

**UNIVERSITY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
STUDENT UNION
MINUTES - SEVENTH MEETING
STUDENT COUNCIL
January 10 2009**

The third meeting of the Student Council of the University of Prince Edward Island Student Union was held on Sunday, 10th January 2010. Minutes were taken by Anum Nazir. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair of Council, Jillian Stewart.

PRESENT:

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Timothy Cullen | Natalie Doyle | Bob Deziel |
| Shawn Younis | Jeff MacDougald | Brianne Hibl |
| Brittany Fullerton | Scott Murray | Amanda Smith |
| Patrick Callbeck | Sarah Jones | Mikhala Brinklow |
| Scott Murray | Jonathan Millington | Josh Coles |
| Jarrold Faria | Billy MacDonald | Kate VanGerven |
| Sarah MacDonald | Megan Jennings | Kyle Murnaghan |
| Brittany Banks | Mallory McKinney | Rob Livingstone |

ABSENT:

| | | |
|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Sophia Oppon | Emily McKenna | Jenna Bysterveldt |
| Danaïet Teame | Danielle MacDonald | |

ALSO PRESENT:

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Jillian Stewart (Chair of Council) | Zee Giunta (VP Finance) | Anum Nazir (Deputy Chair) |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|

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

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

3-1 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Minutes were approved with proposed changes.

REPORTS

4.1 PRESIDENT

I would first like to welcome everyone back to UPEI and to our Council meetings. I hope that you all had a restful and enjoyable holiday.

The Christmas holiday gave me a good opportunity to reflect upon the first half of the school year and the performance of both the student union as a whole, and myself as president. While I feel as though we accomplished a great many things, I have identified some areas where I think we were weak as an organization. In some cases this was through no fault of our own. In others, I have only myself to blame. If we are to do better

this semester, some things are going to have to change.

Our Council Committees have to get organized and start working. In my opinion, we are all to blame for what happened last semester. Councillors and committee chairs alike need to be proactive in getting their committees together. There are some major challenges that we will face in the coming semester, including tuition and fee related issues, as well as policy issues. Council Committees will need to do a lion's share of the work on some of these matters because the Executive simply is not capable of doing it alone.

This second semester is going to be a very busy one for all of us, but I am confident that if we work hard and support one another that we can be even more successful in the coming months than we were in the first semester.

Another concern I have about last semester is the lack of accountability in our organization. We all (and I'm referring to the executive, councillors, student staff, and full-time staff) have specific job responsibilities, and in the event that we fail to live up to these responsibilities then it is on each one of us to make sure that said individual is held accountable. In my opinion, too many mistakes slid through the cracks last semester, the ball was dropped too many times, and we all stood idly by and let these things happen without speaking up about it. I too am guilty of this mistake. We need to recognize that as a team, we are only as strong as our weakest player. If we want to do better than we owe it to ourselves to not let anyone drag their heels and hold the organization back.

So, putting the previous semester behind us and moving forward I have a lot to report on what's going on at the Student Union and at UPEI.

The next few weeks are going to be jam packed with a lot of different programming and events. Diversity week is the 18th to the 22nd of January. Laura Archer will be speaking on the 19th of January as part of the Student Union's speaker's series this semester. I will be arranging a meeting of the retention and engagement committee as soon as possible to help with on campus promotion of that event. Our two other speakers, Greg Fleming and Dr. Heather Morrison will be speaking on February 9th, and March 16th respectively. I will be travelling to St. FX for the Atlantic Canadian Student Summit at the end of the month to give a presentation on the future of the Atlantic Canadian Economy. Peter MacKay, the Minister for ACOA and National Defence, is organizing this summit. It was supposed to be held in October and was delayed by the threat of a fall election. Jarrod and I will be travelling to Ottawa from March 6th to 12th for the CASA Lobby Conference where we will be meeting with MPs, Senators and senior Civil Servants to discuss federal funding, policies, and initiatives in Post-Secondary Education. UPEI's second annual Relay for Life will also be held in March and we need to be encouraging student teams to sign up for this as soon as possible.

There is also a lot of policy development work to be done by our organization this semester. The Sustainability and Policy committees will need to begin work on a sustainability policy now that the sustainability audit has been completed. There are also several by-laws that need to be revamped and I have a number of constitutional reforms I would like the policy committee to consider and bring to Council as well.

This semester, a committee formed every five years, known as the questions committee, will also be meeting to review the faculty evaluations that students fill out at the end of each term. I will be the only student on the committee, but will be looking for your help in crafting a reasonable evaluation that serves the needs of both students and faculty. This is not something that is reviewed very often, and so it's imperative that we get it right.

Finally, to end on a bit of good news, the Student Union and the administration have reached an agreement on the Alcohol Policy. The policy will be passed at the upcoming January meeting of the Board of Governors, but it no longer includes any references to a sign-in policy or early closure of the Wave. Instead, the student union has agreed to an addition to the wording of our operating agreement with UPEI. It reads: "The UPEI Student Union agrees to sell tickets to events where alcohol will be served to current and former UPEI students, and Holland College students only." Essentially, we are ensuring that anyone who attends an event where we are going to draw a large enough crowd to sell tickets is either a student at UPEI or Holland College, or knows someone who is. This should hopefully eliminate the problem of people with no connection whatsoever to the university showing up at our biggest events and causing trouble. Aside from that, there will be no changes to the operation of the bar. The university has also agreed to meet with the student union and security services to work out new security arrangements for outside the Wave. In my opinion, this is as much of a win as we could have asked for.

4.2 EXECUTIVE VP

Academic regulation changes

GPA Ranking

4.3 VP ACTIVITIES

Winter Carnival end of March

Wet/Dry Glow Party this weekend

4.4 VP FINANCE

Working on a Business Plan to get Wave renovated.

4.5 SENATE

Both the IB and AP program calendar entry's were modified. The french B-Ed programme is now only at UPEI and is no longer shared between UPEI and Universite de Moncton. The pension deficit recovered from about 25% to roughly 15%. There was some endowment investment losses, so there is a reduced spending rate of 3.5%. The university is about 2.1 million short of making status quo-in order to get there they are looking at a possible 5% increase in grant 4% increase in tuition.

As of right now, there are 4242 students enrolled at UPEI, which is an increase of 4.4%. There are 171 new students and 421 students that have not returned from last semester (not including those who have graduated). Because of this large number the university is looking to send a survey or questionnaire to these students (via a hired company) in hopes of getting information as to why they did not return.

4.6 BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors is meeting Thursday, January 28, 2010. Both the Presidential Search Committee and the VP Academic Search committee have been meeting and the VP Academic Committee will be commencing interviews for the hiring of this position Thursday, January 21.

4.7 OMBUDSMAN

Sarah met with Tim (Cullen) before the Christmas Break about the Ombudsman campaign to let students know about the position and the potential benefits.

.Ideas they came up with:

- a presentation in Residence

- office hours, 2 hours a week

- a campus-wide quiz once a month (not just for the Ombudsman, but for a

variety of positions; The Ombudsman's Quiz, The Senator's Quiz, etc.) It

would be a 5 or 10 question quiz that could be done online with prizes

that would further support events at UPEI (tickets to sports events,

bookstore giftcards, front row seats to the speakers series, etc.) The

questions would be easy at first to get people on board. They would also be given directions as to where to find the answers (i.e. a URL, or perhaps some "secret" location on campus that currently doesn't get much traffic, like the LINC at the library).

4.8 GSA

GSA Report - January 10th, 2010

Late November, the GSA had their annual Wine and Cheese which went well. Awards for faculty and staff member of the year were awarded to Wendy Carroll and Grace McCourt respectively. Both work in the MBA program.

The Webster Centre is offering some workshops for graduate students dealing with many different graduate student issues, ranging from focusing a research question, presentation of results and writing a proper thesis. It's great to see some programs being offered for graduate students, and on a personal note the thesis writing workshop is definitely going to be helpful to me in the coming months.

Lastly, members of the GSA have been meeting with administration to discuss how it can allow graduate students to be more involved in UPEI's annual budget. A few different options are being pursued, such as having a consultation with administration each year on the status of graduate fees and tuition to having graduate students sit on certain budgetary committees.

4.9 FACULTIES/GROUPS

4.9.1 ARTS

Nothing to Report

4.9.2 BUSINESS

Our first student vs faculty decathlon event (hockey) was a great success! Next two weeks' events are Relay Race, and Family Feud!

With respect to the luncheon, we're waiting on hearing back from our first choice.

4.9.3 SCIENCE

The different societies of the faculty of science are holding their 6th annual Bar Wars pub crawl this Friday. The last day to buy t-shirts is tomorrow. T-shirts will be sold in the lobbies of the Duffy and KCI buildings.

Bars: Piazza Joes, the Dirty, the Old Triangle, The Wave

4.9.4 NURSING

Not present.

4.9.5 AVC

4.9.6 INTERNATIONAL REP.

Executive Members

President: Sherone Benwell

Secretary: Sarah Buhendwa

Vice President: Mohammad Altheiban

Assistant Secretary: Alyssia Farrington

Student Union Rep: Emonioho Abamwa
Int. Development Rep: Christopher Teo
Event Coordinator: Jingshu Zhang (Sue)

Event Coordinator: Tomomi Sugeno
Treasurer: Yinkun Shi (Ian)
Event Coordinator: Naif Alboainain

Second Semester Meetings: January-March 2010
Jan 8th, Feb 5th, Mar 5th, Jan 22nd, Feb 19th, Mar 19th

All meetings will be held on Fridays in the Robertson Library at 4pm unless otherwise noted. You will be required to attend other emergency meetings as often as one is necessary depending on the events being held.

Issues and projects for the Spring Semester

Raising money for the society's budget

International dance night at the wave

Raffle tickets: Prizes: 50/50 draw, 50% of the winning go to the winner and 50% goes to the SIS. Other prizes: Dinner for 2 at different restaurants.

- Other ideas are welcome
- Providing scholarships (2) for international students
- Help from Student Union
- Help from the university president
- The new website
- What to post
- Who updates/when/passwords etc
- Other
- At least two free events that international students can attend
- Collaborate with the business society and buddy programme group

4.9.7 ACCESSIBILITY

Not present.

4.9.8 RESIDENCE

January 10, 2010

Residence Representative Report.

Had many meetings last semester to try and start up Residence Execs. in each building

The idea behind exec: organize more in house events, to communicate to the residents what is going on on-campus and to create a more open community feeling

Now have a President in each Residence

Nicole Walker – Bernadine Hall

Alyssia K. Farrington – Blanchard Hall

Amy McCarron – Andrew Hall

January 7th we held elections for Bernadine Hall President in the Dining hall from 7pm to 9:30pm

- candidates were Nicholas Gaudet & Nicole Walker

- 51 People voted, Nicole had 36 votes, Nick 15

Thanks to Sarah, Timothy, Jonathan, and Josh for helping
Floor or Wing Reps. will be voted on if necessary on the 13th completing the Exec
6pm it will begin in Andrew Hall, then Bernadine, then Blanchard

4.9.10 EDUCATION

Nothing to report.

4.9.11 FIRST YEAR REP

Nothing to Report

5-COUNCILLOR SWEARING IN

Mallory McKinney was sworn in.

6- IN CAMERA SESSION

Cullen/Calbeck: To move into camera

Motion: *Carried*

Deziel/Hibl: To move out of camera

Motion: *Carried*

7- MACLEAN'S ANNUAL UNIVERSITY ISSUE

Cullen: Maclean's magazine is changing the outline of university profiles "the Campus Confidential section is now changing it to a Student Section". Asked council to propose some ideas for the three categories in the magazine for UPEI section "What Students Are Talking About", "Good To Know" and "Mark Your Calendars".

Motion: Deziel/Faria: For policy committee to review the hiring policy.

Motion: *Carried*

8- FALL READING WEEK/BREAK

Tim bought the idea of a fall reading week to senate. The strength and weaknesses of this break were outlined and discussed by council. Need to decide by next week; how council stands at the issue.

Motion: MacDougald /Banks: I motion that student council is in favour of a fall reading week.

Motion: *Carried*

9- CASA Voting Structure Changes

From June onward, Casa will be operating on a new voting structure. Council has decided that it is best to see how this change will affect the UPEISU before making a decision about whether to stay with CASA despite this change.

10- TUITION

The possible increase in tuition was discussed by council. It was stated that the SU should take action to ensure tuition does not increase.

11- QUESTIONS COMMITTEE-FACULTY EVALUATIONS

The faculty evaluations were discussed. Council wanted to make sure that all comments were anonymous and that the evaluations were used in decisions regarding promotions.

12- RELAY FOR LIFE

Breanne: Notified council about the Relay for Life on March 12th. All councils are advised to bring the topic back to their societies and groups.

13- NEW BUSINESS

Council minutes and financial statements

14- ADJOURNMENT -

Motion: Callback/Coles: Motion to adjourn.

Motion: *Carried*

Time: 9:30