



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

**Agenda for the Students' Council Meeting of the
Students' Association of MacEwan University
March 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
Chistian Galera, 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, 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 6:00pm.

<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 MARCH 19, 2025

2.2 MOTION

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 19, 2025

3. Presentations

3.1. SAMU Budget 2025-2026

VPGF -

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. SCOC Recommendation (in camera)

4.1.6. Advocacy Affiliations (in camera)

4.1.7.

4.2. Executive Committee Minutes

Minutes of February 5, 12, 19, 26 and March 5, 2025 provided.

5. Question Period

5.1. Written Questions

5.2. Oral Questions

Topics include:

6. In Camera Period

MOTION TO GO IN CAMERA

6.1. Umbrella Orgs (PRES)

6.2. Chair of Students' Council (VPGF)

6.3.

MOTION TO GO OUT OF CAMERA

MOTION TO TAKE A 5 MINUTE RECESS

VPGF/

6.4.

7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day

7.1. SAMU Budget 2025-2026

MOTION **TO APPROVE THE 2025-2026 SAMU BUDGET ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

VPGF/

Favour:

Oppose:

7.2. Canadian Alliance of Student Association (CASA)

MOTION **TO DIRECT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO _____**

VPGF/

Favour:

Oppose:

7.3. Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS)

MOTION **TO DIRECT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO _____**

VPGF/

Favour:

Oppose:

7.4. Unbudgeted Expense

MOTION **TO APPROVE AN UNBUDGETED EXPENDITURE OF \$67,824.00 FROM G/L 563500 (OILERS TICKETS)**

VPGF/

Favour:

Oppose:

7.5. Chair of Students' Council Reappointment

MOTION **TO REAPPOINT TIM JOBS AS CHAIR OF STUDENTS' COUNCIL FOR A TERM OF MAY 1, 2025-APRIL 30, 2026**

VPGF/

Favour:

Oppose:

7.6. SAMU Fees Policy

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

VPGF/

Favour:

Oppose:

7.7.

8. Consultation

8.1.

9. Evaluation

9.1. Evaluation Form

9.2.

10. Recognition

11. Adjournment

MOTION ***TO ADJOURN***

Next Meeting Date: April 16, 2025

Meeting adjourned at pm



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

Minutes 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 (absent)
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
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2. Approvals

2.1 MOTION

TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 19, 2025

TORRES/FISHER

MOTION

TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO ADD 6.3 EXECUTIVE REPORTS

JACOBS/ZIDAN

CARRIED

CARRIED

2.2 MOTION

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 15 AND 29, 2024

UZOR/ZIDAN

CARRIED

3. Presentations

3.1. Umbrella Organizations

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

PAWSS update.

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, 2025 provided.

5. Question Period

5.1. Written Questions

Zidan - For VPA: will SAMU promote or bring an attention to the faculty panel event?

Vpa – Thank you for your question, Councillor Zidan; I appreciate the opportunity to draw attention to this event. I'm happy to report that SAMU is promoting the Adventures in Open Education Publishing: Faculty Panel through our newsletter.

Zidan - VPGF: regarding the decrease in attendance for the town hall, how will this be articulated in the future for next town hall and for the incoming VPGF?

VPGF – The Events team and the Executive Committee debriefed on Town Hall. We discussed how the event went and improvements we can make in the future, such as focusing more on gathering student feedback and implementing more metrics. The feedback will be communicated to the next VPGF during transition and the debrief and planning documents will be accessible via Sharepoint.

Zidan - Executives: from EC minutes and regarding replacing the PRES for VPSL in GFC, will this be in consideration even if the number of students in GFC stays the same?

VPA - Great question, Councillor Zidan. The General Faculties Council (GFC) discusses, debates, reviews, oversees, and engages with items which significantly relates to the Vice President Student Life (VPSL) and Vice President Academic (VPA) portfolios.

As the Executive Committee's advocacy matures, we identify that many items brought to GFC would significantly benefit from direct contributions by the VPSL. Additionally, the VPA and VPSL have an opportunity to collaborate through joint advocacy on GFC, enhancing the work done within the Executive Committee.

If the number of student seats on GFC grows or remains the same, the VPSL will replace the President on GFC. If student seats shrink, the Executive Committee will revisit this decision and determine a strategy forward.

Uzor - For VPSL or VPA: Apologies if this is operational. I was made aware last semester that two faculty members who were usually in charge of the Black History Month event planning are,

unfortunately, no longer staff as they moved on to other endeavours. How was Black History Month planned differently this semester in comparison to last year?

VPSL - Thank you councillor Uzor for your question. Last month I met with a new member of the Office of Human Rights, their role is an education and engagement facilitator (EEF), and they focus on campus inclusivity and diversity on campus. The planning of Black History Month planning was overseen by the office over faculty to allow an ease of responsibilities off faculty and create more structure and centralization of this event. There was an open call out to faculty, students and committee members and the committee had 15 members. Everything was done differently from last year and unfortunately the EEF did not have access to historical data but the committee has done a great job to include diversity in staff and students on the committee and have different events throughout the month.

The events this month that have happened (and ongoing) include workshops, tea times, mentorship meetups, visual displays and other social activities. you can find the events linked [here](#) for whats remaining for the month.

Uzor - For VPA: The approval for the Data Science and Public Relations majors is great news! Do you have any details as to when this news will be made known to all current and prospective students if it hasn't already?

VPA – Excellent question, Councillor Uzor. MacEwan has yet to share a timeline for communication to current and prospective students.

Zidan - VPSL: Could you provide insights on how Mental Health Week went, including student engagement and overall turnout?

VPSL - Thank you for your question councillor Zidan. As I was a part of the Mental Health planning committee, the committee looked at last year's low engagement and decided to revise areas of timing and activities planned.

Mental Health Week 2025 had a wide variety of engagement opportunities focused on building connections, gaining skills, and learning about available resources on and off campus. There was a variety of events that included education sessions and connection-based sessions to allow engagement at different levels. In addition to active engagement events, there were also opportunities for passive engagement such as the gratitude trees that were strategically placed across campus and resource information boards. This year about 1400 students/campus members were engaged in the different activities that take place with key highlights being the skill building workshops such as safeTALK and assisting students in distress sessions. Additionally, the social sessions were also successful, highlighting higher engagement from last year.

If you would like to see the full evaluation report, I would be happy to arrange a meeting with you to share that information.

Zidan - President: In reviewing the recent monthly reports submitted to Students' Council, I noticed that there have been no updates provided for the past few months. Given that these reports serve as an important tool for transparency and accountability, can you clarify why there hasn't been anything to report? Additionally, can you outline what steps are being taken to ensure that Council remains informed about ongoing projects, priorities, and key developments affecting SAMU and its members?

Jacobs - I've noticed that your reports to Students' Council have been consistently blank for the past few months, and I'm concerned about the lack of reporting in meeting the expectations outlined in the *Roles and Responsibilities of Elected Representatives Policy*(Section 13). These reports are important for keeping Council informed about your goals, projects, and key issues affecting SAMU and its members. Could you share any insights on why there hasn't been anything to report? Additionally, is there anything preventing you from meeting this expectation?

PRES – Fantastic question, Councillors. Due to the similarity in your questions, I will respond to both

your questions. To clarify, you are referring to [Roles and Responsibilities of Elected Representatives Policy, Section 13](#), which states:

“Members of Executive Committee provide up-to-date, written reports to Students' Council on their respective areas of responsibility, to be submitted with the Students' Council agenda package. These reports include goals and projects, significant issues affecting SAMU or its members, as well as decisions made at meetings attended on behalf of SAMU.”

I believe you're referring to the report for December which included CASA and a Meeting with MLAs, and how prior months as well as January and February had no items of relevance or would have been redundant as more portfolio specific items had already been reported on by the Vice-Presidents.

It is understandable why this reporting style may be confusing to some, especially as SAMU as an organization continues to evolve. For transparency and your edification, I'll elaborate on the rationale. There are a number of factors that contribute to an efficient and effective report. With the information and resources provided by SAMU's Governance Advisor, executives have the freedom to choose their own reporting style, so long as they adhere to policy.

The following are points from the aforementioned SAMU resource:

- Be as **concise** as possible; we all have lives. Consider the use of point form where possible, especially where a lot of information has to be provided.
- **Decisions and actions** should be the focus of a report. Unless the item is highly unusual and interesting, there's **no need to report** on items for which there was only **discussion**. **Report only** on things that have **already happened**, **not on events scheduled for the future**.
- **Supply thorough information** on report items that may **pertain to a vote**, but try **not** to sway people's opinions and **create bias**.
- **Avoid opinion** in reports, as this may bias councilors' opinions on events.
- When there is a policy requirement to report meetings you have attended, **don't report in detail on all meetings**. **Unless major decisions were made or actions** were undertaken, simply providing the date and time will suffice.
- The **President should report on events that the entire executive attended**, **or they should assign another executive to report on that event**. Having the **event appear in all four reports is redundant**.
- In general, the vice presidents should report only on portfolio-specific items.
- **Closing remarks should be neither too formal nor too fluffy**. Be courteous and brief, avoiding anything of substance that would fit better in the body of the report itself.

For ease of reading, I've highlighted key points relevant to the President portfolio.

As per policy, members of the Executive Committee ensure to “report significant issues affecting SAMU or its members, as well as decisions made at meetings attended on behalf of SAMU.” There have been no significant decisions made or items of strategic relevance to Students' Council that would be appropriate in my report. Although the VPGF's Town Hall report, Tuition and Fees consultation, Student Leadership Week, Finance Committee meetings, and the VPA's Fall Reading Break and GFC reports to name a few, can give Council an idea of how my time is spent, multiple portfolios reporting on an item multiple times would be redundant. Some items may be confidential and, therefore, cannot be reported on.

As for “goals, projects, and key issues affecting SAMU and its members,” all relevant portfolio specific work that I support is reported on by myself, SAMU’s Vice-Presidents or through the Executive Committee Workplan. As a member of the Executive Committee, I provide up-to-date reports to SC on goals and projects through the Executive Committee Workplan and I ensure to report on portfolio specific issues impacting SAMU members as well as decisions made on behalf of SAMU.

This particular policy does not cite accountability or transparency as metric, but I do recognize that this misconception may persist due to poor reporting standards in past years. In the interest of transparency however, should Council wish more operational information on my day-to-day work outside of SC meetings, I encourage you to attend an EC meeting or to schedule a meeting with myself either in-person or virtually. Otherwise, I am always happy to respond to written or oral questions at SC.

5.2. Oral Questions

Topics include: Town Hall; BOG representation; GFC representation; President reporting; Exam Services; PAWSS program;

MOTION TO RECESS FOR 5 MINUTES

VPSL/ZIDAN

CARRIED

6. In Camera Period

6.1. Councillor Vacancy

MOTION TO GO IN CAMERA

TORRES/FISHER

CARRIED

6.2. Councillor Reinstatement

6.3. Executive Reports

MOTION TO GO OUT OF CAMERA

REYES/VPSL

CARRIED

MOTION TO TAKE A 5 MINUTE RECESS

PRES/TORRES

CARRIED

7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day

7.1. Councillor Vacancy

***MOTION TO APPOINT CHRISTIAN GALERA AS A COUNCILLOR FOR A TERM
ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2025***

UZOR/JACOBS

Favour: Pres, Dare, Dutta, Fisher, Vpa, Jacobs, Vpgf, Vpsl, Namoc, Okai, Poon, Reyes, Torres, Trinh, Uzor, Zidan

CARRIED

7.2. Councillor Reinstatement

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

DUTTA/ZIDAN

Favour: Pres, Dare, Dutta, Fisher, Vpa, Jacobs, Vpgf, Vpsl, Namoc, Okai, Poon, Reyes, Torres, Trinh, Uzor, Zidan

CARRIED

7.3. SAMU Fees Policy

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

VPGF/ZIDAN

Favour: Pres, Dare, Dutta, Fisher, Vpa, Jacobs, Vpgf, Vpsl, Namoc, Okai, Poon, Reyes, Torres, Trinh, Uzor, Zidan, Glasgow

CARRIED

7.4. Unbudgeted Expense

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

VPGF/TORRES

Favour: Pres, Dare, Dutta, Fisher, Vpa, Jacobs, Vpgf, Vpsl, Namoc, Okai, Poon, Reyes, Torres, Trinh, Uzor, Zidan, Glasgow

CARRIED

8. Consultation

9. Evaluation

10. Recognition

11. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN

UZOR

CARRIED

Next Meeting Date: March 19, 2025

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm

Students' Council Report

President

March 19th, 2025

Council,

Here's my report on from the President portfolio during February 19th to March 12th.

Executive Summary

- Student Meetings to Encourage Participation in Student Governance
- Budget Week
- Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) Sustainable Growth Consultation
- Good People Party
- Meeting with MacEwan President
- Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) Banker Meeting with CAUS Chair
- CASA Year-in-Review Consultation
- School of Business (SoB) Alumni Mixer
- Minister Sawhney Budget Day call with Student Leader Organizations
- Edmonton Student Alliance (ESA)
- Adventures in Open Education Publishing: Faculty Panel
- Chancellor Speaker Series Steering Committee
- Grateful Gathering
- CAUS Meeting



- Government of Alberta, City of Edmonton, and OEG Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)
- UN Club Gala
- Pride Week March
- Student Shadow
- CBC Housing Affordability Interview
- MacEwan and SAMU Executive Meeting
- Pantry and Breakfast Club Donation

Oral Report

- Chamber of Commerce Political Action Day MLA Reception and Dinner
- Pride Week GayLa
- Advocacy Conference: SAMU x SAMRU

Student Experience & Engagement

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

UN Club Gala Attendance

1.2 Increase student awareness of SAMU and its opportunities through strong communication and engaging marketing and branding

I, alongside the rest of the Executive Committee (EC), attended this event to show our support for Student Groups. If any Student Groups wishes to invite EC to future events, our team will deliberate and make considerations as to whether to attend.

Student Voice

The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.

Student Meetings



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

I've met with several students to encourage student participation in SAMU committees, MacEwan committees, faculty councils, Students' Council, and to run for Executive Committee positions. With the support of the Internal Advocacy Advisor, and the rest of Executive Committee, we've been informed that the President of the MacEwan of the Faculty Association is pleased to see the level of involvement and engagement students have been contributing to various councils and committees.

CASA Sustainable Growth and CASA Year-in-Review Consultations

2.3 Continue to build collaborative relationships with other Students' Associations and organizations to enhance the collective student voice with all government levels.

CASA conducted consultation sessions wherein most of SAMU's recommendations were taken into serious consideration, an unusual deviation from the norm. Whether or not feedback is implemented will depend on how membership votes during the April Annual General Meeting (AGM). I would also like to note that it took SAMU 2 years of persistent advocacy to achieve these results. Despite this, it is unclear whether CASA will be equally as responsive in future years.

Good People Party

I, alongside the VPGF, attended an event hosted by Diplomat Consulting. The event was attended by various decision makers in various levels of government.

CAUS Banker

I, alongside the CAUS Chair, met with the CAUS banker.

ESA

I, alongside SAMU support staff, attended this meeting where we were consulted on the creation of a Post-Secondary Housing Survey for the city. This, along with an ETS



survey that's underway, reflects ESA's successful advocacy, spearheaded by SAMU Executives and support staff.

Minister Sawhney Budget Day call with Student Leader Organizations

The only notable item during this meeting was the announcement that the ministry is working on clarity regarding Mandatory-Noninstructional Fees (MNIFs). This is a point raised by SAMU during the last meeting with the Ministry for Advanced Education. Whether the upcoming changes is to the benefit of students is yet to be seen. I will update the Council as relevant.

MoU Event

I was invited to attend an announcement marking a memorandum of understanding between the Government of Alberta, City of Edmonton and OEG Sports & Entertainment for significant investment in the revitalization of downtown Edmonton. Of interest to the Council is the announcement that there will be 2500 new residences that will encompass purpose-built housing, and student housing. Details and whether SAMU's definition of affordable student housing aligns with this announcement is yet to be seen. Students' Council will be updated as relevant.

CBC Housing Affordability Interview

I was interviewed by CBC to speak to the experience of MacEwan students. Students' Council will be updated as relevant.

Meeting with MacEwan President

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

I have consistent meetings with President Trimbee to ensure a healthy working relationship and maintain an advocacy avenue. A great deal of our conversation is confidential, but one item of note is that I've raised the issue of band funding. The issue of band funding and insufficient knowledge at the registrar was raised to me by indigenous students and I have been informed by the President she has communicated



these issues to the appropriate people. I will continue to monitor this issue and update the Council as relevant.

School of Business Alumni Mixer

I attended the mixer as a member of the Alumni Advisory Council (AAC).

Adventures in Open Education Publishing: Faculty Panel

I, alongside the VPA, attended this event. Please view the VPA's report for more information.

Chancellor Speaker Series Steering Committee

I sit on this committee as a SAMU representative.

Grateful Gathering

I attended this event on behalf of SAMU.

Pride Week March

I, alongside the VPSL & VPGF, attended the march to show our support for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

Student Shadow

A student reached out to EC regarding a class project which required them to shadow me during my work. I accepted and had the student accompany me during the day, excluding confidential meetings.

MacEwan and SAMU Executive Meeting

The details of our discussions are confidential, but the topics include: Budget 2025, Provincial Advocacy, Food Security, and Federal Advocacy.

Student Supports

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

Pantry and Breakfast Club Donation



3.3 Strengthen collaborations and partnerships with MacEwan University to expand supports and resources for students.

Through SAMU's tuition and fees consultation, the VPGF and I, with the support of the Internal Advocacy Advisor and other support staff, we were able to successfully leverage our position into student wins. This year, an unprecedented win for SAMU is the attainment of a new advocacy avenue where we submitted our asks for In-Year Allocations, as you may recall from the tuition and fees consultation report provided previously. One of the asks being an allocation of funds to food insecurity initiatives which manifested into \$100K toward food initiatives on campus such as cooking classes and subsidized pop-up meals on campus and a \$100K donation toward the Pantry and Breakfast Club.

Strengthening SAMU Operations

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

Budget Week

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

I participated in budget week. Please view VPGF's report for more information.

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

Closing Remarks

Though there isn't always something of relevance to report on, I appreciate you always taking the time to read my report and ask questions. 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,

President's Report to Students' Council

Submitted on March 12th, 2025

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**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

Gabriel Ambutong (He/Him)

SAMU President 2024-2025



Students' Council Report

Vice-President Academic

19 March 2025

A small report for the council this time around. Things are starting to wrap up—I'm working diligently to prepare my successor for an effective, efficient, and comprehensive transition.

However, there are a few updates, as you'll soon read.

Executive Summary

- Adventures in Open Education Publishing: Faculty Panel summary

Student Experience & Engagement

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

Meeting / Initiative / Project

Strat Bullet Point (ex. 1.1)

[information briefing portion]

Meeting / Initiative / Project

Strat Bullet Point (ex. 1.2)

Roles Report to Students' Council

[Date Report's Submitted]

Page 1 of 2



[information briefing portion]

Student Voice

2.4 & 3.3

Adventures in Open Education Publishing: Faculty Panel

On March 3rd, I had the honour of giving closing remarks for this event, which promotes and amplifies the Open Education movement that we're seeing across institutions.

Panelists dispelled myths surrounding Open Education, inspired faculty to take a step into adapting or adopting OERs, and engaged with an audience of staff, students, and other faculty.

Closing Remarks

Once again, thank you for taking the time to read and review my report. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or comments surrounding the work I do as VPA!

Sincerely,

Darcy



Students' Council Report

Vice President Governance & Finance

March 19th, 2025

Greetings Council!

With spring around the corner, a spring to my step is coming with sunnier days and longer days in the sun.

Below you can find my report from February 13th – March 13th.

Executive Summary

- SCOC Meeting
- Governance Committee Meeting
- Finance Committee Meeting

Student Experience & Engagement

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

Student Voice

The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.

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.

4.1 Review SAMU governance structures and make improvements to reduce duplication of efforts and delays in decision-making processes.

4.2 Document main policies and processes to support business continuity and transitions in leadership and staff.

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 Meeting:

The committee met to discuss a few things: the February 19th, 2025 evaluations, Remuneration of Elected Representatives Policy, and the Chair Review. The discussion on the February Council meeting evaluations was about a policy breach, and the feedback we received from Council, which led to a greater discussion on training and culture. For the Remuneration policy, the changes were to have EC start with 3 sick days and accrue one sick day at the end of the month, resulting in 15 sick days during the term. Furthermore, this is in line with the Directive SAMU Staff follow. In addition, the committee reviewed the Chair's evaluations, which were overwhelmingly positive causing us to make a recommendation of reappointment to Council. Lastly, we



discussed the breach in policy that was identified by a Councillor during the last Council meeting. The Students' Council Meetings Policy states that we must do a secret ballot for reinstatement and appointment. During the last Council meeting, we did not do a secret ballot vote and, therefore, broke policy. The policy breach was brought to SCOC's attention, and we discussed how to proceed. Since there was nothing contentious during the Council meeting, the committee decided that a report to Council would suffice since it was identified.

Governance Committee Meetings:

The committee met to discuss the Roles and Responsibilities of Elected Reps and Governance Transition policies. The first policy's changes were centered on module-based training expectations, which resulted in a motion recommending to Council the policy for approval. The second policy's changes centered on training as well; however, we did not recommend the changes to Council because it requires more work and thought.

Finance Committee Meetings:

During this reporting period, the committee met for budget presentations during reading break, and after the last budget presentation, the committee met officially to discuss the budget as a whole. The discussion was great and filled with fruitful questions and comments from the committee members, which led to a meaningful change. From all that, the committee recommended the 2025/26 SAMU operating budget to Students' Council. Furthermore, we discussed the final changes to the SAMU fees policy, which is attached to the agenda for your reference. Lastly, we discussed the direction for SAMU investments, considering that we use student funds.



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

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,

Joseph A. La Torre, (He/Him)

VP Governance and Finance, SAMU 2024/2025

savpoperations@macewan.ca

Students' Council Report

Vice President Student Life

03-19-2025

Greetings Council!

Hope you all made it through the first few weeks of March. Alas, we have been left delusional with the actions of fake spring and suffering in second winter. When will the summer warmth hit my face again?

Anyways, here's what I have been up to this past month:

- Food Insecurity Focus Groups
- In-Year Allocation towards Food insecurity

Student Supports

Student Supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs

Food Insecurity Focus Groups

Within the executive workplan, I have been responsible for leading food insecurity initiatives. We wanted to dig deeper into student needs around food insecurity.

Following the food insecurity survey that was sent out in late 2024, we were looking for the stories that come with the stats. Unfortunately, food insecurity continues to be a massive force on campus, and nearly every participant in the focus groups is



experiencing less than adequate access to nutritious food. We ran five total focus groups over the course of three weeks. Highlights of learnings include:

- On average, students pay for all their other needs before buying food or groceries, which means once they run out of money, they end up hungry
- Some students don't have the right tools to cook for themselves, and some lack the skills. We are taking this in consideration as a part of our advocacy
- Food is available on campus, but the cost and amount of food is not worthwhile for students

As we have just finished up these focus groups, I will update council on the direction SAMU will take moving forward to minimize the impact of food insecurity.

Student Voice

The student voice is amplified by SAMU

2.4 Foster positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students In-Year Allocation towards Food insecurity

The VPGF and I were consulted with the university relations office with MacEwan's surplus and we were able to get \$100,000 towards the Pantry and Breakfast Club and consulted in the planning of cooking classes on campus and subsided pop-up meals. As we know from my reported statement above, food insecurity is a wide breadth and needs to be addressed in ways of skills, economic value and accessibility.

We were happy to announce the launch of cooking classes that are now available on campus for students at a low cost of \$5. These classes allow students to learn how to cook a meal with all the ingredients, enjoy it with a community and then take home to re-create. They will be available over the course of a few weeks. I encourage you to sign up or tell your friends.



The pop-up meals were chosen with the University Relation office and the VPGF and I. From surveys and focus groups we learned that students can't afford an expensive meal on campus all the time and if they do buy food, they are not meeting dietary needs.

The pop-ups will begin on the week of March 17th, Students can get a \$5 meal that is fulling and meets their nutritional needs

Closing Remarks

Thank you for taking time to read my report! I hope you all take some time to enjoy the little things and relax as we enter finals season.

The student's voice informs the student experience, and I always welcome yours!

Please don't hesitate to contact me via email at savpstudentlife@macewan.ca

Cheers,

Aleace Moom (she/her)

VP Student Life, SAMU 2024/2025



**Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the
Students' Association of MacEwan University
February 5, 2025 @ 3:00pm**

Voting Members:

Gabriel Ambutong, President
Darcy Hoogers, VP Academic
vacant, VP External
Joseph A. La Torre, VP Governance & Finance
Aleace Moom, VP Student Life (absent)

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: 3:00pm
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

4. Approval of Minutes for: January 29 2025

VPA/VPGF

CARRIED

TOPIC		DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
1.	Umbrella Orgs & SC	VPGF – looking for feedback on how we want to proceed with this discussion at SC.	
			MOTION TO APPOINT AANYA KHERA TO SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR A TERM ENDING JUNE 30, 2025 VPGF/VPA CARRIED
2.	Appointment		

3.	Anti-trans legislation	EAA – for final review - no substantive edits. Hope to get approved at today's meeting.	Action: EAA to get letter signed and sent off.
4.	Outstanding Action Items		
5.	VP Student Life's Report	tabled	
6.	VP Academic's Report		
7.	VP Governance & Finance Report	Met with Maureen. - in year allocation update. - budget proposal update. - Tech fee update.	Check in at end of month re. giant cheque event
8.	President's Report	CAUS update. CASA e-plenary update. UASU letter re.	
9.	GM Report	SGs update. Meeting with Maureen update. Budget update. Election season coming up.	Action: Check in on Indigenous Restorative Circle at next EC meeting
10.	Recognition		

5. Adjournment
Time: 3:44pm



Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the
Students' Association of MacEwan University
February 12, 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

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/VPSL

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes for: February 5, 2025

VPSL/VPGF

CARRIED

TOPIC		DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
			MOTION
			TO APPOINT ZILAN ARIK TO THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR A TERM ENDING JUNE 30, 2025
			VPGF/VPSL CARRIED
			MOTION
			TO APPOINT KATELYN YAKIELASHEK TO THE FACULTY OF HEALTH AND
1.	Committee Appointments		

			COMMUNITY STUDIES COUNCIL FOR A TERM ENDING JUNE 30, 2025 VPSL/VPGF CARRIED MOTION TO APPOINT CHIOMA UZOR TO THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES FACULTY COUNCIL FOR A TERM ENDING JUNE 30, 2025 VPGF/VPSL CARRIED
2.	Student Groups		MOTION TO APPROVE THE QUEERING THE SOCIAL: 2SLGBTQIA INDIVIDUALS IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES STUDENT GROUP VPSL/VPGF CARRIED
3.	Outstanding Action Items		
4.	VP Academic's Report	tabled	
5.	VP Governance & Finance Report		
6.	VP Student Life's Report		
7.	President's Report	CAUS update.	
8.	GM Report	SG updates. Budget time! the griff update. Incoming EC training update.	
9.	Recognition		

5. Adjournment
Time: 2:23pm



**Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the
Students' Association of MacEwan University
February 19, 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: 2:05pm
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.

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3. Approval of Agenda:

VPGF/VPA

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes for: February 12, 2025

VPA/VPGF

CARRIED

TOPIC		DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION MOTION
1.	Unbudgeted Expenditure	From Maria Shin - We are down to our last 3 WEM Passes, and I would like to order more. However, I have already used up \$2450 of my \$2500 budget with my order back in Oct. I would like to order another 45 tickets for another \$2450.	TO APPROVE AN UNBUDGETED EXPENDITURE OF UP TO \$2450.00 FROM G/L 565500 TO PURCHASE WEM PASSES VPGF/VPA CARRIED
2.			

3.	Outstanding Action Items		
4.	VP Governance & Finance Report		
5.	VP Student Life's Report	tabled	
6.	VP Academic's Report	Textbook Support Fund update.	
7.	President's Report	AUSU update.	
8.	GM Report	Champagne's on ice! HR update. Budget update. The Griff update.	
9.	Recognition		

5. Adjournment
Time: 2:20pm



**Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the
Students' Association of MacEwan University
February 26, 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

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/VPSL
CARRIED**
4. Approval of Minutes for: February 19, 2025
**VPSL/VPGF
CARRIED**

TOPIC		DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
			MOTION
			TO APPROVE AN EXPENSE OF UP TO \$2800.00, FOR PROJECT 23-24.25 SET STORAGE SHELIVING, FROM THE MAINTENANCE FUND
			VPGF/VPSL CARRIED
1.	Maintenance Fund Request	VPGF -	MOTION

			<p>TO APPROVE AN EXPENSE OF UP TO \$27,000.00, FOR PROJECT 24-24.25 CARD READER LOCKS, ELEVATOR & THIRD FLOOR DOOR, FROM THE MAINTENANCE FUND</p> <p>VPGF/VPSL CARRIED</p>
2.	Umbrella Orgs -	VPGF – What is our gameplan? Briefing note provided with some options to consider.	<p>Action: VPGF/GA to create and send out Umbrella Orgs poll.</p>
3.	Exec Projects		<p>MOTION</p> <p>TO APPROVE AN EXPENSE OF UP TO \$75.00 FROM G/L 524500 FOR MATTHEW YANISH TO PRESENT TO THE WINTER 2025 ALL CANDIDATES MEETING</p> <p>VPGF/VPSL CARRIED</p>
4.	SC Presentation		<p>MOTION</p> <p>TO APPROVE A 2025-2026 SAMU BUDGET PRESENTATION AT THE MARCH 2025 STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING</p> <p>VPGF/VPSL CARRIED</p>
5.	Appointment	VPSL -	<p>MOTION</p> <p>TO APPOINT LAYAL ZIDAN TO THE ASSOCIATE DEAN STUDENT EXPERIENCE AND DEVELOPMENT HIRING COMMITTEE FOR A TERM ENDING APRIL 30, 2025</p> <p>VPSL/VPGF CARRIED</p>
6.	SAMU Fee Change Communication	VPGF – how are we going to communicate to Ponoka & spring/summer students re. fee reduction?	<p>Action: VPGF to create draft email to communicate fee changes.</p>
7.	Delegation	VPGF -	MOTION

			<p>TO DELEGATE THE GM TO REVIEW AND NEGOTIATE AMENDMENTS OF THE BUILDING LEASE AND OPERATING AGREEMENT(S), IN CONSULTATION WITH SAMU'S LEGAL COUNSEL, WITH MACEWAN'S VP FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION AND HER DIRECT TEAM(S) AND REPORT BACK TO EC BY END OF FEBRUARY 2026 FOR APPROVALS IF NEEDED</p> <p>VPGF/VPSL CARRIED</p> <p>MOTION</p> <p>TO DELEGATE THE GM TO NEGOTIATE THE OFFICE SPACE LEASING FOR THE GRIFF MAGAZINE, IN CONSULTATION WITH SAMU'S LEGAL COUNSEL, AND LANDLORDS OF THE PROPOSED OFFICE SPACE AND REPORT BACK TO EC BY JUNE 30TH, 2025 SO THAT THEY CAN SIGN OFF ON THE LEASE.</p> <p>VPGF/VPSL CARRIED</p>
8.	Outstanding Action Items		
9.	VP Student Life's Report	Food insecurity initiatives update. Awards update. Event Grant update.	
10.	VP Academic's Report	Academic Standards, Curriculum, and Calendar meeting update. Academic Calendar Advisory Group meeting update. Met with UoC VPA.	

11.	VP Governance & Finance Report	2025-2026 Budget update.	
12.	President's Report	Update on attending Good People Party event. MacEwan President meeting update.	MOTION TO GO IN CAMERA VPGF/VPA CARRIED MOTION TO GO OUT OF CAMERA VPSL/VPA CARRIED
13.	GM Report	Elevator update. Fund Development update. Reno update. HR update.	
14.	Recognition		

5. Adjournment
Time: 3:13pm



**Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the
Students' Association of MacEwan University
March 5, 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:

VPA/VPGF

CARRIED

4. Approval of Minutes for: February 26, 2025

VPGF/VPA

CARRIED

TOPIC		DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
			MOTION
1.	Student Groups		TO APPROVE THE MACEWAN MINDS MATTER STUDENT GROUP
			VPA/VPGF CARRIED
2.	Umbrella Orgs	VPGF – results of councillor poll provided for review.	Action: Vpgf to add in camera Umbrella Orgs topic to next SC agenda.

			Vpgf to add a motion for both CAUS & CASA at next SC meeting
3.	Outstanding Action Items		
4.	VP Student Life's Report	Pride Week update.	
5.	VP Academic's Report	GFC reapportionment update.	
6.	VP Governance & Finance Report		
7.	President's Report	CAUS update. CASA update. ESA meeting update.	
8.	GM Report	Lease update. Election recommendation. Building update.	MOTION TO GO IN CAMERA VPA/VPSL CARRIED MOTION TO GO OUT OF CAMERA VPSL/VPA CARRIED
9.	Recognition		

5. Adjournment
Time: 2:48pm



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

Meeting Date		Submitted By	
March 19, 2025		Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance and Finance	
Agenda Title	Item	SAMU 2025/2026 Budget	
Action Requested		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion	<input type="checkbox"/> Consultation Item

AGENDA ITEM DETAILS

Motion Title	To Approve the SAMU 2025/2026 Budget on the recommendation of the Finance Committee
Background Information	<p>SAMU's fiscal year is from July 1st to June 30th with Q1 July-September; Q2 October-December; Q3 January-March; and Q4 April-June. As per policy, the proposed next fiscal budget is brought forward to Students' Council no later than 60 days prior to the end of the current fiscal year. SAMU's Budget is a strategic document that, upon implementation, adds value to students by enabling implementation based on the strategic plan. An effective budget is aligned with organization's strategic goals, mission, vision, and values as per our strategic plan.</p> <p>The budgeting process begins in November at the EC Retreat where the future direction of SAMU is discussed, while on the operational side, they begin looking at trends, inflation pressures, and do an environmental scan. Next, budget packages are sent out to Managers to complete and to be reviewed by our Senior Leadership Team (SLT), consisting of the General manager, the Director of Marketing and Communications, and the Director of Programs and Services. Then, each department will make a budget presentation to the Finance Committee during Reading Break detailing initiatives linking to the strategic plan, unique challenges, budget highlights and enhancements, and their strategic plan alignment. Lastly, after the budget presentations, the Finance Committee discusses and deliberates on the budget as a whole, and then recommends it to Council for final approval.</p> <p>Ultimately, after a week of budget presentations with fruitful questions, discussions and deliberations, with the support of the General Manager, Senior Finance Manager, and Executive Committee, the Finance Committee recommends the 2025/2026 budget to Council for final approval.</p>

Alternative Considerations	Reject the 2025/26 budget and if a new one is not approved by the beginning of the new fiscal year operate on a provisional budget equal to the budget of the previous fiscal year until a +budget for the current fiscal year is approved.
Risk Management Considerations	Low Risk, Financial Implications - The Budget determines what areas we are spending our money
Strategic Alignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Attached Strategic Alignment Checklist is complete</i>
Implications	The SAMU Budget determines how much money is allocated to specific areas of our strategic plan, and it is transparent to students about where we are spending their money.
Related Documents	Operational Business Plans Budget Approval Policy Strategic Plan
Follow Up Action	Operations to begin implementation at the start of the next fiscal year, July 1st, 2024.
Review History	SAMU Managers Senior Leadership Team Executive Committee Finance Committee

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.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1 Put the finishing touches on the SAMU building, enhancing the safe and intentional spaces for students to gather, relax and study.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.2 Increase student awareness of SAMU and its opportunities through strong communications and engaging marketing and brand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.3 Increase student engagement by offering relevant and meaningful events, programs, services, volunteer activities and employment opportunities for students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.4 Support Student Groups by offering networking opportunities, meeting space, outreach support and online platforms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Student Voice			
The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.1 Develop an Advocacy Plan and implement processes to strengthen SAMU's advocacy program.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.2 Enhance awareness and interest in SAMU's democratic processes through education and encouraging student participation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.3 Continue to build collaborative relationships with other Student Associations and organizations to enhance the collective student voice with all government levels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.4 Foster positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Student Supports			
Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.1 Develop and deliver initiatives that are inclusive and are responsive to all student needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.2 Evaluate and assess student supports to remain relevant and accountable to students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.3 Strengthen collaborations and partnerships with MacEwan University to expand supports and resources for students.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.4 Enhance relationships with external organizations to leverage resources and supplement new and existing initiatives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Strengthening SAMU Operations			
SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.1 Review SAMU governance structures and make improvements to reduce duplication of efforts and delays in decision-making processes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.2 Document main policies and processes to support business continuity and transitions in leadership and staff.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.3 Diversify revenue streams to reduce reliance on student fees.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.4 Act as financial and environmental stewards and implement effective practices to enhance sustainability.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

Meeting Date	Submitted By
March 19, 2025	Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance & Finance

Agenda Title	Item
	Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA)
Action Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Consultation Item

AGENDA ITEM DETAILS

Motion Title	Motion to direct the Executive Committee to _____
Background Information	<p>Now that council has had multiple opportunities to be informed about our Federal Advocacy organization we believe it's time for Students' Council to set some direction for the SAMU/CASA relationship going forward.</p> <p>Councillors have had an opportunity to attend a presentation, outside of a Council meeting & ask questions they may have, and also had an official presentation at the February Students' Council meeting where questions were answered. Councillors were then asked to complete a form that ranked their preferences with respect to our CASA relationship.</p> <p>Finally, at this March Council meeting we will provide Council another opportunity to ask any final questions they may have.</p> <p>Based on the feedback received, and incorporating any last minute feedback during this meeting, a motion will be made that will direct Executive Committee to move forward in a specific way with CASA.</p>
Alternative Considerations	Do nothing, and keep status quo with respect to CASA.
Risk Management Considerations	
Strategic Alignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attached Strategic Alignment Checklist is complete

Implications	
Related Documents	
Follow Up Action	
Review History	

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.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1 Put the finishing touches on the SAMU building, enhancing the safe and intentional spaces for students to gather, relax and study.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2 Increase student awareness of SAMU and its opportunities through strong communications and engaging marketing and brand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.3 Increase student engagement by offering relevant and meaningful events, programs, services, volunteer activities and employment opportunities for students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4 Support Student Groups by offering networking opportunities, meeting space, outreach support and online platforms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student Voice			
The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.1 Develop an Advocacy Plan and implement processes to strengthen SAMU's advocacy program.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.2 Enhance awareness and interest in SAMU's democratic processes through education and encouraging student participation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.3 Continue to build collaborative relationships with other Student Associations and organizations to enhance the collective student voice with all government levels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.4 Foster positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student Supports			
Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.1 Develop and deliver initiatives that are inclusive and are responsive to all student needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.2 Evaluate and assess student supports to remain relevant and accountable to students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3 Strengthen collaborations and partnerships with MacEwan University to expand supports and resources for students.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.4 Enhance relationships with external organizations to leverage resources and supplement new and existing initiatives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengthening SAMU Operations			
SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.1 Review SAMU governance structures and make improvements to reduce duplication of efforts and delays in decision-making processes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.2 Document main policies and processes to support business continuity and transitions in leadership and staff.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.3 Diversify revenue streams to reduce reliance on student fees.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.4 Act as financial and environmental stewards and implement effective practices to enhance sustainability.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

Meeting Date	Submitted By
March 19, 2025	Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance & Finance

Agenda Title	Item
	Council of Alberta University Students
Action Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Consultation Item

AGENDA ITEM DETAILS

Motion Title	Motion to direct the Executive Committee to _____
Background Information	<p>Now that council has had multiple opportunities to be informed about our Provincial Advocacy organization we believe it's time for Students' Council to set some direction for the SAMU/CAUS relationship going forward.</p> <p>Councillors have had an opportunity to attend a presentation, outside of a Council meeting & ask questions they may have, and also had an official presentation at the February Students' Council meeting where questions were answered. Councillors were then asked to complete a form that ranked their preferences with respect to our CAUS relationship.</p> <p>Finally, at this March Council meeting we will provide Council another opportunity to ask any final questions they may have.</p> <p>Based on the feedback received, and incorporating any last minute feedback during this meeting, a motion will be made that will direct Executive Committee to move forward in a specific way with CAUS.</p>
Alternative Considerations	Do nothing, and keep status quo with respect to CAUS.
Risk Management Considerations	
Strategic Alignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attached Strategic Alignment Checklist is complete

Implications	
Related Documents	
Follow Up Action	
Review History	

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			
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2.3 Continue to build collaborative relationships with other Student Associations and organizations to enhance the collective student voice with all government levels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.4 Foster positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student Supports			
Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.1 Develop and deliver initiatives that are inclusive and are responsive to all student needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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3.4 Enhance relationships with external organizations to leverage resources and supplement new and existing initiatives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengthening SAMU Operations			
SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.1 Review SAMU governance structures and make improvements to reduce duplication of efforts and delays in decision-making processes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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4.3 Diversify revenue streams to reduce reliance on student fees.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.4 Act as financial and environmental stewards and implement effective practices to enhance sustainability.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.5 Foster a professional and supportive work environment that lives the organizational values and delivers a culture of excellence.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

Meeting Date	Submitted By
March 19, 2025	Joseph A. La Torre, VP Governance and Finance

Agenda Title	Item
	Unbudgeted Expenditure
Action Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Consultation Item

AGENDA ITEM DETAILS

Motion Title	Motion to approve an unbudgeted expenditure of up to \$67,824 from G/L 563500 (Oilers Tickets)
Background Information	<p>SAMU purchases season tickets for the Edmonton Oilers each year that we sell to students at minimal markup so that they have an opportunity to attend games at a reasonable price.</p> <p>We just received our invoice for Oilers playoff tickets for the current year, and the cost is higher than originally budgeted for so we're asking for Students' Council to approve this unbudgeted expenditure. (From the Approval Authority procedure an unbudgeted expenditure, in relation to this ask, is defined as "any expenditure from a budget line...that was contemplated but now exceeds the approved budget line." We currently have \$35,000 remaining budgeted for this, but the expected cost will be \$67,824.</p> <p>This additional cost will be fully recovered by the end of the NHL playoffs because we won't have any trouble selling the tickets, so that is not a concern. That's to say, this unbudgeted expenditure will be offset by selling the tickets. If the Oilers do not play all the way through to the Stanley Cup Finals any leftover tickets are automatically canceled and the corresponding funds will be applied to our account as a credit towards the 2025-2026 Oilers tickets purchase price.</p> <p>Lastly, there are no concerns with this cost financially as SAMU can afford this purchase, and furthermore, the department will not be overbudget nor the budget as a whole.</p>
Alternative Considerations	To not approve the expenditure.

Risk Management Considerations	n/a
Strategic Alignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Attached Strategic Alignment Checklist is complete</i>
Implications	<p>Approving this unbudgeted expenditure will allow SAMU to provide more cost-effective Oilers tickets to our students.</p> <p>Not approving this would force students to pay a much higher markup price if they want to attend an Oilers playoff game.</p>
Related Documents	Approval Authority Procedure
Follow Up Action	n/a
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			
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Student Voice			
The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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2.3 Continue to build collaborative relationships with other Student Associations and organizations to enhance the collective student voice with all government levels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.4 Foster positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student Supports			
Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.1 Develop and deliver initiatives that are inclusive and are responsive to all student needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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3.3 Strengthen collaborations and partnerships with MacEwan University to expand supports and resources for students.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.4 Enhance relationships with external organizations to leverage resources and supplement new and existing initiatives	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strengthening SAMU Operations			
SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.1 Review SAMU governance structures and make improvements to reduce duplication of efforts and delays in decision-making processes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

Meeting Date	Submitted By
March 19, 2025	Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance and Finance

Agenda Title	Item
	Chair of Students' Council Appointment
Action Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Consultation Item

AGENDA ITEM DETAILS

Motion Title	Motion to reappoint Tim Jobs as Chair of Students' Council for a term of May 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026.
Background Information	<p>The Students' Council Operations Committee (SCOC) conducted the annual review of the Chair of Students' Council (SC), as per the committees' obligation. Members of Students' Council were provided an opportunity to submit their feedback by filling out a questionnaire via Google Forms, and we received a response from the majority of SC.</p> <p>The results of the feedback were reviewed by this Committee and based on the overwhelming positive feedback, SCOC is recommending that Council reappoint Tim Jobs for another term as our Chair. Tim has exceeded our expectations in almost every way, and has done a phenomenal job of adapting to the new faces on SC without jeopardizing an effective chairship.</p> <p>Please focus your questions on the process and if you agree or disagree with SCOC's recommendation.</p>
Alternative Considerations	Put out a posting and solicit/consider other possible candidates for the position.
Risk Management Considerations	If we do not appoint Tim, then we would need to find another chair, and the longest serving member of SC would likely take over for the chair in the interim.
Strategic Alignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attached Strategic Alignment Checklist is complete
Implications	This allows us to maintain having Tim as our chair on SC.

Related Documents	Role and Responsibilities of the Chair of Students' Council policy
Follow Up Action	
Review History	n/a

Strategic Alignment Checklist

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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.

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Strengthening SAMU Operations			
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**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY**

STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

Meeting Date	Submitted By
March 19 th , 2025	Joseph A. La Torre, Vice President Governance & Finance

Agenda Title	Item
	SAMU Fees Policy
Action Requested	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Consultation Item

AGENDA ITEM DETAILS

Motion Title	Motion to approve the SAMU Fees policy, effective July 1, 2025, on the recommendation of the Finance Committee
Background Information	<p>The Finance committee met to discuss the SAMU Fee Policy one last time. In line with the changes to the SAMU membership fee and with the completion of the School of Continuing Education contract, we are recommending to reduce the SAMU Affiliate fee for the spring/summer because SAMU has reduced offerings of services and programming during that time.</p> <p>Along with the changes the Finance Committee made previously, this change as well, is fair and equitable to the identified students.</p>
Alternative Considerations	Do not reduce the SAMU Affiliate Fee for the spring/summer.
Risk Management Considerations	
Strategic Alignment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Attached Strategic Alignment Checklist is complete</i>
Implications	
Related Documents	SAMU Fees Policy

Follow Up Action	Update Office of Univeristy Registrar of the changes.
Review History	

Strategic Alignment Checklist

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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.
 - 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.
 - 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.



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, in both the Fall and Winter academic terms.

Deleted: per academic term

5.1.1 Students enrolled in the University Prep. Program are assessed a fee of \$28.71 if taking one course, \$57.52 if taking two courses, and \$86.02 if taking three courses, in the Spring/Summer 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 in both the Fall and Winter terms.

5.2.1 Students enrolled in the English as an Additional Language (EAL) are assessed a fee of \$28.76 if taking one course, \$57.52 if taking two courses, and \$86.29 if taking three courses, in the Spring/Summer academic term.

5.3 Students enrolled in the School of Continuing Education International program will be assessed a fee of \$431.43 per year.

Deleted: 517.71

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.

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%.



**STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
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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.