

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

Voting Members:

Olad Ayodeji, Councillor
Tolu Dare, Councillor
Jencel Diaz, Councillor
Aryan Dutta, Councillor
vacant, Councillor
Chistian Galera, Councillor
Cierra Jacobs, Councillor
Alem Tesfay, Vice President Student Life
Moselle Namoc, Councillor
Maade Okai, Councillor
Nathan Poon, President (Chair)
Israel Reyes, Councillor
Seun Sadare, Councillor

Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance and Finance Joehn Torres, Councillor Vincent Trinh, Councillor Chioma Uzor, Vice President Academic Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, Vice President External Layal Zidan, Councillor

SAMU Officials and Council Support:

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 OCTOBER 15, 2025

2.2 MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

- 3. Presentations
 - 3.1.
- 4. For Information
 - 4.1. Reports
 - 4.1.1. President
 - 4.1.2. Vice President Academic
 - 4.1.3. Vice President External
 - 4.1.4. Vice President Governance & Finance
 - 4.1.5. Vice President Student Life
 - 4.1.6. Audit Committee
 - 4.1.7. Executive Committee
 - 4.1.8. Finance Committee
 - 4.1.9. Students' Council Operations Committee
 - 4.1.10. Governance Committee
 - 4.1.11.
 - 4.2. Executive Committee Minutes

Minutes of September 10, 17, and 24, 2025 provided.

- 5. Question Period
 - 5.1. Written Questions
 - 5.2. Oral Questions

Topics include:

- 6. In Camera Period
 - 6.1.
- 7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day
 - 7.1. 2024-2025 Annual Report

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

VPGF/

Favour:

Oppose:

7.2. 2024-2025 Councillor of the Year Presentation

VPSL -

7.3.

8. Consultation

8.1.

9. Evaluation

9.1.

10. Recognition

11. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Next Meeting Date: November 19, 2025

Meeting adjourned at pm



Minutes for the Students' Council Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University September 17, 2025 at 6:00pm in the Council Chamber

Voting Members:

Olad Ayodeji, Councillor
Tolu Dare, Councillor
Jencel Diaz, Councillor
Aryan Dutta, Councillor
vacant, Councillor
Chistian Galera, Councillor
Cierra Jacobs, Councillor
Alem Tesfay, Vice President Student Life
Moselle Namoc, Councillor
Maade Okai, Councillor
Nathan Poon, President
Israel Reyes, Councillor
Seun Sadare, Councillor

Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance and Finance Joehn Torres, Councillor Vincent Trinh, Councillor Chioma Uzor, Vice President Academic Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, Vice President External Layal Zidan, Councillor

SAMU Officials and Council Support:

Tim Jobs, Chair Darryl Kostash, General Manager Alan Honey, Governance Advisor Caitlin Yambao, Admin Support

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1. Treaty 6 Land Recognition

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2. Approvals

CARRIED

CARRIED

2.1 MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

JACOBS/OKAI

2.2 MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 20, 2025 VPA/ZIDAN

3. Presentations

3.1. 2024-2025 Audited Financials

4. For Information

- 4.1. Reports
- 4.1.1. President

Advo meeting with MPs last week. w/ Vpe

SLW this week.

4.1.2. Vice President Academic

Student rep opportunity.

4.1.3. Vice President External

Met with City councillor candidate.

- 4.1.4. Vice President Governance & Finance
- 4.1.5. Vice President Student Life
- 4.2. Executive Committee Minutes

Minutes of August 13, 20, 27, and September 3, 2025 provided.

5. Question Period

5.1. Written Questions

Trinh - For VPSL - About the PAWSS/WAGS rebranding, can you go more in detail as to why "student handlers are no longer included in the program, and cats have been removed," and other changes made to the program? I'm sure as time goes on more information will be known, but I feel there's been a lack of communication from MacEwan about PAWSS' sudden shutdown and rebranding so any information you can provide would be great!

Vpsl - Thanks for the question, Councillor Trinh.

As for why student handlers are no longer included in the program, that decision has puzzled me as well. The email I received stated that it is because there aren't currently the resources or structures in place to support student handlers safely and sustainably. I will be following up on this and will get back to you with more information.

In regard to cats, the update noted that they can no longer be included in the program. The reasoning given was that cat dander is more difficult to control and that cat-related allergies are more common. It was also mentioned that recruitment is underway for a program coordinator to support WAGS, and regular Tuesday visits to the library are scheduled to begin this fall semester.

5.2. Oral Questions

Topics include: Tuition & fees meeting; mental health fee; NDP roundtable meeting; last minute appointments of students to MacEwan committees; strategic reporting by EC; STEP & student/youth employment incentives; new website toolkit for international learners; Healthy Campus Alberta relevance for students; Fall Fest; GFC goals for the coming year; Block Party attendance; potential conflict of interest; PAWS/WAGS program at MacEwan; MacEwan digital IDs;

- 6. In Camera Period
- 7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day
 - 7.1. 2024-2025 Audited Financials

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE 2024-2025 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS VPGF/JACOBS Favour: Ayodeji, Dare, Diaz, Galera, Jacobs, Vpsl, Namoc, Okai, Pres, Reyes, Sadare, Vpgf, Trinh, Vpa, Vpe, Zidan

CARRIED

7.2. 2024-2025 Councillor of the Year Vote

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

MOTION TO ADJOURN

ZIDAN

CARRIED

Next Meeting Date: October 15, 2025

Meeting adjourned at 7:13pm.



President

October 15th, 2025

Dear Council,

Happy October everyone! It is our last Students' Council meeting with this iteration of Councillors! While everyone is in the Halloween spirit, hopefully we haven't spooked you from a full year of Students' Council meetings!

Here's my report on from the President portfolio from September 11th to October 8th, 2025. There is a supplementary item I have presented to Students' Council as outlined in Appendix A, attached after my portfolio report.

Executive Summary

- Ponoka Campus Visit
- President Vice President (PVP) Meeting
- Chancellor Installation
- Municipal Candidates Meet and Greet

Ponoka Campus Visit

Myself, the Vice President Academic, and the Vice President Student Life visited the Centennial Centre in Ponoka, Alberta, which is home to part of the Psychiatric Nursing program at MacEwan University. We had the wonderful opportunity to engage with President Report to Students' Council

Submitted: October 8th, 2025

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STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

students and staff at the facility, while engaging with them to identify key concerns with being located away from MacEwan's City Centre Campus, while promoting the programs and services SAMU can offer online.

This visit, as well as future visits, are essential as it is imperative to hear the voices of all MacEwan students, regardless of their physical location. This visit is pursuant to the achievement of SAMU's Strategic Plan, in line with Strategic Plan Indicator 1.2: Increasing student awareness of SAMU.

President Vice President (PVP) Meeting

SAMU's EC had met with MacEwan's Executive in our quarterly PVP meeting in September. At this meeting, we had the opportunity to listen and provide feedback on MacEwan's initiatives on food security, provide SAMU's organizational updates, and listen to MacEwan's organizational updates, in line with SAMU Strategic Plan Indicator 2.4: Fostering positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students. If you would like more information on the contents of the meeting, please reach out to us and we'd be happy to answer any questions.

Chancellor Installation

SAMU's EC attended the Chancellor Installation, in honour of welcoming MacEwan University's second Chancellor, Gary Mar. This was a great opportunity to connect with the new Chancellor and with MacEwan Executives, in line with SAMU Strategic Plan Indicator 2.4, as well as Ed Stelmach, former Premier of Alberta.

We are looking forward to working with Chancellor Mar in the future to ensure that the student voice is central to the university's growth and planning.

President Report to Students' Council Submitted: October 8th, 2025

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Edmonton Chambers of Commerce Municipal Candidates Meet and Greet

The Edmonton Chambers of Commerce hosted a municipal election candidate meet and greet, and EC had the opportunity to attend this on September 26th, networking with future municipal stakeholders. We had the opportunity to raise key issues such as housing, transit safety, and affordability with mayoral and city councillor candidates, in line with SAMU's Strategic Plan for amplifying the student voice.

Opportunities like these are imperative to the achievement of SAMU's mission, as it is important for city leaders to maintain a students-first vision in their priorities. Rest assure, your EC is committed to showing up and advocating for students – even when no one else will.

STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

Appendix A: Executive Vacation Time

While Executive Committee (EC) vacation time is formally overseen by the Audit

Committee, this matter is being shared with Students' Council (SC) for the sake of

transparency and accountability to the broader governing body.

I will be volunteering as conference staff for the National Model United Nations (NMUN)

Conference in Banff in late November 2025, in a student (non-SAMU) capacity. This

five-day volunteer position with the American non-profit organization was accepted prior

to my assuming office as SAMU President on May 1st, 2025.

To maintain full compliance with SAMU's Elected Representatives Code of Conduct and

to avoid any perceived or potential conflict of interest, I will be using personal vacation

time and covering all related expenses myself, with accommodation being covered by

conference organizers. This volunteer position is entirely independent of any student

group or SAMU resources. There is no conflict of interest—real or perceived—and this

disclosure is made solely in the interest of maintaining openness and accountability.

There is no impact on SAMU's operations when an Executive member takes vacation

time.

While there is no policy requirement for this disclosure, I wanted to operate with

transparency and provide this information for Council.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me.

Closing Remarks

President Report to Students' Council



As this is the last Students' Council meeting for many of you, I just want to say how grateful we are to work with you all. If you aren't planning on returning, hopefully we will see each other in the halls, and I hope SAMU's Students' Council was a fruitful experience, both professionally and personally.

Don't forget to vote in the Students' Council and municipal elections this month!

Warm regards,

Nathan Poon

President, Students' Association of MacEwan University 2025/26



Vice-President Academic

October 15, 2025

Guys, it's October! I have a love-hate relationship with this month (mostly love, I love Fall so much). I hope it doesn't feel the same for you! It's midterm season, please make sure you are all taking good care of yourselves. Here is my report from September 18th – October 7th!

Executive Summary

- General Faculties Council Committee Meetings
- Meeting w/ Provost
- Library Council

Student Voice

The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.

General Faculties Council (GFC) Committee Meetings

Strat Point 2.4

Committee on Academic Planning and Quality Assurance (APQA)

On September 22, I attended the APQA meeting. The meeting was informative and insightful. Necessary information to highlight involved the approval of the committee terms of reference and the approval of the 2025/2026 workplan for the committee. The



diploma review for Gerontology and Hospice Palliative Care was announced that they have earned consultation within this meeting.

Committee on Academic Standards, Curriculum, and the Calendar (ASCC)

On September 22, I attended the ASCC meeting. The meeting was not as lengthy; committee TOR and approval of the workplan were discussed within the meeting as well.

Committee on Teaching and Learning (T&L)

On September 29, committee on Teaching and Learning was held. To highlight, the Student Course Feedback Survey was reviewed at this meeting as it was "dug up" from the archives. Discussion was had to propose that the survey is reviewed more occasionally.

Council on Student Affairs (CoSA)

On October 6, the Vice President Student Life and I attended the meeting on CoSA. At CoSA, we reviewed and approved the Committee Terms of Reference and Workplan. The library had introduced the Textbook Affordability Fund guidelines and received student feedback from representatives on the committee. Lastly, the Scholarship and Bursary report was shared with members of the committee to report any necessary trends within scholarship application and disbursements.

1 on 1 with Craig Monk

Strat Point 2.4 ,3.1

On September 25th, I had a one on one with the Provost, Dr.Craig Monk, to ask questions in regard to various meeting updates and suggestions from the general student perspective. It was very relaxed and we met over coffee! For more information on discussions at this 1 on 1, I encourage council to book a meeting with me to review what updates we had to share!



<u>Library Council Meeting – October 2</u>

Strat Point 2.4, 3.1, 3.3

I attended the Library Council meeting on October 2nd where I had the opportunity to approve the new Terms of Reference for the Council. The Provost attended this meeting to provide updates on his report that could influence members of the council. We also approved the new Book Display Guidelines and the terms of reference for the Library Council Standing Committees. The library had also announced that they are now searching for an additional librarian, a Critical Al Literacy Librarian position.

Closing Remarks

Happy month 2 of the semester! As midterm season either begins or ends for you, I want to remind you all <u>take it easy!!</u> Prioritize that work-life balance, and do the things you love, please!!

To the outgoing councilors, some of which I had the privilege to watch grow over the years, *thank you for your contribution to the council*. You're amazing to have been here to represent students and amplify the student voice. In a period where the voices

VPA reports to Students' Council October 15, 2025 Page **3** of **4**

of the youth are most needed, you have done your part, and I hope you continue to speak for the students in whatever you choose to do in the future. **Godspeed to you!**

As the semester gets busier, so do I! My schedule is gradually getting more jam-packed with meetings. Council may swing by my office to ask any questions or provide any feedback, but please contact me before coming over so that I can be well prepared for your concern and can fit you into my schedule as well! You can either email me or message me on Telegram.

Enjoy this adorable picture with Andrew Knack and me. Happy Thanksgiving!

Warmly as always,



Chioma V. Uzor (she/her) 2025/2026 VP Academic, SAMU

savpacademic@macewan.ca



Vice-President External

Date of Meeting October 15th, 2025

It's report time once more! Hopefully, this report serves to provide all the information on advocacy efforts. Insert current event here: (I think, therefore I am).

Mayoral Forum

1.1

On September 26th my first project took place in the form of the Mayoral Forum and 4 candidates arrived to state their answers to the issues that students face on issues around the municipality. Tim Cartmell, Andrew Knack, Michael Walters and Rahim Jaffer were in attendance as mayoral candidates. With topics such as student safety, housing affordability, indigenous collaboration and overall affordability efforts, the forum had plenty of opportunity for insight. The Forum was a success, with all candidates engaging with student. The Forum was a success, with all candidates engaging with students after the event and providing the media with some more insight into their platforms. In the coming weeks media will be released around the event.

Knack Youth roundtable

1.2

On September 22nd I attended the Andrew Knack Youth Roundtable in my capacity as VP External. During the meeting, youth from around Edmonton were invited to provide their insights into whether the candidates platform was well suited to their specific needs. Our VP Academic was also present in her capacity as a community leader. For Vice President External's Report to Students' Council 17/09/2025
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my part, I spoke on students need for consultation and a real voice in the actions that the city takes along with having a real plan to address the housing situation within the city and how affordable is different for students compared to other Edmontonians.



Minister Olszewski visit

1.3

On September 29th, the Minister of Emergency Management and Community Resilience and MP of Edmonton Centre visited our campus to meet and tour with MacEwan and have a chat with us about student concerns. Points that were covered were food insecurity, housing availability and affordability, and value of international students. Meetings like these are essential in maintaining post secondary importance in the federal government's eyes. The minister raised their personal meetings with leaders in the community regarding emergency planning and prevention as part of their role of minister.

ESA Meeting



1.4

On October 8th ESA convened for a member meeting to discuss a website created by the chair and the social media strategy going forward. The ESA will be establishing itself as a municipal force through its instagram and website. Fellow member institutions were given a chance to provide insights into how social media will be used.

https://www.edmontonstudentalliance.ca/

We all float here,

Wilfrid Youbi Fansi





Vice President Governance & Finance

October 15th, 2025

Hello Council!

I hope everyone is having an awesome Fall semester so far! We are already well underway the Midterm season, and I hope everyone has been keeping up with their labs and classes. Make sure to take some time to breathe, go on a walk, and appreciate the warmth before the snowy season starts picking up this November.

On that note, provided below is my report for the period of September 12th to October 8th. The Quarter 1 Committee reports are attached separately.

Executive Summary

- Tuition & Fees Prep; Tuition & Fees Consultation Meeting #3
- Meeting with MacEwan VP Finance and Administration and CFO
- U-Pass 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.

Strat point 2.1, 2.4

Tuition & Fees Prep; Tuition & Fees Consultation Meeting #2

After two prep sessions, The President and I, along with our support staff, attended our third Tuition & Fees consultation meeting with MacEwan. During this meeting, the President and I pushed back on MacEwan's domestic and international tuition proposals, along with their proposed changes and increases to the MNIFs that the University charges. We are still waiting for some further information on MacEwan's side, as these will be essential for the drafting of our written position regarding the proposed numbers to MacEwan in a couple weeks.

Strat point 2.1, 2.4

Meeting with MacEwan VP Finance and Administration and CFO

On October 8th, I met with my MacEwan counterpart, Maureen Powers-Lomas, to bring forward student concerns regarding Digital IDs, which encompassed factors of concern such as security, reliability, and necessity of Digital ID cards for both City Centre and Ponoka Campus students. I brought forward the concern where it is very difficult to get a Physical ID from the IT help desk, and one of the only ways to be able to get one would be needing to have a very old phone that cannot download the apps required for the Digital ID.

Additionally, we also talked about the future of the Tech Fee, discussed some potential ideas regarding the surplus on this fee, and what it will look like for the Tech Fee Committee going forward. Lastly, Maureen and I will now be meeting every month and a half to provide more opportunities to discuss my advocacy priorities and other relevant topics of discussion.



Student Supports

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

Strat point 3.4

U-Pass Meeting

On September 16th, the U-Pass Committee met virtually. This meeting served to update the various Students' Associations that fall under the U-Pass agreement that negotiations for all schools have wrapped up, and meetings will likely become quarterly with monthly updates. One relevant update for MacEwan students who commute with the ETS would be that there would be service changes on Thanksgiving (October 13), regular weekday schedules will be upheld throughout the Fall Reading Break (November 10 -14), and there will be reduced Route 4 service during this time.

Strengthening SAMU Operations

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

Closing Remarks

Thank you all for taking the time to read my report. As this Students' Council cycle comes to a close with this following meeting, I want to take a moment to thank every Councillor who has worked with us over the past term. Your time, effort, and dedication over the past year have not gone unnoticed. I am confident that your commitment to representing students and advocating for a better student experience has made a real and lasting impact. Your contributions to each meeting have helped shape a more supportive, inclusive, and engaging campus community. With that, I am enthusiastic and am looking forward to seeing what the next cycle will bring to the Council.

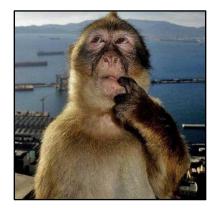


Take care,

Andrei Santiago (he/him)

VP Governance and Finance, SAMU 2025/2026

savpoperations@macewan.ca





Vice-President Student Life

October 15th, 2025

Greetings everyone,

These last few weeks have been among the busiest I've had in this role. From visiting the Ponoka campus and participating in the Mayoral Forum, to attending the installation of our new Chancellor and joining the Peace Walk for Truth and Reconciliation Day, it's been a busy but incredibly rewarding time. I hope your fall has been off to a great start as well! It's been amazing to see how active the campus has been lately, whether it's students attending an outdoor movie night, joining a cooking class, or taking part in the weekly Breakfast Club. It's great to see the building so vibrant and full of energy! I invite you to read my report, which highlights key conversations and updates. I hope you enjoy reading my report for September 11-October 9!

Executive Summary

- Meeting with my MacEwan Counterparts Chandelle (AVP)
- Meeting with my MacEwan Counterparts Allison Drew-Hassling (AVP)
- Meetings with Darryl (GM)



Student Supports

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

Meeting with my Counterpart Chandelle Rimmer:

Chandelle Rimmer is one of the Associate Vice-Present I meet monthly, they oversee the Student Experience and Development aspect of student life at MacEwan. During this monthly meeting, Chandelle mentioned the Belonging at MacEwan survey (running October 6–24), which gives MacEwan students and employees an opportunity to share their experiences going over questions that include demographic identities, perceptions of belonging, equity, discrimination and knowledge of campus resources. We also discussed the importance of raising student awareness about on-campus employment opportunities. Chandelle highlighted how through the department of student success, the NEST program is working to get the first-year students engaged with Griffins games. Near the end of the meeting, I briefly discussed the idea of a Volunteer Fair and the potential for an impactful collaboration between SAMU and community organizations to spread awareness for volunteering opportunities. I will give further updates once more discussion is had.

Meeting with my Counterpart Allison Drew-Hassling:

I also met with Allison Drew-Hassling, one of the Associate Vice-Present I also meet monthly, they oversee Student Support and Accountability aspect of student life at MacEwan. During our meeting, they provided several important updates. One key highlight was that accommodated exams have increased by 50%. This rise is linked to greater utilization of Exam Services by faculty, which may be influenced by factors such as the impact of AI on online exams. Another area experiencing significant demand is



the Wellness and Psychological Services (WPS), which has seen an increase in students accessing support due to higher levels of distress.

I also received an update on UWill, the online mental health service meant to supplement WPS. Allison mentioned that the contract has been signed, and students are expected to gain access later in the semester. The rollout will begin with a testing phase, followed by later stages that will integrate additional wellness resources. The UWill page will be hosted under Campus Life. I also emphasized the importance of keeping the Ponoka Campus in mind during stakeholder planning and ideation. Although it is located over 100 kilometers from the City Centre Campus, Ponoka students should still be made aware of and able to utilize Uwill, as it is an online mental health resource.

Near the end of our meeting, I inquired about WAGS, the volunteer dog program, including who sits on its committees and whether there are opportunities for student representation in those decision-making spaces, given its impact on students. Allison mentioned the idea of creating a Student Advisory Group that could provide feedback not only on WAGS but also on other student-related services. There was even discussion of a potential paid position for this role.

Due to meeting time constraints, I wasn't able to follow up on all the responses I received, but we plan to meet again later this month, at which point I will provide further updates as more information becomes available.



Closing Remarks

To whoever is reading this, thank you for taking the time to go through my report. If anything in this report raises questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. Since the semester began, things have gotten much much busier, but I am grateful to be surrounded by such a supportive team. I want to thank the Governance Advocacy Support Team (GAST) and the SAMU staff once again for their guidance in helping me become the best VPSL I can be. A special thank you to Shannon, our Executive Coordinator, for giving educating us on the different aspects of the indigenous experience on the Day of Truth and reconciliation. I'll conclude this report with a quote from Eleanor Roosevelt: "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

Cheers,



Alem D. Tesfay

VP Student Life, SAMU 2025/2026

Email: savpstudentlife@macewan.ca

Website: Alemtesfay.ca

Campus IG page: Alem.updates



Q1 Audit Committee Report October 15, 2025

Audit Committee Members:

July 1 st – September 30 th , 2025	
Christian Galera (Chair), Councillor	
Layal Zidan, Councillor	
Izzy Reyes, Councillor	
vacant, Student-at-Large	
Faith Tabladillo, Student-at-Large	

Committee Resource Officials:

Cameron Whiting, Senior Finance Manager Michelle Malin, Resource Officer

Greetings Council,

Happy Thanksgiving! I hope everyone is having a wonderful start to their academic year! Here is my Quarter 1 report.

This is the report from the Audit Committee for the reporting period of July 1, 2025, through September 30th, 2025 (Quarter 1). This committee met only once this quarter, last September 10th.

For the September meeting, the Audit Committee met to discuss and review budget variances and utilization of resources by the Executive Committee (EC) for the Quarter, as well as the newly implemented Executive Uber Usage Report.

Similar to every quarter, the Audit Committee will continue to review expenditures and resource use of the EC, including sick leave, TOIL and now the Executive Uber Usage Report. We will also continue to critically review any budget variances across SAMU



and uphold strong fiscal responsibility and accountability for Students' Association Fees.

Additionally, with the new SAMU Uber Account being used, the EC Uber Usage Report is also put into practice. This allows us to further scrutinize the spending of the EC and look into the specific details of their Uber ride transactions. The Audit Committee found that the presented report must undergo some changes to better address the questions we may have. According to the Governance Advisor, these changes will be reflected in the next report for better review.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. School work is piling up, stay hydrated! Enjoy!!!

Warm Regards,

Christian Galera

Audit Committee Chair, SAMU 2024/ 2025

galerac@mymacewan.ca

Executive Committee Work Plan 2025-2026		
For Information to Students Council		
Chaired By:	Nathan Poon, President	
Members:	Chioma Uzor, Vice President Academic	
	Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, Vice President External	
	Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance	
	Alem Tesfay, Vice President Student Life	
Mandate:	The Executive Committee ensures that Students' Council's policies are implemented, is responsible for overseeing the General Manager, helps develop	
	the strategic direction of SAMU, and acts faithfully on behalf of Students' Council.	
Approved by		
Committee:	July 9 th 2025	
Pagaiyad by		
Received by	October 15 th 2025	
Council:	00(0001 13" 2023	

WORK PLAN UPDATES

- External Stakeholder Partnerships: Casa observership application sent in, and accepted, SAMU is officially observers of CASA
- Open Educational Resources Advocacy: Zero Textbook Cost program is under development right now and looking to be implemented for the fall of Next year
- Educational Affordability Advocacy: an initial In-year Allocation submission was sent to MacEwan, formal proposal will be sent at a later time.
- Mayoral Forum: successfully ran on September 26 with 66 attendees
- Enhancing Athletics Campus Culture: Survey is under development to gauge student interest and barriers in athletics

ADVOCACY		
Topic	Food Insecurity	
EC Lead	President	
Current Impact	External factors outside of our control, such as inflation and the rising cost of living have inundated MacEwan students and the post-	
to Students	secondary sector across Alberta and Canada.	
	As per the Spring Annual Survey, food insecurity remains a significant issue across the student body. Students who face financial	
	concerns often sacrifice eating as a means to sustain the cost of their education.	
Objective	- Advocate for more initiatives on campus to tackle food insecurity	
Strategic	Student Voice: 2.1, 2.4	
Alignment	Student Supports: 3.3, 3.4	
Status	Initial Stages	

Topic	Sustainable In-Year Allocation Process		
EC Lead	President		
Current Impact to Students	Students continue to be inundated with the rising cost of living and the rising cost of education. Coupled with external factors such as rampant inflation, many students at MacEwan have entered an affordability crisis, establishing a sustainable in-year allocation process will ensure that when MacEwan has surpluses SAMU can have a say in how in-year surpluses are spent.		
Objective	- Establish a consistent in-year allocation process with MacEwan		
Strategic Alignment Status	Student Voice: 2.1, 2.4 Student Supports: 3.1, 3.3		
	Ongoing		
Topic	External Stakeholder Partnerships		
EC Lead	President		
Current Impact to Students	As we have ceased our membership with the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) and have entered an observer year with the Canadian Alliance of Students' Associations (CASA), it is crucial to build sustainable avenues for advocacy. It is imperative that we build and further relationships with External Stakeholders at a municipal, provincial, and federal level, as well as other Students' Associations, and organizations to expand advocacy efforts.		
Objective	- Strengthen external partnerships to further expand our advocacy efforts		
Strategic Alignment Status	Student Voice: 2.1, 2.3, 2.4 Student Supports 3.3, 3.4 Ongoing		
Topic	Student Initiatives and Programs Advocacy		
EC Lead	President		
Current Impact to Students	Provincial cuts to university funding have led to a variety of programs and student initiative funding being either underfunded or cut by the university.		
Objective	 Advocate to reestablish the MacEwan University Ombuds Office Advocate for more financial support from the University for grassroots student initiatives 		
Strategic	Student Voice: 2.4		
Alignment	Student Supports: 3.3		
Status	Initial Stages		
Topic	Open Educational Resources Advocacy		
EC Lead	Vice President Academic		

Current Impact	In 2025, rising textbook tariffs increase costs by 5–20%, making it harder for low-income students to afford required materials. Many			
to Students	prioritize essential expenses like rent and groceries over buying textbooks. Lack of awareness about free Open Educational Resources			
	(OERs) further limits access to affordable options.			
Objective	- Ensure open and clear communication of affordable textbook options to students			
	- Advocating for a learning materials fund similar to the textbook affordability award offered in Winter 2025 semester			
	- MacEwan Library expands its OER database while streamlining the process for instructors to upload, customize, and creating the process for instructors to upload, customize, and creating the process for instructors to upload, customize, and creating the process for instructors to upload, customize, and creating the process for instructors to upload, customize, and creating the process for instructors to upload, customize, and creating the process for instructors to upload, customize, and creating the process for instructors to upload, customize, and creating the process for instructors to upload, customize, and creating the process for instructors to upload, customize, and creating the process for instructors to upload, customize, and creating the process for instructors to upload, customize, and creating the process for instructors to upload, customize, and creating the process for instructors to upload, customize, and creating the process for instructors to upload the process for instructors and creating the process for instructors are creating to the process for instructors and creating the process for instructors and creating the process for instructors and crea			
	- Automatic textbook billing is dropped; MacEwan University retreats from implementing additional forms of automated textbook			
	billing			
Strategic	Student Voice: 2.4			
Alignment	Student Supports: 3.1, 3.3, 3.4			
Status	Ongoing			
Topic	Student Charter / Accessible Student Rights Advocacy			
EC Lead	Vice President Academic			
Current Impact	As MacEwan's campus grows, students may face challenges requiring dispute resolution. Easy access to their rights is essential but often			
to Students	lacking. Many students are unsure who to contact or whether their rights are being upheld. The current website is cluttered and difficult to			
	navigate. This confusion can lead students to give up before resolving their issues.			
Objective	Gain support through various committees, and ultimately have MacEwan adopt the Guideline of Rights as a policy.			
	Make these changes accessible for students to find on the MacEwan Website			
Strategic	Student Voice: 2.1, 2.4			
Alignment	Student Supports: 3.2, 3.3, 3.4			
Status	Ongoing			
Topic	Course Scheduling and Requirements Advocacy			
EC Lead	Vice President Academic			
Current Impact	Students struggle to declare majors/minors on time due to full courses and unclear alternatives like visiting other institutions. Academic			
to Students	advising is inconsistent, leading students to seek help elsewhere. This results in missed opportunities and delayed graduation, often			
	requiring an extra semester to complete required courses.			
Objective	- Changes to the visiting student system, allowing late-stage students to take courses at other institutions with priority			
	- Clear communication to students regarding visiting student requirements			
Strategic	Student Voice: 2.1, 2.4			
Alignment	Student Supports: 3.1, 3.2, 3.3			
Status	Initial Stages			
Topic	Provincial Student Affordability Advocacy			
EC Lead	Vice President External			

Current Impact	Students are facing an affordability crisis and need additional non repayable funding like grants or increased access to monies during the		
to Students	school year as cost of living grows in tandem with tuition.		
Objective	Increase student financial aid including non-repayable grants and increase base funding for student aid		
Strategic	Student Voice: 2.3		
Alignment	Student Support: 3.4		
Status	Ongoing		
Topic	Increased Connection of Newcomer Supports to MacEwan International		
EC Lead	Vice President External		
Current Impact	Newcomers or international students are often dropped into the country with no support and are not adequately informed of options		
to Students	available to them for supports within university to connect them with municipal supports		
Objective	Connecting Municipal services with MacEwan International to ensure welcome packages contain information for supports that are		
	effective in supporting student success.		
Strategic	Student Voice: 2.4		
Alignment	Student Support: 3.1, 3.2, 3.3		
Status	Ongoing		
Topic	Expansion of Work Placement Programs for Students		
EC Lead	Vice President External		
Current Impact	Students are unable to find work that is applicable to their degree. They find little in options for summer work that goes towards		
to Students	experience for work after graduation.		
Objective	- Advocate for diversified allocations to summer job program through province so students can more easily find work opportunities		
Strategic	Student Voice: 2.3		
Alignment	Student Support: 3.1, 3.2,		
Status	Ongoing		
Topic	Municipal Election Debate/Forum		
EC Lead	Vice President External		
Current Impact	Leading up to a municipal election there is a current disconnect between elected officials and constituents. Lack of awareness of		
to Students	municipal impacts on a student's day to day.		
Objective	- Present students with a chance to bring questions to elected officials and opportunity to network with other officials who attend the		
	event.		
	- encourage voting in municipal election		
Strategic Alignment	Student Voice: 2.3		

Topic	Provincial Advocacy on Rent Control and Regulation of Landlords	
EC Lead	Vice President External	
Current Impact to Students	Students that are in the midst of the Affordability crisis worry about rent costs in addition	
	reate an advocacy package to detail potential implementations of basic rent control solutions or expanded social housing program so tudents can find affordable and appropriate housing n areas that are accessible to university without worrying about slum lords or bad faith landlords	
Strategic	Student Voice: 2.3	
Alignment	Student Support: 3.1,	
Status	Ongoing	
Topic	Educational Affordability Advocacy	
EC Lead	Vice President Governance & Finance	
Current Impact	Rising living costs and tuition fees are major barriers to students' access to post-secondary education. This leads to food insecurity,	
to Students	financial instability, and reduced academic performance. The combined effects harm students' physical and mental health.	
Objective	- Submitting In-Year Allocation and Budget Proposals that meet student need and help alleviate the cost of education.	
	- Red tape reduction for the bursary application processes to address and alleviate student concerns	
	 Push for more funds to be allocated to scholarships, awards and bursaries. 	
	- Improvements to Residence Services	
Strategic	Student Support: 3.1, 3.3	
Alignment		
Status	Ongoing	
Topic	Mandatory Non-Instructional Fee (MNIF) Advocacy	
EC Lead	Vice President Governance & Finance	
Current Impact Stu	udents are paying Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees that some students are not able to take advantage of for varying reasons, with the	
to Students	affordability crisis ensuring	
Objective	- Removal of the Tech fee for all students and allocating the remaining funds to other student-centered initiatives	
	- Evaluate MNIF's from a service provided for cost of service perspective and push to improve quality of services for students, or a	
	reduction in the cost of service.	
Strategic	Student Voice: 2.4	
Alignment	Student Support: 3.2, 3.3	
Status	Ongoing	

Topic	Student Housing Affordability	
EC Lead	Vice President Student Life	
Current Impact to Students	Due to increased demand, MacEwan Residence recently limited housing to MacEwan students, causing wait times for placement. With rising downtown housing costs, students face higher rents, longer commutes, or poor-quality living conditions. These factors negatively affect their overall student experience.	
Objective	 Advocate to explore partnerships and housing strategies with internal and external stakeholders Explore the creation of a grant or bursary program for students struggling with affordable housing 	
Strategic Alignment	Student Support: 3.1, 3.4	
Status	Initial Stages	
Topic	Enhancing Athletics' Campus Culture	
EC Lead	Vice President Student Life	
Current Impact to Students	Low attendance at Griffins games reflects weak student support for athletics at MacEwan, impacting team morale and school spirit. This decline in campus culture deters recruits and contributes to underperformance. The result may be reduced enrollment, transfers, or student disengagement.	
Objective	- Measure and Identify barriers to participation in athletics on campus, work to address and mitigate these barriers	
Strategic Alignment	Student Experience and Engagement: 1.3	
Status	Ongoing	
Topic	Adulting 101	
EC Lead	Vice President Student Life	
Current Impact to Students	Many students face a gap between what they currently know and what they are expected to know when it comes to essential aspects of adulthood. These areas include cooking, taxes, driver's education, personal finance, and public speaking—skills that are crucial for independence but often not formally taught.	
Objective	 Advocate for MacEwan to host a series of events or workshops that address student need in good life skills to have Explore opportunities within SAMU to bridge some of these gaps identified by students 	
Strategic	Student Experience and Engagement: 1.3	
Alignment Status	Student Supports: 3.1, 3.3, 3.4 Ongoing	
	GOVERNANCE OVERSIGHT	
Topic	Strategic Plan	

EC Lead	Vice President Governance & Finance	
Strategic	Strengthening SAMU Operations: 4.1, 4.5	
Alignment		
Objective	SAMU's strategic plan expires June 2026, and a new strategic plan needs to be in the works to replace the current plan.	
Key Details	Lead predominately by the General Manager with Executive Oversight and student leader input.	
Status	Initial Stages	
Topic	SC Training & Refresher	
EC Lead	Vice President Governance & Finance	
Strategic	Strengthening SAMU Operations: 4.2, 4.5	
Alignment		
Objective	Required per policy, it ensures that members of our governing board are knowledgeable about governance and SAMU	
Key Details	Lead and planned predominately by operational staff with Executive Oversight	
	Dates: TBD	
Status	Ongoing	
Topic	SAMU 2026/27 Budget	
EC Lead	Vice President Governance & Finance	
Strategic	Strengthening SAMU Operations: 4.2, 4.4	
Alignment		
Objective	Prepare the department 12 budget for the next fiscal year and oversee the whole budget process for the annual	
	budget submission to Council for Approval	
Key Details	The budgeting process for the next fiscal year will begin around November/December of 2025	
Status	To Begin Soon	
Topic	Town Hall	
EC Lead	Vice President Governance & Finance	
Strategic	Student Voice: 2.2	
Alignment		
Objective	Required by policy it provides Elected Representatives the ability to connect with students on a variety of topics	
Key Details	Date: February 4 th 2026	
Status	To Begin Soon	



Quarterly Report: Finance Committee

October 15, 2025

Committee Members:

May 1 st 2025 to June 30 th 2025	July 1st 2025 to September 30th 2025
Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair)	Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair)
Nathan Poon, President	Nathan Poon, President
Alem Tesfay, Vice President Student Life	Alem Tesfay, Vice President Student Life
Aidan Fisher, Councillor	Vacant, Councillor
Vincent Trinh, Councillor	Vincent Trinh, Councillor
Tatum Gademans, Student-at-Large	Tatum Gademans, Student-at-Large
Christopher Hemsworth, Student-at-Large	Christopher Hemsworth, Student-at-Large

Greetings Council,

This is the report from the Finance Committee for the reporting period of July 1st to September 30th, 2025 (Quarter 1).

The Committee met once this quarter. On August 20th, The Senior Finance Manager noted that the fiscal year for SAMU ended on June 30th. The SAMU Financial Audit was occurring at the time, and the Committee reviewed all the overages for the different apartments and reallocations were completed as necessary to eliminate the overages. There weren't any significant overages that would have been a cause for concern.

A decision made by EC to continue keeping our money in a savings account that has a better and more stable interest rate was brought forward for information in this meeting. This was also in recommendation of the Senior



Finance Manager.

Lastly, a contingency transfer briefing was provided by the Senior Finance Manager. The contingency transfer was a cash flow top up to assist in covering day to day expenses until we receive our October payment from MacEwan. This contingency transfer would later be reviewed and approved by EC during the EC meeting which occurred later on the same day.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Warm Regards,

Andrei Santiago (he/him)

VP Governance and Finance, SAMU 2025/2026

savpoperations@macewan.ca



Students' Council Report

Quarterly Report: Students' Council Operations Committee October 15, 2025

Committee Members:

May 1 st 2025 to June 30 th 2025	July 1st 2025 to September 30th 2025
Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair)	Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair)
Tolu Dare, Councillor	Tolu Dare, Councillor
Aidan Fisher, Councillor	Jencel Diaz, Councillor
Moselle Namoc, Councillor	Moselle Namoc, Councillor
Vincent Trinh, Councillor	Vincent Trinh, Councillor

Greetings Council,

This is the report from the Students' Council Operations Committee for the reporting period of July 1st to September 30th, 2025 (Quarter 1).

The Committee met once during this quarter. On September 22nd, the Committee reviewed The Students' Council Evaluations from the July, August, and September SC Meetings. There were two main concerns that were highlighted in the evaluations during the meeting: Concerns with lack of rules and/or expectations with respect to people calling in to SC meetings, and concerns with late reports. Additionally, the Committee also reviewed the Meeting Minutes to all the aforementioned SC Meetings to ensure that there was consistency and there were no errors present. Accountability across all members of council will be highlighted when it comes to future SC training.



The Committee also reviewed the Remuneration of Elected Representatives Policy to get feedback regarding expectations for EC when it comes to classes. Further review and discussion on this item by the Committee will take place in Quarter 2.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Warm Regards,

Andrei Santiago (he/him)

VP Governance and Finance, SAMU 2025/2026

savpoperations@macewan.ca



Students' Council Report

Quarterly Report: Governance Committee

October 15, 2025

Committee Members:

May 1 st 2025 to June 30 th 2025	July 1st 2025 to September 30th 2025
Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair)	Andrei Santiago, Vice President Governance & Finance (Chair)
Cierra Jacobs, Councillor	Cierra Jacobs, Councillor
Moselle Namoc, Councillor	Moselle Namoc, Councillor
Olad Ayodeji, Councillor	Vacant, Student-at-Large
Colton Bloudoff, Student-at-Large	Vacant, Student-at-Large

Greetings Council,

This is the report from the Governance Committee for the reporting period of July 1st to September 30th, 2025 (Quarter 1).

The Committee did not meet this quarter. The committee was scheduled to meet; however, the meeting had to be rescheduled due to illness. That meeting will be reported on in the Quarter 2 report.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Warm Regards,

Andrei Santiago (he/him)

VP Governance and Finance, SAMU 2025/2026

savpoperations@macewan.ca



Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University September 10, 2025 @ 2:00pm

Voting Members:

Nathan Poon, President Chioma Uzor, VP Academic Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, VP External Andrei Santiago, VP Governance & Finance Alem Tesfay, VP Student Life

Resource Officials: Darryl Kostash, General Manager (absent)

1. Call to Order: 2:05pm

2. Treaty 6 Land Recognition

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

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: September 3, 2025

VPA/VPGF CARRIED

	TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION	
			Action:	
			GM to provide feedback to SGs re. MCF.	
	SGs do – duplication of other groups? Table		VPSL to redirect MBC group to MacEwan S&W.	
		MBC – concern with it being a sport – should it fall under		
1.	Student Groups	MacEwan S&W?		
		VPSL – Sean Gallivan reached out wanting to be redirected to		
		MacEwan.		
	RM – to maximize efficiency there is an opportunity to connect			
2.	Gallivan & UWill	Gallivan & MacEwan re. UWill.	Action:	

			Vpsl/Vpgf to work with staff
			supports to connect Gallivan & MacEwan.
			Mac∟wan.
3.	Social Media	General discussion about social media expectations.	
	Outstanding		
4.	Action Items		
	VP Governance		
	& Finance	Fall Fest.	
5.	Report	SLW planning.	
	VP Student	Meeting with Athletics soon.	
6.	Life's Report	KW Pipe ceremony.	
		Academic Standards Co-chair update.	
		Academic affordability steering team meeting update.	
	VP Academic's	GFC meetings update.	
7.	Report	Zero cost textbook program update.	
		Minister meeting update.	
		Downtown student housing update.	
	VP External's	MacEwan on the Hill event update.	
8.	Report	Mayoral forum coming up.	
		Check ins.	
		Fall fest.	
	President's	Alumni Advisory Council meeting update.	
9.	Report	Confirmed ministerial visit.	
		Fall fest update.	
		Food vendor update.	
		HR update.	
10.	GM Report	HVAC update.	
11.	Recognition		

5. Adjournment Time: 3:53pm



Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University September 17, 2025 @ 2:00pm

Voting Members:

Nathan Poon, President Chioma Uzor, VP Academic Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, VP External Andrei Santiago, VP Governance & Finance Alem Tesfay, VP Student Life

Resource Officials: Darryl Kostash, General Manager (absent)

1. Call to Order: 2:00pm

2. Treaty 6 Land Recognition

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

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

 Approval of Minutes for: September 10, 2025 VPGF/VPSL

CARRIED

	TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION
			MOTION
			TO TAKE A 5 MINUTE RECESS
			VPGF/VPA CARRIED
1.	Safe Walk	*Presentation by Annette Kelm.	*Called to order at 2:36pm.
2.	Food Insecurity Advocacy	Pres – briefing note provided. Looking if EC believes there's anything missing or something to add.	
3.	Committee		MOTION

	Appointments		
	- Appointments		TO APPOINT ANGELA ZEBALLOS TO THE COUNCIL OF STUDENT AFFAIRS, SAMRAGGEE BHATTACHARYA TO THE FACULTY OF HEALTH AND COMMUNITY STUDIES COUNCIL, MARCUS OCLOO TO THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE COUNCIL AND RILEY KENDALL AND DAYLEN TOWERS TO THE ANIMAL RESEARCH ETHICS BOARD ALL FOR A TERM ENDING JUNE 30 ^{TH,}
			VPA/VPSL CARRIED
		IAA – hiring committee appointments coming soon. Will recruit from SC as well as EC members depending on the hiring committee. Hope to bring recommended motions forward next	
4.	Appointments	week.	
	VP Academic's	WOOTH.	
5.	Report	GFC meeting update.	
<u> </u>	VP External's	or o mooning apacies	
6.	Report	Met with MPs	
0.	VP Governance	THOU WILLIAM O	
	& Finance's	SLW planning.	
7.	Report	U-Pass meeting update.	
	-p	MacEwan introduction/collaboration meetings.	
		KW update.	
	VP Student's	GFC.	
8.	Life's Report	Met with CHARM – update provided.	
		Alumni Advisory Council.	
	President's	Attended federal party event to network and meet MPs.	
9.	Report	SLW tabling.	
		MNP presenting tonight.	
		Retail vendor update.	
1		Building update.	
10.	GM Report	Media request.	
11.	Recognition		

5. Adjournment

Time: 3:34pm



Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University September 24, 2025 @ 2:00pm

Voting Members:

Nathan Poon, President Chioma Uzor, VP Academic Wilfrid Youbi Fansi, VP External Andrei Santiago, VP Governance & Finance Alem Tesfay, VP Student Life

Resource Officials: Darryl Kostash, General Manager

1. Call to Order: 2:00pm

2. Treaty 6 Land Recognition

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

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:

VPSL/VPGF

MOTION TO STRIKE ITEM 7 FROM THE AGENDA VPSL/VPGF CARRIED

CARRIED

Approval of Minutes for: September 17, 2025
 VPGF/VPSL
 CARRIED

TOPIC		DISCUSSION	ACTION/MOTION	
	2024-2025			
1.	Financials	*Presentation from Cam Whiting, Senior Finance Manager.		
		Exec Coordinator – September 30 participating in KW Peace	Action:	
Truth and		Walk as well as some opportunities to learn.	EC to communicate sizing to	
	Reconciliation	RM – important to understand implications to better represent	exec coordinator right after this	
2.	Day	indigenous students.	meeting.	
		EAA provides overview of individual roles EC will be taking on		
3.	Mayoral Forum	for the event.		

			MOTION
		Korean Culture Club - no similar clubs exist	TO APPROVE THE KOREAN CULTURE CLUB
		Stem Social Wellness Collective - may be other groups doing similar things	VPSL/VPA CARRIED
		 concern with the fitness activities unsure of what 'Stem' is referring to are they doing things that SAMU/MacEwan already provides? clarify to the group that doing a physical event is not covered by SAMU. get clarification on how they're different from similar groups – not clear currently. 	Action: Vpsl/GM to provide feedback to SG manager - clarification needed for mandate & title.
		MacEwan Women in Leadership - concern with inclusivity of this group - already a similar group existing?	Action: Send questions for SG manager to Vpsl via email by 5pm Friday.
		 RM – don't believe this group is similar to Girl Up SG; don't believe they violate rules we have around student groups; recommend sending back for reconsideration. SGs should be given opportunities to amplifying marginalized communities. 	Vpsl to communicate back for further clarification with respect to other similar groups & inclusion
4.	Student Groups		MOTION
		VPE – looking to get funding approved for the Mayoral Event.	TO APPROVE AN EXPENSE OF UP TO \$2000.00 FROM G/L 524500 TO BE USED FOR THE MAYORAL DEBATE EVENT SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 26, 2025
5.	Exec Projects	RM – funds for refreshments, advertising, videography, prizing, etc.	VPE/VPGF CARRIED
0.	<u> </u>		MOTION
			TO APPOINT LAYAL ZIDAN TO THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE ASSOCIATE DEAN DEVELOPMENT REAPPOINTMENT COMMITTEE TO CONCLUDE BY DECEMBER 24, 2025
			VPA/VPGF CARRIED
			MOTION
6.	Hiring Committee Appointments		TO PROVIDE AN HONORARIUM OF UP TO \$75, FROM GL 524100, TO LAYAL ZIDAN FOR SERVING ON

	1		T 1
			THE FAS ASSOCIATE DEAN
			REAPPOINTMENT PANEL
			VDANDCE
			VPA/VPGF
			CARRIED
			MOTION
			WOTION
			TO APPOINT CHIOMA UZOR
			TO THE ASSOCIATE DEAN,
			LIBRARY REAPPOINTMENT
			COMMITTEE TO CONCLUDE
			BY MAY 1, 2026
			VPE/VPGF
			CARRIED
			MOTION
			TO APPOINT GABRIEL
			AMBUTONG TO THE
			ASSOCIATE VICE
			PRESIDENT, GOVERNMENT
			& COMMUNITY RELATIONS
			HIRING PANEL TO
			CONCLUDE BY DECEMBER
			24 TH , 2025.
			VPE/VPA
			CARRIED
			MOTION
			WOTION
			TO PROVIDE AN
			HONORARIUM OF UP TO
			\$375, FROM G/L 524100, TO
			GABRIEL AMBUTONG FOR
			SERVING ON THE
			ASSOCIATE VICE
			PRESIDENT, GOVERNMENT
			& COMMUNITY RELATIONS
			HIRING PANEL
			VPE/VPGF
			CARRIED
	VP External's	Lunch with deputy ministers.	
7.	Report	Youth roundtable attendance.	
		Met with SC members re my advo priorities & campaigning	
	VP Governance	strategies.	
	& Finance's	BOG orientation.	
8.	Report	SCOC meeting.	
	<u> </u>		

	VP Student's	KW update re mayoral forum.						
9.	Life's Report	MacEwan International thanksgiving event – 4 EC will attend.						
	VP Academic's	GFC committee meetings updates.						
10.	Report	Ponoka campus trip.						
		Ponoka campus visit.						
	President's	BOG orientation.						
11.	Report	SC mixer.	C mixer.					
		MOTION						
		TO GO IN CAMERA						
		VDCENDS						
			VPGF/VPSL CARRIED					
		CARRIED						
		MOTION						
			MOTION					
		TO GO OUT OF CAMERA						
		TO GO OUT OF CAMIERA						
		Budget.	VPGF/VPA					
12.	GM Report	Annual report update.	CARRIED					
13.	Recognition							

5. Adjournment

Time: 4:05pm

STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETING SUBMISSION

	AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION		
Meeting Date		Submitted By	
October 15, 2025		Andrei Santiago, Vice Presider	nt Governance and Finance
Agenda Item Title	2024-2025	SAMU Annual Report	
Action Requested		⊠Motion	Consultation Item
		AGENDA ITEM DET	AILS
Motion Title	To Approve	the 2024-2025 SAMU Annual F	Report
Background Information	· ·	As per the Official Reporting Mechanisms to SAMU Membership policy, Council approves the annual report before it is provided to the public membership	
Alternative Considerations	n/a		
Risk Management Considerations			
Strategic Alignment	\(\sum \) Attache	d Strategic Alignment Checklis	t is complete
Implications	After approv	al it will be available on our we	bsite for public consumption
Related Documents	Official Rep	orting Mechanisms to SAMU M	embership policy
Follow Up Action	Post the an	nual report on the website	
Review History	SAMU Senio	or Leadership Team, Executive (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.		\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			Ш
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			
Student Voice			
The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.			
2.1 Develop an Advocacy Plan and implement processes to strengthen SAMU's			
advocacy program.			
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		\boxtimes	
2.4 Foster positive relationships with MacEwan University to better serve students		\boxtimes	
Student Supports			
Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs.		\boxtimes	
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		\boxtimes	
3.3 Strengthen collaborations and partnerships with MacEwan University to expand supports and resources for students.		\boxtimes	
3.4 Enhance relationships with external organizations to leverage resources and supplement new and existing initiatives		\boxtimes	
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.		\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.			
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



SAMU ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

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WHO WE ARE

The Students' Association of MacEwan University (SAMU) is a not-for-profit organization working independently from MacEwan University to support students. With over 50 full- and part-time staff, SAMU exists to serve students' non-academic needs.

We are governed by the elected student representatives who set the strategic vision on behalf of students. SAMU is guided by our 5-year Strategic Plan (2021 – 2026) and focuses its efforts on achieving the four Strategic Goals outlined in the plan.

This annual report represents the fourth time we report our accomplishments based on the 2021-26 strategic plan.

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.

Values

- Students First
- Inclusiveness
- Adaptability
- Relevance
- Accountability

Good Governance

Good Governance, as practiced by a Students' Council composed of individuals who are well-informed and team-oriented, provides strategic direction for SAMU that aligns with the vision of the Association as a whole, anticipating and responding to the needs of present and future students through the effective stewardship of the bylaws, policies, and strategic plan of the Association.

MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT

Serving as your President these past two years has been nothing short of an absolute privilege. To have been elected, not once, but twice, by the student body, is an honour I do not take lightly. Your confidence in my leadership has empowered me, alongside the rest of my executive team, to fight for the student movement with unwavering tenacity. Your voices have been heard and firmly represented in SAMU's advocacy this past year. With your trust and the support of SAMU's staff, my team and I have been able to represent student interests diligently on your behalf. Some of our advocacy achievements this past term include:

- Saving Fall Reading Week
- MacEwan Residence Rent Freeze for 2025/2026
- Advocating to MacEwan for \$200K to support food insecurity
- A reduction of the Medical Clinic Fee from \$12 to \$10
- Waiving the Winter 2025, Fall 2025, and Winter 2026 Technology Fee, saving students \$1.9M, amounting to \$103.5 in savings for each student
- An allocation of \$500K for Textbook Affordability Projects and an additional \$500K for Scholarships, Awards, and Bursaries (SABs) for a total of \$1M

Our advocacy wins this past year would not have been possible without the foundations laid by the passionate SAMU Executives who came before us, as well as the unrelenting support from SAMU staff, volunteers, Council members, and students. However, the work is far from finished. The near-deafening student voice rings loud in the ears of your newly elected representatives.

The end of my term marks the beginning of a new chapter in SAMU's rich history. And so it is with great pride and privilege that I pass on the title of SAMU President, along with all the duties, responsibilities and honour that come with the Office of the President, to Nathan Poon. I have no doubt that President Poon and his team of exceptional student leaders will deliver wins for students, the likes of which I scarcely could have imagined.

Forever Grateful.

Gabriel Ambutong (He/Him) 2024/25 SAMU President

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MESSAGE FROM THE INCOMING PRESIDENT

The Students' Association of MacEwan University (SAMU) has been working relentlessly over the past year to amplify the student voice and enrich the student experience. Enclosed in this report, you will find a recounting of the work SAMU's operational and governance teams took on in the past year to make that vision a reality. SAMU is funded by student fees, and we are led by students, for students. Our priorities and strategic vision have been developed in conjunction with ongoing student feedback, promising a relevant and effective approach to student service and advocacy for the students of MacEwan University.

As is often the case with democratic institutions, the leaders of today sit on the shoulders of giants, and we owe a great debt of gratitude to those who came before us and who laid the foundation for the work and advocacy we have taken on. It is no secret that students are struggling. The cost of education has meant skipped meals and foregoing pricey but necessary textbooks; the cost of living has forced students into low-quality or downright unsafe housing; and, under the unrelenting pressure of life demands and studies, student mental health is collectively on the decline.

While this paints a bleak picture of the student experience, it's also a call to action for those of us advocating on behalf of students, and it's a call we intend to answer. As SAMU continues to grow and mature, we need your voices as students and members of SAMU to keep us accountable, relevant, and meaningfully impactful. My team and I look forward to the opportunity to serve and represent you over the next year, armed with the trust and voice of students on the MacEwan campus.

Sincerely,

Nathan Poon (He/Him)
2025/26 SAMU President

STRATEGIC GOALS & OUTCOMES

To achieve our vision, focus our priorities, and guide our actions, SAMU is driven by four strategic goals and five values as outlined in the 2021-26 <u>Strategic Plan</u>. The Annual Report provides a summary of SAMU's achievements and progress on each strategic goal:

- 1. Student Experience & Engagement
- 2. Student Voice
- 3. Student Supports
- 4. Strengthening SAMU Operations

1. STUDENT EXPERIENCE & ENGAGEMENT

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

What It Means

The student experience goes beyond attending classes. SAMU offers people the fun and social side of student life by hosting programs and events and providing students space to connect. SAMU also provides volunteer and employment opportunities while supporting Student Groups on campus. The above reflects SAMU's commitment to making on-campus life more accessible for all students.

Strategies

1.1 Put the finishing touches on the SAMU Building, enhancing the safe and intentional spaces for students to gather, relax and study.

The SAMU Building continues to be popular with students, with tables and seating being full at peak times. SAMU monitors student traffic and usage of the building to make changes when needed. Building enhancements in the past year include:

- Upgraded the main staircase with three sitting booths, giving students more eating/working options with natural light
- Added four large sitting booths on the main floor between RBC and Deville providing students with more conversation areas
- Comfy soft seating furniture was added to the main floor under the stairs and the existing wooden bench was removed
- Added pick up lockers to the main floor to better serve students who are not around during operational hours
- Planning has started for building upgrades in preparation for the opening of the new School of Business and the increased number of enrolled students it will bring. The following projects will be completed prior to the start of the 2025 Fall Term.
 - A building renovation upgrade to the SAMU office was approved. This upgrade will give SAMU operations more office space in the third-floor admin area and will add more space to the Student Groups area due to the removal of an admin office, providing another bookable meeting room for students. Renovations started in May.

- New sitting booth furniture will be added to the Student Groups area, providing more seating and workspace for students
- A renovation project was approved for the Lookout; these enhancements will provide SAMU and catering companies with a kitchen to prep for events that require catering. Renovations started in May.

The Lookout event space was utilized throughout the past year for a wide variety of SAMU and Student Groups events. SAMU and Students are given priority in the use of the Lookout, and renting the space to MacEwan and others is a secondary option for revenue generation.

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

Student Communications

SAMU's number one way to communicate with students continues to be the SAMU email newsletter that is sent out every two weeks during Fall and Winter terms. Students identified email as the most preferred method of communication through the Spring Student Survey. The newsletter is sent to over 18,000 students each time and boasts an average open rate of over 75%. Programs, services and events aren't effective if students don't know about them, and the SAMU email newsletter continues to be the main and most effective point of communication.

Video is another very effective form of communication for students. SAMU's part-time videographer remained very busy producing videos to engage with students. Videos posted to Instagram Reels averaged 10,000 views (+43% compared to last year) with one video achieving over 28,000 views. Due to the success of the videos, SAMU will consider hiring two part-time videographers and creating a TikTok channel next year.

The website is central to SAMU communications. All other communication channels drive to the website that contains the information students need. SAMU's website had over 260,000 total visits during this fiscal year.

Instagram continues to be the favorite social media channel for students to engage with SAMU and get information.

- Instagram: +1,501 new Instagram followers | +608,344 total profile views | 9,070
 Average content interactions
- Instagram Reels: 10,000 average views | 28,000+ views on one Reel | 304,244 total plays
- Instagram Posts: 304,100 total views | 28,500 reach | 5,900 interactions

New Student Events

SAMU offers two key events that are focused on introducing and raising awareness of SAMU and its programs, events and services to first year students. *Meet SAMU Week* introduces SAMU to new and returning students by offering a whole week of fun and activities during the first week of school in both September and January. The week of popular activities includes:

- MacEwan New Student Orientation (NSO) organized by MacEwan University
- Meet SAMU Expo & Games (2 days)
- Fall Fest and Winter Fest

Meet SAMU Expo & Games is key to raising awareness amongst new students. The event features all SAMU departments showcasing their offerings in a trade show format. Students can obtain information, ask questions, play games, pick up their U-Pass ARC card, and grab a SAMU Student Handbook, all while entering for a chance to win one of two \$500 tuition credits. It is estimated that over 200 students were engaged during NSO and over 500 students attended Meet SAMU Expo. Winter Meet SAMU also had over 500 students in attendance, an increase of **197**% from the previous year.

Each day of Winter Meet SAMU offered an exciting event, which included Maker Series, Magic Show with Chris Gowen, Music Bingo and Battle of the Bands.

SAMU Student Handbook

The SAMU Student Handbook is another key tool in raising awareness of SAMU while being a valuable resource for students. The calendar planner includes both SAMU and MacEwan information and resources. The Student Handbook is partially supported through paid advertising. The Handbook continues to be very popular, with 6100 copies printed and distributed to students.

SAMU's 12 Days of Giving

SAMU's 12 Days of Giving campaign, which debuted in December 2020, remains popular with students, particularly given the current focus on student affordability. The 12 Days of Giving Campaign is a successful way to engage students and raise awareness. Gift cards and tuition credits were used as prizes each day of the 12 Days of Giving Campaign, as this is what students indicated in the Spring Survey as being most appealing to them.

The 2024 campaign was the fifth time running the campaign

- 1137 average daily entries (-14%)
- 13,643 total student entries (-15%)

The 12 Days of Giving campaign will be reviewed and possibly refreshed for 2025.

Ponoka Campus Visit

EC visited the Ponoka Site again in 2024 to engage with MacEwan students there. They promoted the SAMU programs, services and events available to them and listened to concerns that students had. Ponoka Students often feel alienated from CC campus programs and services while paying SAMU fees. The Executive Committee were able to give students a one-time \$100 grocery gift card to support each of the Ponoka students. The Ponoka SAMU Fee has been reduced for students.

Promo Squad

The SAMU Promo Squad initiative operated for its third year in 2024-25. Promo Squad is implemented through the Marketing & Communications department and consists of a part-time staff and student volunteers who help promote SAMU and its various initiatives. The volunteers engage with students through interactive games, prize draws and snack giveaways, either with a stationary setup in the pedway or by going mobile throughout campus. Promo Squad has been very popular with students, and a second Promo Squad was created to focus on Student Leadership initiatives (see page 15). Results for 2024-25 compared to the previous fiscal:

- 27 active members (+50%)
- Promo Squad shifts (-6%)
- 64 student interactions per shift (-9%)
- 10,497 student interactions (-12%)

1.3 Increase student engagement by offering relevant and meaningful events, programs, services, volunteer activities and employment opportunities for students.

Providing events, programs, and services is at the core of what SAMU does. Through student feedback, engagement, and experience, SAMU believes it has a good understanding of the types of activities students want and need. Each year, we offer a combination of new or enhanced initiatives along with the return of student favourites.

Fall Fest and Winter Fest

Fall Fest is the largest event that SAMU offers and is held as part of Meet SAMU Week to welcome all the students back or to their new school year, and cap off the first week of the Fall Term. The weather and artist lineup (Misfortune Tellers, Dempsey Bolton, Tanner Adell, Lu Kala, Paul Russell, and headliner Mark Ambor) was a big attraction for students, with approximately 3700+ students attending, an increase of **4%** from last year.

Held on the lawn in the front of the MacEwan Clock Tower, Vendor tents, activity booths, 360-video booth, games, food trucks and prizes helped keep students engaged and entertained. New activations included subsidized micro tattoos, piercings, permanent jewelry, and free haircuts, all of which were very popular and provided students with a total added value of \$2,400. The event also provides our Executive Committee members with exposure through the introduction of performers and an opportunity to engage with students face-to-face.

For the first time, guest tickets were available for students to purchase, allowing them to bring friends who are not current MacEwan Students. A total of 187 of the 200 tickets available were sold and added \$5228 in new revenue to offset costs.

Winter Fest is an event in January used to welcome new students and welcome back existing students from the winter break. The Winter semester's answer to Fall Fest, Winter Fest was a ticketed concert at the Starlite Room featuring Kuzi Cee, Ari Hicks, Preston Pablo, and DJ Whipped Cream. Tickets were \$5 for students, \$10 for student guests, and \$20 for the general public. A total of 360 tickets were sold (220 students, 82 guests, 22 public and 36 at the door), and students enjoyed a night of live music and dancing.

The Black Parade Halloween Dance Party

SAMU partnered with the Starlite Room on the Emo Dance party by purchasing 100 tickets for the event. A total of 91 tickets were sold to students at a discounted rate.

Battle of the Bands

Battle of the Bands is an event that provides exposure and opportunities for student bands to showcase their talent and provide another fun event for students to attend. The event consists of five MacEwan Bands competing live to win the favour of an adjudication panel at the Temple Bar in the Starlite Room. The winner received the opportunity to perform as part of the Fall Fest 2024 lineup, along with a \$250 prize. Participants included Fin McDowell, The Carpoolers, Delta '88, Morning Coyotes, and the winners, Blood Pressure. Students enjoy the event, which was sold out (200 tickets) again for the second year.

Comedy Series

Comedy Series was first offered in the 2022-2023 year and was a hit with students. This past year, SAMU and students welcomed TikTok sensation and podcaster Connor Wood to the stage in the Lookout. Maggie Winters, comedian, opened for Connor, and students experienced an evening of laughter. A live Q&A session followed Connor's set, allowing students to ask questions. The event was nearly sold out, with 97% of the 256 tickets being sold. As with other events, tickets are made very affordable to students (\$5 Early Bird, \$10 General Admission), providing them with opportunities to experience signature events at a price that fits within their student budget.

Campus Clash

Campus Clash is an event offered to students in partnership with the Edmonton Elks football team and in collaboration with MacEwan University and other post-secondary institutions in Edmonton. The event allows students to experience a CFL Football game at an affordable cost. It also allows students to have some fun competition with other schools to see who could show the most school spirit. This past year, 567 MacEwan students purchased tickets (-22% from last year). The Edmonton Elks donates a portion of ticket sales back to each school, which means that The SAMU Pantry (student food bank) received a \$1134 donation.

Maker Series

Introduced in 2022-23, Maker Series continues to be very popular with students. Maker Series features some DIY crafts for students. There were five events held in 2024/25, providing students with opportunities to participate in: Candle Painting, Charm Bracelet Making, Hot Chocolate Mix Creation, Valentine's Card Crafting, and Microgreens Jar Painting. A total of 779 students participated in the five Maker Series events.

SAMU Markets

SAMU organizes two special markets each school year, the Holiday Market and the Spring Awakening Market. Both markets allow students, alumni, and locals to set up tables to sell locally made crafts and items to MacEwan students and staff.

The Holiday Market, held in December, had 42 vendors (+14%) and estimated 2500 customers over the course of five days (+79%). The Spring Awakening Market, held in March, had 39 vendors (no change) and an estimated 1587 customers over the course of three days (+76%).

Wellbeing Programming

Wellbeing Programming offered several initiatives to support students and help them through stressful times:

- Ask a Banker was hosted in both Fall and Winter terms, with support from RBC On Campus and The United Way, providing financial advice to 59 students.
- Zen Zone provided a space for students to take a mental break from studying for final exams and provided refreshments and wellness activities to over 200 students. each term.
- The Sound of Wellness was an initiative between SAMU's Programming department and the MacEwan Wellness Club, which consisted of a karaoke event that saw over 850 students attend.
- Over 2,660 Wellness Bags were given to students over the course of the year, featuring local items such as lip balms, soaps, lotions, toothbrushes, and more.

Discounted Ticket Programs

Edmonton Oilers

The Edmonton Oilers ticket program continued in 2024-25 and was very popular among students, as the Oilers advanced all the way to the Stanley Cup final. The Oilers ticket program allows students to experience hockey games at a cost which is more affordable than purchasing at the box office.

- 270 pairs of tickets available
 - o 1 pair donated
 - 269 pairs sold to students at a \$70 discount off the standard ticket price
 - o 1 pair sold on Ticketmaster (didn't sell to students in time)
 - 60 pairs (10 games) of Stanley Cup Playoff run home tickets were sold to students

Ski Passes

Students also had the opportunity to purchase discounted lift tickets for Marmot Basin, Lake Louise and Sunshine Village ski resorts. This was the third year offering the discounted ski passes and a total of 172 passes were sold, 32% more than the previous year.

West Edmonton Mall

WEM Attraction Passes were added to the discounted ticket program in 2024/25. A total of 83 passes were sold to students.

Student Advocacy Centre

During the fall and winter terms, the Student Advocacy Centre put on three main events that increased student engagement. The first event was hosting a Uni 101 booth event in collaboration with Library Services, Writing Centre, Student Success Centre, Access and Disability Resources, and Makerspace. Over 200 students were in attendance.

The second event was a two-day collaboration with the Academic Integrity Office to promote information about academic integrity and the various resources available to students that would help them throughout their academic journey. This event had over 300 students attend the booths over the course of two days and collaborated with the Library, The Writing Centre, Student Success Centre, and the Academic Integrity Office.

The third event organized by the Student Advocacy Centre was an Al discussion panel. This event took place over two days, featuring two unique panels that comprised both students and professors. Approximately 15 to 25 people attended each panel.

The Griff

The 2024-2025 season of the Griff saw many changes and improvements to workflow and quality of work through the implementation of a new role: the Research Editor. The Griff continued to improve its standards and ethics by developing more guidelines and processes to ensure correct, factual reporting, as well as transparent and ethical behaviour from the staff and contributors.

The editorial direction of the magazine had a natural evolution from the previous year's rebrand, solidifying the Griff's brand and expanding its audience through purpose-driven collaborations and journalism.

Monthly magazine launch events at Towers were successful in bringing contributors and editors together to celebrate.

Highlights from the Griff strategic plan implementation include:

Content

- 84 contributors published with the Griff (+83%)
- 160 assignments (written or visual) completed wholly or in-part by contributors (+43%)

Magazine Distribution

- 14,000 copies of the Griff printed (+23%)
- 12,267 magazine pickups (+22%)

Website

- 30,385 website visits (+7%)
- 50,718 page views (-2%)

Volunteer and Part-Time Positions

SAMU's volunteer program is vital to providing opportunities for students to gain real experience while, in turn, helping SAMU to run its programs, events and services:

- 218 volunteers (+8%)
- 5,671 volunteer hours (-5%)

SAMU hires students for part-time positions, which helps students gain employment while attending school and provides valuable experience, often related to their chosen career, that can aid in securing employment upon graduation. These positions are also vital to enhancing the capabilities of SAMU, enabling it to offer more comprehensive programs, services, and events. SAMU added one new part-time position in 2023-24, bringing the total number of positions hired to 35 (+3%). SAMU also added two new full-time positions and hired three students to fill vacant FT positions.

1.4Support Student Groups by offering networking opportunities, meeting space, outreach support and online platforms.

Student Groups and the Student Groups space saw an increase in activity and engagement. As of June 2025, there were 118 Student Groups (+37%). Student Groups planned various events and training sessions to help raise awareness, encourage new group start-ups, and assist existing groups with recruiting members.

- Student Groups Mingler: an in-person networking event for groups and their members to get to know one another and share ideas while playing various board games. Four Minglers were held, one in the Fall and three in the Winter term, attended by a total of 172 students.
- Student Groups Expo: The Student Groups Expo is a chance for students to see what groups are available in a tradeshow format. An expo was held each of the Fall and Winter terms. The Fall expo had 48 groups participate (+7%), and Winter had 56 (+17%). The Expos were busy with students exploring all the groups and were successful in recruiting new members with over 2250 students total, attending the two Expos (+150%).
- Student Groups Connect: This was the third year on the new platform, and it grew to over 4562 users (+43%). A room booking system, Skeeda, was added in May 2024 and has been highly effective and efficient for students. There were 4119 room bookings made by 679 users.
- The Student Groups department hosted the second annual "Student Group Appreciation Night" in April to show their appreciation for all the hard work the

various student groups do in enhancing our university community. The appreciation night provided an opportunity for groups to get together and celebrate their accomplishments. A last-minute venue change impacted attendance, with 120 students attending (-20%).

Student Groups Event Grant

Student Groups helps increase student engagement by providing Event Grant Funding to groups, allowing them to host events for students. SAMU awarded \$37,698 in Event Grant Funding (-5%), which helped groups host 64 events (-7%). Groups used the funding for events ranging from small-scale game nights to large-scale galas. The funding means groups can focus more time on planning to make their event successful, and less time on fundraising.

Student Groups Operational Grant

Student Groups utilized a total of \$17,286.58 in operational grant funding, which enabled 60 groups to purchase food, promotional materials, and supplies necessary for hosting meetings and conducting other group operations. This represents a **6**% increase in utilization from the previous year.

2. STUDENT VOICE

The Student Voice is amplified by SAMU.

What it Means

SAMU is a Students' Association, meaning it provides ways for students to be heard collectively by the University and at all levels of government. Students also have a voice through its democratic processes, electing Students' Council and Executive Committee members to govern SAMU.

Strategies

2.1 Develop an Advocacy Plan and implement processes to strengthen SAMU's advocacy program.

Fall Reading Break

After over 4000 survey responses, countless letters to the General Faculties Council, a joint statement with the Grant MacEwan University Faculty Association, and a sit-in protest, SAMU Executive Committee and students were successful in advocating for MacEwan to keep Fall Reading Week at MacEwan.

The *Don't Take Our Break* campaign highlighted the importance of Fall Reading Week for student mental health and emphasized that students at MacEwan deserve a week-long break during the semester. Led by the Vice President Academic (VPA), the campaign was featured in local news, including CBC.

During a crucial General Faculties Council meeting on October 28th, the VPA spoke to advocate for and galvanize support to keep Fall Reading Week at MacEwan.

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

Student Leadership Week

Student Leadership Week was created to increase interest and the number of candidates running for Students' Council and Executive Committee. Student Leadership Week is held in September for the Students' Council Election and in February for the Executive Committee Election.

Student Leadership Week - Students' Council Election

Student Leadership Week included three days of tabling (Info Booth), an open Students' Council meeting in The Lookout, and a Students' Council Mixer where students could drop by for free food and talk to SAMU staff, Executives, and Councillors both to ask questions about the role.

- 434 students visited the Info Booth
- 19 students attended the Students' Council Meeting as guests
- 57 students attended the Students' Council Mixer

Student Leadership Week - Executive Committee Election

This edition of Student Leadership Week was focused on providing information to students about running for a position on the Executive Committee. Students could talk to current Executive Committee members at a table (Info Booth) on Feb 3 and 4, and could also set meetings with a member of the Executive Committee, taking place on Feb 5. Those who had a meeting would also have the opportunity to have lunch with the Executive Committee. This new format and initiative worked well, with 10 meetings booked and 11 students running in the Executive Committee election.

Student Leadership Promo Squad

Due to the success of the SAMU Promo Squad, a second Promo Squad was created to focus on Student Leadership Initiatives (Students' Council, Executive Committee, and MacEwan and SAMU Committees). The Student Leadership Promo Squad had a strong start and helped to raise awareness and increase results for both elections:

- 22 active members
- 165 Promo Squad shifts
- 47.5 average student interactions per shift
- 11,883 student interactions

SAMU Brand Ambassador

As part of the Student Leadership Promo Squad, a SAMU Brand Ambassador position was created (filled by a student) to engage with students through video content. This approach resonated strongly, keeping students engaged and eager for the next video. The role was instrumental in reshaping SAMU's digital presence and raising awareness of both SAMU and Student Leadership. The role will be hired again next year.

Students' Council and Executive Committee Elections

The Marketing and Communications department was tasked with increasing interest and engagement with Student Leadership, which includes Students' Council, Executive Committee, and SAMU and MacEwan Committees. Collaborating with the Governance Assistance and Support Team and the Events Team, new strategies were developed to transform how students perceive student leadership. Both elections showed a substantial increase in interest in Student Leadership, the number of candidates running, and the percentage of students voting. Results compared to the previous year's elections:

Students Council Election 2024

- 34 students submitted nominations, 22 students ran in the election (+69%) the highest in over a decade
- 13.2% of student members voted (+53%) 2nd highest voter turnout in over a decade

Executive Committee Election 2025

- 11 students ran in the election (+267%) 5th highest in over a decade
- 20.6% of student members voted (+227%) 3rd highest in over a decade

Food For Thought

Food For Thought is an event where Students' Council members engage with the student body by tabling in the Lookout. Each table has a different topic, an assortment of information related to the table's topic, and Councillors who discuss the topics and answer questions from students. As an incentive, each student received a passport that would be stamped when they had a discussion at a table. When they acquired 3 stamps, they could redeem the passport for a sandwich, a drink, and a bag of chips. A total of 213 students attended Food For Thought in 2025 (-22%).

The Griff

The Griff published 22 articles about or mentioning current events pertaining to Student Governance, a 57% increase from the previous year. These articles helped to bring increased awareness to the various Student Leadership opportunities available at SAMU.

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

Edmonton Student Alliance

SAMU's President, along with the Edmonton Student Alliance (ESA), met with the Mayor's office to discuss student housing issues. The ESA and the City of Edmonton collaborated to develop a student housing survey, which is set to launch in Fall 2025.

U-Pass Negotiations

SAMU alongside student representatives and staff from other students' associations (including the University of Alberta Undergraduate and Graduate Students' Union, Nait Students' Association, Concordia Undergraduate Students' Association, and NorQuest Students' Association) negotiated the next U-PASS contract with Edmonton Transit Services

(ETS) and the surrounding regional transit providers (Strathcona, St. Albert, Beaumont, Leduc, Spruce Grove, and Sherwood Park).

After a couple of rounds of negotiations and attempting to get the best possible deal for students, an agreement was made on a three-year contract spanning from September 2025 to August 2028, which consists of \$180, \$182.50, and \$185, respectively.

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

Deferred Exam Fees

The Vice President Academic (VPA) had pledged to reduce the Deferred Exam Fee (DEF), which--at the time--charged students \$75 per deferred exam. The VPA worked with the MacEwan University Provost to reduce this fee to \$50 per deferred exam. Following months of more advocacy, the VPA and Vice President Student Life (VPSL) collaborated to reduce the DEF further. As of Fall 2025, the DEF will be reduced to \$0 per exam.

Don't Go Textbook Broke

In collaboration with the MacEwan Library, the Vice President Academic initiated the *Don't Go Textbook Broke* campaign to support textbook affordability initiatives. As the MacEwan Library continues to support Open Education Resources (OERs), supporting OER visibility and usage on campus directly addresses the growing costs of textbooks.

Food Insecurity Funding

As student affordability continued to be the number one concern amongst students (as indicated by the 2024 Spring Student Survey), a Food Insecurity survey was sent out to students to find out how costs were impacting the ability of students to feed themselves. The results from 390 students who filled out the survey were clear:

- 35% of students indicated that they often couldn't afford to eat balanced meals and 39% said they sometimes couldn't afford to eat balanced meals
- 65% of students said they eat less food because there wasn't enough money to buy food
- 29% of students indicated they had skipped eating for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food.

Through advocating for students and talking to MacEwan leadership, the Executive Committee was able to secure a \$100,000 donation from MacEwan towards The Pantry (SAMU's food bank for students). The donation will ensure The Pantry can continue to offer up to two food hampers per month to students accessing its services. MacEwan University also announced cooking classes for students and subsidized \$5 lunch options offered by the Italina Centre Shop. Over 2,000 affordable lunches were sold through the program.

Tuition/MNIF Meetings

The President and VP Governance and Finance (VPGF) represented students to MacEwan during the ministry-mandated tuition and fees consultation process. The advocacy and representation resulted in fee reductions and investments:

- The Student Information Technology Mandatory Non-Instructional Fee was waived for the winter term, resulting in a total \$650,000 in savings overall for students.
- The Medical Clinic MNIF was reduced in the winter term, and going forward, from \$12 to \$10/student/term.
- \$500,000 to be allocated to the textbook affordability program to continue the work of promoting Open Educational Resources, and ensuring proper resourcing for library staff to build capacity in the creation and sourcing of Open Educational Resources.
- An additional \$500,000 will be added to scholarships, awards and bursaries, depending on the greatest demand.
- MacEwan Residence rent freeze for 2025/26
- Tech Fee waived for Ponoka Students

Brain Freeze

SAMU partnered with MacEwan again in 2024 to offer the Brain Freeze Festival to students in November. Brain Freeze offers students a chance for a little fun before exams and Winter Break, including activities, games, food, drinks, a local vendor market, and more. SAMU had 280 students visit the booth to engage with SAMU, which promoted its upcoming events. The event was scheduled for an earlier date and time than in previous years to make it more accessible for students.

Open House

SAMU participates in MacEwan's Open House to engage with potential students and their parents, informing them about how SAMU supports their student journey at MacEwan. SAMU had a booth on the second-floor pedway to engage with potential students and inform them about the SAMU building, its programs, services, and events.

3. STUDENT SUPPORTS

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

What it Means

Student life can be difficult. SAMU offers students a variety of programs and services to help with financial, mental, physical, and social stresses. SAMU is an inclusive organization, supporting diversity and participation of all students. As student needs evolve, SAMU watches trends and listens to students to ensure that SAMU offerings are reflective of those needs.

Strategies

3.1 Develop and deliver initiatives that are inclusive and are responsive to all student needs.

SAMU is proud of all our support services that help enhance the student experience. Being a student is stressful at any time, but inflation, the rising cost of living, and the cost of education have made it even more challenging. SAMU understands students' needs and offers several support areas to make it a little easier for students. Our lineup of support services that we offered included:

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is always very popular with students. SAMU supplied a total of 10,450 meals (+73%) through 13 events (+30%), which consisted of 10 cold breakfasts, two hot breakfasts and one special Exam Fuel pop-up. Due to the popularity and food insecurity issues facing students, plans are underway to hold a weekly Breakfast Club in the Fall and Winter Terms of 2025/26.

The Pantry

In 2024-25, 677 new website accounts were created (-34%). A total of 2715 hampers (+19%) were provided to 753 students, with each hamper supplying two weeks' worth of non-perishable goods. The increase in hampers, coupled with a decrease in new accounts, could suggest that more students are in need of long-term support than before.

Peer Support

Peer Support conducted 57 supportive listening sessions (+12%) over Fall and Winter Terms. Of the students who utilized peer support, 39% were mental health-related, 32% were school stress-related, 26% were relationship-related, and 5% were about financial stress (note: a conversation can be multiple topics). Approximately 14% of students disclosed they were facing thoughts of suicide, a 10% decrease from the previous year.

Support Hub

The Support Hub contains access to the Peer Support and The Panty, but also has local resource information as well as a variety of personal hygiene and care products available to students. There were approximately 5,500 visits the Support Hub (+98%) throughout the year and students took 2498 quick grab personal items.

Safe Walk

Safe Walk is a service provided by SAMU and student volunteers. Students can request a walk and are escorted by two volunteers to their car or bus stop. A total of 22 walks were conducted in Fall and Winter terms (-31.3%). Safe Walk volunteers distributed 344 cold-weather items (toques and gloves) to students when the temperature dropped. A Safety Survey was conducted in March and received 138 responses.

Farmers' Market

SAMU Farmers' Market is a new initiative first launched in the 2025 Winter Term. Students can drop by and receive a bundle of various fresh vegetables and fruits. Over 229 bundles of fresh produce were given to students, and any leftover produce was donated to kihêw waciston. Due to the success of the initiative and to further help with food insecurity, the Farmers' Market is planned to be a recurring initiative for the 2025/26 school year.

Student Advocacy Centre

The SAMU Student Advocacy Centre supports students facing academic or non-academic issues, but also provides policy guidance, edits on correspondence with MacEwan faculty or staff, and can attend meetings with students.

The Student Advocacy Centre had a total of 221 students contact the Centre through initial submissions (+91%). Of these 221 students, 53 (24%) met with a Centre Representative to discuss their concern further. The primary support provided to students was providing information on MacEwan's policies and procedures.

The breakdown of student visits by faculty are as follows: 50% Faculty of Arts and Science, 19% School of Business, 11% Faculty of Health and Community Studies, 7% Faculty of Fine Arts and Communications, 7% Faculty of Nursing, and 5% School of Continuing Education.

The top issues that the Student Advocacy Centre assisted students through were: Academic Misconduct Violations 19.8%, Filing Complaints 15.5%, Reassessment of Marks 12.1% and Required to Withdraw 12.1%.

Based on the information provided by students, the most prominent issue they requested support for was academic misconduct, with 70 cases. The reason for this could be that the Advocacy Centre's contact information is included at various stages of the process and in the email templates that professors send to students when notifying them about potential misconduct. Other more common issue types that students reached out for support for include student-professor conflict (29), Reassessment of Marks (26), and Required to Withdraw (15).

Queer Time Tuesday

Queer Time Tuesday events continued in collaboration with Deville Coffee which engaged and supported 246 students over the course of 6 months. Held once a month, this initiative provides a safe space for people from all communities to meet and discuss issues and opportunities.

Dirty Sexy Bingo

Dirty Sexy Bingo is an event where students play bingo to win a variety of prizes, both NSFW and SFW. It is hosted by the hilarious drag queen, Vanity Fair. This event is very popular and sells out very quickly. The event is held once in the Fall term and once in the Winter term. Held in Towers, both events sold out selling 83 tickets each at \$5/ticket. Due to the popularity, two events per term are being planned for the 2025/26 year.

Black History Month

In the Winter term, Black History Month engaged students through student stories shared on social media, as well as an event at the end of the month that engaged 215 students through food and dance.

Eco SAMU

A Community Mixer was held to teach students pickling and engaged 192 students in creating their own pickled vegetables.

3.2 Evaluate and assess student supports to remain relevant and accountable to students.

SAMU Cares

The SAMU Cares program is a bursary which assists students and families and is funded by the creative fundraising efforts of the SAMU community. The bursaries are to help students and their families with financial assistance in the Fall and Winter terms. SAMU Cares supported 75 students and their dependents over the course of last year by providing a combined total of \$41,312 of bursary funding.

Student Groups

The Student Groups department conducted verbal and written surveys to assess satisfaction with events and other aspects of Student Groups.

- Student Groups Expo was the most enjoyed event with a 93% 96% satisfaction rate
- 75% of groups are satisfied with the Student Groups Connect platform (76% previous)
- 89% of groups are satisfied with the Student Groups Handbook (86% previous)
- 89% of groups are satisfied with their overall experience as a student group (82%previous)

Evaluating Supports and Identifying Student Needs

The annual Spring Student Survey provides valuable data and feedback that enables SAMU to ensure we are providing the programs, services and events that align with students' needs. The 2025 survey had 1,984 responses, a 8.7% decrease from the previous year but still enough to provide a high confidence level and low margin of error.

SAMU also conducted student focus groups and another survey focused on first years as part of a project that will help provide student segmentation insights and a student journey map for SAMU. The insights provided through this project will help SAMU identify the needs and preferences of specific groups of students (e.g., first-year students) and provide initiatives tailored to their particular needs. This project will be completed before the start of the 2025 Fall Term.

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

Student Groups

Over the past year, the Student Groups Department has built and maintained relationships with various MacEwan Departments, including MacEwan Conference Services, the International Department, the Office of Sexual Violence Prevention, Education, and Response (OSVPER), Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity, MacEwan Residence, Student Affairs, MacEwan Student Experience Record, and MacEwan Alumni, the Office of Emergency Management, and MacEwan Security. These relationships will benefit student groups in various ways, such as helping them access services, reach audiences, and collaborate for future activities.

3.4 Enhance relationships with external organizations to leverage resources and supplement new and existing initiatives.

Splash and Bash

Splash and Bash is a collaborative event with NAITSA, Concordia, The King's University and West Edmonton Mall, and was held again for students on February 2nd. The event allows students to enjoy an exclusive pool party at the World Waterpark at a discounted price. UASU was not involved this year, which meant each partner had to sell more tickets. SAMU had no problem selling out all 860 tickets, which gives students a fun night out at the Water Park at a discounted price.

U-Pass

In March 2025, a campus-wide referendum was held to continue the U-Pass program for the next three academic years (2025–2027), with 77.8% of students who voted in favor.

Fall 2024

16,237 Students Participated in Fall 2022 U-Pass (+11%) 9669 Activated U-Pass (+3%) 60% Activation Rate (64% previous)

Winter 2024

15,746 Students participated in Winter 2023 U-Pass (+10%) 10,042 Activated Winter U-Pass (+11%) 64% Activation Rate (60% previous)

Spring/Summer 2024

4931 Students participated in Spring/Summer 2023 U-Pass (no change)

2392 Activated Spring/Summer U-Pass (-4%)

49% Activation Rate (54% previous)

As a convenience and easy access for students, SAMU sells Arc cards on campus at cost and supported over 4000 students with sales and troubleshooting.

Student Refugee Program (SRP)

This past year was not an intake year but SAMU continued to support two ongoing sponsored students. A public engagement initiative was held to educate the student community about the Student Refugee Program. New and ongoing connections with MacEwan staff were made with the Office of the University Registrar and the Academic Advising Centre to enhance consistency in the academic pillar of sponsorship. SAMU's SRP Guidelines were updated, focusing on a more inclusive, practical sponsorship outline. A new SRP intake is scheduled for the 2025/26 year.

4. STRENGTHENING SAMU OPERATIONS

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

What it Means

SAMU can best serve students when its own house is in order. By fostering strong relationships between elected student roles and staff, documenting policies and processes and being responsible stewards of resources, SAMU can be a supportive and sustainable organization for students for years to come.

Strategies

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

With the completion of the Governance Review Project in the 2023/24 fiscal year, SAMU routinely reviews Policy, Procedures and Directives as per policy and on an as-needed basis.

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

SAMU Project Evaluation and Analysis Report (SPEAR)

SPEAR is a new initiative launched by the AMU Marketing department to track and analyze key metrics for key SAMU events, initiatives and projects. The process captures data such as attendance, sales, and engagement, allowing department managers compare results year over year. The reports empower every department within SAMU to make informed and impactful decisions on their initiatives, which leads their initiatives to be more effective and efficient.

New Full-Time Positions

SAMU added two new full-time positions to the SAMU Team. With the success of adding the Internal Advocacy Advisor last year, an External Advocacy Advisor was added this year to help support the Executive Committee. With the increasing demands on the services team for student supports, a full-time Student Services Coordinator was hired to support the services department and our student members.

4.3 Diversify revenue streams to reduce reliance on student fees.

Advertising Revenue

SAMU and the SAMU Building offer opportunities to generate revenue through various advertising channels including posters, tabling, digital displays, email newsletter and the student handbook. Advertising for the Handbook offsets the cost of printing.

- SAMU Building & Campus advertising revenue: \$35,978 (+9%)
- SAMU Student Handbook advertising revenue \$13,654 (-33%)

Sponsorship

Fall Fest has sponsorship opportunities for businesses that allow them to engage with students through activities. Revenue is also generated through Food Truck fees, guest ticket sales and a portion of beer garden sales. A total of \$16,192 in revenue (+13%) was generated for Fall Fest in 2024 to help offset costs.

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

SAMU Membership Fees

Recognizing that students are in an affordability crisis, SAMU implemented a number of initiatives to help reduce costs for students:

- SAMU membership fee increase was paused for the 2024/25 academic year.
- SAMU membership fee increase for the upcoming 2025/26 academic year was also paused, along with a reduction in SAMU Membership and SAMU Affiliate Fees for students taking classes in the Spring/Summer 2025/26.

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

SAMU Awards

The SAMU Awards Night is an opportunity to celebrate the students, staff, and Student Groups nominated for a SAMU Award. SAMU Awards recognize outstanding individuals who have contributed to, supported, or assisted the goals and efforts of the SAMU organization and community. A total of 64 people (nominees and guests) enjoyed dinner and a fun evening held in The Lookout. Students captured the festivities with a fun photo booth and professional photos of the winners.

The SAMU Employee of the Year award was not part of the SAMU Awards Night. The employee awards were expanded to include four full-time and four part-time awards, as well as 10 fun employee choice awards for each. Employees create fun categories for the Employee Choice awards, and voting happens live during the event.

The new employee awards, called the SAMMYs, were held at the SAMU Holiday Party in December for full-time staff and at a special luncheon in Spring for part-time staff. The awards are a chance to celebrate the amazing work and dedication staff have in helping create a vibrant student life for students. The SAMMYs have been very well received and will be held again in 2025/26.

Remuneration Review

SAMU successfully implemented the final piece of the recommendations from the third-party review of the remuneration for SAMU staff. An approved RRSP/TFSA program for staff was added, and work will continue on the final step of adding long-term incentives to the program.

Human Resources (HR) Processes

SAMU continued piloting and adjusting the new HR process for conducting staff reviews and performance development.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTION RESULTS

Official 2025 Executive Committee Election Results

Number of Students Voting	Eligible Voters	Percentage
3305	16079	20.6

³ Candidates ran for 4 positions

Previous Year - 2024 Executive Committee Election Results

Number of Students Voting	Eligible Voters	Percentage
953	15196	6.3%

⁸ Candidates ran for 5 positions

Official U-Pass Referendum Results

Number of Students Voting	Eligible Voters	Percentage
3459	17171	20.1%

^{77.8%} In Favour

STUDENTS' COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

Official 2023 Students' Council Election Results

Number of Students Voting	Eligible Voters	Percentage
2153	16313	13.2%

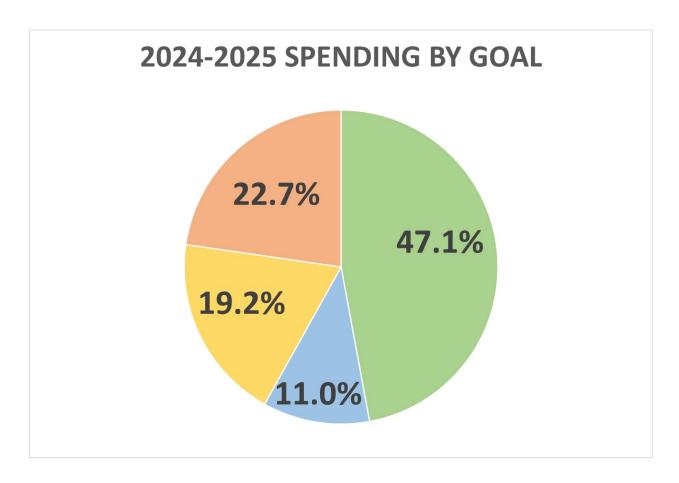
²² Candidates ran for 14 positions

Previous Year - 2023 Students' Council Election Results

Number of Students Voting	Eligible Voters	Percentage
1333	15548	8.6%

13 Candidates ran for 14 positions

SPENDING BY STRATEGIC GOAL



Strategic Goal		2024-2025
1. Student Experience and Engagement	The overall student experience is enhanced by the opportunities provided by SAM	47.1%
2. Student Voice	The student voice is amplified by SAMU.	11.0%
3: Student Supports	Student supports provided by SAMU are responsive to unique and evolving needs.	19.2%
4. Strengthening SAMU Operations	SAMU is an innovative and sustainable organization with an engaging work enviro	22.7%