contemplated when the budget was approved or that was contemplated but now exceeds the approved budget line". While the Executive Committee and the General Manager have the authority to approve unbudgeted expenditures, this amount exceeds the amount they are able to approve so it must be brought to Students' Council. Because SAMU did not originally budget for both receiving and spending these funds Students' Council has the authourity to approve the expenditure. The funds can only be used to implement the original grant intent. Implementing best practices will improve SAMU's foodbank (The Pantry) program and provide a better chance of receiving grants in the future.		
Alternative Considerations				

Risk Management Considerations	
Strategic Alignment	X Attached Strategic Alignment Checklist is complete
Implications	
Related Documents	
Follow Up Action	SAMU Operations will use the funds for their intended purpose.
Review History	

# Strategic Alignment Checklist

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SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work environment.			$\boxtimes$
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4.4 Act as financial and environmental stewards and implement effective practices to enhance sustainability.			$\boxtimes$
4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.		$\boxtimes$	