

Minutes of the 2023 – 2024 Annual General Meeting
Students' Association of Red Deer Polytechnic
November 23rd, 2023
The Far Side Bar and Grill @ 10:30am

Please see attached attendance list

1.0 Call to Order

Chairperson Watson called the meeting to order at 10:57am.

1.1 Approval of Agenda

23-24-1-G

Devyn Shannon, Amber Dueabu

MOTION: Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

CARRIED

1.2 Land Acknowledgment

The Students' Association of RDP acknowledges that we learn and work on Treaty 7, Treaty 6 and Métis ancestral lands, the gathering place of many Indigenous peoples. This is where we will strive to honour and transform our relationships with one another.

1.3 Approval of Meeting Minutes

1.3.1 Approval of 2022-2023 Annual General Meeting Minutes

23-24-2-G

Devyn Shannon, Amanda Brouwer

MOTION: Motion to approve the minutes 2022-2023 Annual General Meeting as presented.

CARRIED

1.4 Executive Council Reports

1.4.1 Executive Council Reports

President – Erin Bast

VP Academic – Amanda Brouwer

VP External – Jalynn Chilibeck

Please see attached written reports

23-24-3-G

Erin bast, Devyn Shannon

MOTION: Motion to accept the Executive Council and Committee reports as presented.

CARRIED

1.5 Mission, Vision, and Values Focus Groups

President Bast announced the review of the Association’s Organizational statements. There will be several opportunities for students to weigh in on the review, including focus groups.

Focus Group Dates:

- January 11th, 2024 at 2:00pm
- January 15th, 2024 at 12:00pm
- January 16th, 2024 at 9:30am
- January 17, 2024 at 5:00pm

All students are invited and encouraged to attend a focus group. Registration emails will be sent out to the Membership.

1.6 Information

1.6.1 2022 – 2023 Annual Report to the membership

1.7 Adjournment

23-24-5-G

Jalynn Chilibeck, Erin Bast

MOTION: Motion to adjourn at 11:16am

CARRIED



President Bast



Chairperson Watson



Secretary Young



EXECUTIVE REPORT

President's Office

November 2023

Erin Bast

Hello, my name is Erin Bast, and I am your Student's Association President for the 2023-2024 Academic year. I graduated this past spring from the Legal Assistant Program, and I am currently enrolled in Open Studies, taking one class per semester. I think taking one class has been a smart choice since I want to dedicate my time to being your President. On May 1, 2023, I assumed the office of President – alone. Typically three Executives take office on May 1, but this year we didn't have our Vice Presidents elected until October. Needless to say, the last six months have been very busy for me, and often times stressful and lonely.

Since May I have been getting to know the campus community, sat on a number of campus committees, planned and attended a number of SARDP events, and joined forces with my provincial counterparts to bring student issues to the Government.

Skilled Trades Completion Breakfasts

For the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, we are once again hosting the Skilled Trades Completion Breakfasts. With the School of Trades & Technology and the Alumni Association, the Students' Association celebrates our Skilled Trades Students and their academic accomplishments. We are delighted to bring this event back to campus.

Meeting a lot of new RDP employees

Not only have I been a member on several hiring committees in this past year, but I have also been fortunate to meet some new Red Deer Polytechnic administrators including the Vice President Academic, International Director, Safety Manager, Indigenous Student Success Coordinator, Mental Health Education Coordinator and the Consent Education Coordinator. It has been a privilege to be welcoming new staff onto campus and letting them know all the great things the Students' Association does for our Members.

Artwork Purchase

Together with CUPE (Canadian Union of Public Employees) and the Red Deer Polytechnic Alumni Association, the Students' Association purchased a large painting that is currently on display at the main entrance. The Artist is George Littlechild, a Red Deer College graduate. The piece is a self-portrait called "4 Star Art Warrior." We are so proud to have some of George's work on display at RDP and we hope to see more Indigenous art on our campus.

Pride Flag Raising

My first speaking opportunity of my term in office - it was such an honour to speak on behalf of our students who belong to the Pride Community. I hope that I made them proud and included

when I spoke about my own journey and growth as an individual. It was a really rewarding event to take part in.

Welcome Back BBQ

This event is back in full swing, it was held last year for the first time since the pandemic, however very few students attended. This year, with some strategic planning, the Students' Association and the RDP President's Office partnered on a very successful event that was well attended by students and RDP Staff. It was an absolute blast! Thank you everyone who volunteered and attended!

ASEC (Alberta Student Executive Council)

ASEC is our provincial lobby group – SARDP and 15 other Students' Associations across the province are members. This is the organization that helps us bring a collective voice to the Government of Alberta, and in particular, the Ministry of Advanced Education. Last year's SARDP Council initiated vote one of two to end our relationship with ASEC. Since taking office in May, I have made it a priority to attend all ASEC meetings and events with fellow Council Members. I want the Students' Association to make an informed decision when we hold our final vote on December 4th. We will be hosting a special meeting of Council on November 27th; the new ASEC Executive Director (who also started on May 1) has been invited to make a presentation to our Council and answer any questions we may have about the organization's goals and future plans.

Our provincial advocacy efforts with ASEC include Mental Health, International Student supports, Affordability and Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees. Closer to home, the ASEC Executive Director has been supporting SARDP with our concerns about private/public partnerships and reaching out to the Advanced Education Ministry on our behalf.

If you have any questions about our provincial advocacy goals, please reach out to me.

Meeting with the Minister of Advanced Education

Jalynn Chilibeck (Vice President External) and I had the honour of meeting with Rajan Sawhney and her team, where we were able to voice our concerns with the private/public partnership between RDP and Robertson College and supports for International Students.

Emergency Food Bank

Our SA Emergency Food Bank continues to be in high demand, even more so than the last year. The Institution has been wonderful at recognizing the need and is contributing as much as possible; it really is great that the RDP community is so invested in ensuring that our students are fed.

The President of RDP (Stuart Cullum) partnered with Cilantro and Chive as a guest chef, where a portion of the proceeds were donated to his charity of his choice: the SA Emergency Food Bank.



EXECUTIVE REPORT

President's Office

The RDP staff, through the United Way have started up its campaign to raise funds for our food bank as well.

There will also be a challenge between departments in RDP to see who can raise the most nonperishable food bank donations for our food bank. Last year they were able to raise 1 tonne of food!

BARC (Bylaw Amendment Review Committee)

We are off to a bit of a late start with our Council committees this year, primarily because our two Vice Presidents came into office in October. As President, I chair BARC. We will be working on amending a few policies and updating some bylaws this year. All students are welcome to join our Council committees – no experience necessary!!

Mission, Vision and Values Revision

I am taking the lead on the review and revision of the Students' Association's Mission, Vision and Values. We will be sending out an initial email to you this week to seek your feedback. There will be prizes and a lot of incentives available for everyone if they chose to participate. This project will be my focus until the end of April; our goal is to have Council approval by April and unveil our revised foundational documents on May 1, 2024.



EXECUTIVE REPORT

Vice President Academic's Office
Amanda Brouwer

Annual General Meeting

November 22, 2023

Introduction

It was an honor and a privilege to be elected as your Vice President Academic. Jalynn Chilibeck the Vice President External and I joined Erin Bast the President on a by-election, so it has been a roller-coaster settling into this role while continuing to be a full-time student, but I have loved every second of it.

So far:

- The council and I have elected student members to the Academic Council, and we have had a successful first meeting.
- I have also started working on my Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Indigenization Committee and setting goals for the rest of the year.
- The Mission, Vision and Values Revamp is also underway led by President Bast which I am grateful to be a part of. Make sure you check out the survey!

Goals

I hope to increase student interest in the SA. Having more people run for council and executive positions and have students be engaged in the advocacy of our team at the school.

I also hope to have my Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Indigenization Committee be a force for change at RDP.

Committees, Working Groups, Councils

Academic Council

My role as Vice Chair on this council is to chair meetings in the absence of the chair and approve the agenda with the Academic Council Executives before each meeting.

Academic Council Student Caucus

My role as Chair is to ensure that the student members receive an orientation and are prepared for each Academic Council meeting.

Curriculum Committee

My role on this committee is to ensure that the changes made to curriculum will have positive impacts on students.

Equity, Diversity, Inclusivity, and Indigenization – Chair

I have been tasked with updating the terms of reference this year and defining the role of this committee and its impact for the student experience. I hope to shape this committee into a body that influences the lives of students and brings awareness to the importance of equity, diversity, inclusion, and indigenization in our everyday lives.

RASCALS (Research and Scholarly Activity) Committee

Research Common – SA representative

OER Champions – SA representative

CAT Fund – Student member

Program Review Committee – SA representative

Academic Policy Committee – SA representative

APC Subcommittee – SA representative



EXECUTIVE REPORT

Vice President External's Office

AGM
Jalynn Chilibeck
November 21, 2023

Introduction

I was elected in the October By-Election and have made it just over a month in this role. I am thrilled to be included in so many initiatives around the school and being invited to so many tables. As I spend more time here, I continuously feel as though I am developing my role and what it means to be a part of the Students' Association Executive Team. Working alongside my new team is a wonderful experience.

By-Elections

By-elections happened early in October. Campaigning for Vice President External was a fun experience, and I had some fierce competition. I'm pleased to be part of a full host of execs, as well as an almost full council.

Alberta Student Executive Council (ASEC)

I am currently the voting delegate for ASEC. I have been part of their goals conference, the general meeting for the organization, as well as their prep for lobby week, which is currently ongoing in Edmonton. We will be meeting with the executive director of ASEC, Anika Zepp, on November 27 with the rest of our council to learn more about the organization and to discuss whether we will stay with ASEC for upcoming years.

Perspectives

I am a part of the perspectives committee. On January 18, 2024 we will be hosting Chris Hadfield (astronaut, first Canadian commander of the International Space Station, and author) at RDP! The ticket portion of the Perspectives event will begin at 7pm at the Gary W. Harris Canada Games Centre on January 18. Robbie Halonen (Dean of Business, Science, and Technology) has accepted the role of introducing Colonel Chris Hadfield. There have been books ordered to be sold at the event and Colonel Hadfield has agreed to a book signing. For the student event, which begins at 3pm in the Arts Centre, I will be introducing Colonel Hadfield and there will be a question period after his speech.

Alumni Association

I have been beginning my engagement with the Alumni Association. There have been many emails and not enough time to act on anything yet! Stay tuned.

Conclusion

I am proud of the work I have already completed and am excited for the rest of this year! I appreciate all the opportunities that have been presented to me and am looking forward to hearing what comes out of ASEC advocacy week and the events that always occur at the end of the semester. Congratulations on making it this far in the semester and good luck on finals!