



## **International Student Advisory Committee (ISAC)**

December. 6, 2018

5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Telus Center 215E Boardroom

### **Attendees:**

- Gavin Palmer (International Student Engagement Programs Coordinator)
- Meijun Chen (International Student Services Program Assistant)
- Andre Bourgeois (Students' Union Vice President Student Life)
- Akanksha Bhatnagar (Students' Union Vice President Academic)
- 17 student members represented more than 16 countries

### **Meeting Minutes:**

#### **1. Advisory Committee Crossover Members Updates**

##### **1.1 ACCESS meeting updated by Upama KC:**

- Working on two projects: 1. Syllabus project 2. "Speak Series" planning for Winter Term
- Interested in presenting at ISAC meeting

##### **1.2 Dean of Students' Advisory Committee meeting updated by Sergey Kuflevskiy:**

- Privacy concerns were addressed in the meeting about using UAlberta email address to send emails, they will have IST representative to have further discussion in next meeting.

#### **2. Discussion Items:**

##### **2.1 Bill 19 Q&A presented by Akanksha Bhatnagar (VP Academic of Students' Union)**

###### **2.1.1 International student tuition fee regulation**

Currently the tuition fee of international students are regulated by the institution according to Academic Price Index(API), which is different from domestic students' tuition fee that is regulated by the government, according to the Consumer Price Index(CPI).

###### **2.1.2 International student tuition fee for 2019/2020**

The tuition fee of international students in 2019/2020 academic year will increase 2.77%. From then on, the tuition fee for incoming international students will be more regulatory. From 2020/2021 academic year, the same tuition fee will remain the same for 'normal length' of the degree study.

### **2.1.3 Where could we check the documents about tuition regulation on UAlberta Website?**

Akanksha suggested 3 years budget model proposal, as Bill19 is not decided by the University.

### **2.1.4 Discussion about several differential fee on top of tuition fee.**

Member mentioned that on top of the International Student Differential Fee, in some of the programs, e.g. Law or Medicine, students need to pay the Program Differential Fees. Members suggested the Market Modifier Fee needs to be more regulated in the future.

### **2.1.5 Feel free to reach out to SU if you see any questions of the developing new projects, if they couldn't answer, they can help connect students to the people who have the answers.**

## **2.2 Residence Fee Q&A with Andre Bourgeois (VP Student Life of Students' Union)**

### **2.2.1 Will Residence Fee increase 2.77% as the Tuition Fee?**

No, residence fee will increase 5%.

### **2.2.2 Why the residence fee on campus is more expensive than the residence around campus?**

Members asked questions about the price differences on and off campus. The residence on campus provides students more programming and events that off campus buildings don't have, the staff supports and maintenance services are also the elements that make the rent on campus higher than the off campus residences.

### **2.2.3 Why the rent of campus residences increase?**

Several reasons include but not limit to the facility services funding, carbon tax, deferred maintenance fee, programming budgets for the residence communities.

### **2.2.4 Residence rent comparison with U15 universities.**

UofA housing and tuition fee is comparatively lower.

## **2.3 International Students' Association Discussion**

### **2.3.1 What is International Students' Association?**

A student group represented by the international students to advocate for international students. It fell apart last year so not many students know about it this year.

### **2.3.2 What are the differences between ISC (International Services Center) and ISA (International Students' Association)?**

ISA only serves students and runs by students, it will be under Students' Union and Students' Union bylaw. Go to Discover Governance office on the sixth floor of Students' Union Building if you want to learn more about what student group is and how they represent the students, and the differences between the student groups and student representatives' status. International Services Center is the home to International Student Services, Education Abroad, Global Education and the Visiting Student programs, it provides international students with the resources to help them adjust to life at UAlberta and Canada.

### **2.3.3 Will ISA gets help from ISC?**

Yes, student groups are welcomed to work with International Student Services. International Student Services could help sending out the information of your student group through our e-weekly email letter if your event is open to the entire campus.

### **2.3.4 Where could I get the information about other student groups?**

Bears Den.

### **2.3.5 Student group can decide what goal they want to achieve more of their student group for students.**

Three big goals of student groups: events, advocacy and services. The portions of the goals can depends on what the students want to do for their student groups.

## **2.4 Events Planning Ideas and Thoughts for UASU events**

**2.4.1 UASU Events got feedback about the current events that some of the students think they are mostly designed for certain group of people on campus and Students' Union is seeking opinions about how to develop and provide consistent, high quality and large scale engaging programming, so that the events could meet larger audiences' expectation. Should UASU Events partner with the cultural student groups that the events can go bigger and more multicultural?**

Student members preferred Students Union to hold the events that are presenting Canadian culture. If they are seeking other cultural events, they would prefer to go to the cultural student groups directly instead of Students' Union. But partner with the cultural groups may helps break the barriers and have more students to join in the events. Currently there are several events organized by UASU events got highly recognition from international students. Student members also suggested if Students' Union wants to do events that involve more

students, something like light festival to celebrate winter will be better than a specific festival that focus on a specific country's tradition.

#### **2.4.2 What events UASU Events are organizing and ideas about future events.**

Week of Welcome, Campus Cup, AntiFreeze, SU Christmas Party for Kids, SUBstage.  
Ideas for future events planning: Diversity in Governance Fashion Show, Heritage Festival on campus, Taste of UAlberta (International Student Services has Transitions Orientation BBQ every year), hockey trail.

### **3 Adjournment**

Next Meeting: January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Time: 5:00-7:00pm

Location: Telus Center 215E Boardroom