

Report to the Board of Governors from the University of Calgary Students' Union

December 5, 2018 - March 12, 2019

We are pleased to submit this update on the SU's governance, programs and advocacy.

SU Governance

2019 SU General Election

Election results for the 77th Students' Legislative Council (SLC) were announced at the Den on March 7, 2019. The following students were elected to the SU Executive:

- Jessica Revington, President
- Kevin Dang, VP Academic
- Sadiya Nazir, VP External
- Alisha Gordon, VP Student Life
- Omer Mansoor, VP Operations and Finance

In a referendum question, 62 percent of students voted in favour of increasing the fee collected to support the SU's Volunteer Services department by \$0.75 per semester.

Voter turnout for the SU General Election continues to be among the highest for student association elections in Canada, with 21.14 percent of undergraduate students casting votes this year.

Full results are available on the SU website https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/results-announced-for-2019-su-general-election/. New student leaders will be sworn into office at Colour Night on May 3, 2019.

SU Programs and Services

Calgary Leaders Dinner

In January the SU hosted the 8th annual Calgary Leaders Dinner. Mayor Naheed Nenshi and Chancellor Deborah Yedlin spoke about the importance of student advocacy and engagement in the political process. The event was attended by 16 municipal, provincial, and federal politicians, and was an excellent opportunity for student leaders to gain insight from the experience of political leaders.

Q Centre Discussion Series

The Q Centre is excited to offer bi-weekly discussion groups. Focusing on key topics in the sexual and gender minority community, they take place every other Thursday in the Q Centre. They are open to all members of the campus community. On March 21 the discussion will focus on coming out.

Student Clubs

Winter Clubs Week was held the week of Jan. 21. 172 registered clubs participated as well as nine prospective clubs. There are currently 347 student organizations registered with the SU.

Teaching Excellence Awards

1,165 students submitted nominations for the SU's Teaching Excellence Awards this year. This marks a small increase over 2018. The SU has been administering its Teaching Excellence Awards program, in its current form, since 1984 to recognize University of Calgary instructors and teaching assistants who have had a positive impact on the undergraduate student learning experience.

Quality Money

The deadline for project submissions was Nov. 30. The SU received 24 project proposals totaling approximately \$3.3M. The Quality Money Committee approved 18 projects totaling \$1.84M. The full Quality Money Funding Allocation Report for 2019-20 can be found appended to this report.

Stress Busters

The SU is proud to host monthly Stress Buster workshops to help students understand and manage stress during the academic year. On Feb. 12 special guest Jan Crook discussed healthy relationships and balancing stress, expectations, and partnerships while an audience of 22 made love-themed cards. The next event is March 15.

SU Campus Food Bank

The SU Campus Food Bank provides emergency food hampers to current students, staff members, and alumni who have graduated less than two years ago. In January and February, 70 percent of SU Campus Food Bank clients were international students.

	Jan/Feb 2018	Jan/Feb 2019
Number of Hampers	95	102
Number of Adults Fed	133	157
Number of Children Fed	66	28
Total Fed	199	185

Information Centre/Lost and Found

During the school year, the Information Centre/Lost and Found is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It provides visitors with directions and information about on campus resources and events. It also stores lost items, returning them to their owners.

	Jan/Feb 2018	Jan/Feb 2019
Items handed in	1114	885
Items returned to owner	427	401
On campus directions	1109	939
Campus services questions	361	210
Total number of clients	2979	2371

Advocacy and Representation

Get Out the Vote

The SU, along with our provincial partners at the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS), have launched our GOTV campaign in the lead up to the provincial election. Our campaign is non-partisan and focuses on encouraging all students to vote. Students who pledge to vote can win some great prizes including airline vouchers, Apple products and gift certificates for Mac Hall. So far, the SU has collected over 3,750 pledges from students, well on our way to our goal of 6,000.

#StudentsLetsAct

The SU, along with their partners at the Canadian Alliance of Students Associations (CASA), participated in a three-day campaign underlining the urgent need for action on student mental health. CASA believes that the federal government can play an important role in helping students struggling with mental health issues. Students were asked to share their mental health story by writing it on a heart. The hearts were then sent to the federal government.

Conclusion

The Students' Union is proud to serve and represent undergraduate students in nearly every aspect of their experience at the University of Calgary.

Sagar Grewal

President, 76th Students' Legislative Council