HISTORY OF MSC’S MANAGEMENT

On March 14, 1969 the university and the SU agreed to form the MacEwan Hall Directorate (MHD), an independent body to manage the new student centre.

After five years, as the original agreements expired, students wanted a larger say in how the centre was run, resulting in the dissolution of the MHD.

Beginning in 1974, a series of ad hoc agreements were reached between the SU and the university for the SU to act as building manager. These agreements were formalized in a Memorandum of Intent (MOI) passed by the Board of Governors in June of 1975.

The MOI remained in place until the first formal operating agreement between the SU and the university was signed in 1981. Similar derivative operating agreements have been in place ever since.

The SU has acted as the manager of the student centre for more than 40 years.

OVERVIEW OF THE AGREEMENTS RELATING TO MACHALL

1969-1974 The original operating agreement for MacEwan Hall between SU, the university, and the now-defunct MacEwan Hall Directorate until it was terminated on May 31, 1974.

1974-1975 In the absence of an operating agreement, several ad hoc agreements were reached between the SU and the university.

1975-1981 In June of 1975 a memorandum of intent between the Board of Governors and the SU was approved and was to remain in place until expansion plans could be finalized.

1981-1989 The parties entered into an operating agreement formalizing the SU’s role as building manager.

1989-1991 After the construction of MSC in 1988, the parties renewed the operating agreement.

1991-1996 The operating agreement was renewed for a five-year term with minor edits.

1996-1999 The parties continued to act under the 1991 agreement until a new one could be reached in 1999.

1999-2016 The License of Occupation, Operation, and Management.

BREAKDOWN OF SPACE IN MSC

At almost 400,000 ft², MacEwan Hall and MacEwan Student Centre (jointly referred to as MSC or MacHall) is the hub of social and community activities on campus.

In the building, the Board of Governors oversees the majority of the space, with the remainder being managed by the SU or jointly as common space.

See the chart on the next page for a complete breakdown.

Operating agreements have recognized the purposes of the Student Centre as follows:

“...to accommodate the legislative, executive and administrative arms of the Union, to deliver services to the students and staff of the University of Calgary, to provide facilities for student clubs, societies and the organizations and their undertakings, to accommodate social, recreational and cultural activities, and to symbolize the non-academic aspects of university experience;”

and:

“...to conduct, or to allow third parties to conduct, commercial activities for the use and convenience of students and staff and to generate revenue from such commercial activities for the purposes of the Union and Governors, such revenue to be used to partially fund the cost of operating MacEwan Hall;”
The SU ensures the safety of all occupants with daily inspections and repairs of MSC. To help run the building for the benefit of all campus stakeholders, the SU has established policies, procedures and guidelines such as:

- space booking procedures for all public events in the common space and SU space
- the acceptable display procedure for advertising and signage; removing all unauthorized postings to keep the area tidy
- preventing unauthorized solicitation
- ensuring visual continuity of the food court through enforcement of kiosk design standards
- managing agreements with third parties (Tri-media, Safewalk, Student Legal Assistance, etc.)
- championing environmental sustainability guidelines
- procedures for partnerships
- governance of student clubs
- providing immediate response to building issues with a focus on damage mitigation, facilitating a quick return to service by coordinating those actions required for cleanup and repair
- implementing a preventive maintenance program for the entire food court tenant exhaust system, grease traps, and sanitary lines

The SU has a dedicated facilities department to maintain and repair SU and common areas.

For at least the last decade the SU has borne the cost of replacing common space furnishings and repainting the common area.

**SU SPACE**

*How the SU uses its space*

The SU uses its space in MSC to operate businesses which provide low-cost, high-value experiences for students such as Stör, The Den, La Taqueria, and Bound and Copied.

As well, the SU uses its space to provide services to meet the needs of students such as the Campus Food Bank, the Info Centre/Lost & Found, and the Q Centre. The SU also provides space for students and student organizations in the East and West club spaces, council chambers, That Empty Space, and the South Courtyard Stage. Thousands of student events are held in the MacEwan Conference and Events Centre.

Finally, the SU uses some of its space in MSC to generate revenue to fund student programs and services. Revenue is generated through leases with food and retail vendors, and through the MacEwan Conference and Events Centre (when not being used for student events).

To administer programs, services and businesses, office space is provided for the SU, Volunteer Services, and the MacEwan Conference and Events Centre.

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**FACTS AND STATS**

MSC serves a campus population of ~36,000 people and welcomes more than 100,000 visitors during peak weeks.

48% of students visit MSC daily. On average, students visit MSC just over 16 times a month.

86% of students come to MSC to eat and drink, 39% use it to hang out or study and 35% use it to purchase items from a business.

The SU spends $170,000 annually to keep the food court clean.