



Andrew Noble President's Report

October 2012

**Federation of Students
University of Waterloo**

Executive Summary

Happy November Council!

October went by pretty quickly. We had our General Meeting in the midst of a blackout in V1. We now formally represent part-time students as each area in our bylaws where it says "full-time" has been stricken. Further, we eliminated the bylaw that allowed for a separate election for those in a faculty whose majority of students take co-op. It was helpful to pass that bylaw as the rest of the election changes will hopefully go through at this council meeting.

Progress has been made by the Student Building Negotiating Team; we are currently looking at conducting more consultations this November as soon as we finalize a few preliminary ideas we've discussed with the University. Much of our New Student Building Proposal, passed at the July 29, 2012 council meeting has been agreed to by the University. There is of course sensitivity regarding the management of the building, as we attempt to ensure that the space in the building will remain space for students.

In other news, we are launching a Feds First Year Council. This will have multiple benefits. I believe there's a gap to be filled between Residence Councils and Feds Students' Council. This new council would act as a stepping stone for students. Currently, there are no First Year Students on our council and it is difficult to do so. In addition, this council provides support to our First Year Commissioner who (as mandated in the bylaws) speaks on behalf of first year students.

Just for fun, I've attached a progress report on the action plan that went through council in September. I'm not sure what the best method of report this is – but council seemed to like how VP Internal Russell did it last month so I included mine as well.

Thanks for your interest council!

Sincerely,
Andrew Noble

1. Current Projects and Initiatives
2. Upcoming Projects / Initiatives
3. Committees / Commissions / Boards
4. Spring Advocacy & External Meetings Report

1. Current Projects and Initiatives

Federation Hall

- **Timeline:** Signed agreement expected by students by August 31st.
- **Priority:** Extremely High
- **Partners:** Board of Directors, Executive Team, Staff, and various Waterloo administrators. In addition, Natalie Cockburn & Luke Burke as advisors.
- **History:** Students, through Feds, paid for Fed Hall. The building was managed since the 80s by Feds, but the land is owned by uWaterloo. uWaterloo made the unilateral decision to not renew the lease but they have publically committed to Fed Hall being a student event venue.
- **Update: Significant progress has been made; expect an announcement to be made in the coming weeks.**

Representing Part-Time Students Well

- **Timeline:** Completion date: April 2013
- **Priority:** Medium
- **Partners:** Research & Policy Officer, Registrar's Office, IAP (Institutional Analysis & Planning)
- **Update:**
- **We now represent part-time students! Now we want to send them a robust survey to identify their specific needs and how Feds can help ☺.**

Governance Review

- **History:** One of the priorities given to me by our council, board, and Long Range Plan was conducting a governance review. At our board of directors retreat in May, it was determined that we should follow the principles of our Long Range Plan when making governance changes. I conducted that review, council tasked BP&P to implement the review, but changes could not be made in time for the Annual General Meeting. There was some concern over some of the edits made in the bylaws – specifically, trying to determine what the future role of council is.
- **Next steps:** A bylaw clean-up will be conducted by BP&P so that we align with the New Corporations Act which is set to be implemented by July 1st, 2012. Future governance changes will be an ongoing discussion this year.

2. Upcoming Projects / Initiatives

- **Long Range Plan Review**
 - The long range plan is set to be reviewed and revised in the 2012-2013 year. I plan on drafting suggestions for next year's Executive.
- **More Extensive Advertising for Student's Council 2012-2013**
 - A few ideas are being thrown around on how to do this well.
- **First Year Council**
 - See attached.

3. Committees / Councils / Commissions / Boards

a. *Senate*

Synopsis: Senate has not met since my last report.

b. *Senate – Long Range Planning Committee*

Synopsis: Has not met since my last report. Meeting upcoming in December.

c. *Mid-Cycle Review – The Life Cycle of a Student Task Force*

Synopsis: The University is creating multiple task forces as an outcome of their mid-cycle review of their long range plan. One of those task forces is this "life cycle of a student" one. This team has not yet been determined nor has it met. There is a discussion about this committee at the next USRC.

d. *BoG - Board of Governors*

Synopsis: Board approved of the discontinuation of the Dubai campus. We are also doing some strategic planning for the University as Board members. The University wants to increase their worldwide ranking while decreasing their economic dependency on undergraduate enrollment. I plan on encouraging the University to focus on their strengths and become like an MIT north and budget to reflect this.

e. *BoG – Buildings and Properties Committee*

Synopsis: The University is expanding Needles Hall and they are also planning on putting a daycare near Optometry. The daycare will be huge!

f. *Advisory Committee on Traffic/Parking*

Synopsis: Has not met since last meeting. Council, in October, passed a motion to say that students will be against Parking as a revenue stream for the University and that it should remain as a service to members of the campus community.

g. *Athletics Advisory Board*

Synopsis: Has not yet met this Fall term.

h. *SLCMB*

Synopsis: Currently this management board is considering the cost of new water fountains in the SLC. In addition, an accessibility audit is planned of the entire building. Further, the board is looking at ensuring that there is

appropriate drainage of water (or sufficient carpet) through the wet and dirty winter months.

i. ***SSAC – Student Services Advisory Committee***

Synopsis: Has not yet met. Next meeting is in November.

j. ***USRC – Undergraduate Student Relations Committee***

Synopsis: Has not met since last council meeting.

k. ***FAB – Food Advisory Board***

Synopsis: This body is reconsidering their terms of reference. It has not met since the summer.

l. ***Joint Health and Safety Committee***

Synopsis: Has not met since last meeting.

m. ***PACOD - President’s Advisory Committee On Design***

Synopsis: This committee is not expected to meet in the near future.

n. ***USRC – Undergraduate Student Relations Committee***

Synopsis: Meeting in September cancelled.

o. Orientation Advisory Committee

This is a committee that the President has always sat on and rarely reported on. This used to just be an information sharing committee between Orientation Advisors of various faculties, with the SSO and Feds. However, now the OAC is playing a more strategic approach in improving Orientation Week. I am the only student representative on this committee.

4. Termly Advocacy & External Meetings Report

The above committee breakdown oversimplifies my job as a student representative on various committees. My job is to represent students to the University and in order to do that well I meet with individuals outside of regular committee times. I plan to report on the amount of these meetings once per term.

Spring Term Meetings 2012		
Person, Role, or Area	Type	Number
Chris Read – AP, Students	Advocacy	11
Various - Student Success Office	Advocacy	8
Various - Upper uW Administration	Advocacy	8
Student Senator(s)	Advocacy	3
Bud Walker – Advisor to Provost	Advocacy	2
Various - GSA Executive	Advocacy	1
Imprint	Public Relations	2
Former Feds Executive	Advisory/Research	6
Miscellaneous	Advisory/Research	5
Miscellaneous	Advocacy	10

The above is a summary of my external meetings over the Spring term. This excludes informal, unscheduled meetings. It also excludes any internal meetings within Feds council, board, or staff. Further, normal committee meetings aren't included. If you have any questions about I met/meet with people listed here, please don't hesitate to ask.

*You are currently reading a council agenda package.
And that deserves a smile.*



PRESIDENT'S ACTION PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Colour Legend

Failed action item	Not going well and/or re-evaluating necessity of action item	Little to no work completed	Positive progress made	Significant progress made (or complete)
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Expand Communications

<i>Two-Way Communication</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Run extensive student consultation sessions (new building, Bomber, tuition/education, etc.)	<i>as needed</i>	Going well thus far. Further consultations expected in November on New Student Building.
Develop Road Runners team to be more two-way communication focused	<i>Fall 2012</i>	Potentially not using the Road Runners team for this project.
<i>Student-Related, Consistent, and Accessible Information</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Have first-year commission facilitate the delivery of this information to first-years	<i>Fall 2012</i>	Too early to assess.
<i>Serve as a Reliable and Central Information Source for Students</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Provide training to council (not just councillors) on Feds info	<i>Spring and Fall 2012</i>	FLOW Completed
Facilitate interactions between student leaders (council, dons, etc.); potentially via council	<i>Fall 2012</i>	Attempted at FLOW with low participation rates.
Host first-year campus life info sessions that introduce students to life beyond class and residence	<i>Fall 2012</i>	Planning in progress

Effective Advancement of AAAQ Education

<i>Lobby at all Levels of Government and the University</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Start a University Lobby Week	<i>Fall 2012</i>	Potentially to happen next term
<i>Positions/Stances are Student-Focused</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Create a Policy Committee to separate policy from bylaws and procedures	<i>Fall 2012</i>	Lack of clarity about how this committee fits with EAC and PAC
Create more rigorous data collection standards and methods to gather student opinion	<i>October 2012</i>	In progress. Report to be completed by end of November.
<i>Efforts are Coordinated with External Partners</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Maintain relationship with WLUSU through continued partnership ...	<i>ongoing</i>	Good conversations with WULSU President at OUSA

Strong Operational Management Practices		
<i>Maximize Efficiencies in the use of all Assets</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Develop clear accountability and task division within Staff Structure	<i>ongoing</i>	Exec to assess collectively in December when the day-to-day busyness slows down
<i>Motivated Team of Staff</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Host regular staff events	<i>ongoing</i>	Going well – thanks to many staff within the Organization taking the initiative to plan these!
Ensure that we are sending regular updates to the full-time staff email list	<i>Rotating, at least weekly</i>	Going well

Promote Student Engagement and Student Experience Initiatives		
<i>Obtain Student Feedback on Current Offerings</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Analyze data gathered indirectly through student building survey	<i>Spring 2012</i>	Completed
Administer an exit survey on all Feds offerings during the general elections for all students	<i>Winter 2013/elections</i>	No planning made on this item yet.
Gather feedback from student leaders and volunteers each term via an engagement experience survey	<i>starting Spring 2012; termly</i>	Complete in the Spring by VP Internal Russell
Develop a Student Union Survey, in collaboration with other student unions in Canada, to assess our improvement year-to-year	<i>March 2013</i>	No planning made on this item yet
<i>Ensure Services are Up-to-Date and Meeting Students' Needs</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Clearly define “services” and parameters around the use of student fee money to sustain services	<i>Fall 2012</i>	Completed (by VP Internal)
<i>Provide Skill Development Opportunities to Students</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Increase the scope and number of PD opportunities available for volunteers	<i>ongoing</i>	Facilitated at FLOW, OUSA, and initial planning made on a First Year Commission leadership conference
<i>Continued on next page...</i>		

<i>Develop Relationships with Groups and Departments on Campus</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Set up regular meetings between the SSO and Feds	<i>ongoing(bi-weekly)</i>	Completed. But sometimes difficult to assess who to meet with.
Develop a defined, complementary relationship between Feds and the SSO; collaborate where appropriate	<i>ongoing</i>	Ongoing
Create an undergraduate Senators Caucus	<i>Fall 2012</i>	Done informally through meetings
Develop a relationship with the Residence Councils	<i>Fall 2012</i>	Look to implement through a First Year Council
Remove voting membership from COPS	<i>Winter 2012</i>	To be added to March General Meeting 2013
Increase first year involvement in first-year commission and potentially first-year council	<i>January 2013</i>	Initial stages going well
Work with the SSO as they review Orientation Week	<i>Fall 2012</i>	Ongoing. Looking to complete a Memorandum of Understanding...

Enhancing Involvement in Governance, Elections, and Representation		
<i>Provide Updates to Interested Students</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Provide an annual organizational report	<i>March GM</i>	Not yet begun working on it...
<i>All Seats will be Explained and Filled</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Advertise open council seats	<i>ongoing</i>	
Develop and train our Board of Directors	<i>ongoing</i>	Going well. Two external consultations to support Board in its role.
<i>Student Representation will Accurately Reflect Diversity</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Perform a governance review	<i>Fall 2012</i>	Completed
Complete an elections review	<i>ratification at Fall</i>	Completed
<i>Increased Participation in Student Government</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Actively solicit student feedback on issues and solutions to issues...	<i>ongoing</i>	Actively being done on Feds Connect
Explore the implementation of a First-year students' council	<i>Mid-Fall term</i>	It looks like it can happen – we just need Residence Buy-In
Explore the potential for first-year intern	<i>Fall 2012</i>	Hired Brandon Gaffoor, who will be the First Year Council Director
<i>Broader Awareness of Electoral Process</i>		
<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Complete an elections review	<i>ratification at Fall</i>	Almost done...
Use the potential new building referendum to promote the elections	<i>Winter 2013 elections</i>	Will look into...

Develop and Utilize Collaborative Partnerships

Align with a Variety of Stakeholders

<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Develop key items to be included in a new Operating Agreement with the University	<i>ongoing</i>	Currently going through all agreements btw us the University
Maintain regular communication with other student unions	<i>ongoing</i>	Good relationship with Queens, McMaster, and Wilfred Laurier Presidents.
Make an OUSA Presidents caucus	<i>Fall 2012</i>	Isn't working out as well as hoped. We're all too busy.

Seek Out New Potential Partnerships

<i>Goal</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Progress</i>
Support the development of a new student building that is in the best interests of students	<i>Spring/Fall 2012, referendum in Winter 2013</i>	Going well...
Attend UBC's student union executive conference (Student Union Development Summit)	<i>August 2012</i>	Completed
Plan a Student Union Summit for similar sized student unions for June/July 2013	<i>April 2013</i>	
Develop a Feds Alumni Network; look at Queen's for an example	<i>ongoing/end of annual term</i>	This is more difficult than originally thought. Queens has a more engaged council with various Alumni networks. Will continue to assess possibilities.
Develop new media relationships	<i>ongoing</i>	Thanks to our communications coordinator, we are doing an excellent job being quoted across various media outlets.

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