



*UNIVERSITY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND STUDENT UNION
MINUTES-[FIRST] MEETING
STUDENT COUNCIL
Sept 12, 2010*

The FIRST meeting of the Student Council of the University of Prince Edward Island Student Union was held Sept 12, 2010. Minutes were taken by Ian Ritchie. The meeting was called to order at 7:08 by Chair of Council, Kathryn Harrison.

PRESENT:

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Rob Livingstone | Bob Deziel |
| Kyle Murnaghan | Samuel Rayner |
| Logan O'Brien | Jeff MacDougall |
| Brittany Banks | Hannah Waxer |
| Robbie Saada | Sheldon Campbell |
| Patrick Callbeck | Danielle MacDonald |
| | Josh Coles |

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Ian Ritchie (Deputy Chair) | Kate VanGerven (VP Communications) | Kathryn Harrison (Chair of Council) |
| Emma MacPhail (VP Finance) | David Maclean (Accessibility Rep) | |

1-1 CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at. 7:08 p.m.

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

Note: Callbeck arrived at 7:15 p.m.

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

4-1 ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

5-1 COUNCILLOR SWEARING IN

6-1 COUNCILLOR INTRODUCTIONS, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITY

REPORTS

7-1 PRESIDENT

Good Evening all, I am so glad to see you all out to our first council meeting of the year. This summer was an exciting one to say the least. From Kyle and I's first few days in the office figuring out what we were supposed to do with ourselves, to the last busy week before school started, I feel the SU, the other executives, and myself have made excellent achievements over the course of the summer. Whether it be learning the ropes of administering the health plan and off-campus housing from Melissa to meeting executives from other schools at the CASA conference to answering questions from the media after the board voted to raise tuition by 2.4%, the summer was an amazing learning experience. Not knowing if any of you have faithfully followed my updates on the President's Facebook page (an idea I stole from Kyle) which you should, I am just going to quickly go through a few of what I managed to do over the course of the summer. If you have any questions or would like me to go into any of these topics in more detail please ask me at any time.

- Prepared for and attended the CASA policy and strategy conference right here at UPEI.
- Between myself and the rest of the executives, communicated or met with Premier Robert Ghiz, Minister of Innovation Alan Campbell, and MP Shawn Murphy.
- Read the SU's policy, by-laws, and constitution cover to cover.
- Helped organize and oversee certain parts of NSO.
- Created your fabulous new councillor checklists.
- Met with Trius and learned about what he service will (potentially) look like in 2010-11.
- Updated numerous parts of the website.
- Created and delivered "the communication presentation".
- Reviewed the cell phone plan.
- Dealt with advertising on the website.
- Sat through numerous appeals committee meetings (Lots of reading involved).
- And many more...
- Created my next 3 month plan.

thoroughly look forward to the upcoming school year and working with all of you. I have what I think are some exciting changes to how we operate as a council, and look forward to seeing how they all pan out over the course of the year.

7-2 EXECUTIVE VP

Hello Everyone,

I would like to begin my executive report by thanking each of you for committing yourself to the Student Union. I hope that in the coming year all of us can work together to improve the union's ability to care for, entertain, and better, the students of UPEI.

In order for you, the counselors, to be assured of my attention to each of my duties as your Executive Vice-President, I have organized my executive report under the headings of each of my duties, as found in our constitution.

Under the heading "*Assume the duties and responsibilities of the President in the President's absence or incapacitation*", I have done nothing, as Rob has neither been absent or incapacitated!

Under the heading “*Perform and coordinate lobbying activities for all levels of government as may be assigned or required by the UPEI SU,*” I have completed lobbying towards all three levels of government.

I have lobbied the municipal government on behalf of students in two key manners. First, I have successfully argued for the city to extend the hours in which the gate between Brown’s Court and Queen Street stays open. This was obtained simply through a phone call to the city’s deputy mayor, Sterling MacFaden. Second, through conversations with the city and Trius Transit, I have obtained an extension of Trius’ service hours to UPEI on Friday and Saturday nights. On Friday and Saturday nights, Trius will now be providing bus service between UPEI and the Confederation Centre of the arts between 1:00 and 2:00 AM. This was completed by a simple meeting with Trius Transit and a discussion with city officials in regards to safety.

In regards to lobbying of the provincial government I have made contact with the Minister of Advanced Learning and Innovation, Alan Campbell. Speaking with Mr. Campbell, I have established an agreement from him that Robert and I will be presenting a proposal to him on how we feel post-secondary education on Prince Edward Island could be improved. The proposal has been completed and it simply awaits the approval of council before it is sent.

In regards to the lobbying of the federal government, I have made contact with MP Gail Shea, about the possibility of having a discussion with her about post-secondary education on the Island. I am yet to receive a response from her. If she does agree to a meeting, I would like to speak with her about the interest rates on federal student loans. Currently, federal student loans charge an interest rate that is considerably higher than that of prime interest and the government borrowing rate, with the hopes of putting forward the notion that it needs to be lowered.

Robert and I, lobbied the Federal opposition, through a discussion we had with MP Shawn Murphy and MP Marc Garneau about the upcoming changes to Canada’s copyright laws and how that would impact students. I believe this meeting was especially important to the status of students in Canada, as Mr. Garneau is a Member of Parliament’s industry committee, which would be the main body responsible for enacting changes to an upcoming copyright act.

All of the executive committee also took part in a very informal meeting with Shawn Murphy. In regards to lobbying, I am currently in the process of planning our yearly education day. In earlier years, beginning with Matthew Morrison, the Student Union hosted an education week with small events on each day. This year, I have decided to go back to the earlier format of an education day. My rationale for a reversion back to education day would be to increase the impact of our demands. It is easier to convey a message to the press and the public through a large noticeable event on one day, instead of 5 small events over 5 days.

The theme of education day this year will be the cost and affordability of education on Prince Edward Island. The day will consist of a camp out, beginning at 8:30 AM, with the camp site being named *Camp Debt*. There will be a running count of student’s debt, live music, a barbeque, and fun and games. The idea behind the event will be to bring the media in to demand for changes to post-secondary education on PEI from both the federal and provincial government. From the federal government we plan to ask for a reduction in the interest rates on fixed loans from 10.5 % to that of 7.8 %. This would reduce the interest rate to that of prime plus the governmental borrowing rate. Such an action will work to reduce the debt burden of the Island’s students. We will be asking the provincial government to commit to a freeze on the rate of tuition to that of the rate of interest. Such an action will ensure that the university maintains its current level of funding from students, while protecting students from tuition increases in the form of real dollars. Finally, we will be asking both the federal and provincial government to integrate their student

loans program. By integrating these programs, both levels of government will be able to improve the accessibility of the student loans program, while decreasing costs.

In order to ensure that Education Day is as successful as possible, I would like to ask for help and support from all of you.

Under the heading "*Serve as a member of the UPEI Senate*" I have sat as a member of the Senates Academic Regulation and Planning Committee. Since I have become a member, the committee has completed a review of the psychology department, finished the details on the articulation agreements between UPEI and Holland College, developed a Global Issues Advisory Committee, and begun discussions about improving the university's policy on academic dishonesty.

Under the heading "*Assist students with any academic appeals or other academic related issues,*" I, along with Robert, have sat as a member of the university's Academic Appeal's Committee. Furthermore I have advised students who are facing probation and suspension as to the proper course of action. To put it simply, I told each and every one of them that if they are going to go down, well, they might as well go down fighting.

Under the heading "*Co-ordinate campaigns for the purpose of raising funds or awareness for various organizations or issues as may be assigned or required by the UPEI SU, including Shinerama,*" I have helped out with Bar Blitz and as much as I could on Shineday. I would like to remind each of you that due to the disagreement between the SU Executive and the Shinerama Committee in 2008, the Executive Vice-President as simply acted as a liaison with the Shinerama Committee.

I have made contact with the charity Movember, which I hope the UPEI SU will embrace as a fall charity on par with Shinerama. Councilor Jeffery MacDougald as agreed to lead this initiative, and I hope that the office of the Executive Vice-President will then act in a similar manner as it currently does with Shinerama.

Under the heading of "*Chair committees of council regarding Safety, Tuition and Fees, Student Issues, or any other as required by Council,*" I have begun preparations for all of the aforementioned committees, especially Safety and Tuition and Fees.

Under the heading "*Be responsible for, and coordinate the selection of, the Faculty of the Year and/or the UPEI SU Honorary Member Award,*" I have begun drawing up application forms for each.

Under the heading "*act as the liaison for the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations,*" I have represented UPEI at CASA's Eastern Regional Transition Conference, CASA's Policy and Strategy Conference, and the Partner's Conference. At this time, I would like to submit to you the two reports I completed on these conferences, and the one Rob completed.

Under the heading "*perform other duties as required,*" I have completed policy revisions on behalf of the Executive Committee for Wave Storm Closures and Per Diem Compensation. These changes will be submitted later in this meeting.

If any of you have any questions or concerns please feel free to ask.

7-3 VP ACTIVITIES

1) Events - MARIANAS TRENCH VERY WELL ATTENDED
EVENTS- TRIVIA , TIM CHASSION & DAVE SAMPSON , I HEART SATURDAYS AT THE
WAVE
ALL EVENTS WENT WELL Great Attendance

2) MET WITH THE ACMA (EAST COAST MUSIC AWARDS) APRIL 14-17th
Showed the Members of the board Courtyard and Wave Venues
TRYING TO MAKE THE COURTYARD VENUE ONE OF THE SHOWCASE SPOTS FOR THE
EAST COAST MUSIC AWARDS

3) ATTENDED THE COCA CON IN LONDON

4) SOCIETY & SUB ORGANIZATION FARE MID OCTOBER

5) NEW WAVE WEBSITE

7-4 VP FINANCE

Hi everyone, I look forward to working with all of you this year. I wasn't in the office much over the summer but when I was I focused on purchasing for the SU and finalizing The Wave business plan. Purchases included new tables for the lounge area in the SUB, new ATMs, a new laptop for the Chair, new desktops for VP Communications, The Cadre and The Yearbook. I also picked up a Flip Video camcorder for the Student Union which we're hoping to use in creative ways to keep the student body updated. Rob has already used it for one of his daily updates.

The Wave business plan is 99% finalised but we won't be moving ahead with financing until some more discussion have been taken place. I came in with little knowledge surrounding the previous work done so I want to get a good grounding in all aspects before I go to the banks.

Finally, I attended a Campus Trust meeting in Toronto, the one and only I will be attending. I learned quite a bit about our Health & Dental plan as well as upcoming trends in the industry.

Now I am in the process of learning the day to day duties of my job and catching up on all the required readings. I have a more of restricted office hours due to my schedule but I'll have them posted and if you send me an e-mail with questions or to set up a time to talk I'll get back to you ASAP.

7-5 VP COMMUNICATIONS

I spent the summer at home in Ontario but we kept in touch as an executive, and mastered the art of conference calls. Since I've been back on campus, I've basically been figuring out where I fit in as VP communications since this is a new position. If any of you ever have one of those "Why isn't Kate doing that?" moments, please let me know so we can fix that.

So, other than that. I've been loitering in the integrated communications office quite a bit figuring out how to make the website more exciting so that students actually read it and can get the information off of it that they need. On that note, if any of you have any contact information about the societies currently listed on our website could you get that to me or ask the contact person to send me an e-mail so we can update it. I'd like to see every society page have a photo, a full description of what the group does as well as contact information. Currently there are only two with these changes and I think they look much better, but if you guys could all take a look and let me know I'd appreciate it.

The off campus housing page is also going to be my project this year and hopefully by tomorrow afternoon you'll see the first changes. These changes include photos of the available properties, as well as different entered information such as walking distance to campus, distance to bus stops, what utilities are included etc. etc. If any of you have ever looked at the Off Campus site, you'll understand that this is a

big improvement. Sad, but true. Another addition to off campus housing will be a student driven list of "ways not to impress your landlord" which will be half comical, half informative and hopefully helpful.

The other project I'm taking on this year along with Logan and the Athletics department is Cage Crew which the SU has sort of adopted as its own. In the next week or so we'll have 100 Cage Crew shirts made so that people will feel like they are actually a part of the Cage Crew and will then be more likely to attend games. Thirty of these shirts will be green and will be given out to key people who have spoken to Logan or myself already about heading up Cage Crew and the remaining seventy shirts will be tossed out at games. If any of you are interested in being on a street team of sorts for Cage Crew, let me know and we'll get this going.

And that's about it. My office is shared with Logan, our door is usually open and you'll all have my SU cell phone number so if there's ever anything you want to talk about with me just let me know.

7-6 SENATE

Nothing to report

7-6 BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Human resources committee is meeting tomorrow. Our focus will be reviewing the Annual Health and Safety Report. If you would like to see a copy of that, please let me know and I can email you a copy. I'll report on what comes from that discussion at our next council meeting.

7-7 OMBUDSMAN

Not in attendance

7-8 FACULTIES/GROUPS

7-8-1 ARTS

Nothing to report

7-8-2 BUSINESS

The group of 8 have been having meetings consistently. The society has had a BBQ for all students last Thursday. The event had free hotdogs, music and a dunk tank. Thanks go to the professors for volunteering their bodies to be dunked. The society successfully raised 170\$. Elections for first year rep.

7-8-3 SCIENCE

Biology society running flash elections next week to fill up executive positions. From now on bio society elections will be held in January. Chem Pub crawl this Friday!

7-8-4 NURSING

Nothing to report

7-8-5 VET MED

1st Year Class (2014)

Orientation activities too place from Saturday, August 28th until Friday, September 3rd. Activities included tour of UPEI, movie night, team-building exercises, and AVC Night on the Town.

2nd Year Class (2013)

A question was brought up as to whether or not students in the class of 2012 were allowed to have a “masquerade themed” dance at The Wave. The issue was that Wave security may have concerns about the participants at the dance wearing masks.

3rd Year Class (2012)

Several fund-raisers were brought up, including the AVC Yard sale which took place on Sunday, September 12th and raised over 800 \$, as well as the Humane Society Dog Jog which also took place on Sunday Sept. 12. The topic of the AVC Moustache Month was also discussed.

4th Year Class (2011)

NA

SAVS

NA

AVC Graduate Students

NA

Speakers/ Presentations

NA

Department Meetings

NA

Other Info./ Student Concerns

NA

Note: Maclean arrived at 8:40 p.m.

7-8-6 INTERNATIONAL

Not in attendance

7-8-7 ACCESSIBILITY

Nothing to report

7-8-8 RESIDENCE

Not in attendance

7-8-10 EDUCATION

Not in attendance

7-8-11 FIRST YEAR

Not in attendance

7-8-12 Grad Student

Not in attendance

8-1 FALL GENERAL ELECTIONS/REFERENDUM

Motion: Livingstone/Waxer; To have the referendum question for the UPASS read: Are you in favour of continuing the UPASS service as provided by Trius Transit?

Amendment: Murnaghan/Livingstone; To add at a cost of 25\$ per semester per student.

Amendment; *Carried*
Motion; *Carried*

Action item: Murnaghan/Livingstone To look into late night service

Motion: Livingstone/Callbeck; To include a poll question regarding vision coverage in the fall general election.

Call The Question: MacDonald/Deziel

Question: *Carried*
Motion: *Carried*

Motion: Murnaghan/MacDougald: To word the poll question as; Are you in favour of the UPEISU adding vision coverage to the existing student health insurance, yes or no, and have plan options presented to those who vote yes.

Motion: *Carried*

Action Item; Livingstone to email wording for plan options to Councillors for revue.

9-1 ROUGE CAMPUS

Motion: Livingstone/Dalziel: To continue looking into advertising on the SU website

Motion: *Carried*

10-1 COMMITTEE POSITIONS

Motion: MacDougald/Campbell: To adopt new procedure for assigning committee positions and do so at the council retreat.

Motion: *Carried*

11-1 EDUCATION DAY

12-1 USEDPEI.CA

13-1 POLICY CHANGES

Item moved to next meeting.

14-1 NEW BUSINESS

- Council retreat
- Music lounge

15-1 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12PM.

President's Signature: _____

Chair of Council's Signature: _____

