

Students' Union, University of Calgary

SU Events Report

2017-2018



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1. Executive Summary

This report covers all major events of the Students' Union (SU) held over the 2017/18 academic year. Through our events and programs, we reach undergraduate students as well as faculty, staff, graduate students and members of the greater campus community. The events that we run would not be possible without the valuable partnerships that we have with university units such as Centre for Community Engaged Learning, Leadership and Student Engagement, SU Wellness Centre, Women's Resource Centre, and Library and Cultural Resources. As our target demographics interests and values are always changing it is important that we are continuously evaluating the effectiveness of our programs and events.

2. By the Numbers

Program	# of campus community members reached 2017-18	# of campus community members reached 2016-17	# of campus community members reached 2015-2016
Orientation Week	10664	10331	8785
StressLess Week	1531	982	1108
Frostbite	110	130	190
BSD	4232	5871	8480
Cinemanian ¹	79	620	410
SU Social	342	-	-
Yoga in the Space	2037	3029	2755
Faculty of Vet. Med BBQ	100	110	100
Pet Therapy	1627	1639	1304
Undergraduate Research Symposium	300	310	193
Calgary Leaders Dinner	78	74	86
Sex Week	250	268	270
Teaching Excellence Awards	3149	2568	2870
Destress Packs	1500	1500	1500
Total	25999	27432	28161

¹Cinemanian was cancelled after the fall semester and replaced with the SU Socials which will take place once per semester.

3. Mandatory Events

3.1 Orientation Week

Event	Number of Student Interactions 2017	Number of Student Interactions 2016	Number of Student Interactions 2015
Meet your SU Sessions	Approx. 2328	Approx. 2070	Approx. 1500
Night on the SU attendees	326	339	350
Q Centre Open House attendees	85	110	65
Kickoff Attendees	6248	7512	5500
Tailgate zone – Waivers signed	531	689	293
Number of sunglasses given out at the Resource Fair	2800	3000	2250
Total	10 664	10 331	9665

Orientation Week continues to be the most important opportunity that the Students' Union has to brand itself to all incoming students.

Meet your SU sessions have been a great introduction for first year students during Orientation Week to the SU. We continued with the format of a short video, followed by an info session hosted by a member of SLC where students were able to ask questions to the five Executive in attendance.

This year at Night on the SU we showed Kick-ass. The Executives hosted a few "minute-to-win-it" games for 30 minutes prior to the start of the movie. These games proved to be more engaging then previous years.



Kickoff remained on the Friday of Orientation Week. We hosted the tailgate party full of interactive bouncers and music which drew in 531 students. Our partnership with Leadership & Student Engagement has been good for both organizations. However, for 2018/2019 orientation will be condensed down to two days and with shifts in priorities we will be working on our own orientation to provide support to new students. Our giveaways and swag continue to be some of the most popular items sought after during the week and SU sunglasses are worn all year long. We gave away 2850 notebooks and 2800 sunglasses.

3.2 StressLess Week

Event	2017 Attendance	2016 Attendance	2015 Attendance
Destruction Therapy	-	30	160
Winter Wonderland	100	-	-
Pet Therapy	532	478	439
Art Therapy	30	85	32
Nap rooms	-	5	30
Garden Day	75	-	-
Holiday Decorating	120	85	-
Carnival	290	290	423
Total	1531	982	1113

StressLess Week is now in its fifth year. Students appreciated the idea of short, low commitment activities, especially the “Garden day” where they created their own terrariums. We hosted three Pet Therapy Rooms with the assistance of Pet Access League Society (PALS) which had higher attendance than last year. Next year, we will promote both Art therapy sessions as people were not aware of the second session. This year the carnival included a partnership with mini university which is something we would like to continue for 2018.

3.3 Frostbite

Year	Attendance
2018	110
2017	130
2016	190

In its seventh year, Frostbite continues to be a great partnership between the Students’ Union and Leadership & Student Engagement. The 2018 Frostbite winners were Tors Illustrated. This year brought in 11 teams and each team was actively engaged throughout the week. We continued Heart Warmer again this year as well as dodgeball and tug-of-war.



Frostbite continues to add value to the campus by bringing together various student groups, creating a sense of community, fundraising for the campus foodbank and giving back through Heart Warmer.

The biggest change this year was made to the bribery system. We removed bribery from Frostbite this year and it allowed the teams to have close scores throughout the week. For 2019 we are looking to make changes to the event to increase audience attendance to the events and increase team sign-ups for the event.



3.4 Bermuda Shorts Day

Event	Number of Students Involved 2018	Number of Students Involved 2017	Number of Students Involved 2016	Number of Students Involved 2015
Beer Garden	4232	5871	7928	7752
BSD Day of Service	N/A	N/A	40	40
Total Interactions	4232	5871	7968	7792

Bermuda Shorts Day (BSD) continues to be the largest event that the Students' Union runs and regularly has the largest number of student participants. This year we gave out nearly 5000 wristbands, unfortunately the number of students through the beer gardens was lower which could be attributed to many factors including the cold weather. The Office of Leadership and Student Engagement continued its focus on UCalgary Strong Festival and we focused our resources on BSD. The music and food trucks at the event continue to lend themselves well to the festival feel. This year we also sold tickets for the event to offset some of the costs incurred by the SU.



4. Weekly Events

4.1 Cinemania

Cinemania 2017 Fall	7:00 pm
Total attendance	79
Average attendance	7

SU Social 2018 Winter	6:00-9:00
Total attendance	353

Cinemania is one of the Students' Unions longest running programs. This year, there was a dramatic decrease in attendance to Cinemania again. Which can be attributed to how much easier it is to stream and download movies. With the consistent pattern of low turnout over the past several years Cinemania

was cancelled for the winter semester and replaced with the SU Social which will be hosted once per semester.

Our first SU social was held on Tuesday April 3rd, from 6 to 9pm in the Den and had a Riverdale theme. There was a turnout of 342 people, with 48 teams and individuals participating in 7 rounds of trivia. Seven gift cards for The Den valued at \$10 each were given to winners of each round. A special menu was created for the night and we ran out of milkshakes an hour into the event. SU Socials are meant to look different each semester and will allow the SU to hold events that are relevant to that time and engage positively with students.

4.2 Yoga in the Space

YEAR	2017/18	2016/17	2015/16
Total Fall attendance	1144	1469	1307
Total Winter attendance	893	1560	1448
Total	2037	3029	2755

Average # of students	Fall 2017	Winter 2018
Tuesday	36	28
Wednesday	24	15
Thursday	44	29

Yoga in the Space continues to be a very popular activity amongst students. Though we had a lower turnout to the event this year, which is in general consistent with student turnout to many events. This past year we continued with the same two instructors as last year. However, Wednesday remains the



least attended class. We will continue to monitor numbers and are looking into replacing Wednesdays with a different

fitness class along with promoting the program on our social medias at the start of each semester.

Portfolio Specific Events

5.1 Faculty of Veterinary Medicine BBQ

Year	Attendees
2017	100
2016	110
2015	100

This is the sixth year we have held an outreach BBQ on the Veterinary Medicine campus as part of Orientation Week. While this event is held outside of the traditional Orientation Week, it is some of Veterinary Medicine students' first introduction to the Students' Union. The BBQ is a combination outreach event and resource fair. We include resources about the SU, clubs and Volunteer Services (CFB, Q Centre etc.). The sunglasses are always a hit as well as the Health & Dental resources, notebooks and information on volunteer opportunities.

5.2 Pet Therapy

Date	2016/17	2016/17	2015/16
Total attendees	1627 (9 sessions)	1639 (9 sessions)	1304 (8 sessions)

Pet Therapy was held in partnership with PALS and was intended as a monthly de-stressing event. All members of the campus community were welcome but the majority of those who attended were undergraduate students. This event was first piloted during Stress Less Week 2013 and due to its overwhelming popularity it has continued as one of the SU's regular programs.



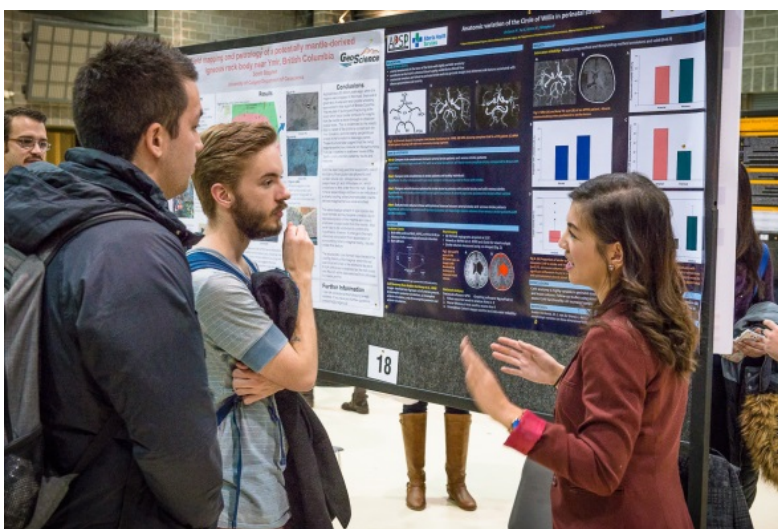
5.3 Undergraduate Research Symposium

	2017	2016	2015
Number of abstracts submitted	137	119	143
Number of participants	97	101	101
Number of judges (mainly faculty members)	47	51	51
Estimated attendance at URS	300	310	150
Number of award winners	27	32	23
Award value	\$500-\$1000	\$500-\$1000	\$500-\$1000
Total amount awarded	\$25,250	\$29,500	\$21,500

The Students' Union Undergraduate Research Symposium (URS) gives students an opportunity to showcase research alongside other undergraduate researchers from across campus. In 2016, the SU received 119 applications from students to participate in the 11th annual event. Submissions increased to 137 for 2017 with most applications being submitted on the last day from a variety of faculties on campus.

Through a solid partnership with staff at the Taylor Family Digital Library, URS was once again well promoted at the library and student work continues to be showcased through the U of C's institutional repository.

The SU Undergraduate Research Symposium's financial support continues to grow each year because of the generosity of U of C departments and faculties. This year \$25,250 was awarded to students on December 6, 2017 at a formal ceremony. A full list of awards and winners is attached as Appendix I.



5.4 Calgary Leaders Dinner

21	Politicians attended the event
10	Constituency Managers/Assistants
9	Sr. university administration
25	SLC
2	SU staff
11	Students-at-large
78	Total attendees

The seventh annual Calgary Leaders' Dinner was held on January 18th, 2018. The event is a great opportunity for student leaders to meet Calgary's federal, provincial and municipal leaders over dinner to discuss current issues and gain insight from their experience in leadership and government in an informal setting. All of Calgary's elected leaders from all three levels of government were invited to attend of which 21 came for either dinner or cocktail hour. MP Len Webber, Mayor Naheed Nenshi, and Minister Schmidt all spoke during the program. In the future, we will wait to confirm keynote speakers until after Christmas to avoid having more than one.

5.6 Sex Week

	Total Students Reached 2018	Total Students Reached 2017	Total Students Reached 2016
Students Union workshop attendance	250	268	270

Sex Week is a week of workshops that the SU helps organize and runs in partnership with the Women's Resource Centre (WRC) and the SU Wellness Centre. This is an information and outreach week that informs students about sexual and gender wellness. Eighteen workshops and activities were offered this year. This year's Carnival was set up with passports and the games in the middle the courtyard which increased participation and interaction with all of our table vendors.

The Q Centre hosted the following during Sex Week:

- Sex Week Carnival: Educated students about STI's and sexual and gender wellness in a fun, low commitment setting.
- Queer Sex Education: Topics included healthy relationships, consent, and queer sexuality education.

- Binder Workshop: feature some tips and tricks for finding the proper fitting binder, important information about wear time.
- DRAG: A safe gender bending space with a variety of extremely talented special guests.
- Trans 101: to educate people on basic trans and non-normative identities and provide resources.
- Alphabet Soup: an educational introduction to the LGBTQ+ community that discusses the complexities in language, and how to respectfully discuss queer topics.
- BDSM 201: A discussion on taking BDSM further, including discussion of how kink plays into different types of relationship.
- BDSM 301: Edge Play and Lifestyle

5.7 Destress Packs

Destress Packs were an initiative started by the 70th SU Executive to help combat exam time stress for students on campus and was continued this year. This year the packs included: a granola bar, apple, tea, headphones, slurpee coupon, sudoku, lip balm, candy, encouraging note and chocolate. The packs also included a pamphlet with information about mental health resources on campus as well as study spaces. This year we were able to purchase fabric drawstring bags again to build the destress packs.

5.8 Teaching Excellence Awards

	2017-2018	2016-2017
Number of students who submitted an online nomination:	1149	568
Number of instructors nominated	451	110
Number of class visits for shortlisted candidates	122	103
Estimated number of students surveyed through class visits	2000	2000
Number of winners	29	23
Number of honorable mentions	10	9

Online nominations for outstanding professors and teaching assistants teaching undergraduate courses from all faculties were once again accepted in both the fall and winter. The nomination period is approximately six weeks long in each semester and during this time various methods are used to

promote the TEA program, including a strong social media presence through the SU Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts.

At a formal ceremony on April 18, 2018, the SU Teaching Excellence Awards Committee awarded 29 professors and teaching assistants with TEA awards, while 10 individuals received honorable mentions. The SU will continue to work with faculty deans and the SU Elected Officials to promote this important academic initiative to students and recognize instructors across campus. A full list of winners is attached as Appendix II.

Appendix I

2017 Undergraduate Research Symposium Award Winners

Cumming School of Medicine (4x\$1000) (MDFH/MDBI/MDPD/MDRE)

- Four awards will be given to students in the Cumming School whose research contributes to the understanding of one of the following topics: Family/Community Health, Bio/Molecular Research, Pathology/Disease Research, and Medical Research.
 - MD047 (MDBI)
 - MD025 (MDFH)
 - MD004 (MDPD)
 - MD007 (MDRE)

Faculty of Arts (1x\$1000) (ARTS)

- This award will be given to a student in the Faculty of Arts whose research demonstrates both exceptional skills in their field of study and the potential for global or community leadership.
 - AR011

Faculty of Kinesiology (1x\$500) (KNES)

- This award will be presented to the top scoring student in the Faculty of Kinesiology.
 - KN006

Faculty of Law (1x\$1000) (LAW)

- This award will be given to a JD student in the Faculty of Law, to showcase any legal research undertaken.
 - LW001

Faculty of Science (3x\$1000) (1x\$500) (SCIE)

- Faculty of Science awards will recognize three students enrolled in the Faculty of Science with outstanding poster presentations of novel, innovative and creative scientific research from any discipline represented by the Faculty. An additional award of \$500 will be given to a runner up.
 - SC045 (500)
 - SC028 (1000)
 - SC039 (1000)
 - SC009 (1000)

Werklund School of Education (1x\$1000) (EDUC)

- This award will be given to a student who addresses a current educational issue in society through envisioning the future of learning and teaching. Consideration will be given to those students who may consider: an innovative or creative educational concept or idea, a central current debate in education, or the future of education.
 - ED002

Schulich School of Engineering (2x\$1000) (ENGG)

- This award will be given to students in the Schulich School of Engineering whose research shows potential for practical application in the field of engineering.
 - EN007
 - EN005

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (1x\$1000) (VETM)

- This award will be given to a student in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine whose research contributes to the understanding of Animal Health.
 - NONE

Office of Diversity, Equity and Protected Disclosure Award for DEI Excellence (1x\$1000) (DEI)

- This award will be presented to an undergraduate student whose project has incorporated a diversity, equity and inclusion lens, benefiting an underserved population. This can include, but is not limited to, Indigenous, gender/gender identity, racialized, faith, and economically disadvantaged groups and persons with disabilities. Preference will be given to students completing community-based research.
 - KN002

Office of the President (1x\$1000) (PRES)

- This award will be given to an undergraduate student whose project showcases excellence and leadership in research; an innovative project originating at the University of Calgary that demonstrates a potential for future success and commitment to the campus community.
 - MD026

Office of the Vice-Provost (Libraries) (1x\$500, 1x\$250)

- This award will be given to an undergraduate student whose project displays originality and depth in the selection of sources, with close attention made to a consistent citation and a thorough literature review. Consideration will be given to a project that contributes to the wider scholarly conversation, with plans for dissemination of research and publication.

- AR009 (500)
- MD006 (250)

Office of the Vice-President (Research) (2x\$1000) (VPRE)

- This award will be given to students who demonstrate leadership through research excellence and commitment to innovation and discovery.
 - SC019
 - EN006

Provost's Award for Excellence in Internationally-Focused Research (2x1000) (PRIN)

- This award will be presented to an undergraduate student whose project showcases excellence and leadership in research and has incorporated an international study component into their work.
 - MD036
 - SW002

Program in Undergraduate Research (PURE) Award (1x\$1000) (PURE)

- This award will be presented to an undergraduate student whose presentation demonstrates excellence in research conducted as a Program in Undergraduate Research (PURE) project.
 - SC007

SU Sustainability Fund (1x\$1000, 1x\$500) (SUST)

- This award will be given to students who have focused their research on a sustainability-related topic, including energy, water, waste, economics and community development.
 - SC008 (1000)
 - MD040 (500)

The Chancellor's Award (1x\$1000) (CHAN)

- This award will be given to an undergraduate student who exemplifies excellence in research and whose project incorporates cross-disciplinary and/or international collaboration.
 - MD009

The Judges' Choice Award (1x\$1000) (JHIC)

- This award will be given to a student whose research has been identified as having an innovative approach that stands out to the judges. This research can engage an audience with topically compelling subject matter and an eye-catching presentation.
 - AR003

Appendix II

2017-2018 Teaching Excellence Award Winners

Teaching Assistant Winners

Christopher James Hooey
Tony Stevens
Pier-Luc Champagne
Benjamin Blyth
MohanaGowri Arumugam
Jennifer Retzlaff
Joshua John Horacsek
Allison Bajt
David Ledo
Mike D. Law

Teaching Excellence Honorable Mentions

Dr. Howard Kislowicz
Randy Head
Brianna Strumm
William Bridel
Melissa Eastveld
Chris Morton
Gareth Jones
Melanie Kloetzel
Catherine Mitchell
Jennifer Koshan

Teaching Excellence Award Winners

Caleb Lee	Arts
Ted McCoy	Arts
Anne Moore	Arts
Dick Averbs	Arts
Leighton Wilks	Business
Catherine Burwell	Education
Ahmad Ghasemloonia	Engineering
Uttandaraman Sundararaj	Engineering
Brad Kilb	Kinesiology
Jonnette Watson Hamilton	Law
Jason Waechter	Medicine
Mayi Arcellana-Panlilio, PhD	Medicine
Zenaida Roxas Boerhave	Nursing
Claude Laflamme	Science
Heather Addy	Science
Jo-Anne Brown	Science
Cari Gulbrandsen	Social Work
Cameron Knight	Veterinary Medicine

Hall of Fame:

Larry A. Wood